

GORDON Gazette

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Calhoun-Gordon County's #1 Source for News

CFL Flooring to Create 300 Jobs, Invest More Than \$70 Million in Gordon County

OFFICE OF GOVERNOR BRIAN KEMP

Atlanta, GA - Governor Brian P. Kemp today announced that Creative Flooring Solutions (CFL), a manufacturer of laminate, wood, and luxury vinyl tile will create 300 jobs and invest more than \$70 million in a new manufacturing facility in Calhoun.

"We are thrilled that CFL has chosen Gordon County to expand their business operations to more effectively reach their customer base," said Governor Kemp. "The impact of this announcement will be felt across the region as the company seeks to

employ 300 hardworking Georgians."

Founded in Shanghai in 2004, CFL employs 3,500 at three factories, multiple offices, and distribution centers around the world.

"This marks a next step in our plan to become a global company, producing closer to where our goods are being sold," said Thomas Baert, owner and president of CFL.

"We are looking forward to contributing to the economic wellbeing of the community in Calhoun, Gordon County, and Georgia."

"The CFL factory and showrooms in Calhoun will drastically increase convenience of working

with our partners and distributors," said Tom Van Poyer, CFL owner and CEO. "Being able to supply products produced in the United States will allow us not only to sustain our leadership position in product design and product innovation but also create a platform allowing second-to-none service through reduced delivery times."

CFL will locate to a newly constructed 252,000-square-foot facility at 3576 US Highway 41 in Calhoun with plans to build another 250,000 square feet in the near future.

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Governor Brian P. Kemp today announced that Creative Flooring Solutions (CFL), a manufacturer of laminate, wood, and luxury vinyl tile will create 300 jobs and invest more than \$70 million in a new manufacturing facility in Calhoun. Founded in Shanghai in 2004, CFL employs 3,500 at three factories, multiple offices, and distribution centers around the world. CFL will locate to a newly constructed 252,000-square-foot facility at 3576 US Highway 41 in Calhoun with plans to build another 250,000 square feet in the near future.

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE COMMUNITY

AdventHealth Gordon's new President and CEO Michael Murrill comes to Gordon County with a focus on understanding, serving the healthcare needs of the community at large

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While Michael Murrill, the new president and CEO of AdventHealth Gordon, AdventHealth Murray and AdventHealth's Southeast Region, has diligently served the Advent Healthcare System for almost 20 years, his history with the organization began well before his employment.

"My dad worked in the Accounting Department for AdventHealth for 40 years at Hinsdale (Illinois) Hospital," said Murrill. "I was actually

born at Hinsdale, one of our Legacy hospitals. It's neat that I born at Hinsdale and eventually was privileged to be the CEO of that hospital."

Murrill grew up in the Midwest, and attended Andrews University in Michigan. Immediately after graduating college, Murrill said he took a job he hadn't intended on taking, but that the job was a huge learning experience for him and the lessons he learned from the job have been instrumental to his career in healthcare.

"I was a barista and a donut delivery boy," said

Murrill of a brief stint in Washington State. "My wife (Melissa) was attending a university there, and I was looking for a job. But I loved that job; I think you can learn lessons from whatever job you have and gain experiences you can take with you for the rest of your life. I learned a lot about customer service, customer loyalty and retention of customers. They are lessons I've taken into this job."

Murrill's first job with AdventHealth was in Denver, Colo. He has served in various positions within the

AdventHealth system, most recently as the CEO of the Hinsdale, Ill. hospital. He now takes over AdventHealth Gordon after the retirement of Pete Weber, the hospital's former CEO who began his service in Calhoun in 2009.

"I found my way into healthcare and have had a lot of great experiences over the past 20 years," said Murrill.

After time at AdventHealth in Denver,

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
AdventHealth Gordon's new president and CEO, Michael Murrill.

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GEORGIA HEALTH NEWS: Young adults and COVID-19 - a troubling infection trend.

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Fireworks safety tips offered by local business owner for Fourth of July



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All-Star Fireworks owner Scott Lunsford says that while the Fourth of July holiday is a perfect opportunity to enjoy a good fireworks display, it's important to remember to do so safely.

"Our #1 goal is safety," said Lunsford. "Never underestimate the power fireworks have. Always respect fireworks and follow all safety procedures. That is very, very important to me."

In addition to having

the largest offering of fireworks in Calhoun-Gordon County at his store located at 976 Highway 53 W/SW Spur, Lunsford puts on pyrotechnic/ fireworks shows for a wide range of events and knows a thing or two about fireworks safety and has a long history with fireworks.

"My family had 11 stores in Northwest Alabama for about 20 years before being bought out, so saying that I have

See FIREWORKS,
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Heritage Baptist Church to hold special Youth Camp beginning Tuesday, June 30

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Heritage Baptist Church, located at 345 Curtis Parkway SE in Calhoun, has scheduled a special Youth Camp from Tuesday, June 30 through Friday, July 3, beginning at 6:30 p.m. nightly.

"We had our youth scheduled to attend Powerlife camp by Rick Coram. They went last year and it's amazing, but unfortunately they cancelled because of COVID 19," said Pastor Shane Parrott. "When that happened, I planned a nightly Youth Camp here at Heritage. We will have a service here at 6:30 p.m. each night that is open to everyone.

On Tuesday night, Stacy Hensley, who is the pastor at Good Hope in Dalton and is an amazing youth speaker, will preach. I will preach Wednesday night, and RV Brown will come in and preach Thursday and Friday night."

Evangelist RV



Brown is founder and Inc., Minneapolis, President of Outreach to America's Youth, Inc. (O.T.A.Y.) He received a certificate from Morehouse School of Medicine and Drug

See HERITAGE,
page 10A

Second Front

AdventHealth Medical Group Urgent Care Adairsville Health Park now open

ADVENTHEALTH

AdventHealth Medical Group Urgent Care Adairsville Health Park is now open and accepting new patients. Located at 21 Commerce Parkway in Adairsville, the clinic is open Monday through Friday from 8 am to 7:30 pm and Saturday through Sunday from 8 am to 2 pm.

From sore throats and upset stomachs to sports physicals and flu shots, Zachary Cochran, NP-C, and Alyssa Crew, FNP-C, and the expert urgent care team at AdventHealth Medical Group Urgent Care Adairsville Health Park provides you and your loved ones with the compassionate medical care you need as part of your trusted network of care. The clinic's team of family medicine providers can treat urgent, non-life-threatening medical conditions for adults and children.

"We are excited that the Adairsville and surrounding communities now have access to this urgent care location at Adairsville Health Park," said Karen Steely, chief operating officer of AdventHealth Gordon. "Our patients can rely on our team to provide them with quick and compassionate urgent care."

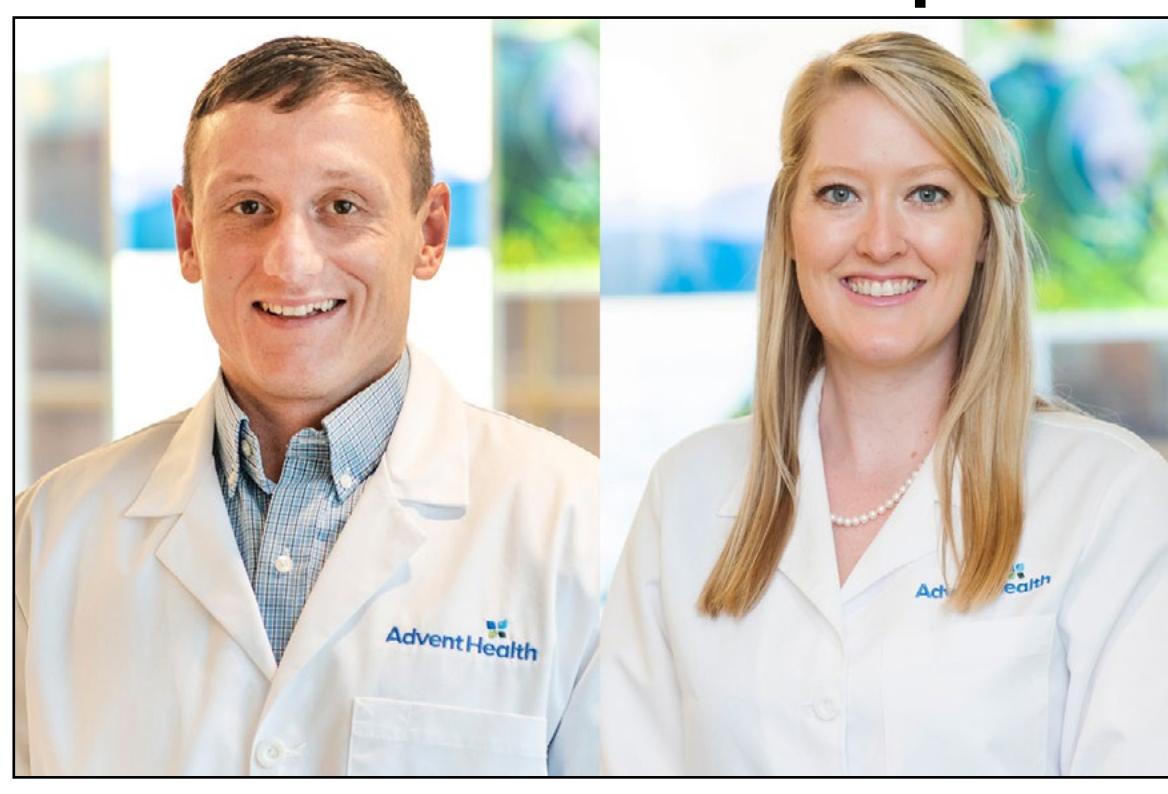
Services of AdventHealth

Medical Group Urgent Care Adairsville Health Park include:

- Acute illnesses and injuries such as:
 - Sore throats
 - Colds
 - Bronchitis
 - Pneumonia
 - Earaches
 - Flu
 - Stomach aches
 - Food poisoning
 - Asthma
 - Allergies
 - Hives
 - Acid reflux
 - Orthopedic issues
 - Arthritis
 - Tendonitis
 - Sprains
 - Contusions
 - Broken bones
 - On-site X-rays
 - Skin conditions
 - Shingles
 - Elevated blood pressure
 - Lacerations

- Flu shots
- Workplace injuries
- Occupational medicine
- Department of Transportation physicals

Cochran and Crew are now accepting new patients at AdventHealth Medical Group Urgent Care Adairsville Health



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Park. Walk-ins and scheduled appointments are welcome. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call 770-773-9201.

About AdventHealth Gordon

Founded in 1935, AdventHealth Gordon is proud to be a member of AdventHealth. With a sacred mission of Extending the Healing

Ministry of Christ, AdventHealth is a connected system of care for every stage of life and health. More than 80,000 skilled and compassionate caregivers in physician practices, hospitals, outpatient clinics, skilled nursing facilities, home health agencies and hospice centers provide individualized, wholistic care. A shared vision, common

values, focus on whole-person health and commitment to making communities healthier unify the system's nearly 50 hospital campuses and hundreds of care sites in diverse markets throughout almost a dozen states. For more information about AdventHealth, visit AdventHealth.com or Facebook.com/AdventHealth.

CALHOUN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS SEE SUCCESS AT GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL RODEO ASSOCIATION CHS senior Sage Phillips is GHSRA State Champion

CONTRIBUTED

Calhoun City Schools congratulates Calhoun High School FFA President Sage Phillips; she is the Georgia High School Rodeo Association (GHSRA) State Champion in goat tying and the Reserve State Champion in breakaway. Phillips will now go to Nationals in Oklahoma. Phillips, is also one of the recipients of the Meagan McCain Memorial Scholarships. CCS couldn't be more proud of Phillips and how she represents their program.



CONTRIBUTED

Calhoun City Schools congratulates Calhoun High School student Cash Goble on being named Georgia High School Rodeo Student President.

Goble also qualified for Nationals in calf roping.

The Georgia High School Rodeo Association is a statewide association of high school students, grades 9 through 12, who participate in rodeos held throughout the state. The GHSRA is affiliated with the NHSRA which is comprised of 41 States, 5 Canadian Provinces, and Australia. The GHSRA provides a unique opportunity for Georgia youth to participate in one of the most rewarding sports experiences available anywhere.



Morning Pointe introduces visitation booths allowing residents, families to safely reunite

CONTRIBUTED

Morning Pointe Senior Living announces an innovative new way to safely reintroduce face-to-face visitation at its 35 campuses via a Plexiglas "visitation booth."

As Governors of States begin to roll back COVID-19 physical distancing restrictions, the booths offer a way for families and residents to reunite without compromising current protocols put in place to protect residents.

Booths are built and decorated with unique themes by Morning Pointe associates at each facility and are located either indoors or outdoors depending on state healthcare requirements.

"We are extremely excited to take this initial step of reintroduction of visitation at our exceptional senior living campuses," said J. Franklin Farrow, CEO and

co-founder of Morning Pointe. "We recognize that families have been eager to reconnect with their loved ones, and we're happy to announce this new way to visit while still adhering to state health guidelines regarding COVID-19. Morning Pointe has always been an innovator in the senior living space, and our visitation booths are no exception."

Families can contact an executive director at the building to schedule time at the visitation booth.

Booths are sanitized after each use and every person must wear a face mask while visiting.

Morning Pointe continues to abide by all recommended protocols regarding COVID-19 at our resident communities.

Morning Pointe recognized a very big need to find a way to reconnect families with their loved



Gordon Gazette

Obituaries

June 24, 2020

Sandra Beasenburg

Sandra Katherine Beasenburg, 20, of Calhoun, died Saturday, June 20 in Nashville, Tenn.

Sandra was born on Jan. 6, 2000, in Roswell, and was the daughter of Matthew and Linda McCray Beasenburg. She was a member of the 2018 graduating class of Sonoraville High School.

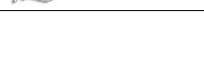


Survivors in addition to her parents include one sister, Hope Smith of Calhoun; maternal grandparents, Harold and Eva McCray of Hayesville, N.C.; paternal grandparents, Joe Ann Beasenburg of Marietta; aunts, and uncles, Wayne and Betty McCray of Jamestown, N.C., Joe and Carol Gibson of Andrews, N.C., Steve and Debbie Ragsdale of Marietta, Curtis Beasenburg of Marietta, and Alma Beasenburg of San Francisco, Calif. A host of cousins and other relatives also survive.

Funeral service for Sandra Katherine Beasenburg will be held Thursday, June 25 at 2 p.m. from Belmont Baptist Church with Pastor Stephen Williams officiating. Interment will follow in Fain Cemetery. The family will receive friends at the church one hour prior to the service. The service will live stream on Max Brannon and Sons Funeral Home Facebook page.

Due to COVID-19 Pandemic, Social Distancing guidelines will be followed.

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



Jerry Graham

Mr. Jerry Ray Graham, 71, of Calhoun, died suddenly Monday morning at his residence following a period of declining health.

He was born in Stanton, Ala. on April 26, 1949, son of the late Herschel and Era Inez Graham.

Survivors include his wife, Mary Graham, to whom he was married for 40 years; daughters, Nichole Bradshaw and her husband David and Jennifer Tully; sons, Jerry Ray Graham II; stepsons, Kenny Dunn and Greg Dunn and his wife Cindy; sisters, Joyce Langston and Linda Silvers and her husband Jerry; brothers, Kyle Graham and Bobby Graham; five grandchildren and seven step-grandchildren and other relatives.

It was Jerry's request to be cremated and no public services will follow.

The family request that flowers be omitted and contributions may be given to assist the family with final expenses. You can click on the donation tab at the top of this obituary page.

The Brannon family and staff are honored to serve the family of Jerry Ray Graham.



Cynthia Harper

Cynthia Gail Harper, 69, of Calhoun, died Saturday, June 20, 2020 after a 2-year illness. She was born on Oct. 29, 1950 in Oakman to the late Raymond and Jewel Black Silvers. She was preceded in death by her husband, Andy Clinton Harper.

She is survived by her son, Andy Harper; brothers, Rayburn D. Silvers, Gregory V. Silvers, and Joseph A. Corvi all of Calhoun; granddaughter, Jade Harper; niece and nephew, Curtis Silvers and April Deanne Silvers.

To honor her wishes her body was cremated and no public service will follow.

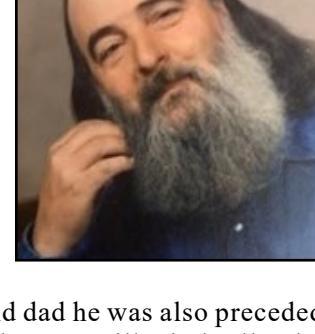
To leave condolences and sign the online guest book please go to, www.maxbrannonandsons.com

The Brannon family and staff are honored to serve the family of Cynthia Gail Harper.



Ira "Hippie" Kimbrell

Mr. Ira A. Kimbrell, known by most of his friends as "Hippie", 76, of Calhoun, departed this life suddenly, Saturday morning, June 20, 2020 at AdventHealth Gordon. Mr. Kimbrell was born in Murphy, N.C. on June 29, 1943. He was a son of the late Jim and Willcie Radford Kimbrell.



Along with his mom and dad he was also preceded in death by his wife, Martha Ann Gill Kimbrell, who passed away in December of 1995; infant son, Ira Lynn Kimbrell; grandsons, Christopher Frazier and

Allen Kimbrell; brother, Vernon Kimbrell; and a brother-in-law, Ronald Gill.

He had been employed by Harbison Walker in Calhoun for over thirty years and retired from Collins & Aikman in Dalton. He was of the Baptist faith. Mr. Kimbrell enjoyed visiting flea markets and loved nothing more than visiting and spending time with his children and family.

Mr. Kimbrell is survived by his daughters, Wanda Leamer, Rhonda Frazier and Bryan Dillard; son, Melvin Kimbrell, all of Calhoun; sister and brother-in-law, Peggy and Dave Poe of Murphy, N.C.; grandchildren, Corey Bryant and Tiny "Curly" Nix; and two great-granddaughters, Alexis Frazier and Christa Frazier; special friends, Deb and Larry Rhinehart, Tom Millsapp, Timmy Stanfield, Mark Stanfield, John Stanfield and Mack Lewis all of Calhoun; several nieces and nephews.

Services to celebrate the life of Mr. Ira Kimbrell were held on Tuesday, June 23, 2020 at 2 p.m. in Ponders Calhoun Chapel. Darren Locke and his grandson Corey Bryant officiated and provided the eulogy. He was laid to rest beside his beloved wife at Haven of Rest Memorial Park. Dennis Leonard, Jason Leonard, Harley Gill, Shawn Denton, Jay Taylor, and Jack Pyles were all honored to serve as pallbearers.

Mr. Kimbrell's family received friends on Tuesday, June 23, 2020 from 12 Noon until the 2 p.m. service hour at Ponders Calhoun Chapel.

Condolences may be sent and the guestbook signed by visiting our website at www.pondersfuneralhome.com.

Arrangements by family owned and operated Ponders Calhoun Chapel and Ponders Crematory. 675 Jolly Rd Calhoun GA 30701 706-625-7577



Loretta McCarren

Loretta Theresa McCarren, 78, of Calhoun, died Monday, June 22, 2020. She was born on Dec. 14, 1941 in Bronx, N.Y. to the late Phillip and Grace Parker Denegri.

She was a member of Calhoun Community Church. She will be remembered as a loving wife, mother, and grandmother.

She is survived by her loving husband of 53 years Norman McCarren; sons Brian McCarren and Norman McCarren; two granddaughters, Margaret McCarren and Rose McCarren.

To honor her wishes her body was cremated and no service will follow.

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

The Brannon family and staff are honored to serve the family of Loretta Theresa McCarren.



Herbert Parker

Herbert Ray Parker, age 84, of Calhoun, passed away on Saturday, June 20, 2020 at Gordon Health and Rehabilitation.

Herbert was born on Oct. 8, 1935 in Murray County to the late John Robert Parker and Ola Junkins Parker. He was a Veteran of the United States Air Force and member of Echota Baptist Church. In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by his wife Debra Parker; sisters, Mildred Silvers, Pauline Silvers, Geneva Silvers, Mary Jo Woody, Dorothy Gallman, and Bessie Abercrombie; brothers, JR Parker, Julian Parker, Bobby Parker and Gene Parker; grandson, Shaun Parker.



He is survived by children, Randy Parker and his wife Lori of Dalton, Brian Parker and his wife Dawn of California, Brent Parker and his wife Cassandra of Calhoun, and Donnie Parker of Rome; sister-in-law, Karen and Ronnie Muse, Sharon Miller and her husband Tony; brother-in-law, Jackie and Sherrie Gallman, Ronnie and Linda Gallman; niece, Charlotte Silvers who cared for him like he was her own daddy; grandchildren, Dusty Parker and his wife Mandy, Jacob Parker, Jared Parker, Liam Parker, Logan Parker, Derrick Parker and Courtney Parker; six great-grandchildren; nieces and nephews also survive.

Funeral Services were conducted on Tuesday, June 23, 2020 at 11 a.m. from the Chapel of Thomas Funeral Home with Reverend Ricky Silvers and Reverend Johnny Parker officiating. Burial followed in Gordon Memorial Gardens. Pallbearers serving were: Tim Parker, Brian Young, Henry Cox, Jeff Silvers, Willard Parker, and Coy Parker. Cassandra Parker and Brigitte Young had charge of music rites.

The family received friends on Monday, June 22,

Help for the Hurting

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

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

706-235-3164 or 706-346-5678.

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

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



Jean Parrott

Martha Jean Parrott, age 85, of Calhoun and Gordon County, died Saturday evening at AdventHealth Gordon.

Jean was born on Feb. 25, 1935 in Gordon County, daughter of the late Marvin Lee Blackstock and Maude Lillian Gallman Blackstock. She was a lifelong resident of Gordon County and was employed in the Gordon County Magistrate Judge's office of many years. She was preceded in death by a sister, Lillian Blackstock Baker and a brother, Richard Blackstock.

Jean is survived by her husband of 63 years, Henry Parrott; one daughter, Tammy Cochran and her husband Derek; one brother, Perry Blackstock and his wife, Carolyn; brother-in-law, Pat Baker; two grandchildren, Kered Cochran Pierson and Kaden Cochran; special caregivers, Karen Kirby and Ramona Scott.

Funeral services were conducted at 3 p.m. on Monday, June 22 at the Chapel of Thomas Funeral Home with the Reverend Tim McCullum officiating. Jackie and Mike McDaniel had charge of music, and burial was in Corinth Cemetery.

The Parrott family received friends at the funeral home from 2 – 3 p.m. preceding the funeral.

Thomas Funeral Home has charge of arrangements for the service of Jean Blackstock Parrott.



Helen Richardson

Helen Willene Richardson, age 89, of Calhoun, passed away Monday, June 22 at her residence.

Helen was born Dec. 3, 1930 in Gordon County, daughter of the late L.D. Shaw and Lydia Carlisle Shaw. She was a member of the Blackwood Springs Baptist Church and prior to her retirement was the owner and operator of Richardson Dry Cleaning along with her husband John Frank 'Bo' Richardson, Jr., who preceded her in death in 1983.

Helen was also preceded in death by her brother and sister in laws, Charles and Charlotte Shaw and Betty Shaw.

She is survived by her son, Keith Richardson and his wife Kim; one brother, Harold Shaw; two grandchildren, Jenna Richardson Wyatt and her husband Ross and John Richardson and his wife Raleigh. Three great grandchildren, Drake Wyatt, Bo and Chapel Richardson also survive.

Graveside services will be conducted Thursday at 11 a.m. in Chandler Cemetery with Dr. Bert Vaughn officiating. Pallbearers serving include Jerry Strickland, Thomas Pass, Jack Coker, Kenny Padgett, Jacin Gray, Jimmy Gray, and Robert Watkins.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home from 9 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. Thursday at the funeral home.

The family request that in lieu of flowers donations can be made to the Scottish Rite Children's Hospital @ 1001 Johnson Ferry Rd NE, Atlanta, GA 30342.

You may send condolences to the family at www.thomasfuneralhomemcalhoun.com.

Thomas Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements for Helen Willene Shaw Richardson.



Serving Calhoun and Gordon County for more than 40 years

706-629-9139

NOW OPEN

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



Church News

CAN I SEE YOUR ID PLEASE?

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

There's something that mankind has struggled with throughout history and

even more so it seems today, and that's our identity. What is our identity? One of the best definitions I have seen for identity, is "our view and understanding of ourselves."

Often times we make the mistake of identifying ourselves without looking at the big picture of our lives. We base who we are on things that seem big to us at the moment, but in the big picture are just a small piece of who we are. For example, a guy may be really good at a sport, so he finds

his identity in the fact that he is an athlete. A girl might be really pretty and therefore she finds her identity in her appearance. This is such an incomplete picture. Jesus sees so much more when He looks at us.

1st Peter 2:9,10 reads, "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light; Which in time past were not a people, but are now the

people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy."

What is wrong with finding your identity in the things that you can do, the way you look, the friends you hang out with, etc...? The problem is that everything mentioned here can be taken away from you.

Your actual identity, the part of you that truly and accurately describes who you are, cannot change. One day, you won't be the athlete you once were. What looks good will change over

the years, and so will your looks.

Your true identity is a gift from God. In looking at these scriptures, there are some things that we know to be true of ourselves as Believers in Christ.

First of all, you are a "chosen person." In other words, God looked at you and said this is a person that I love and want an intimate relationship with. Secondly, we are "Royal Priests." We are Royal, because we have been adopted by the Lord of all Creation. We are

Priests, because we have the ability to be used to lead others to Christ. Lastly, we are a part of the Chosen People, those whom God has set aside as special to Him.

These are just a few of the things that the Bible says about our identity. No one can take these things away from us. Your identity in Jesus Christ cannot be changed or destroyed. Jesus sees the full picture of who you are, and His description will stand for all of eternity.

Be Blessed.

ONGOING

-Philadelphia Christian School is located off Highway 41 between Calhoun and Adairsville. The school offers 4-year-old kindergarten through 12th grade, using the A-Beka curriculum. To find out more about the school, call the office at 706-625-3233.

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

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

-East Calhoun Church of God, at 401 Peters Street, gives out groceries and clothing through the "Feed the Needy" ministry each Saturday from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The church hosts a miracle healing service every first Friday at 7 p.m. For more information, contact "Feed the Needy" ministry director Florence Jones at 706-409-1981. Senior pastor is Keith Reid.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

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

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

-Old Sugar Valley United Methodist Church located at 2659 Old Rome Dalton Road in Calhoun has Breakfast Social at 9:30 am every Sunday. The church history is colorful, dating back to the Civil War, small cozy country church nothing fancy! Come join us!

and become." Sunday School, 10:15 a.m.; Worship, 11 a.m. Pastor Louise W. Elmore.

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

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

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

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

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

-Old Sugar Valley United Methodist Church located at 2659 Old Rome Dalton Road in Calhoun has Breakfast Social at 9:30 am every Sunday. The church history is colorful, dating back to the Civil War, small cozy country church nothing fancy! Come join us!

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

-Pleasant Valley Baptist Church is a Bible believing & teaching church located in the Red Bud Community. Pastor Keith Gibson and the congregation invite you to come and worship with us at 3882 Red Bud Rd., Calhoun. Opportunities for worship: Bible Study for all ages 10 a.m., Children's Church up to 5th grade 11a.m.,

Church Calendar

Worship service 11 a.m. Wednesday night service times Prayer Bible Study and Student Ministries 7 p.m. 706-624-0198, Find us on Facebook or email pbvccalhoun@gmail.com

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

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

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

-Victory Fellowship Center, 925 Oothcalooga St., invites you to weekly worship services held at 11 a.m. every Sunday morning. Pastor Joe Stewart and the VFC family also invite everyone

to join each Wednesday at noon and 7:30 p.m. for anointed and enlightening Bible studies. If you are looking to grow in your understanding of God's plan for your life and gain greater insight of the life changing power of His word, come and join us as we study the word.

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

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

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

-Greater Mt. Tabor Baptist Church, 259 Herring Road, NW, invites everyone to regular services at New Zion Baptist Church. Sunday School is at 10 a.m., worship service at 11 a.m. and Sunday night service at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday night Bible study is at 7:15 a.m. Everyone is welcome.

7 p.m. on Wednesday. Pastor: Roger Fisher.

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

-Hope in Christ Ministries, 306 Peters St., is holding services every Sunday morning. Adult Bible Study starts at 10 a.m. with praise/worship service at 11 a.m. Bishop W. S. (Billy) Weems is the pastor. Rev. Earnest Diamond Jr. is assistant pastor. For more information, call the church at 706-602-2433.

-Talking Rock Creek Chapel has a new pastor, the Pastor Donald Broahurst and family.

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

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

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

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



Joe & Ashley English

Owners of Focus Property Solutions, LLC
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Recently, I watched a video presentation by world-renowned motivator and educator Brian Tracy. He spoke of a study performed by the Harvard Business Review that included interviews of Fortune 500 CEOs. One of the questions asked was, "What was your biggest failure and

how did you react to it?"

This question stumped the CEOs. They would often look perplexed and ask what the interviewer meant by failure. The interviewer would then bring up products that had cost these executives' companies hundreds of millions of dollars — offshore ventures that had to be closed because they weren't profitable...

things of that nature. The CEO being interviewed would then say, "Oh, you're talking about learning experiences."

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

Now, the CEOs were the first to admit that these

events were costly and sometimes even painful learning experiences. But in the end, they viewed them as education.

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

Ashley and I have done our share of those. After watching Brian's video, we reminisced about some of the deals that had taught us the best lessons.

There was the house we bought next to a railroad track. Even though the appraised value was great, the location made it hard to sell; everybody knows the old adage, "location, location, location." Sometimes you have to learn this the hard way —

we barely broke even on that house.

Then there was the house with green tile throughout. I made the executive decision to keep the tile because it was in good shape. After putting in granite counter tops, a travertine back splash, and stacked stone on the fire place, I realized that ugly tile had to go. We were almost done with the rehab, however, and demoing that tile made the new install more costly, and it left a thin layer of concrete dust on everything.

Lesson here: don't be cheap. It's more expensive in the long run. But the deal that taught us the most was the burnout we bought when we first started investing. The first thing we did wrong was get excited about doing a deal, and over paid for

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

But the biggest lesson we learned here came when someone offered us more than we paid for the property before we started rehabbing it. We declined their offer.

The main reason was, in our minds, we had already spent the potential profit. This deal taught us the meaning of "a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush."

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

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

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

Ensure You're Properly Insured



Dewayne Bowen

Financial Advisor
 at Edward Jones
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There's certainly been plenty of volatility and uncertainty the past few months, but one aspect of your financial picture has probably remained stable: your need for insurance. And since National Insurance Awareness Day

is observed on June 28, now is a good time to review your overall insurance coverage to determine if you and your loved ones are well-protected.

You might be surprised at the lack of protection among your fellow citizens. Less than 60 percent of Americans have life insurance, and just about half of those with insurance are underinsured, according to LIMRA, a research organization.

Of course, you might think the reason so many people don't have insurance is because they don't need it. But just about every age group can benefit from life insurance.

If you have a house and a family ... Your

insurance needs are obvious: If something happened to you, could your mortgage payments still be met? How about your car payments? Doctor's bills? College for your children? Even if you have a spouse or partner who earns a decent income, your family could still have big trouble paying its bills if you weren't around.

If you're young and single with no family responsibilities ... If you're in this group, why would you need life insurance? For one thing, perhaps you owe money together with someone else — you might, for example, be a joint debtor on a mortgage. If you passed away, your co-debtor

would be responsible for the entire debt. And just because you don't have family responsibilities now, it doesn't mean you never will. If you have a family history of serious health issues, which may eventually affect you, you could have trouble getting life insurance later, or at least getting it without paying a lot. Now, when you're young and healthy, the coverage is available and may be more affordable.

If your children are grown and you're retired ... If you retire with debt or have a spouse dependent on you, keeping your life insurance is a good idea, especially if you haven't paid off your mortgage. Plus, life insurance can be

used in various ways in your estate plans.

Even if you recognize the need for life insurance, though, you may be uncertain about how much you require. Your employer may offer insurance, but it might not be sufficient for your needs. And, perhaps just as important, if you leave your job, voluntarily or not, you'll likely lose this coverage. If you purchase a private policy, what's the right amount?

You might have heard you need a death benefit that's worth seven or eight times your annual salary, but that's just a rough estimate. To determine the appropriate level of coverage, you'll need to consider a variety of factors: your age, income,

marital status, number of children, and so on.

Still, even after you've got the right amount in place, it doesn't mean it's set in stone. You should review your coverage regularly, and especially when you change jobs, get married or remarried, have children or experience any other major life event.

Life insurance should be a key part of your overall financial strategy, along with your retirement accounts and other investments. Make sure you're properly covered for today and tomorrow.

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

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GORDON GROWN**Vegetable Garden Disease Management Reminders****Greg Bowman**

Gordon County

Extension Agent

gbowman@uga.edu

Vegetable gardening is the favorite hobby of many people in our area. It is a great way to be outdoors and enjoy an activity where the work can actually be healthy for you. It is also rewarding to produce fresh garden items to be consumed by family and friends. Due to social distancing and more at home time in 2020, there may be more people dedicating hours to vegetable gardening. The bad part of vegetable gardening is when the production does not equal the work you put into

the gardening efforts. One problem can be diseases in the garden spot. Keep in mind that most vegetables are susceptible to at least a few disease issues. Note that some diseases can be more of a problem than others. I will add that root rot, leaf spots and fruit rots are the more common disease issues.

I know the great majority of gardening efforts have been going on for several months. Some of the gardening decisions for 2020 have already been made so some of these reminders will need to be filed away for the next gardening season. Today, I will be sharing tips that can help you in managing for disease issues in your garden by use of a UGA publication that was revised by Elizabeth Little, UGA Home Garden/ Small Farm Plant Pathologist.

I will briefly give a little background on plant diseases. The four major organisms that can cause disease are fungi, bacteria,

nematodes and viruses. You may hear or see in print these organisms called pathogens or plant parasites. The weather can have a part in plant diseases. When the weather is warm in the addition of frequent rain and/or heavy dew, you can have more fungi and bacterial type diseases.

You can have more viral issues in summer when insects that carry the diseases are more active for example. Just keep in mind that how you manage the garden can help in reducing your problems with disease. I will try to cover as many of our important tips as space allows.

I have mentioned site selection in various articles and it is true that better site selection can be helpful in reducing disease problems. The area needs to be well-draining of excessive moisture. Try to stay away from areas that stay wet or drain poorly. Soil with excessive moisture can have more problems

with seedling, root and crown diseases. I have said it before, but you really do need a sunny spot to grow vegetables. The openness of a sunny area and the ventilation it provides will help with plant health. If you plant in more shady areas that also has other vegetation, it can lead to a more humid growing environment that can be perfect for disease pathogens issues. When you plant vegetables in full sun, the sunshine can help keep plant foliage dry thus reducing chances of foliar diseases.

Another tip is crop rotation in the garden area. Crop rotation can reduce pathogen build-up in a garden area. Note that annual planting of the same plant family of vegetables in the same spot will provide the chance of pathogen build-up. A rule-of-thumb is to grow only the same type of vegetable or closely related vegetables in the same soil once every 3 to 5 years according to Little. This will basically

starve out most pathogens that can cause your vegetable plants stem and leaf diseases. You need to note that you may need longer crop rotations and even other management methods for soil-borne issues such as root and crown diseases.

Using disease free seed and transplants can be important in managing for disease. Keep in mind that many of the plant diseases can be seed borne. If you save seed, it is advised to consult seed saving guides for info on which plant species or cultivars are appropriate for saving. Obviously, only save seed from healthy plants.

Note that commercial seed is many times produced in more arid places where there is less problems with seed borne pathogens. If you are going the transplant route, you need to inspect your plants before purchase. Try to buy only healthy transplants that appear to be disease and insect free. I will add that another tool is to

plant resistant varieties. You should remember that resistance is called a relative term and resistant varieties can be either totally immune or partially immune depending on the disease and the variety.

I will add that planting at the right time is important. Our info states that planting seed when soil temperature is not correct for good seed germination can lead to more seed and seedling diseases.

Mulch can be a good resource in your gardening efforts. Realize that many plant pathogens can live in the soil and spend the winter in soil debris. Mulching can keep soil from splashing up on plants and also keep plant fruit from touching the ground too. Make sure any mulch used is from a herbicide free source.

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

Georgia FFA holds its first virtual convention**GEORGIA FARM BUREAU**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 92nd Georgia FFA Convention, scheduled for April 23-25 in Macon, was rescheduled to a virtual event held via social media on May 28 and 29. The virtual convention featured four pre-recorded sessions, pre-recorded state officer retiring addresses, online voting for the 2020-21 state FFA officer team, and a final live session broadcast on Instagram, Facebook and YouTube. The 2020 convention theme was "Limitless."

The 2019-20 state

FFA officers and staff developed four sessions, lasting approximately 25 minutes each, to highlight student success from throughout the 2019-20 school year. Normally the state FFA convention is full of award presentations. This year, the winners were announced via the four pre-recorded, studio-show style sessions. The sessions were recorded May 18-20 and released online for the virtual convention on May 28 and 29.

Sessions one and two premiered at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. on day one, while sessions three and four premiered the same times on day two.

Sessions featured the naming of 2020 state winners in agricultural proficiency awards, middle school record books, agriscience fair, National Chapter Award program, state Star program, post-secondary scholarships, and career development events. Georgia FFA awarded the prestigious state FFA degree - the highest honor a state can bestow on an active member - to 658 students. A complete set of award results can be found on the Georgia FFA State Convention page at <https://www.georgiaffa.org/page.aspx?ID=45>.

Another highlight of the annual FFA

convention are the retiring addresses of the outgoing state FFA officers. Each student delivers a message to the audience. In order to maintain the tradition of the Retiring Addresses, each officer recorded their message the week prior. The eight addresses were released two per day the week of the virtual convention. All retiring addresses, along with the convention sessions, are posted on the Georgia FFA website (www.georgiaffa.org) on the State Convention page, and on the Georgia FFA YouTube page.

In addition to award presentations, the voting delegates at the annual

convention (two per chapter) cast votes for state business items each year. This year's voting was handled through an online voting process during the virtual convention. Each chapter was sent two delegate login credentials. Two designated voting delegates per chapter were made aware of the state business items, including the campaign speeches for the 2020 candidates for State FFA Office. Online voting was conducted throughout the two-day virtual convention. On May 29, at the 4 p.m. live session, the members of the 2020-21 Georgia FFA state officer team were

announced: President Emma Long, Pickens County; Secretary Katlyn Davis, South Effingham, North Region Vice Presidents Karter Goforth, Coahulla Creek, and Hope Tompkins, Franklin County; Central Region Vice Presidents Sarah Harper, Locust Grove, and Chely Trejo, Crawford County; and South Region Vice Presidents Ethan Hyers, Bacon County, and Colton Peacock, Long County.

The team can be seen on the State Officer page of the Georgia FFA website (www.georgiaffa.org).

New Teacher Guide Highlights Key Georgia Habitat—Sandhills**GEORGIA DNR**

The sandhill habitats of Georgia's Coastal Plain are home to many rare species of plants and animals. To highlight this important landscape and its inhabitants, the Georgia Department of Natural Resources and partners have released the "Teacher Guide to Georgia Sandhills."

Sponsored by The Environmental Resources Network, or TERN, friends of DNR's Wildlife Conservation Section, and the Walmart Foundation, this instructional resource available at georgiawildlife.com/SandhillsTeacherGuide was developed by DNR biologists and interpretive staff, as well as teachers and environmental educators.

Sandhills are upland, landlocked dune habitats with sandy soil and sloping terrain. They resemble sand dunes at the beach but with trees and other vegetation. Although these landscapes came about in various ways, many were formed millions of years ago. Sandhills along the Fall Line, a geological boundary that separates Georgia's Piedmont and Coastal Plain regions,

are evidence of the Atlantic Ocean's ancient coastline, dating to the late Cretaceous Period. Riverine sandhills formed when strong winds blew sand from exposed river bottoms onto the banks during the Pleistocene era.

Longleaf pine, turkey oak and wiregrass are common in sandhills, but unique plants like sandhill rosemary, scarlet wild basil and pitcherplants also grow there. The open canopy and herb-filled undergrowth provide prime habitat for many rare species such as gopher tortoises, eastern indigo snakes, gopher frogs and red-cockaded woodpeckers.

Fire plays a vital role in the health of sandhill ecosystems. Frequent low-intensity fire, whether sparked naturally by lightning or through controlled burns set by land managers, releases stored nutrients into the otherwise deficient soil. Many sandhill plants rely on fire to reduce sun and nutrient competition from woody plants, as well as to promote flowering and seed germination.

DNR project coordinator Linda May hopes teachers will find the new curriculum guide interesting and useful.

"Although Georgia's

sandhill habitats may at lesson plan.

first seem dry and desolate, they're really hotspots for biodiversity," May explained.

"We created this guide to fill a

need for place-based teaching materials about Georgia's Coastal Plain, as well as to further conservation for this important landscape.

"Educators can play a key role in increasing awareness and fostering appreciation for sandhills and the amazing life there."

The guide is divided

into three sections: Sandhill Ecosystem Overview, Wildlife of the Sandhills and Plants of the Sandhills. Although

lessons are geared for third and fourth grades, they can be modified for other grade levels and settings. Several activities are also well suited for distance learning.

Teachers familiar with

Project WILD curricula may enjoy the similar format of this guide. Lessons are adapted from Project WILD activities

and include instructional objectives, correlations to

the Georgia Standards of

Excellence for Science,

background information,

materials list and step-by-

step procedures. Assessment

options, activity variations

and extensions round out each

activities are arranged by complexity, allowing students to gain a foundational understanding before advancing to more detailed concepts. For example, teachers can introduce students to the wonders of a sandhill habitat by taking them on a simulated field trip in "Sandhill Retreat." Students can then navigate an obstacle course in "Tortoise Troubles," which demonstrates natural and human-caused hazards affecting gopher tortoises. By creating art in "Sandhill Plants Adaptation Artistry," students learn about the unusual features of sandhill plants that aid in their survival.

Other features of the guide include wildlife fact sheets, ecoregion maps, coloring pages and a glossary.

Learn more and download a copy at georgiawildlife.com/SandhillsTeacherGuide. Questions or comments?

Please contact Linda May at linda.may@dnr.ga.gov or (706) 319-0211.

Funding for the Teacher Guide to Georgia Sandhills was provided by the Walmart Foundation, a 501c3 foundation that operates on donations from Walmart.

Philanthropy supports programs that complement Walmart's environmental sustainability initiatives. Learn more at walmart.org.

Further funding for the guide was provided by The Environmental Resources Network, or TERN, a 501c3 nonprofit and friends group of DNR's Wildlife Conservation Section. TERN provides financial support for the section and its projects.

Members receive a newsletter and opportunities to take part in wildlife field trips and projects. For details, visit tern.homestead.com or facebook.com/TernalResourcesNetwork.

DNR's Wildlife Conservation Section conserves wildlife not legally fished for or hunted, as well as rare plants and natural habitats such as sandhills (georgiawildlife.com/conservation/annualreport).

The agency does this work largely through support from fundraisers, grants and contributions. Key fundraisers include sales and renewals of the eagle and new monarch license plates. Supporters also can donate online. Learn more at georgiawildlife.com/licenseplates and georgiawildlife.com/donations.

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

HEALTH NEWS

GEORGIA HEALTH NEWS: Young adults and COVID-19 - A troubling infection trend

ANDY MILLER & DEBBIE KOENIG
Georgia Health News

The number of young adults testing positive for COVID-19 has increased dramatically in recent weeks across many states.

The spike among those ages 20-39 could be explained by a combination of increased testing, rejection of social distancing and masks, and a continued misconception among young people that they're not likely to become infected. While younger people rarely get seriously ill or die from the virus, they often catch it and can spread it to more vulnerable populations.

The age group in Georgia with the most infections is people from ages 18 to 29, according to state data.

"I see people in my cohort who aren't social distancing and wearing masks," says Hayley, 23, a graduate student in nursing at Emory University who asked that her last name not be used. She had COVID in March, and she's not sure where she caught it. "To see people not taking it seriously is frustrating."

Vice President Mike Pence acknowledged the situation Monday on a conference call with governors.

"We are seeing more people test positive under the age of 35, particularly in our discussions with the leadership in Florida and in Texas," he said, according to ABC News. "The better part of half of the people that are testing positive in the new cases are people under the age of 35."

While Florida and Texas both relaxed restrictions early, more cautious states like California have not escaped the trend. People under the age of 35 now make up more than 44 percent of new cases in the Golden State, up from 29 percent in May, according to an analysis in the San Jose Mercury News.

"We've built up this illness with the myth of it being siloed by age, and it's not," says Lawrence Kleinman, MD, professor and vice chair of Pediatrics at Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in New Brunswick, N.J. "Now that we have young adults flouting social distancing, we're

seeing the disease at a population level. If enough people are exposed enough, they're going to get the virus — and they're going to be spreaders and superspreaders."

A widespread trend

The CDC has been tracking demographic data for almost 2 million confirmed cases in the United States. Accounting for 17 percent of the total, the 18-29 age group is second only to people 50-64.

The problem goes well beyond Texas, Florida and California. Clusters with a larger proportion of young people have been noted in a number of other states, including Arizona, Colorado, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Washington and Wisconsin.

In Baton Rouge, LA, at least 100 cases were linked to the Tigerland nightlife district near Louisiana State University (LSU). Fraternity rush parties at the University of Mississippi have been blamed for an outbreak in the city of Oxford, where more than 80 percent of new infections were in people ages 18 to 24, according to The New York Times.

A University of Georgia student, who had COVID from mid-March to mid-April of this year, says she thinks she was infected on a trip to New Orleans with friends. Meredith, who requested that her last name not be used, is 21, and said New Orleans was just starting to see a COVID-19 surge when she visited.

"It was on our minds. All of us were washing our hands, but we weren't necessarily wearing masks," she says. "The day we drove out of New Orleans, they were shutting down Bourbon Street."

Now she's back in Athens, home of UGA, and the situation has her worried. "Bars are opening up. I don't see a lot of college kids wearing masks," she says. "It's concerning."

Explaining the spread

In a CDC survey of attitudes toward stay-at-home orders and social distancing guidelines,

people aged 18-24 were significantly less likely than other groups to agree that nonessential workers should stay home.

Less than 30 percent said they were consistently staying six feet away from other people, and only 44.4 percent said they always wore a mask in public.

"There's a normal sense of invincibility at this age," says Kleinman, the Rutgers professor. "Plus the additional confidence that comes from the myth that this age group is spared."

Mark Ebell, MD, a professor of epidemiology at University of Georgia's College of Public Health, agrees. Up to 90 percent of younger people who have the virus don't show symptoms, plus "they tend to be willing to take more risks," he says.

Some officials attribute the increase in COVID-19 cases among younger people to more widespread testing. In the beginning of the outbreak, only people with symptoms got tested, if a test was available. Now many places offer tests to anyone who wants one.

But public health experts point out that because younger people are more likely to ignore restrictions, they're making it easier for coronavirus to spread.

"This creates a reservoir of disease moving around in the population, 'simmering,' if you will," Judith Malmgren, an epidemiologist at the University of Washington, told NPR. "This can spike to uncontrollable levels in more vulnerable adults very quickly."

Twenty-three-year-old Gayeon, another young adult who requested that her last name not be used, just graduated from UGA. She is being careful not to get infected. "I keep hearing about people having house parties or frat parties. Georgia loosening up gives the impression we're not in a pandemic," she says.

College athletes testing positive

Another possible source of the spread of the disease among young people is the recent resumption of practice



for college athletes. As programs screen players, they discover new cases:

Several football players at the University of Alabama have tested positive, including at least one who participated in player-led workout sessions.

At the University of Texas, 13 football players have tested positive for the virus or are presumed to have it. Clemson University in South Carolina confirmed that 23 football players have tested positive.

At least 30 of Louisiana State University's 115-member football team have been isolated after testing positive or being in contact with someone who has.

Some members of LSU's team have been quarantined after going to bars in the Tigerland district, the source of an outbreak cluster.

"When you do contact tracing and get some honesty from kids, it's very easy to see where it came from and what happened," Shelly Mullenix, the school's senior associate athletic trainer, told Sports Illustrated. "I can talk to them about wearing a mask, but if your mask is under your nose, you're not wearing a mask."

Age and risk

Part of many young adults' lax attitude may stem from the knowledge that if they do get COVID, they aren't likely to become seriously ill. CDC statistics show less than 4 percent of patients ages 20-29 require hospitalization, and just 0.5 percent need intensive care. And only 0.1 percent of patients from that age group die from COVID.

But that doesn't mean there's no risk at all.

"There may be people in your circle who are at higher risk but don't want you to know, because they have private health concerns," says

Kleinman. "People with obesity, diabetes — and there's some evidence that smoking and vaping puts you at higher risk."

Kleinman warns that every time young people gather without taking precautions, they increase their risk of catching coronavirus. "It's like playing roulette — the more you spin, the more likely you are to land on zero," he says.

And while the actual danger may not be great for young people, spreading it to older family members poses very real risks. CDC data show that over age 50, the hospitalization rate for the coronavirus rises dramatically.

Instilling responsible attitudes

So how can authorities keep young adults from spreading coronavirus among themselves and their loved ones? Experts have several ideas.

Kleinman suggests taking cues from effective anti-smoking campaigns. "We learned that young people didn't want to feel like they were being manipulated by higher forces," he says.

"So with that as background, think about the fact that the virus is out there trying to get us — that is metaphoric and real. Social distancing, handwashing, wearing a mask, these are all things we can do to foil the virus."

Thanks to the Black Lives Matter protests, many young people are aware of the racial disparities of COVID outcomes, says Hayley, the Emory nursing student. Wearing masks and observing social distancing "also saves black lives," she says.

Reaching young people in the right way is essential, Malgrem told NPR. "They are not reading print media. You need to be on social media. You need to use short sentences. You need to use very direct

messaging," she said.

And then there's the leadership factor. "The illness is contagious and our behavior can be, too," Kleinman says. "This is where leadership comes into play. It can be writ large at political levels but also with families, friends, peer groups — natural leaders are looked to by their peers, so their behavior really matters."

Ebell, the UGA epidemiologist, says college administrations and even individual professors can make a difference. "I'm going to ask students in my class to wear a mask," he says. "Hopefully if students are strongly encouraged, they will wear one."

Meredith, the UGA student, points out that the school is providing two masks and a digital thermometer to each student and employee. "My group of friends are pretty serious about wearing masks. It will be frustrating if students choose not to wear masks," she says. "It doesn't take money."

Kleinman says, "You can't put Humpty Dumpty back together again. Once you're sick, COVID will do what it does. Once you transmit it to someone else, it's out of your control. Once you put a group of people together in a spreading or super-spreading situation, it's out of your control."

*Debbie Koenig is a writer who specializes in health, food, and family, and the author of the cookbook *Parents Need to Eat Too: Nap-Friendly Recipes, One-Handed Meals & Time-Saving Kitchen Tricks for New Parents* (William Morrow). She lives in Queens, N.Y.*

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

Support Groups

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

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

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

Jennifer at 706-602-9001.
-BONDAGE BREAKERS - Breaking the chains of addiction one soul at a time.
Every Thursday night at 7 p.m. at Crane Eater Community Church, located at 3168 Red Bud Rd Calhoun, GA 30701.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Dalton State Plans to Resume Face-to-Face Instruction Fall Semester

DALTON STATE COLLEGE

Dalton State is preparing to return to campus for face-to-face instruction for fall semester, which begins in August, with physical distancing guidelines and strengthened health and safety protocols in place. And there's still time for students to enroll.

"It is important for our students to receive the entire college experience," said Dr. Margaret Venable, president of Dalton State. "It is also important for our students to complete their degree program without disruptions to their education while feeling safe on campus. I believe we can safely function on campus this fall if we all are willing to do our part to keep each other and our loved ones safe. We must all cooperate, and we must make use of our four pillars of safety: hygiene, physical distancing, symptom screening and masks in public spaces."

Dalton State, and all University System of Georgia institutions, are planning to fully reopen this fall following guidelines of the Governor's

Task Force, the Georgia Department of Public Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Plans are subject to change, and Dalton State has prepared contingency plans in case it becomes necessary to return to remote instruction, which began during spring semester and continues through the summer.

Dalton State's plan for fall includes:

A requirement for people on campus to practice physical distancing of at least 6 feet except in the residence hall where a suite is considered a family unit.

Providing one reusable cloth mask to all students and employees. Masks will be strongly encouraged in all public spaces, and may be required in some areas where physical distancing is not feasible, such as areas in Roberts Library and Bandy Gym.

Practicing physical distancing for students in classrooms and labs.

Enhanced cleaning and disinfecting, especially in communal areas with high

traffic.

A continued effort to provide as many services remotely as possible while maintaining the traditional college experience.

Accommodations to continue instruction should a student or faculty member become ill.

More details about the plan will be posted soon on the "Coronavirus Update" webpage which can be accessed at www.daltonstate.edu.

It is not too late for students to apply or register for fall semester.

"We are looking forward to welcoming new students into the Roadrunner family and seeing our returning students again," said Dr. Jodi Johnson, vice president for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management. "Some of our programs and services may look different, but we're committed to giving students the full college experience. We are waiving the application fee until Aug. 1 and no ACT or SAT test scores are required.

With our smaller community and affordable tuition, Dalton



State is a great place for students to build their future during these uncertain times."

"Even with the changes we're putting in place, our commitment to providing a quality education remains," Venable said. "Students can still expect the same level of rigor and commitment to their success."

Roberts Library will be open in a limited capacity to the campus community, and many services will continue to

be provided virtually.

Events that are typically open to the community will be evaluated on a case by case basis and will require attendees to adhere to physical distancing guidelines.

"We appreciate everyone's patience, understanding and flexibility as we move forward with this plan," Venable said. "Working together we'll help keep each other safe this fall."

Georgia Highlands President's and Dean's list announced for spring 2020

GEORGIA HIGHLANDS

Georgia Highlands College has announced students named to the spring 2020 President's List and Dean's List. To achieve President's List status, students must earn a 4.0 grade point average and attain a minimum of nine semester hours of credit. To make Dean's List students must complete a minimum of nine semester hours and achieve at least a 3.5 average.

The following Gordon County students were named to the President's List:

- Hannah Arthur, Fairmount
- Joria Brooks, Calhoun
- Sergio Hernandez, Calhoun
- Emily Jones, Resaca
- Rebecca Long, Calhoun
- Jacy Meadows, Fairmount
- Josie Mirtes, Calhoun

- Maria Palmerin Palmerin, Calhoun
- Michala Petty, Calhoun
- Shelly Richmond, Calhoun
- Nicole Sikes, Calhoun
- Charity Smith, Calhoun
- Riley Werner, Calhoun

The following Gordon County students were named to the Dean's List

- Bailey Brewer, Calhoun
- Taylor Burns, Calhoun
- Annelies Carr, Fairmount
- Christina Caulder, Calhoun
- Haley Crider, Ranger
- Madison Garnett, Calhoun
- Joannie Gutierrez, Calhoun
- Dawson Hendrix, Fairmount
- Jaylen Jarrett, Calhoun
- Cory Lewis, Calhoun
- Miriam Lister, Calhoun
- Karen Orozco, Calhoun
- Priya Patel, Calhoun
- Ashley Rabanales, Calhoun
- Katlyn Sexton, Calhoun



Georgia Highlands College is a multi-campus, state college member of the University System of Georgia. Founded in 1970 as Floyd Junior College, it now serves more than 6,000 students in Northwest Georgia and Northeast Alabama across its five locations in Rome, Cartersville, Marietta, Dallas, and Douglasville. GHC currently offers over 30 areas of study with associate degree and bachelor's degree options both in the classroom and online. GHC is proud to support the local economy with a regional economic impact of nearly \$180 million.

Two Recent Rankings Highlight Excellence of Academic Programs

SHORTER UNIVERSITY

Shorter's Online Human Services Program was named "Best Christian University" in a ranking by Intelligent. More than 100 colleges were considered, and Shorter's program was recognized as the best for a Christian University with an overall score of 94.9 out of 100!

"This ranking does not come as a surprise to us," said Dr. Cory Barnes, Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences. "We have exceptional faculty equipped to serve our Human Services program, and they work with

exceptionally gifted students."

Dr. Jared Linebach, Chair of Social Sciences, said, "Human Services is a rapidly growing field and the faculty work diligently to respond to expectations of the field and to meet the needs of their students."

Additionally, Shorter's Online Sport Management Degree Program ranked No. 2 among the Top 101 Online Sport Management degrees in the country, according to Intelligent rankings.

"I am very proud of our faculty and students for this accomplishment," said Dr. Heath Hooper, Dean of Shorter's Ledbetter College

of Business. "Our Sport

Management students continue to be excellent representatives of Shorter University as they pursue internship and career opportunities in the Sport Management industry."

"This award is a testament to the department's never-ending pursuit for academic quality, affordability, ingenuity, and online competency," according to Micah Natale, Chair of the Sport Management Department. "We are honored to be the recipient of this recognition for our Online Bachelor's Degree in Sport Management."

Founded in 1873, Shorter University is a Christ-

centered, four-year liberal arts university committed to excellence in education. U.S. News & World Report and The Princeton Review annually include Shorter on their lists of best Southeastern Colleges. The university offers traditional bachelor's degrees in 40 areas of study, online courses and degree programs, undergraduate programs for working adults, associate's, and master's programs.



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CFL

From page 1A

New jobs will include positions in management; professional, skilled craftsmen; operators; and laborers. Additional information regarding job inquiries can be directed to jobsUSA@cflflooring.com.

"Gordon County, the City of Calhoun, and the Development Authority of Gordon County are delighted CFL has chosen to invest in our community and become the anchor tenant in the newly developed Gordon County Industrial Park," said Larry Roye, board chairman of the Development Authority of

Gordon County.

"CFL will be a strong asset to our community's industrial base, and we are proud that this company has chosen to expand their global footprint in Calhoun and Gordon County," said Kathy Johnson, president and CEO of the Development Authority of Gordon County.

Georgia Department of Economic Development (GDEcD) Project Manager Kevin Dodson represented the Global Commerce division in partnership with Georgia Quick Start, the Gordon County Chamber of Commerce, and Georgia Power.

"We are excited to welcome CFL to Calhoun and grateful to become a part of the company's global success story," said Georgia Department of

Economic Development Commissioner Pat Wilson. "Thanks to our logistics network and workforce, Georgia's manufacturing sector is thriving as we continue to attract leaders in the flooring industry to the state."

About CFL

CFL Flooring is the largest exporter of flooring from Asia. Founded in 2004 by European owners, we have consistently built on our story, focusing on our core values bringing innovation, reliability, and flexibility to the market. CFL group of companies has grown into a worldwide pioneer committed to developing and manufacturing value added flooring products. For additional information, visit: www.cflflooring.com.

MURRILL

From page 1A

Murrill joined AMITA Health Adventist Medical Center La Grange (Illinois) in 2008 as a finance manager and quickly advanced to become chief financial officer of AMITA Health Adventist Medical Center Bolingbrook (Illinois) in 2011. In 2015, he was named chief operating officer of the AMITA Health facilities in Bolingbrook, La Grange and Hinsdale. He was named CEO of AMITA Health Adventist Medical Center La Grange in July 2017 and added the role of CEO of AMITA Health Adventist Medical Center Hinsdale in February 2019.

Coming into AdventHealth Gordon, Murrill said that while he has some goals in mind, he's taking time to learn about the community's healthcare needs and gaining input from his team.

"I'm learning from the team," said Murrill. "This isn't just me making decisions; it's a team and I'm listening a lot right now. The challenge in healthcare is the pace is so quick and the expectation (is just as quick). I think it's important when there's been a lot of change, there's opportunity in transition to step back and see how we want to move forward, which is what we want to do as a team."

Connecting with the community, focusing on making the community healthier and providing for the community's needs, is another goal of Murrill's.

"One of my goals is to make sure that we're reaching out into our community, understanding what the needs of the community-at-large are," said Murrill. "I'm going to spend time connecting with the school systems, connecting with different leaders in the community, to make sure we're meeting the needs of the broader community. As a healthcare organization, Gordon has taken very good care of their patients and we want to continue that. I also want to concentrate on how we improve the health of our community; not just waiting on people to come to us, but actually going out into the community."

Murrill said that a big priority will be studying data to gather information on any disparities in health service across the community.

"We want to make sure we're not missing anything (service-wise); we won't know that until we look at data, but that's a priority," said Murrill.

While serving in multiple hospitals might seem daunting, Murrill's experience in Illinois, where he served multiple hospitals, gave him the skills he needed to head AdventHealth Gordon and AdventHealth Murray.

"It's a balance," said Murrill. "I have priority to our local community, to Gordon and Murray, and we're working right now on our executive team on how best to manage the two facilities," said Murrill. "In my previous role in Chicago, I was CEO over two hospitals, so I spent a lot of time being very intentional on how that worked. We'd like to get to a place where we view our operations as one between Gordon and Murray and serve a broader community as a connected leadership team. There are really strong cultures in each facility; I have no intention of making one culture. We have to allow each organization, each community, each team to have those core parts of them that make them who they are and allow those parts to flourish but align our strategy and core operations to make sure we're consistent."

In addition to his duties at AdventHealth Gordon and AdventHealth Murray, Murrill is also now the CEO of AdventHealth's Southeast Region, which includes the Gordon and Murray hospitals, along with a hospital each in North Carolina and Kentucky.

"There are leadership teams at Kentucky and North Carolina. My role as CEO of the region is to make sure that we're broadly aligned strategically; that I'm supporting the CEO's of those facilities effectively whether it's how we spend our capital or how we work on our budget process at a system level, making sure there's alignment," said Murrill.

Coming in on the heels of the shut down from the COVID-19



pandemic that forever changed the way businesses, including the hospital, provides services, Murrill said that AdventHealth Gordon has weathered the pandemic well and that the services that were shut down have picked back up.

"The numbers I see are pretty low and stable," said Murrill concerning local COVID. "Day to day, it's about four to six patients (a day), which is variable across the country according to where the hot spots are. I think a lot of this has been the fear of the unknown. What has kept people away is that we shut things down so fast early on to make sure we were prepared, which got people into the mode of thinking 'I have to stay at home.' At this point, our volume in surgery and outpatient is picking back up. I haven't seen as much of a ramp up in the emergency room, but our Urgent Care and Primary Care (offices) are back up to pre-COVID levels."

Saying that there is a learning experience in every crisis, Murrill maintains that the telemedicine service that was introduced during the COVID-19 shutdown was successfully received in the community and he expects it will continue.

"How do we capitalize on some of the things we had to do differently due to the crisis? I think telemedicine is a perfect example. It's a great thing,

especially for some of the outlying rural communities: how do you get access to specialty care, whether it's behavioral health, cardiology, whatever the care is...it goes back to understanding the needs of the broader community fully. Looking at our community health needs assessment and understanding what the data is telling us; then you start to put the tools into place, whether it's telemedicine, Urgent Care, Primary Care, to meet those needs. You can draw a pretty wide radius on patient access when you start to think about things like telemedicine. To me, there are pretty exciting opportunities to expand, if there are needs in the community that are under-served. To me, that's extending the healing ministry of Christ and how we are extending that into our communities."

In addition to his duties at the hospital, Murrill is focusing on his move to Georgia and is eager to become part of the Gordon County community.

"My family is headed down here for good next week," said Murrill of his wife and sons, Mason and Max. "We're really eager to be a part of this community. We're going to be settling in the Calhoun area; it's our first time living in the south and we're excited. My two sons already have fishing poles and snake hooks and are ready to explore."

FIREWORKS

From page 1A

been around fireworks my whole childhood isn't an understatement. I do all types of 1.4 class shows for weddings, quinceanera, graduations, church events, festivals and all celebrations that require fireworks. There is nothing I love more to hear the stories from people that have bought from me and just how pleased and excited they were to see the fireworks go off!"

Inside the large, climate-controlled All-Star Fireworks store, Lunsford boasts a large variety of fireworks for the novice to experienced fireworks

fan.

"We carry a wide array of 1.4 class fireworks," said Lunsford. "I also carry approximately 15 of the best quality brands on the market. I carry everything ranging from kids novelties to the biggest 3-inch multi-shots available to the public."

All-Star Fireworks is open throughout the next week for all your firework needs for your Fourth of July celebrations. In addition, Lunsford adds the following safety tips for the public to remember when shooting fireworks:

-Purchase fireworks from a licensed fireworks dealer (such as All-Star Fireworks)

-Observe all state laws regarding the use of fireworks.

-Read the labels carefully before igniting any fireworks.

-Ensure that an adult supervises all firework activities.

-Never allow children to ignite fireworks.

-Wear safety glasses when shooting fireworks.

-Light only one firework at a time.

-Only use fireworks outdoors in a clear area; away from buildings and vehicles.

-Never try to relight a firework.

-Have a garden hose or bucket of water nearby.

-Use caution with animals. Excitement, noise, and lights can cause fear and stress.

All-Star Fireworks can be found on Facebook or at their website www.allstarfireworks.pyro.com

HERITAGE

From page 1A

Abuse in the Community.

Brown taught special education for several years in the Chattanooga Public School System. During that time he coached football and girls' basketball at Brainerd High School. He also coached football, basketball, wrestling, and baseball at Howard High School and he coached football at Hixson High School. He was voted Baseball Coach of the Year for Chattanooga City Schools in 1983.

RV accepted Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior November of 1977. In 1988 the Lord called RV

into full time Evangelism and gave him the vision to found Outreach To America's Youth, Inc. RV travels throughout the world sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ with all people. He carries the message of O.T.A.Y to churches, prisons, retreats, camps, conferences, and college campuses. RV conducts Breaking The Chain school assemblies in middle and high schools. In 2003, RV received the honor of being inducted into the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) Hall of Champions.

RV Brown is the author of the workbook, Breaking The Chain. This book is used to teach students in small group settings. On Father's Day weekend of 2005, RV released a new book, "Step Up To The Plate, Dad!" This book is a powerful tool in which

RV Brown exposes men to the spiritual weapons needed to fight Satan and defend their families. The importance of mothers is strongly emphasized. This Holy Spirit-filled book will encourage, transform, and empower every dedicated reader. Additionally, RV recently released his new book "Commission To PRAY For A Nation."

RV is a native of Cayce, South Carolina. He is the 16th of 17 brothers and sisters. He attended Airport high School, where he lettered in five sports. Currently, RV resides in the Tampa, Fla. area with his wife, Frances, and their two children, Xavier and Sommer.

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THE HUNT FOR FILM: Top 10 Best Picture movies

**COOPER HUNT**

Movie Reviews at
The Hunt For Film

With over 90 Best Picture statuettes awarded, we won't be covering them all. I will simply be listing my honorable mentions followed by my 10 personal favorite Best Picture winners of all time.

For each film, I will provide a brief review, a letter grade, a scene from the movie, and one word to summarize the distinguished Best Picture qualities that bolster the film to its awarded status.

#1 The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King (2003)

What can I say that hasn't already been said. The Lord of the Rings defines everything that Best Picture films ought to represent: world-class actors and actresses delivering moving performances, a memorable and emotionally-moving screenplay adapted from one of the greatest novel series of all time, groundbreaking practical and digital technological achievements that stand the test of time nearly two decades later, universally-beloved themes of good versus evil and the importance of friendship and love, etc. Despite a hit-or-miss reputation throughout his career, Peter Jackson directs a perfectly-paced epic that's bursting with so much heart and heroism that when the editors cut it down for the theatrical release, it's still over three hours long. However, I've always passionately held to the notion that moviegoers should celebrate lengthy movies when they earn their extended runtimes, whether it's through outstanding battle sequences, thrilling speeches, tearful farewells, or any of the other brilliant qualities that make The Return of the King my favorite film ever.

The Best Picture of Love

Grade: A+

#2 Rocky (1976)

On a smaller scale, Sylvester Stallone's breakout role as actor and writer is a film that perfectly encapsulates the intimate details of humanity and the struggles that form the life of a lonesome, desperate underdog. Most people think of boxing or the training montage when they hear about this movie, but the sports don't come center stage for Rocky until the third act of the film. Everyone can see a piece of themselves in Rocky, he's the quintessential human being and therefore the perfect protagonist: someone who wants a chance to do what they love, give their best effort, earn the respect of others, and just maybe have a better life. Stallone himself is truly under-appreciated, considering that this story is his brain child and he wrote the final boxing match against Apollo Creed step-by-step in one night, as well as giving a beautifully tragic yet optimistic performance that should've won him the Oscar. While it isn't technically groundbreaking, Rocky is a must-see film for everyone as perhaps the most uplifting movie to ever go the distance and win Best Picture.

The Best Picture of Drama

Grade: A+

#3 Casablanca (1942)

One of the most iconic gems of 20th century cinema, Casablanca remains one of the few films to win Best Picture by a landslide and even eighty years later, no one would ever question its worthiness. In what is perhaps his career-defining role, Humphrey Bogart portrays Rick Blaine, a protagonist that's as undeniably human and compelling as Stallone's Balboa except he lacks any trace of optimism, preferring a vast array of cynical comebacks and dry one-liners. Yet through the reappearance of Ingrid Bergman's Ilsa and the introduction of Blaine's characteristic and moral foil, Paul Henreid's Laszlo, Rick finds himself being moved to pick a side in the escalating international conflict as the Third Reich rises in power. As the film so effectively displayed in its historical context, it serves as a strong call-to-arms in the fight of the oppressed against tyranny and the free people against fear, not to mention the iconic romantic storyline, an admirable friendship with the charming Claude Rains that overcomes political barriers, and a screenplay that's the stuff of Hollywood legends.

The Best Picture of Writing

Grade: A+

#4 Forrest Gump (1994)

There aren't many people in the real world as innocent and invested as Forrest Gump, and that's part of what makes him such a lovable, deeply compelling character. Tom Hanks won the gold for Best Actor with no competition due to his perfect performance as a man who grows up throughout the most important events of the 20th century and despite being challenged mentally, he is more than capable of connecting and relating emotionally. Everyone has at least heard of this film or quoted the "life is like a box of chocolates" lines, and it's all because of how endearing and compassionate the star of this film is. Forrest is a character who reaches into your soul and never lets go, inspiring everyone who sees the movie to be a kinder, more compassionate human being. The writing deserves just as much praise as Hanks' performance, packing in countless comedic moments followed by a steady stream of emotional gut-punches that never wear off no matter how many times you've seen it. If you're one of the few people who has yet to watch Forrest Gump, I recommend you start running to see it.

The Best Picture of Emotions

Grade: A

#5 Lawrence of Arabia (1962)

While his first critical success with The Bridge on the River Kwai (1957) is definitely a worthy winner in its own right, it's undeniable that director David Lean's magnum opus is this transcontinental quest. Never has such painstaking detail been made to achieve an unrivaled visual grandeur that makes this film perhaps the most stunning and beautiful of all time. Peter O'Toole leads the cast commendably, with fellow greats Omar Sharif and Alec Guinness assisting in strong supporting roles, but where this movie became legendary is the work behind the camera. The long-take cinematography of the desert dunes, the creation of brand new camera lenses for specific horizon shots, and the integration of some of the most famous editing cuts in film history are what lift this from being another war movie and achieve the highest caliber of technical and artistic filmmaking. Its 230 minute

runtime may be daunting, but Lawrence of Arabia is an extraordinary achievement in the cinematic art that reminds us of our malleable destinies, that "nothing is written."

The Best Picture of Epics

Grade: A

#6 Gladiator (2000)

The Emperor of revenge movies and Caesar of sword-and-sandals films, director Ridley Scott crafted a nearly perfect movie, in my opinion, that is filled with memorable sequences of both action and dramatic discourse. I shall always hold strongly that Joaquin Phoenix was robbed of an Oscar for Supporting Actor as the vile Commodus, easily one of the greatest movie villains of all time, and the late Oliver Reed deserved a nomination for his final performance as the haunted Proximo. Hans Zimmer's musical score is a proud, triumphant one (even if it is a bit too similar to Pirates of the Caribbean), and the story is paced at a leisurely, methodical rate that allows the audience to be completely enveloped in the characters and plot. The quest of Maximus is a resonant one as the viewer mourns with him and longs for retribution, aided by a subtler turn for Russell Crowe. Unlike many other films that have won the golden statue, Gladiator doesn't ask the audience to contemplate the events on screen and think on their lives. Instead, it pulls them into a tragic adventure, lets them experience the excitement and sweet revenge, and asks them: "Are you not entertained?"

The Best Picture of Entertainment

Grade: A

#7 Parasite (2019)

Through incredibly well-written sequences of comedic scheming, dramatic interchanges, and gripping tension, Bong Joon-ho helms one of the most witty and intelligent films in recent memory that deserves to be seen by all international audiences. The social commentaries of the script form the integral foundation for its Hitchcock-esque scenes of payoff in the second half of the film without making the thesis feel heavy-handed. The sense of smell is smartly used to draw the lines between the impoverished Kims and the wealthy Parks who employ them, demonstrating the inescapable clutches of social inequality that the Kims struggle with.

The scholar's rock is a symbolic image of opportunity for the future, yet the Kims learn that this promising ambition can have a horrific dark side. Joon-ho joins David Lean as two of my three favorite Best Director winners (the third member is Damien Chazelle, director of La La Land), and here he has made a film that transcends the confining restrictions of genres and language to prompt the audience: who is the titular Parasite?

The Best Picture of Direction

Grade: A

#8 Gone with the Wind (1939)

This film is an epic without the action, an opera without the singing. It evokes strong Shakespearean themes and feelings in the audience while watching it, proving itself unquestionably as one of the greatest Tragedies of all time. It isn't a tragedy in that most of the characters die, in fact the majority survive, but it's tragic in the revelation that the story's protagonist, Scarlett O'Hara, has never truly lived at all. Vivien Leigh is delight-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

fully unbearable in the role, crafting an unstable figure that we all love to hate. While the film is very long, none of its contents feel superfluous or self-indulgent, and the technical work is truly astonishing with brilliant cinematography and production design. Though some of the film's portrayals of African American characters are considered antiquated, the movie is an important product of its time and deserves to be respected as a cinematic milestone (it remains the highest-grossing movie in history when adjusted for inflation, and Hattie McDaniel was the first black woman to win an Oscar in one of the greatest supporting actress roles in film history).

Gone with the Wind is a film that depicts the fall of Scarlett O'Hara as a symbolic stand-in for the Old South itself, representing its outdated way of life and gilded glory, demonstrating how selfishness and abuse towards others (whether it be Rhett Butler or the enslaved African Americans) will eventually leave you alone and ruined, longing for the promise of a better tomorrow.

The Best Picture of Flaws

Grade: A

#9 Green Book (2018)

Dismissed by many to be a predictable winner or unoriginal idea that was undeserving of its awards, I've always felt the need to strongly champion this stellar piece of filmmaking. Viggo Mortensen remains the most underrated actor of the 21st century with a transformative performance as Tony Vallelonga, and Mahershala Ali excels in his (mostly) refined role as Dr. Don Shirley. The screenplay deserved its Oscar win as it is full of powerful moral moments or dramatic discussions between the main characters as well as hilarious comedic scenes that make me laugh no matter how many times I've seen the film. Especially in these tumultuous times, more people need to seek out this movie in hopes of sharing both good humor and the moral high ground with their fellow man. Just like the green-covered travel guide that Tony and Doc use in the film to navigate their complicated relationship, perhaps Green Book can help point a new direction for the audience to take.

The Best Picture of Friendship

Grade: A

#10 The Apartment (1960)

I only recently stumbled upon this Billy Wilder gem, and I instantly fell in love with its ingenious humor, whether it's the subtle satirization of the 1950's workplace or the snappy dialogue of C.C. Baxter and his bosses. I'm surprised Jack Lemmon didn't win Leading Actor since his performance is what carries most of the film, and the musical theme by Adolph Deutsch is a captivating, bittersweet piece that will stick in your mind. It's truly an unpredictable film, narrative-wise, that suggests comedy for its first act but makes a shift into the dramatic with multiple spectacularly-executed twists (the turn of events involving the mirror is a particularly fantastic scene, directing-wise). It takes a visit from Baxter's neighbor for the film to present its thematic message, and what a message it is, paralleling other great morality plays such as Dickens' A Christmas Carol. Though there are some moments that could be paced better, it's still an expertly-crafted piece of cinema that never loses your interest. Directing-wise, writing-wise, music-wise, acting-wise, and otherwise-wise, it's impossible to imagine The Apartment going home empty handed... Best Picture-wise.

The Best Picture of Morality

Grade: A

HONORABLE MENTIONS:

West Side Story (1961)

Million Dollar Baby (2004)

The Sting (1973)

Driving Miss Daisy (1989)

Oliver! (1968)

Unforgiven (1992)

On the Waterfront (1954)

Titanic (1997)

A Beautiful Mind (2001)

Gandhi (1982)

The Bridge on the River Kwai (1957)

Hamlet (1948)

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

**Michelle Little, DO**

Family Medicine

Jennifer Smith, FNP-C

Family Medicine

Justin Hare, DO

Neurosurgery and Spine

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