#### 2016 EXPO

### **Priceless good time**

Dollar bills tossed by adoring fans litter the stage during the Beulah Boys' performance at the Seniors/ Baby Boomer Expo on Oct. 15. More scenes, page 4



## **SCENE**

#### Savoir faire affair

Tickets are now on sale for the annual Stompin' at the Savoy gala on Nov. 12 at the Ramada Plaza Atlanta Capitol Park. 9





# GROSSROADS

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# Voters flocking to the early polls for Nov. 8 elections

By Jennifer Ffrench Parker

Voters anxious to cast their ballots in the controversial presidential election and on Georgia's Opportunity School District amendment are flocking to the early polls in droves in DeKalb County.

In the first three days of early voting for the Nov. 8 presidential, general and special elections, 25,725 DeKalb voters cast ballots.

Four years ago, in the first three days of early voting for President Barack Obama's re-election, only 16,064 people had voted.

Statewide, more than 146,511 of Georgia's 6.6 million registered voters cast ballots on

DeKalb County opened three early precincts in Decatur and Tucker on Oct. 17. A fourth precinct opens on Oct. 30 in Chamblee, and six more early precincts will open Oct. 31 to Nov. 4.

The nasty and bitter campaign for the U.S. presidency between Democratic nominee and former Secretary of State Hillary Rod-

Please see POLLS, page 2



KEN WATTS / CROSSROADSNEWS

Early voters cast ballots on Oct. 19 at the polling place at the Gallery at South DeKalb in Decatur. In the first three days of early voting in the Nov. 8 elections, 25,725 DeKalb voters cast ballots.

construction like this one in the

Hilson Landing subdivision off

Rainbow Drive in Decatur are once again dotting

the landscape in South DeKalb

as the housing market rebounds

# South DeKalb housing market finally rebounding

# Hilson Landing, other stalled projects restart

By Jennifer Ffrench Parker

After years of eerie quiet brought on by nondevelopment, the rat-a-tat of hammers and the hum of drills once again are punc-

tuating the air in some South DeKalb neighbor-

They are sweet sounds to nearby homeowners like Jerry Beckles, who lives next door to Hilson Landing, a high-priced subdivision off Rainbow



Jerry Beckles

Drive in Decatur that stalled in 2009 and finally restarted this spring.

Before the bottom fell out and developer Steve Hilson filed for bankruptcy, only four homes priced in the \$400s were built.

For the next seven years, the remaining 18 lots languished – overgrown with weeds - until Silverstone Residential bought them last fall and restarted construction.

Now five new five-bedroom/four-bath homes priced \$271,690 to \$346,190 are under construction in the subdivision.

Beckles spent part of a recent morning walking through the subdivision, watching crews working on houses with names like the Northwyck, the Richardson, the Rosebriar, the Kensington, and the Brookhaven.

Beckles said he had to investigate.

"I just came to see what's going on in my neighborhood. I just love the sound of new construction," he said with a big grin. "I like it. I like it."

Beckles and his neighbors have good reason to be happy.

If homes are selling next door in the high \$300s, it bodes well for the value of their properties, which like all those in south DeKalb County took a beating during the



JENNIFER FFRENCH PARKER / CROSSROADSNEWS

2007-2008 recession and the housing foreclosure crisis.

Beckles, a retired steam fitter who relocated with his wife, Glennis, from New York to Decatur before the housing crash, said the homes going up in Hilson Landing are the county. nothing to sniff at.

'These are some beautiful houses," he said. "It's going to make the value of my property go up.'

Hilson Landing is one of four stalled single-family and townhome communities being completed by Atlanta-based home builder Silverstone Residential.

The price of the its homes ranges from \$165,990 for two-bedroom/two-and-a-halfbath townhomes in Park City Place in Atlanta-in-DeKalb to \$346,190 for five-bedroom/ four-bath, three-sided brick estate homes in Hilson Landing in Decatur.

While prices are lower than the prerecession prices, they are substantially higher than say 2011 when the double whammy of the foreclosure crisis and the recession ravaged housing prices and property values in II.

Along Turner Hill Road, near the Mall at Stonecrest, signs for subdivisions like The Parks of Stonecrest, Stonecrest Townhomes, Grand Cayman Estates. Oakleaf at Stonecrest, and Haynes Park that have new construction projects underway again dot the landscape. Prices range from mid-\$100s for townhomes to the \$600s in Grand Cayman Estate.

Silverstone Residential's other DeKalb projects are Hancock Heights off Flat Shoals Parkway in Decatur; Addison Glen on Dogwood Farms Road and Browns Mill Estates in Lithonia; and Park City Place on Castle Keep Way in Atlanta-in-DeKalb.

On a recent Saturday, Aaron Joy and Mary Carol McDonald, who are engaged to be married this year, were visiting their "dream house" in Hancock Heights Phase

The house, which is under construction, has five bedrooms and three bathrooms for the attractive price of \$208,000 with

The couple, who will be relocating from Gresham Park, couldn't contain their excite-

"We came to this neighborhood and saw the price, and it was done," McDonald said.

Joy said their lot on Hancock View is the biggest one in the subdivision and their twostory home will have a garden tub, fireplace and other amenities.

Please see REBOUND, page 2

# COMMUNITY

"It's more important this year ... for the masses of people to get out and express their opinions."

# Presidential election, Amendment 1 attracting early voters

POLLS, FROM PAGE 1

ham Clinton and Republican nominee and businessman Donald Trump and Amendment 1, which is seeking to change Georgia's Constitution to allow Gov. Nathan Deal to create a separate school district beyond the she was lured to the early polls by both the control of local elected school boards, seem to be helping fuel the early turnout.

Clyde Jones of Decatur, who was an early voter at the polls at the Gallery at South DeKalb on Oct. 20, said the presidential race and Amendment 1 underscore the importance of this election.

"It's more important this year than probably in many years for the masses of people to voters than in 2012. Through Oct. 5, its voter get out and express their opinions," he said.

Gwen Mason of Lithonia said she 26,255 new voters.

voted "no" to both the city of Stonecrest and Amendment 1.

"The school system should be run by the local people and not by the state government," she said.

Samantha Brown of Ellenwood said presidential election and Amendment 1. She voted for Clinton and against the Opportunity School District.

the schools," Brown said.

"I think that would make the quality drop even lower."

DeKalb also has thousands more new rolls swelled to 519,402 with the addition of

Through April 29, DeKalb had 493,147 the Gallery at South DeKalb, 2801 Candler

Oct. 11 was the deadline to register to vote in the Nov. 8 elections. The final number of new voters was not available at press time Thursday.

Oct. 22 will be the first Saturday voting for the Nov. 8 elections. Voters also will be able to cast ballots on Oct. 29.

The early precincts at the DeKalb Voter "I really don't want [the state] taking over Registration and Elections Office, 4380 Memorial Drive, Suite 300, in Decatur, will open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on both Saturdays.

> It has two separate polling precincts – one exclusively for senior and disabled voters and one for other voters.

The Saturday opening hours for the other to cheat," he said. two early precincts are 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. at

Road in Decatur, and 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Tucker Recreation Center, 4898 LaVista Road in Tucker.

With voting underway, Georgia Secretary of State Brian Kemp is encouraging voters to report any voting irregularities or complaints to his office's Investigations Division or use the "Stop Voter Fraud" website at www. mvp.sos.ga.gov/MVP/mvp.do and hotline at 1-877-725-9797.

Kemp said that in addition to the resources and tools offered by his office, he is working to ensure that Georgians have secure, accessible, and fair elections.

'We are making it easy to vote and hard

Ken Watts contributed to this report.

# Realtors say growing demand for houses putting pressure on inventory

REBOUND, FROM PAGE 1

"We just love it," he said.

The couple said they have already met some of their neighbors in the 15 homes that were built before the subdivision stalled.

"They seem very nice," McDonald said. "We are going to like it here."

Hancock Heights, a 79-lot subdivision, has 64 unfinished lots.

Silverstone Residential entered the community in June and built a model house that is showcasing its offerings, including gourmet kitchens with granite countertops and lavish second-floor master suites.

Four houses, including the McDonald/ Joy home, are already under construction.

#### Resales also doing well

The real estate rebound, which has been in full swing in places like Dunwoody and Brookhaven in DeKalb County and in Alpharetta in Fulton County, has finally reached south DeKalb County.

Keith Palmer, a Realtor with Palmer House Properties, says residential resales are on the upswing, especially in ZIP code

"They are beginning to sell faster and Oct. 12.

Al Lockhart, an associate broker with Keller Williams Realty, says buyers are finding great values in older subdivisions like Toney Valley, Toney Gardens and Spring Valley, all in the 30032 ZIP code.

Single-family home sales are rebounding slowly in South DeKalb

Year	ZIP code	New listings	Median price
Aug. 2016	30032	<b>38.8%</b>	\$132, 450
Aug. 2011	30032	<b>₹</b> -13.3 %	\$23,650
Aug. 2016	30034	<b>2.0%</b>	\$124,000
Aug. 2011	30034	<b>2.3.0%</b>	\$38,700
Aug. 2016	30058	<b>₹</b> -7.8%	\$113,000
Aug. 2011	30058	<b>₹</b> -2.6%	\$48,900
Aug. 2016	30083	<b>28.3%</b>	\$119,500
Aug. 2011	30083	★ 20.5%	\$49,000
Source: MARK	ETrends		

Aaron Joy and Mary Carol McDonald, who are engaged to be married this year, visited their "dream house" under construction in Hancock Heights Phase II in Decatur.

ZIP code 30032, homes are now staying on especially strong," Palmer said. "In 30034 and the market 30 to 60 days.

In 2011, the median day to contract was 59, which means half of the homes stayed longer on the market.

Selling prices also are on the upswing.

Palmer said homes that sold for \$60,000 are on the market for less time," Palmer said and \$70,000 a year ago are now going for them up and selling them," Palmer said. \$170,000 to \$180,000 in ZIP code 30032.

Between 2011 and August 2016, singlefamily home prices in that ZIP code increased more than 560 percent from \$23,650

Multiple Listing Service shows that in Road area, close to the city of Decatur, are lot of buyers "out there" but inventory is low

30035, not so much yet."

He said the areas enjoying the higher price points are those where investors bought foreclosed houses and rented them out during the recession.

"They are now renovating and sprucing

As the market levels from a buyers to a sellers market, Realtors said a growing demand for houses also is putting pressure on inventory.

Lockhart, who has sold real estate in "Glenwood Road and South Candler South DeKalb for 30 years, said there are a

because people who want to sell their homes are sitting on the fence.

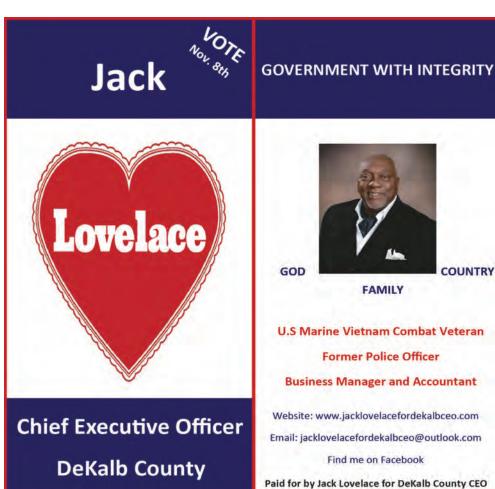
"We still have a lot of sellers who are skeptical that they will get the price they want," he said.

"We encourage people to get pre-appraisals. Those who do it have been quite surprised."

Lockhart said that some areas are doing quite well.

"In Cherry Ridge, prices are almost as high as pre-recession prices," said Lockhart, who is also a resident of the subdivision off Flat Shoals Parkway in the 30034 ZIP code.





# **V**OTE 2016

"We recognize the right of all Americans to participate in and observe our political processes."

### District 7 forum at Columbia Middle

Middle School.

The forum, which will be moderated by CrossRoadsNews reporter Ken Watts, takes the audience. place in the cafeteria from 6 to 8 p.m.

Dr. Janetta Cureton, president of the Decatur. school's PTSA, which is hosting the forum, said all eight candidates - Gregory Adams, 6129.

Voters can hear from the eight candidates Diane Adoma, George Chidi, Faye Coffield, seeking the DeKalb Commission Super Dis-Randal Mangham, Edward Patton, Rita Robtrict 7 seat at an Oct. 25 forum at Columbia inzine and John Tolbert Jr. – have confirmed their attendance.

She said that questions will be taken from

The school is 3001 Columbia Drive in

For more information, call 678-310-

### Poll watchers and monitors needed

Georgia NAACP members are needed to candidate," he said. serve as poll watchers and monitors for the Nov. 8 elections.

In the wake of Donald Trump's assertions that the election is being rigged, Kevin Myles, the NAACP's Southeast Region V director of field operations, said NAACP members, friends and supporters are being encouraged to travel to different polling places in urban areas in search of "fraud."

"We recognize the right of all Americans to participate in and observe our political processes," he said in an Oct. 18 email. "And we acknowledge that vigilance helps ensure the integrity of our elections."

At the same time, Myles said that the NAACP holds as a core principle the notion that unfettered access to the polls should be enjoyed by all citizens.

"It is therefore imperative that we, as the nation's oldest and largest civil rights organization, do all that we can to ensure that the residents in our respective communities are able to exercise their right to vote without being harassed or intimidated by persons incited by conspiracy theories peddled by a

He made the call on all units within Southeast Region V "to mobilize quickly and provide volunteers."

For more information, email naacpdek@ comcast.net.

### Ride to the polls seeks voters, drivers

Volunteers who would like to help get people to the polls to vote and voters who need rides to the polls can sign up at www.ridetothepoll.com.

The Coalition for the People's Agenda is coordinating rides to the polls for both early voting and Election Day

To sign up to drive, volunteers should click "Volunteer as Driver" on the lower left of the request form.

Voters needing rides also can sign up at the same site.

# 🗣 first afrikan church

Opportunity????

MAKE AN

INFORMED

**DECISION!** 

Get the Facts About Governor Nathan Deal's **Opportunity School District!** 

Our Children's Futures Depend On It!

Urgent Community Meeting When: October 24, 2016

Time: 7:00pm - 9:00pm

Where: First Afrikan Presbyterian Church

5197 Salem Road, Lithonia, GA 30038

Phone: 678-334-4390 / 617-320-3910 / 770-981-2601

Parents, educators, and other stakeholders are concerned about the OSD for many reasons including:

- Parents lose say in local schools and access to locally elected school
- The OSD superintendent is accountable only to the sitting Governor.
- The OSD plan does not address why students and schools are struggling, and transparency is lacking.
- Reform and rule-making are subject to the discretion of the OSD
- The OSD gives the state control over your local tax dollars and local school facilities.
- Local communities retain liability for local schools while the state seizes control of the schools.

### **DeKalb County's Department of Watershed Management** Reminds Residents of the Best Practices for Proper Disposal of FOG

#### What are Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG)?

FOG is composed of the animal and vegetable fats and oils that are used to cook and prepare food.

#### Where does FOG come from?

Baking goods

Shortening

- Food scraps
- Dairy products
- Butter and margarine

- Sauces
- Meat fat
- Lard
- Cooking oil

#### What happens when FOG is not properly disposed of?

FOG should be properly disposed of or recycled. It enters the plumbing system through home garbage disposals, kitchen sinks and toilets, coats the interior of pipes, and empties into the County's sewer system. Excessive accumulation of FOG in the sewer system will result in sanitary sewer overflows and sewage backup in homes and businesses. Sewage overflow repairs are costly for the County and its citizens, and can result in increased costs for water and sewer services.

#### Here are three simple practices to help keep FOG out of our pipes and sewers:

- 1. POUR cooled fats, oils or grease into a sealable container and throw it in the trash. Do not pour down the sink or toilet.
- SCRAPE plates and cookware before washing. Do not throw scraps of any kind down the sink. Instead, place them in waste containers or garbage bags.
- 3. WIPE excess grease from all plates, pots, pans, utensils and surfaces with a paper towel before washing. Throw the greasy paper towels away.



### Remember, you can make a difference!

Visit the DeKalb County Department of Watershed Management's FOG Program Online! www.dekalbwatershed.com/FOG

1580 Roadhaven Drive • Stone Mountain, GA 30083 • (770) 621-7200



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# Ехро

Exhibitors offered information on everything from Medicare enrollment to health care, family reunion planning and continuing education.

# Strutting their stuff at the 2016 Seniors/Baby Boomer Expo



Fashion show coordinator Jan Reynolds (center, with microphone) and her models offered an array of dazzling styles from Macy's, Sears and Zoom de Italy.



Exhibitors such as Kaiser Permanente (above) and DeKalb Medical provided information, screenings and just plain fun at the expo.







Entertainment at the expo included Queen Ora Dabney (far left), singer E. Walter Smith (left), mime Antonio "The Chozen 1" Hinton, and a martial arts demonstration from the Lou Walker Senior Center (bottom).







Grand prize winners included Pat Tucker (above, with CrossRoadsNews Publisher and Editor Jennifer Parker) and Shirley Robinson, who was thrilled to hear her name called.





Ballroom dancers Johnny Kimbrough and Angela Sanford cut the rug with fancy moves across the stage floor.

PHOTOS BY CURTIS PARKER / CROSSROADSNEWS

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# Moving forward to make things right.



We are deeply committed to serving you and your financial needs. We know we did not live up to that commitment. We want you to know that we're making things right and that we're even more dedicated to serving you and making sure you know where you stand. There is nothing more important than for you to experience the very best from us.

That's why we've already taken action:

**Putting your interests first:** We have eliminated product sales goals for our Retail Banking team members who serve customers in our bank branches and call centers. This means that their focus will be on meeting your financial needs, not meeting sales goals.

**Proactively communicating with you:** We send a confirmation after you open a new consumer or small business checking, savings or credit card account so that you know what is happening and can tell us if anything we've confirmed is different than what you expected.

Full transparency: You can always see your eliqible accounts any time when enrolled in Wells Fargo Online.®

**Fixing what went wrong:** We have provided full refunds to customers we have already identified and we're broadening our scope of work to find customers we may have missed. If we have any doubt about whether one of your accounts was authorized, and any fees were incurred on that account, we will contact you and refund fees.

If you have any concerns about your accounts or any aspect of your relationship with Wells Fargo, please come into a branch or call us on our dedicated hotline 24/7 at 1-877-924-8697.

The trust you place in us means everything and we will work hard every day to earn it back.

wellsfargo.com/commitment



# WELLNESS

"GeorgiaCares is available to help Georgia Medicare beneficiaries understand their options so they can make an informed decision."

# Medicare recipients can get free counseling on drug, health plans

counseling on health and prescription drug Program, which provides free, unbiased, plans from the Georgia Department of Human Services' GeorgiaCares program.

The enrollment period for Medicare, which serves millions of older Americans, opened Oct. 15 and will end Dec. 7.

GeorgiaCares, administered through the department's Division of Aging Services, is available through the end of the enrollment period to help Georgians make informed

Medicare recipients can get free options funded State Health Insurance Assistance one-on-one counseling and assistance to Medicare beneficiaries, their families, friends and caregivers as they seek to create personalized coverage solutions and understand changes in their current plans.

> DAS Director Abby Cox said Georgia-Cares can help seniors sort through their

"Understanding your options and making decisions about your medical coverage It is the name for Georgia's federally can be overwhelming, but choosing a Media assist with Medicare questions and offer per-ga.gov or call 1-866-552-4464.



Abby Cox

care coverage."

gia Medicare beneficiaries

understand their options

so they can make an in-

formed decision about

care plan is an important sonalized counseling through the program's decision for the future toll-free help line at 1-866-552-4464. Callers of your health care," Cox seeking Medicare counseling should choose said. "GeorgiaCares is Option 4. available to help all Geor-

Georgians also can compare plans at www.Medicare.gov, call 1-800-Medicare (1-800-633-4227) or visit www.mygeorgiacares.org to learn more.

For more information about Georgiathe future of their health Cares and other services available to older Georgians and their families, visit the DHS Counselors are available statewide to Division of Aging Services at www.aging.

# Haunted Maze includes HIV testing

Free health screenings and STD/HIV STD/HIV Prevention Program. testing as well as fun activities will be available at the DeKalb Board of Health's STD/ or-treating, a photo booth, face painting, HIV Haunted Maze health fair on Oct. 29 and an entertaining and educational STD/ at the Exchange Park Recreation Center in HIV haunted house. The rec center is at Decatur. The four-hour event begins at 2 2771 Columbia Drive. For more informap.m. and is presented by the Board of Health's tion, call 404-270-2453.

There will be free food, vendor trick-

# Health screenings, food and fun at Community Outreach Day

health screenings and free food at Commu- Inc., a private peer-led comprehensive nity Outreach Day on Oct. 29 at Recovery health and recovery community-based Consultants of Atlanta Community Health nonprofit, was founded in 1999 by mem-Center in Decatur.

It takes place 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and includes fun family activities.

a patient-driven health center that provides 404-286-9252.

Individuals and families can get free primary care on a sliding-fee scale. RCA bers of metro Atlanta's 12-step and faithbased addiction recovery communities.

The health center is at 4229 Snapfinger The RCA Community Health Center is Woods Drive. For more information, call

# Free help for smokers trying to quit

Smokers who need help to break the habit will get a Quit Smart kit that includes an incan attend the free Quit Smart Program at formation guide, a hypnosis CD, and a ciga-Kaiser Permanente Panola Medical Center rette substitute. Bupropion SR and nicotine in Lithonia.

The program is open to the public – nonmembers must pre-register at 404-364-7117.

Classes are held 10 a.m. to noon on Saturdays from Oct. 29 to Nov. 19.

health by gradually quitting nicotine. They 0966 or 1-800-611-1811.

patch vouchers (redeemable only at Kaiser Permanente pharmacies) also are offered. Participants with a serious health condition should talk with their doctor about whether nicotine patches are right for them.

The medical center is at 5440 Hillandale Participants can take a step toward good Drive. For more information, call 404-365-

# Redan health fair seeks sponsors

Sponsors, donors and vendors are needed be health screenings, activities, materials, on Nov. 5 at Redan High in Stone Moun-

"Treasure Your Health" takes place 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the gym and is designed to become a sponsor or vendor, to donate or for encourage DeKalb County's diverse residents more information, contact Bobby Frazier at to take ownership of their health. There will frazierbobby99@yahoo.com.

for the Men of Redan's inaugural health fair demonstrations, and information to help motivate participants to make positive health behavior changes.

The school is at 5247 Redan Road. To



# **W**ELLNESS

Having positive problem-solving skills, supportive families, and a positive school climate can help decrease bullying.



A woman receives a mammogram at last year's A Crucial Catch Day. The NFL campaign is in support of the American Cancer Society.

# Free mammograms at A Crucial Catch Day

Eligible women can receive a free mammogram on Oct. 25 at A Crucial Catch Day - Screening Saves Lives at Oakhurst Medical in Stone Mountain.

Opening events begin at 9:30 a.m. Participants must preregister for a mammogram. To find out if you qualify, call 404-298-8998, Ext. 1367.

There will be fun educational activities and free giveaways. Special invited guests include U.S. Rep. Hank Johnson, Georgia state representatives, DeKalb County elected officials, and past NFL players.

Participants will celebrate health and learn more about how to help reduce the risk for breast cancer or find it early.

The program is made possible with the funds raised by the NFL's A Crucial Campaign in support of the American Cancer

The medical center is at 5582 Memorial Drive.

# Resources available to prevent bullying

October is National Bullying Prevention Awareness Month, which provides an opportunity for schools, communities and states to talk about the best ways to prevent bullying.

The national Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Division of Violence Prevention recognizes efforts to improve the school environment and to prevent bullying nationwide. CDC supports evidence-based actions in communities to more effectively prevent bullying and youth violence.

Bullying is unwanted aggressive behavior among school-aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time. Bullying includes actions such as making threats, spreading rumors, attacking someone physically or verbally,

harm someone physically, emotionally, and academically. The damaging effects do not stop at the individual bullied at least once or twice a month. and negatively impact peers, families, schools, and even in-person and electronically as well as in and outside

The percentage of public schools that reported student bullying occurred at least once a week was highest for middle schools at 25 percent.

The latest 2015 Youth Risk Behavior Survey showed that 20 percent of high school students reported being bullied on school property in the 12 months before the survey. Additionally, 16 percent of high school students reported they have been bullied electronically in the past 12 months. Electronic bullying or cyber-bullying is bullying that occurs through email, a chat room, instant messaging, a website, text messaging, or videos or pictures posted on websites or sent through cellphones.

The 2015 Indicators of School Crime and Safety Report shows 33 percent of students who reported being information.



Bullying is unwanted aggressive behavior among school-aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance.

and excluding someone from a group on purpose. It can bullied at school and 27 percent of students who reported being cyber-bullied anywhere indicated that they were

Female students ages 12-18 were more likely than neighborhoods. Bullying can occur anywhere. It happens males to report being made fun of, called names, or insulted, to be the subject of rumors, and to be excluded from activities on purpose. However, male students were more likely to report being pushed, shoved, tripped, or

> Factors associated with a higher likelihood of engaging in bullying behavior include poor impulse control, harsh parenting by caregivers, and attitudes that accept violence. Factors associated with a higher likelihood of victimization include relationship difficulties, poor self-esteem, and being perceived by peers as different

> Having positive problem-solving skills, supportive families, and a positive school climate can help decrease bullying behaviors, the CDC says.

Visit StopBullying.gov for resources and additional

# **Know Your Status Get a free HIV test**



### FREE rapid HIV tests

Results in 20 minutes Walk-ins welcome Monday - Friday, 8:15 a.m. - 4 p.m.

#### Clifton Springs Health Center

3110 Clifton Springs Road Decatur, GA 30034 (404) 244-2200

### East DeKalb Health Center

2277 S. Stn. Mountain-Lithonia Rd. Lithonia, GA 30058 (770) 484-2600

404-294-3700

#### North DeKalb Health Center

3807 Clairmont Road Chamblee, GA 30341 (770) 454-1144

#### T.O. Vinson Health Center

440 Winn Way Decatur, GA 30030 (404) 294-3762



www.dekalbhealth.net



# **H**ALLOWEEN

A Trick-or-Treat Alternatives Fall Festival takes place Oct. 29 at Hillcrest Church of Christ with the South Precinct.

# Frightful fun awaits campers and day-trippers at state parks

good time this month at state parks across Georgia.

At Hard Labor Creek State Park in Rutledge, Haunted Hollow Glow-in-the-Dark Mini Golf takes place 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. on Oct. 28. Brave participants can play a spooky miniature golf course in a different light meaning at night. The park will be keeping the mini-golf course open late and provide glow-in-the-dark accessories; the course navigating each hole.

A Spooky Wagon Ride will take place from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. on Oct. 28 and Oct. 29 at Hard Labor. Participants will travel by wagon through a dark and creepy forest

Halloween revelers can have a frightful where they'll meet a strange and ghastly cast HardLaborCreek or call 706-557-3001. of characters along the way. The wagon will depart from the beach parking lot and each Stockbridge also has some spooky goings-on. ride lasts about 20 minutes. Volunteer ghosts are invited to contact the park in advance.

> There will be a Costume Contest for all campers at the Trading Post from 4 to 5 p.m. on Oct. 29. Prizes will be awarded for most original costume, scariest costume and most creative costume.

itself will have markers to assist players in compete in the Campsite Decorating Contest ister, call the Nature Center at 770-389-7801. from 6 to 7 p.m. on Oct. 29 for a chance to win a prize and bragging rights.

> The park is at 5 Hard Labor Creek Road in Morgan County. For more information, including fees, visit http://gastateparks.org/

Panola Mountain State Park in nearby trunk – call to register cars.

A Zombie Archery Shoot for ages 14 and older will be held from 5 to 9 p.m. on Oct. 28. The dead are walking and archers are needed to help keep Panola from their clammy clutches. Help Ranger Sam to stick it to a legion of zombie 2D and 3D targets.

The shoot includes a basic lesson and all Campers who visit for the weekend can equipment, so beginners are welcome. To reg-

> On Oct. 29 from 2 to 4 p.m., little ghouls can Trunk-o-Treat. At the third annual event, boys and girls collect candy going car to car and play on the playground. There will be games, face painting, tree climbing and contests.

Motorists can vie for the creepiest

A three-hour Paranormal Panola begins at 5:30 p.m. on Oct. 29, and participants will spend the evening investigating Panola's haunted past, exploring its history with experts from Timeless Paranormal, and searching for those left behind.

It is a real investigation experience using professional ghost-hunting equipment for ages 14 and older. Participants must register in advance.

The park is at 2620 Highway 155 S.W. in Henry County. For more information, including fees, visit http://gastateparks. org/PanolaMountain or call 770-389-

### Clues lead to goodies at scavenger hunt

with a Trick-or-Treat Scavenger Hunt on Oct. last. Costumes are welcomed and appre-26 at the Decatur Library.

The special family event, which begins at 5 p.m., is open to the first 60 participants. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Youngsters pick up a clue sheet at the Children's Desk that will send them through the call 404-370-3070.

Kids can get a jump on Halloween loot library receiving goodies while supplies

Funding is provided by the Friends

The library is at 215 Sycamore St. in downtown Decatur. For more information.

# Kids can don costumes for Triple Tales

their families can participate in the third annual Triple Tales Family Festival on Oct. 29 at the Decatur Library.

The storytelling festival begins at 10 a.m. To register, email tripletalesfest@gmail.com. There will be games and fables, folktales and downtown Decatur. For more information, fairy tales. Participants are welcome to wear call 404-508-7190, Ext. 2257.

Kids in pre-k through fifth grade and costumes representing their favorite storybook characters. The festival is sponsored by the Peach Seed Youth Storytelling Festival, Southern Order of Storytellers, and Kuumba Storytellers of Georgia.

The library is at 215 Sycamore St. in

### Gallery at S. DeKalb hosts Mall-O-Ween

Little ones can pick up goodies at Mall-O-Ween on Oct. 31 at the Gallery at South DeKalb

The annual event begins at 6 p.m. It creates a safe alternative for parents and children to trick-or-treat.

The mall is at 2801 Candler Road. For more information, visit www.galleryatsouthdekalb.

#### **Costume contest for grown-ups**

Adults and seniors can dress up and have candy on Oct. 31 at the Stone Mountain-Sue Kellogg Library.

The fun starts at 6 p.m. and includes a mixer with treats and ghoulish punch, a Halloween costume contest, and pumpkin decorating.

The library is at 952 Leon St. in Stone Mountain. For more information, call 770-413-2020.



# Howey Hudson Lowe Foundation, Inc. Presents **12TH ANNUAL** Sat., Nov. 12, 2016 Ramada Plaza 450 Capital Ave., Atlanta, GA 30312 7:00 PM Martha Hutchins Child Advocate Debra DeBerry John Evans Jazz Collective Community Advocate Former NAACP Pres. Clerk of Superior

Featuring North "2Tunes" Woodall, Guitar Nat George / Keith Stalworth, Vocalists Betta Dayz, Vocalist **Delores Major, Violinist** Corwin "C-Dawg" Oglesby, Comedian Jay "The Dreamer" White, Tap Dancer The Beulah Boys Steppers **Brian Simmons / SAVOY Divas** 3-Course Plated Dinner Dancing & Step **42nd Street Vendors Market Creative Dress Contest** 

> All for \$55 pp (+service fee if purchased online) (Parking fee at Hotel not included)

(Male & Female Grand Prizes

BBQ Kit valued at \$300 ea.)

Roaring 20s or Dressy Attire Adults Only Live Entertainment Package Only \$55pp

Show and Dancing Starts at 7:00pm Dinner at 8:00pm (No take outs or late dinning)

> Proceeds to benefit HHL Outreach Program Initiatives

TICKETS: 770-981-4756

www.freshtix.com/events/stompin-at-the-savoy2016



# DeKalb Police present fall events

Members of the DeKalb Police Depart- food pantry are requested. ment are presenting fall holiday events on

A Trick-or-Treat Alternatives Fall Festival will take place from noon to 4 p.m. on Oct. 29 at Hillcrest Church of Christ, 1939 Snapfinger Road.

South Precinct police are partnering for the second year with the Decatur church for its free festival. It is open to the public with games, food and fun for all ages.

Volunteers and donors are needed for Oct. 29 and Oct. 31 in Decatur and Stone the East Precinct's fourth annual Halloween Trunk or Treat on Oct. 31.

> The event begins at 5:30 p.m. at Stephenson Middle School, 922 Stephenson Road in Stone Mountain. Donations of candy or money or gift

cards to purchase candy are requested, and volunteers are sought to help plan and execute the event.

Donations can be dropped off at the pre-Canned good donations for the church cinct, 2484 Bruce St. in Lithonia.





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# SCENE

This year's honorees at Stompin' at the Savoy are Debra DeBerry, John Evans and Martha Hutchins.

# Stompin' at Savoy time coming up

Fans of the roaming 20s and the Savoy are dusting off their flapper dressers and zoot suit in anticipation of the Nov. 12 Stompin' at the Savoy gala at the Ramada Plaza Atlanta Capitol Park.

The event, which a fundraiser for the Howie Hudson Lowe Foundation, will honor Debra DeBerry, clerk of DeKalb Superior Court; former longtime DeKalb NAACP President John Evans, who heads Operation Lead; and community activist Martha Hutchins.

The gala begins at 7 p.m. with hosts Kantis Simmons, a scientist and motivational speaker, and Tacoma Perry, TV news reporter.

The evening's performers include Melvin Miller Jazz Collective Band; North "2Tunes" Woodall; Nat George; Keith Stalworth; Corwin "C-Dawg" Oglesby; Jay "The Dreamer" tap dancer; the Beulah Boys Steppers, Brian Simmons, and the Savoy Divas.

There will be prizes for best-dressed male and female. Roaring '20s attire is encouraged.

The hotel is at 450 Capitol Ave. in Atlanta. For tickets and more information, call 770-981-4756.



The annual Stompin' at the Savoy gala, where attendees dress to the nines, takes place Nov. 12.

Stone Mountainbased Still Waters Sinfo-Nia Orchestra presents its Fall Classics concert on Oct. 30 at First Congregational Church Commons.

# Sinfo-Nia orchestra in concert

the Sinfo-Nia Fall Classics 2016 concert on Oct. 30 at the First Congregational Church Commons in Atlanta.

The annual concert starts at 4:30 p.m. The African-American orchestra made up of high school musicians has performed in more than 400 appearances locally, nationally and internationally. Sinfo-Nia Orchestra to perform various 404-328-0840.

Young musicians will be showcased in types of music in tribute to black composers like William Grant Still.

> Since its launch over 25 years ago, more than 1,000 musicians have participated in its summer academies and after-school programs. More than 86 percent of its members are honor students from public, private, charter and home schools.

The venue is at 125 Ellis St. N.E. For more Artistic Director David Robinson founded information, including tickets, email info@ the Stone Mountain-based Still Waters sinfo-nia.com, visit sinfo-nia.com or call

### St. Peter Claver to celebrate diversity

Students and staff of St. Peter Claver gymnasium. Regional Catholic School will celebrate the Multicultural Mass and Culinary Tasting.

The 90-minute program begins at 9 a.m. at the Decatur school.

Father Roberto Orellana will lead the multilingual Mass, followed by a cultural culinary tasting experience in the school or call 404-241-3063.

Participants will travel the culinary world beauty of diverse cultures on Oct. 26 at its with passports to check off at each destination as they sample the foods.

> Students are being encouraged to wear their cultural dress in lieu of uniforms.

The school is at 2560 Tilson Road. For more information, visit www.spc-school.org

# Flat Rock fest honors rich history



Local jazz musician John Porter will be featured at the 2016 Flat Rock Heritage Day and Jazz Festival on Oct. 29 in Lithonia.

From 9 a.m. to 10 p.m., there will be home-cooked food, fun, music and local vendors as participants celebrate the rich history of the Flat Rock Community.

A special archival exhibit will be diswill begin at 7:30 p.m.

Desserts and beverages also will be for sale, and participants can bring their own beverages, table decorations, friends and family.

Sponsors are Arabia Mountain Heritage Area Alliance, DeKalb History Center and Society of Georgia Archivists.

Flat Rock Archives is at 3956 Crossvale played between 3 and 5 p.m. The jazz festival Road. For tickets, visit www.flatrockarchives. com or call 770-797-5625.

### Six receive Bold and Fearless Awards

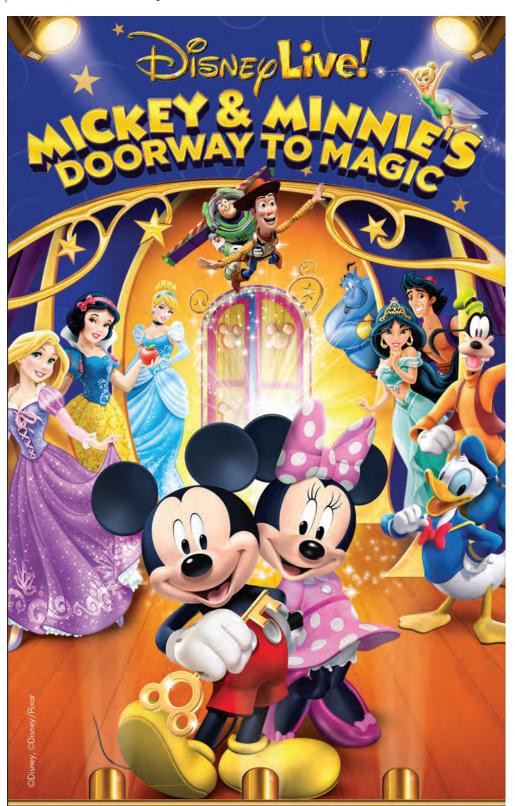
Six unsung heroes will be honored on domestic violence awareness and prevention; Oct. 29 for their outstanding community service to DeKalb residents at the Annual Empowerment Event of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women – Stone Mountain-Lithonia Chapter.

The event begins at 6 p.m. in the Victory Room of the Lou Walker Senior Center, 2538 Panola Road in Lithonia.

Receiving Bold and Fearless Awards are Allyn Wall, STEM education; Toni Roberts, ncbw100sml.com.

Jamena "Jai" Brown, nutrition education and obesity prevention; Patricia Brown, HIV/ AIDS awareness and prevention; Dionne Battle, advanced financial literacy; and Jacqueline Willis, entrepreneurial development. They also will be recognized by Donna Coleman-Stribling, DeKalb solicitor general-elect.

For tickets and more information, visit



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"A Seeing Is Believing Tour is an opportunity to equip key stakeholders with information on DeKalb Schools so they may advocate for students and education in DeKalb County."

# Tour, State of the District to encourage advocacy for schools

About 50 business, civic and community dle schools to hear from leaders as well as Realtors have been invited to participate in the Seeing Is Believing Tour and State of the District Address on Nov. 1 hosted by the DeKalb School District and the is an opportunity for the DeKalb Chamber of Commerce.

DeKalb Superintendent R. Stephen Green will discuss performance accomplishments, the future of the School District, and E-SPLOST projects.

The tour begins at 7:30 a.m., where participants will visit six high schools and midstudents, principals, and other district leaders.

The chamber says it business community to engage and help transform education in DeKalb.

"A Seeing Is Believing Stephen Green Tour is an opportunity to



equip key stakeholders with information on Stone Ridge Drive, Suite A, in Stone Moun-



Ridge Event Center, 1750

DeKalb Schools so they may advocate for tain. Green will share accomplishments from

Taylor, DeKalb Chamber

president and CEO, said

in an Oct. 13 statement.

tour from 11:30 a.m. to

1:30 p.m. at the Stone

The State of the Dis-

students and education in his administration, address concerns about DeKalb County," Katerina the Opportunity School District, and explain projected E-SPLOST spending.

The district address is open to the public. For tickets, visit bit.ly/2016DCSDAddress.

The event is sponsored by Youth Entretrict Address follows the preneurs Georgia, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, and Publix.

> For more information on the tour or district address, contact Emily Yang at eyang@ dekalbchamber.org or Quinn Hudson at quinn\_hudson@dekalbschoolsga.org.

# Toney Valley logo contest seeking student entries

Students at Toney Elementary, Columbia Middle and Columbia High have until Oct. 28 to submit an entry in the Toney Valley Civic Association's Logo Competition for a chance to win a \$75 Visa gift

Logos are sought that represent the civic association.

Entries must be an original, recognizable and distinctive graphic design, stylized name or unique symbol that identifies Toney Valley. The logo must be submitted on an 11x14 sheet of paper, look good in color or black and white, and be legible. The color scheme should not have more than three colors.

Parental permission is required for students under 18, and entries must be submitted to the respective principal's office. The winner will be announced on Nov. 1 at the 7:30 p.m. meeting of the civic association at Toney Elementary, 2701 Oakland Terrace in Decatur.

For more information, including entry form, contact Terryl Obasanya at toneyvalley@earthlink.net or gulfcaumsm@yahoo.com or 404-312-1320.

### Kilombo presents 'Culturally Relevant Classroom' at ITC

Parents, teachers and advocates can attend "The Culturally Relevant Classroom: A Focus on Children of African Descent" on Oct. 29 at the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta.

It takes place 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and is presented by the Kilombo Academic & Cultural Institute and sponsored by the Sankofa Center of ITC and the Jegna

To register, visit www.kilomboschool.

ITC is at 700 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive. N.W. For more information, email theculturallyrelevantclassroom@gmail. com or call 404-992-8021.

# Resources for families offered at Parent Palooza

Families can register through Oct. 31 for the second annual Parent Palooza on Nov. 5 at Mary McLeod Bethune Middle School

The 10 a.m.-to-2 p.m. event is presented by the Region 5 Family Engagement Center. To register, visit https://goo.gl/yMCpJT.

Parent Palooza provides opportunities for parents to gain insight in the areas of technology, cyber safety, academics, finance, health care, and STEAM.

Breakout sessions include College Ready, Social Work, School Transitions and Library Resources.

There will be a STEM/robotics workshop for students ages 6

A light breakfast will be provided by Waffle House, and a free movie follows the event.

The school is at 5200 Covington Highway. For more information, contact Demetria Purkett-Brown at 678-874-1842 or Annette D. Ford at 678-874-4248.

# CROSSROADSREWS **Legal Notices**

10/01, 10/08, 10/15, 10/22

**NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME OF ADULT** in the Superior Court of DeKalb County **State of Georgia** 

Civil Action Case Number: ++16FM9762--7++

Rose Kathryn Lewter filed a petition in the DeKalb County Superior Court to change name from: Rose Kathryn Lewter to Ronan Kristopher Lewter, Any interested party has the right to appear In this case and file objections within 30 days after the Petition was filed. Dated: Aug. 08, 2016 Name: Rose Kathryn Lewter 1897 Donna Place

10/01, 10/08, 10/15, 10/22

Decatur, GA 30032

#### **NOTICE OF PUBLICATION** in the Superior Court of DeKalh County State of Georgia

Civil Action Case Number: ++16FM9507-1++

Evelyn Griffin Plaintiff Michael Griffin

Defendant

By ORDER of the Court for service by publication dated Sept. 08, 2016, you are hereby notified that on Sept. 07, 2016, the above-named Plaintiff filed suit against you for Divorce. You are required to file upon the plaintiff's attorney Evelyn Griffin. Answer in writing within sixty (60) days of this publication.

Witness the Honorable Courtney L. Johnson, Judge of the DeKalb Supe-

This the 14th day of Sept., 2016

10/01, 10/08, 10/15, 10/22

**NOTICE OF PUBLICATION** 

in the Superior Court of DeKalb County State of Georgia

Civil Action Case Number ++16FM9822-3++

Tammie James Plaintiff

Louis McCrary Defendant To: Louis McCrary 895 Green Oak Terrace Macon, GA 31210

By ORDER of the Court for service by publication dated Sept. 19, 2016, you are hereby notified that on Sept. 15, 2016, the above-named Plaintiff filed suit against you for Divorce. You are required to file with the Clerk of Superior Court and to service upon the plaintiff's attorney whose address is: Tammie James, 1386 Dennis Dr., Decatur, GA 30032. Answer in writing within sixty (60) days of Sept 19 2016

Witness the Honorable Clarence F. Seeliger, Judge of the DeKalb Superior Court

This the 19th day of Sept., 2016

10/01, 10/08, 10/15, 10/22

#### **NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME OF** CHILD(REN) ++16FM9436-3++

Barbara Yarbrough Plaintiff

Randal Curney Defendant

To: Randal Curney 3 Willowick Dr. Lithonia, GA 30038

By ORDER of the Court for service by publication dated Sept. 08, 2016, you are hereby notified that on Sept. 02, 2016, the above-named Plaintiff filed suit against you for Petition for name

change for a child. You are required to file upon the plaintiff's attorney name and address: 437 Sheppard Creek, Stone Mountain, GA 30083. Answer in writing within sixty (60) days Sept.

Witness the Honorable Clarence F. Seeliger, Judge of the DeKalb Superior

This the 9th day of Sept., 2016

10/08, 10/15, 10/22, 10/29

**NOTICE OF PUBLICATION** in the Superior Court of DeKalb County

**State of Georgia** Civil Action Case Number

++16FM6943-6++

Candisha L. Williams Plaintiff

Anthony D. Foster Defendant

By ORDER of the Court for service by publication dated Jun. 24, 2016, you are hereby notified that on Jun. 22, 2016, the above-named Plaintiff filed suit against you for Divorce. You are required to file upon the plaintiff's attorney: Candisha Williams, 3901 Rockcrest Ct., Conley, GA 30288. Answer in writing within sixty (60) days of Jun. 24, 2016. Witness the Honorable J.P. Boulee, Judge of the DeKalb Superior Court.

10/08 10/15 10/22 10/29

#### **NOTICE OF PUBLICATION** in the Superior Court of DeKalb County State of Georgia

This the 27th day of Sept., 2016

Civil Action Case Number: ++16FM10096-7++ LaQuinda Patrick

Plaintiff Rodney Adams Defendant To: 523 Creekstone Ln. Stone Mountain, GA 30087 By ORDER of the Court for service by publication dated Sept. 23, 2016, you are hereby notified that on Aug. 26, 2016, the above-named Plaintiff filed suit against you for Divorce. You are required to file upon the plaintiff's attorney: LaQuinda Patrick, 564 Creek Valley Ct., Stockbridge, GA 30281. Answer in writing within sixty (60) days

of Sept. 23, 2016. Witness the Honorable Daniel M. Coursey, Jr., Judge of the DeKalb Superior Court.

This the 23rd day of Sept., 2016

10/08, 10/15, 10/22, 10/29

#### **NOTICE OF PETITION TO** CHANGE NAME OF ADULT in the Superior Court of DeKalb County **State of Georgia** Civil Action Case Number:

++16FM10123-8++

Kiiresti Rihannah Tarrell Whitaker filed a petition in the DeKalb County Superior Court to change name from: Kiiresti Rihannah Tarrell Whitaker to Kiiresti Rihannah Barnes. Any interested party has the right to appear In this case and file objections within 30 days after the Petition was filed. Dated: Sept. 01, 2016

Name: Kiiresti Rihannah Tarrell Whi-

1001 Leslie Oaks Dr., #3003 Lithonia, GA 30058

10/08, 10/15, 10/22, 10/29

#### **NOTICE OF PUBLICATION** in the Superior Court of DeKalb County **State of Georgia** Civil Action Case Number:

++16FM10096-7++ LaQuinda Patrick

Rodney Adams To: 523 Creekstone Ln. Stone Mountain, GA 30087 By ORDER of the Court for service

by publication dated Sept. 23, 2016, you are hereby notified that on Aug. 26, 2016, the above-named Plaintiff filed suit against you for Divorce. You are required to file upon the plaintiff's attorney: LaQuinda Patrick, 564 Creek Valley Ct., Stockbridge, GA 30281. Answer in writing within sixty (60) days of Sept. 23, 2016.

Witness the Honorable Daniel M. Coursey, Jr., Judge of the DeKalb Superior Court.

This the 23rd day of Sept., 2016

10/15, 10/22, 10/29, 11/05

#### **NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME OF ADULT** in the Superior Court of DeKalb County **State of Georgia**

Civil Action Case Number ++16FM10275-1++ Joel Lee Domingues filed a petition in the

DeKalb County Superior Court on Aug. 09, 2016 to change name from: Joel Lee Domingues to Joel Leee Bensing, Jr. Any interested party has the right to app In this case and file objections within 30 days after the Petition was filed. Dated: Aug. 09, 2016 Name: Joel Lee Domingues Georgia State Prison 2164 Georgia Hwy 147 Reidsville GA 30499

10/15, 10/22, 10/29, 11/05

#### **NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME OF** MINOR CHILD (REN) in the Superior Court of DeKalb County **State of Georgia**

Civil Action Case Number: ++16FM10470-8++

Natalie Galiotto filed a petition in the DeKalb County Superior Court to change name following minor child(ren) from: Rumi Angelo Haroon to Rumi George Galiotto. Any interested party has the right to appear In this case and file objections within the time prescribed in OCGA 19-12-1(f)(2) and (3). Dated: Mar. 01, 2016 Name: Natalie Galiotto 702 Dancing Fox Rd.

Decatur, GA 30032

10/22, 10/29, 11/05, 11/12

#### **NOTICE OF PUBLICATION** in the Superior Court of DeKalb County **State of Georgia**

Civil Action Case Number:

++15CV11334-7++

Caleshia McClurkin Plaintiff

Vs.

William Mann Defendant

To: William Mann 2089 Black Oak Lane

Ellenwood, GA 30290 By ORDER of the Court for service by publication dated Oct. 07, 2016, you are hereby notified that on Oct. 07, 2016, the above-named Plaintiff filed suit against you for Divorce You are required to file

with the Clerk of Superior Court and to service upon the plaintiff's attorney whose address is: Caleshia McClurkin, 490 Glenn St., #B422, Atlanta, GA 30312. Answer in writing within sixty (60) days of Oct. 07, 2016. Witness the Honorable Jack M.

McLaughlin by designation for the Honorable Daniel M. Coursey, Jr., Judge of the DeKalb Superior Court. This the 10th day of Oct., 2016

10/22, 10/29, 11/05, 11/12

#### **NOTICE OF PUBLICATION** in the Superior Court of DeKalb County **State of Georgia** Civil Action Case Number:

++16FM9044-3++ Evelyn L. Armwood

Plaintiff Vs. Norman E. Armwood

Defendant To: Norman E. Armwood 2148 Riverbrook Rd.

Decatur, GA 30032 By ORDER for service by publication

dated Oct. 11, 2016, you are hereby notified that on Aug. 22, 2016, the abovenamed Evelyn L. Armwood- Pro Se filed suit against you for Abandoment. You are required to file with the Clerk of Superior Court and to serve upon the plaintiff's Evelyn L. Armwood- Pro Se an Answer in writing within sixty (60) days of the

first date of publication. Witness the Honorable Clarence F. Seeliger, Judge of the DeKalb Superior

Court. This the 11th day of Oct., 2016

# **FINANCE**

The Partnership for Community Action's LIHEAP services DeKalb, Gwinnett, Rockdale, Newton and Walton.

# Assistance with heating bills available for eligible residents on Nov. 1

and older or those who are homebound can apply for assistance with heating bills through the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program.

The federally funded program helps low-income, elderly and disabled Georgians with heating bills through direct payments to home energy suppliers. LIHEAP is administered by the Georgia Division of Family and Children Services.

All other eligible families may apply for assistance beginning Dec. 1. Funds are administered through local Community Action

Beginning Nov. 1, eligible residents 65 Agencies on a first-come, first-served basis be less than or equal to 60 percent of the Proof of income for the last 30 days for until all funds are exhausted.

> The Partnership for Community Action's LIHEAP services DeKalb, Gwinnett, Rockdale, Newton and Walton counties.

Visit www.pcaction.org or call 404-537-

In 2015, LIHEAP spent more than \$43 million to assist over 129,000 clients with heating bills. Depending on income and household size, those who qualified for the program received \$310 to \$350 toward home heating bills.

To qualify, a family's annual income must the household.

median income for a Georgia family. For a each adult member of the household. Proof household of one, the income threshold is can include, but is not limited to, a paycheck \$21,881; the threshold for a household of five is \$48,812.

Those seeking assistance must contact their local Community Action Agencies. All applicants must provide the following:

- Most recent heating bill or statement of service from their heating providers.
- Social Security numbers for each member of the household.
- Proof of citizenship for each member of
- stub or a letter granting public assistance.
- Social Security or unemployment benefits for all household members, if applicable.

All applicants will be required to sign a consent to release information form allowing the state to retrieve energy usage data from their energy provider and to provide proof of bill payment.

For more information on the program, call 1-877-423-4746. To find a Community Action Agency, visit www.georgiacaa.org.

# Auction fees waived for residents, county workers

Purchase fees are waived for DeKalb residents and county government employees at the DeKalb County Auction Absolute Sales on Oct. 29 at ADESA Atlanta in Fairburn.

The auction, which is open to the public, begins at 10 a.m. There will be a preview inventory online at ADESARigs.com, in person on Oct. 28 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on the morning of the sale at 8 a.m.

DeKalb residents and county employees must have proof of residence or valid employee ID for fees to be waived.

More than 200 units are available, including cars, trucks, fire trucks, garbage trucks, heavy-duty trucks, heavy-duty equipment, heavy equipment trailers, and office supplies.

The venue is at 5055 Oakley Industrial Blvd. For more information, visit ADESA.com/atlanta or call 770-357-2277.

# Tax forum has updates for upcoming season

Taxpayers can get tips to prepare for the 2016 tax season on Oct. 29 at the Hairston Crossing Library in Stone Moun-

Surviving and Saving Tools for the Upcoming Tax Season takes place 1 to 4 p.m. The Fiscal Responsibility forum will include information about the 2016 tax season updates and changes, audit triggers, how to file correctly, standard and itemized deductions, charitable and noncharitable donations, and retirement and investments to reduce tax liability.

The forum results from a partnership of the Council for Community Enrichment Inc., How Great Thou Art Inc., Primerica, and DeKalb Public Library.

Hairston Crossing is at 4911 Redan Road. For more information, visit www.dekalblibrary.org or call 404-508-7170.

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"Men's Day" Sunday

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Featured Speaker:

Michael Thurmond

Former Superintendent of DeKalb

County School District; Candidate

for CEO of DeKalb County

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#### **ATTORNEYS**



4153 FLAT SHOALS PARKWAY | BLDG C SUITE 322 | DECATUR, GA 30034 P:404.289.2244 F:404.289.2888 www.bjhlawyers.com

Everybody

is invited!

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