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Fall/Winter 2022-23 • Issue 40

Ware County Gators • 2022 AAAAA State Champions



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2022-2023

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WAYCROSS magazine

Issue 40 - Fall/winter 2022-2023
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**Cover
Congratulations!
Ware County HS**



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We want to thank you for your support during these 40 issues. We look forward to many more. You all make it worthwhile. We have been battling some health issues, but we are still moving forward with the grace of God.
Sharon & Dave Callaway



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If you would like to purchase any of Bo's Sport pictures, contact him by phone or email. He does a great job in capturing the action, and we thank him for sharing with us.



Kate Howell

2022 W C H S Homecoming Queen
She is accompanied by her brother Avery



Congratulations! Ware County Middle School 2022 Conference Champions

Ware County Gator Sports





WCHS Varsity Cheerleaders

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WAYCROSS **magazine**



Ware County Gator Championship Bus Drivers

Kneeling: L-R: Debra Taft and Michael Lattimore; Middle Row: L-R: Peggy Davis, Lisa Boatright, Renee Smart, Rachel Sirmons, Shabria Wiggins, Karen Muchison, and Bre Garrett; Back Row: L-R: David Oglesby, Ellis Kitchen, R.G. Lockwood, J.R. Merritt, John Kersey, Kelly Lee, and Mark Osburn. Not pictured: Lena Merritt and Brian Morehouse.

When you find your Rec Ball Coach from when you were seven years old, say to him, "Thank you, Coach, you taught me all I know." A little story, we met Careen when he played for Chuck's rec ball team. It was the first time he ever played, and not long into the practices, Careen became a little "stubborn" because he didn't "want" to run. So Coach Chuck started to run with him. He ran alongside him and "gently" told him that he wouldn't play for him if he didn't run. Careen didn't stop.

Afterward, his grandmother called her brother to express her concern his response was, Sis, if he can't make it with him, he won't play football. He's got a good coach if he'll run with them! We have stayed intertwined with this family. Unexpectedly tonight, after the big win, Careen ran straight to us. He hugged me and then turned around for a handshake and a hug from his old ball coach. The rest is history.

Chuck said I didn't teach him everything, just the basics! I said, well, you helped build the foundation!

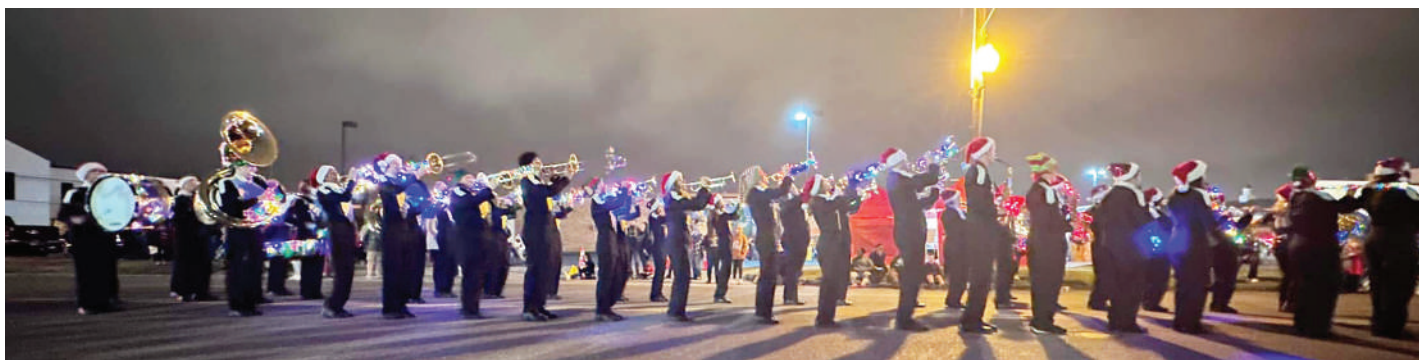
Story told by Jeana.

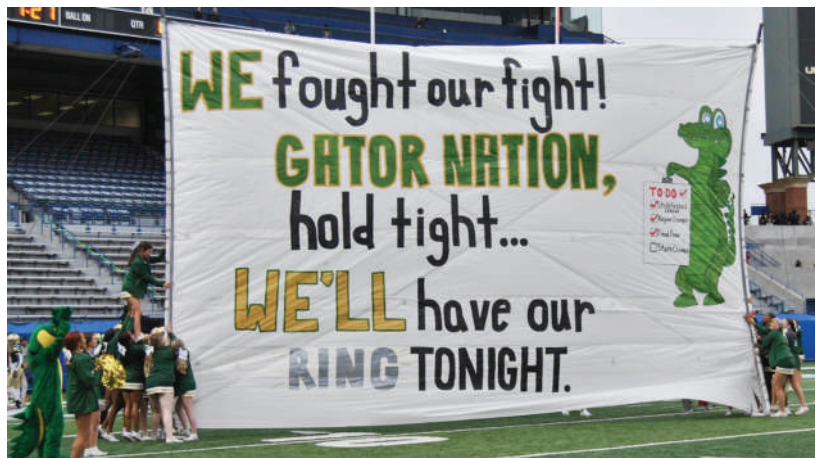
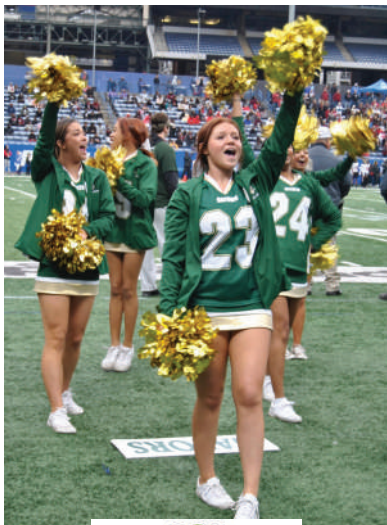


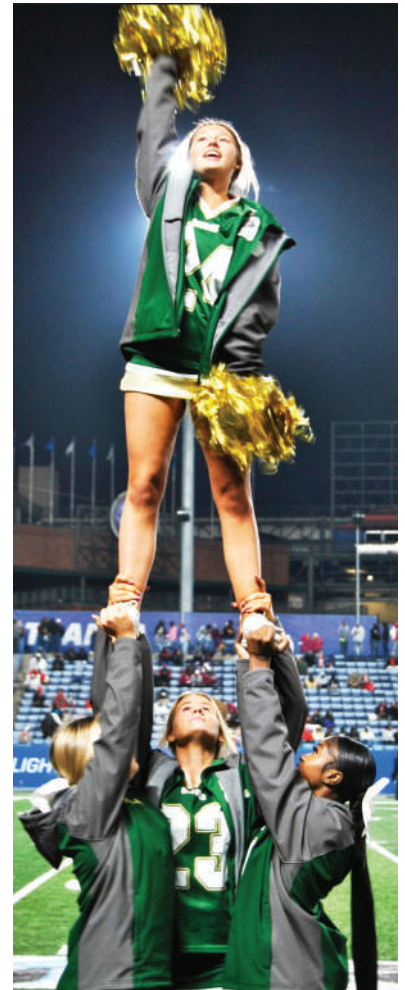


Congratulations to the first year PCHS Volleyball team. Inaugural members are front row l-r: Aniya Hayes (manager), Ruthie Boatright, Addyson Walker, Addison Smith, Kora Good, Chloe Barber, Ava Doss, Reegan Smith, Hannah Fandrich. back row l-r: A'Layna Bell, Caroline Herring, Gracee Richey, Sophie Scruggs, Maura Kate Waters, Claire Murray, Camille Hendry, Kate Wheeler, Miracle Brewton. Not pictured: Lacy Leggett Coaches Robbie Spires and Lori Marx.

Brantley County High School Band • Christmas Parade







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WARE COUNTY GATORS



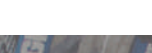
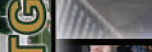
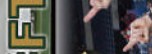
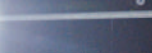
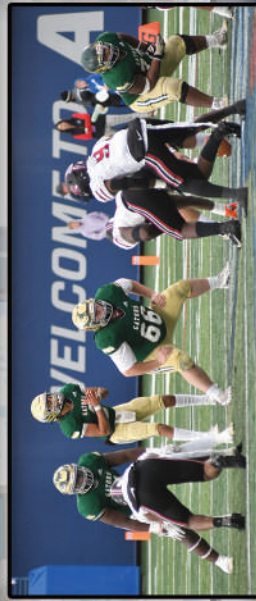
HEAD COACH
JASON STRICKLAND

WARE
COUNTY
38

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14-0



DECEMBER 10, 2022

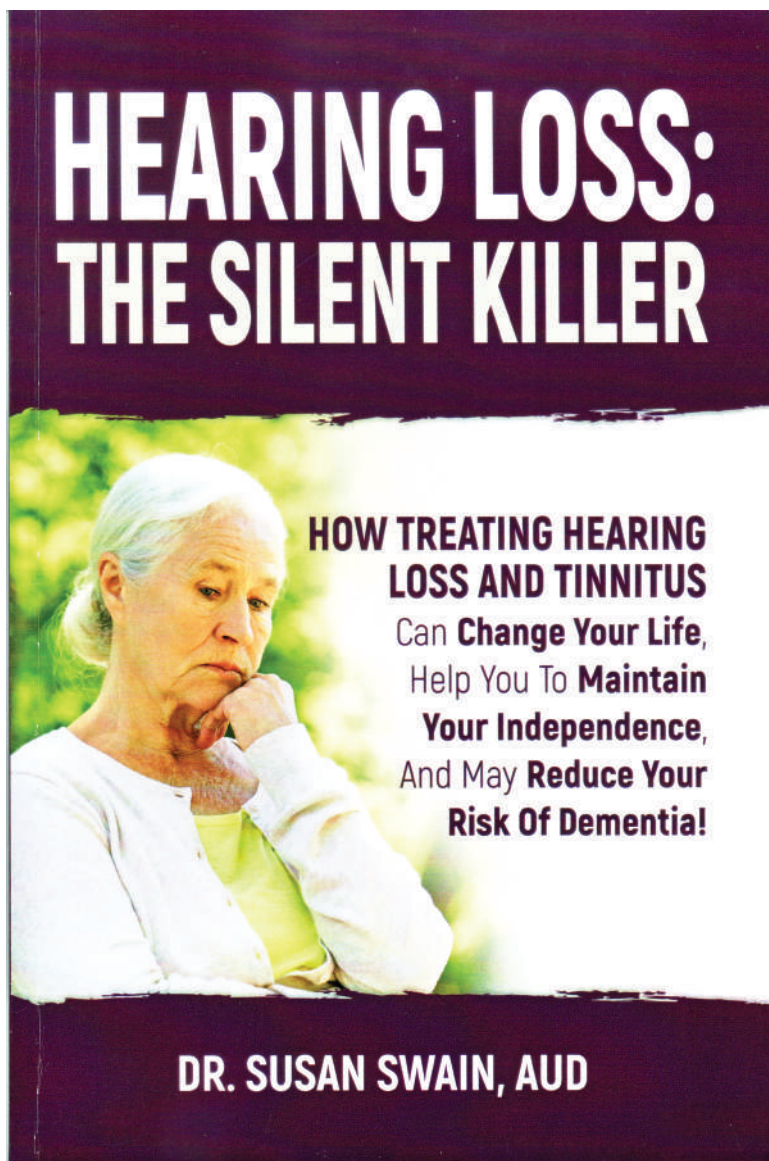


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2022 CLASS AAAAA STATE CHAMPIONS

Photography and Banner Design
by David Osburn of
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Lauran Allbritton (l) and Kari Piestrak (r) is shown with Susan and her new book.

Dr. Susan Swain has been providing hearing health care services for almost 30 years. As a young child, and even in her late teens, she suffered from chronic ear infections. She had several ear surgeries (PE tubes) and one major ear surgery (tympanomastoidectomy).

Susan received her undergraduate in communication sciences at Rutgers University/Douglas College and her master of audiology from the University of South Carolina in 1993. Susan received her doctorate in audiology from Arizona School of Health Sciences, Mesa, Arizona in 2009 and opened her private practice (Hearing Plus Audiology) in 2001, a lifelong dream. She is a member of the American Academy of Audiology (AAA), Academy of Doctors of Audiology (ADA), and certified by the Tinnitus Practitioners Association (TPA). She is also a certified dementia practitioner through the National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners (NCCDP). This additional certification demonstrates achievement and specialized training in the areas of Alzheimer's and dementia care.

When Susan is not helping people improve their lives through better hearing, she enjoys being active in her community and has been involved in several civic organizations.

She loves animals, being outdoors, and spending time with her family. She is committed to better living through better hearing. She believes that it is not only her privilege to serve each of her patients and their families but her obligation. She appreciates the trust and confidence physicians and patients have placed in her so that her patients can live a longer, fuller life.



The Waycross- Ware County Chamber of Commerce is the local and Region 11 sponsor for the PAGE STAR Program. This award is giving to the students that score the highest in one sitting of the SAT.

Congratulations! To our local winner at Ware County High School, Noah Cook and as STAR Student he chose David Rowland as his STAR Teacher.

Huge thanks to Jewell Sharpe, WCHS Senior Counselor for what she does for the seniors and United Community Bank for being our lunch sponsor.



Drawing by Mack Williams. Mack is an artist and animator hailing from Blackshear, GA and living in New York City. His work can be seen on shows like Archer, Sesame Street, and Saturday Night Live, to name a few. He loves barbecue, professional wrestling, and the Okefenokee Swamp.



WCHS Weightlifting • Georgia Athletic Coaches Association 2023 State Champions



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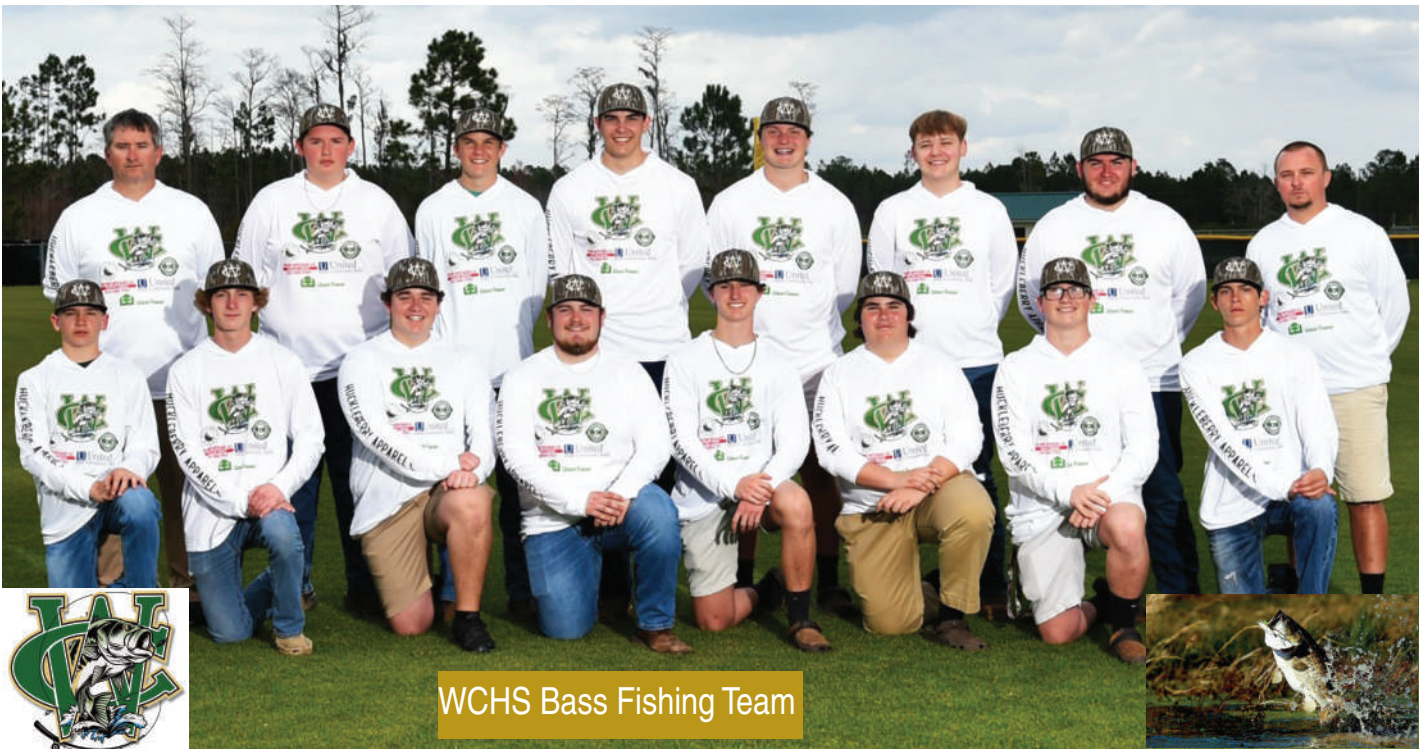
JADEN LYONS

Class
AA



215
LBS

2022-23 GHSA
State Wrestling Champion



WCHS Bass Fishing Team

OLD NINE • by Zane Williams



So the locomotive itself hasn't seen a new coat of paint in over 20 years or so. Paint was coming off the boiler, the side rods, anything you can think of paint was peeling off the engine. And since it was turning 110 years old and having a night photo shoot in November, we needed to make it look better than it did.

So we started working on it. We decided to give it a nice light grey paint on the smokebox and smoke stack. Once that was done we painted the hand rails, cowcatcher, number plate, and the headlight with a new coat of black paint. Then we painted the side rods with the light grey paint to make it stand out.

And then the big day came for the locomotive. It was almost ready for the night photo shoot. But we decided to do something special with the engine. We gave the locomotive back its original number 31 that it hasn't seen in 47 years when the locomotive was pulling freight trains for the Woodward Iron Company (1912-1962) and the Rockton & Rion Railroad (1962-1967) before coming to the Okefenokee Heritage Center.

And then later that night, the locomotive looked better than it ever did in the past few years. During the photo shoot we took some photos of the engine with its original number with smoke machines to make it look like it was back in operation and then we returned the number nine back to the locomotive. Definitely been a lot of hard work on this locomotive but we definitely had a lot of fun working on it.





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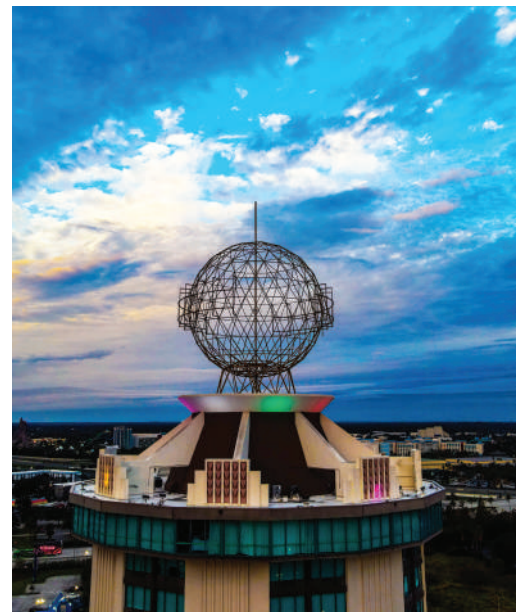
My name is Zane Williams, I'm 19 years old and was born and raised in Lyons, Georgia.

I'm a railroad enthusiast and photographer. I've always loved railroad history especially steam locomotives like Old Nine. I usually like go out and take photos of trains like in Waycross, Jesup, Folkston, and other places. I've had a few of my steam locomotive and diesel locomotive photos shared by the Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum in Chattanooga, Tennessee. I'm also volunteer at the Okefenokee Heritage Center. I started volunteering there back in October 2022. I've been in the process of giving Old Nine a repaint.

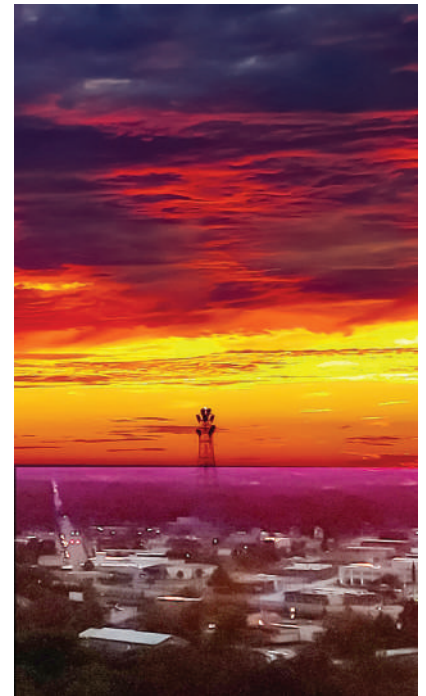
Zane can be reached at 912-293-6898 and Email is zpwilliams24@gmail.com.

Airborne Imagery

by George Vining









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WAYCROSS **magazine**

It's about Television • Eddie Dryden

First time I saw a TV set was in 1954. i was 13,14 years old. Seeing people moving, talking, in a box was amazing to me. I decided then that was for me. Television's started out very small. You buy a TV, approximately 19 inches in a cabinet 3 feet wide and 3 feet deep. The cost was around \$600.00. A few years later, screens got bigger and cabinets got smaller and the prices came down.

I started working on TVs in 1956. I made some service calls to customer's houses where I carried a tube caddy with about 12 different tubes. I could repair your set for less than \$10.00. Tubes \$3.00-4.00 and service call was \$3.00.

Around 1958 sets got bigger screen size of 23 or 25 inches. New color TV's came on the market. Back to large TV cabinets with higher prices. Sets that were made by RCA, Zenith, Sylvania, Philco, and Magnavox. All had the same 25 inch round picture tube made by RCA. The costs of the sets were around \$600.00. Now Motorola spent 6 million dollars to make a rectangular tube. The problem was in the corners of the tube to make 3 pictures align with each other into one picture. With color sets you have a red, green, and blue screen (RGB) that set mixes in one Black and White screen. The most common was a 23 inch screen.

Prices of sets now dropped back to \$200.00. Everybody now could afford to buy a color TV. All TV manufacturers held training sessions on how to repair their sets. Other TV repair shops did not want to go to the training. They would call me when they had a problem. As times goes by all TV repair shops in Waycross went out of business. I was the last shop in southeast Georgia. Valdosta, Savannah, and Jacksonville were the only places outside of Waycross.

Now digital screen TVs were the latest screens that got bigger, as prices went back up, the cost to repair equal to buying a new set.

Customers would bring their sets in to be repaired. I would tell them it would be cheaper to buy a new set than to repair. So after a couple of years, I closed my shop. No one could get their sets repaired in Waycross. I have people ask me do you still work on TV's? Nope. TV repair went out of style 15 or 20 years ago, Today digital screens are like little computers. You can do nearly everything with them.

Eddie is married to June. They have 3 children and spouses: Carol Ann and Barry Braddock, Keith and Sharman Dryden, Chris and Angie Dryden, and 12 grandchildren.





Eddie with 2 of his great grandchildren, Maggie Grace (l) and Natalie. He has another great grand on the way.





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The Steve Bean Youth Art Show 2023 • Okefenokee Heritage Center



Some of the winners l to r: Katie Altman, Natalie Scheuing, Ava Wester, Chasdyn King and Carla Cornett.



Peyton Henderson



MIDDLE SCHOOL:

DRAWING:

- 1ST PLACE - CHASDYN KING
- 2ND PLACE - NATALIE SCHEUING
- 3RD PLACE - BENTLEY DRYDEN

PAINTING:

- 1ST PLACE - KATIE ALTMAN
- 2ND PLACE - AVA WESTER
- 3RD PLACE - PEYTON HENDERSON

HIGH SCHOOL:

DRAWING:

- 1ST PLACE - TATUM RICKETSON
- 2ND PLACE - JAYDEN PADGETT
- 3RD PLACE - BRITTANY MARQUES

PAINTING:

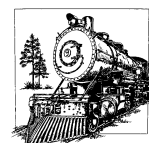
- 1ST PLACE - JASMINE MITCHELL
- 2ND PLACE - TAYLOR ANN LAUMANN
- 3RD PLACE - CECILY GRIGSON

3-D

- 1ST PLACE - ANDI HANSEN



Bentley Dryden



We are Being Kind to Kathy & Jane.



Kathy is married to Glynn Gillis, and they have one daughter, Kalley Gillis. She also has three grandchildren on earth and one in Heaven whom she loves very much. They are her everything! She retired from the Pierce County Board of Education after 30 years. For most of her 30 years, she has worked in kindergarten classes. Kathy works at Midway Elementary School for 49% in the Media Center. She also helps with Pierce County sports by working the admission gates. She is a member of First Baptist Church in Blackshear and a member of the Seeking Sisters Sunday School class. Kathy's hobbies are spending time with her grandchildren, crafting, and watching the DAWGS play!

Jane Barrett is proud to say she is a lunch lady at PCHS and has been for six years. Jane covers the admission gate at all home soccer matches with a smile. She has been married to James Barrett for 21 years.

Her oldest son CJ Barrett (PCHS class of 2021), films for UGA football and is in his Junior year. Jane's middle daughter, Ansleigh is a senior this year at PCHS and is a CNA at Harborview Nursing Home. She's been accepted to Georgia Southern and starts in the fall. Her youngest Andrew, is a 5th grader at Blackshear and is active in football and Beta.

She is proud to call Pierce County home and is blessed to serve our community. Go Dawgs! & Go Bears!



When I was a big time rock n roll DJ at WWGS in Tifton while attending ABAC a few years ago, my air shift was 7 pm til midnight Sunday through Friday nights. Often when I got off the air, I would sit in my car in the dorm parking lot and listen to Kris Erik Stevens on WLS in Chicago until his shift ended at 2 am. After sundown, WLS, the Big 89 at 50,000 watts, would beam all over the US. Listening in Tifton was like sitting outside the studio. Kris is one of the best DJ's I have ever heard. He does voice over work and can be heard in many theaters including ours in Waycross. Dave C.



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University System of Georgia Chancellor Sonny Perdue has named Dr. Gregory M. Tanner interim president of South Georgia State College (SGSC).

Dr. Tanner currently serves as SGSC's vice president for advancement, government relations and athletics, and first came to what was then South Georgia College in 2012 as dean of students.

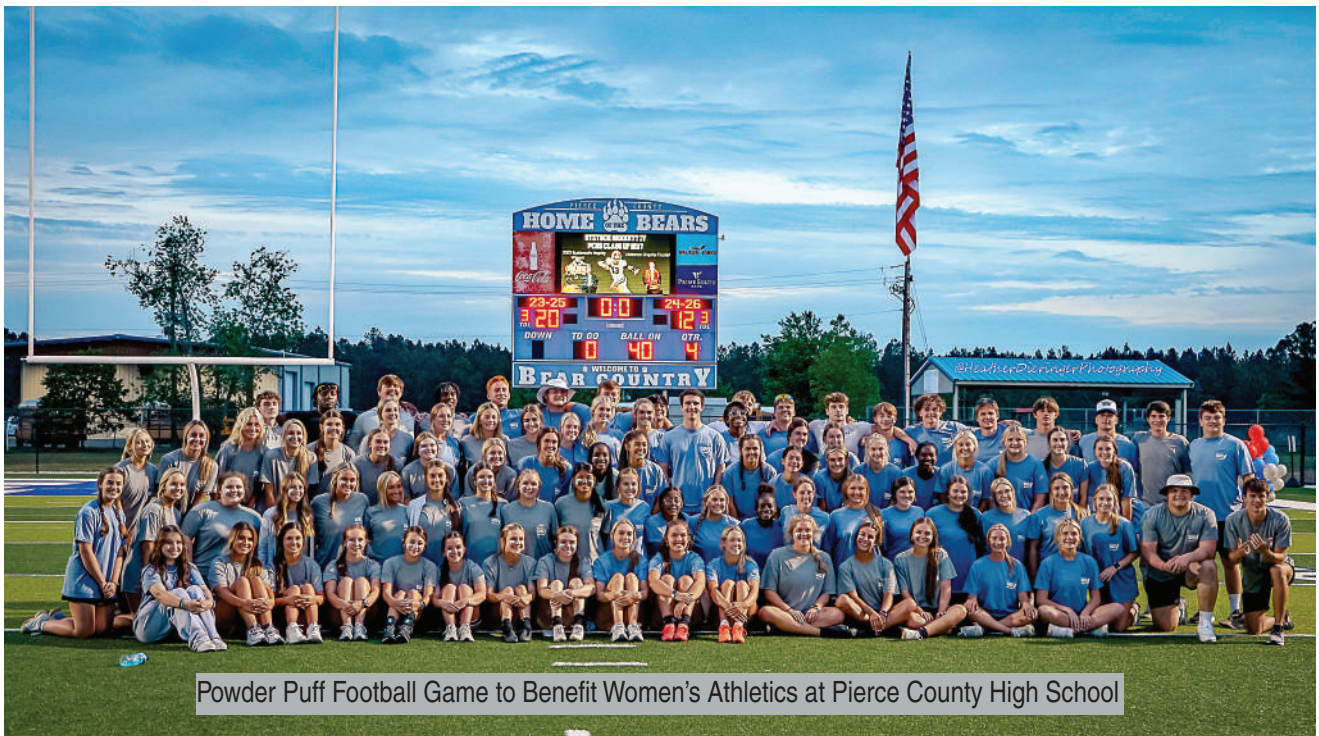
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Powder Puff Football Game to Benefit Women's Athletics at Pierce County High School

Photo by Heather Dieringer Photography



Kathy Sweat (l) and Joyce Screws



Congratulations! Andrea DeLoach
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HARRIET BOWMAN
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These ladies had a very good time: left to right, Front, Kate Bryan, Randi Moore, Brooke Herrin, Lindsay Feagins, Kristie Jarrard, & Ashley Riner. Back. Brandi Thrift, Linda Lashley, Katie Strickland, & DeeAnna Thrift.

Diane Brown







I am delighted to present my Fashion & Romantic Artistic Expression series to a new audience here in the Southeast.

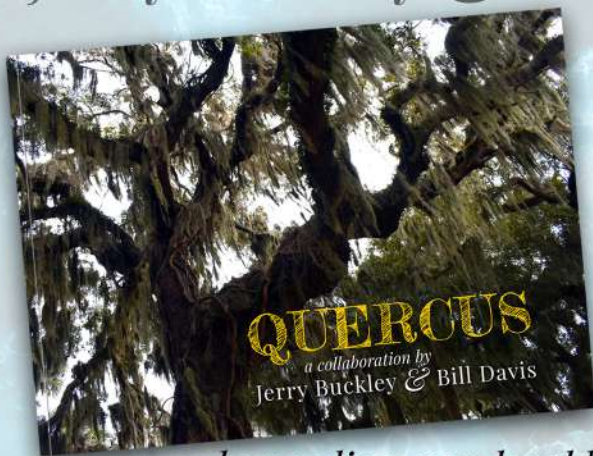
Growing up and attending school in Waycross, I desired to become a fashion designer. As a little girl, I did many fashion drawings and designs. I followed my dreams to New Jersey and New York City in 1990. There I worked as a retail store manager for Bloomingdales, Talbots, and Francesca's Collection.

I turned to the computer and found photoshop to be the right tool to help me express myself to the fullest.

Diane's contact information is dbfashiondiva@aol.com • 201-281-7140 • www.browninkgallery.com

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FUTURE RELEASE

(NOTE: Photo Attached)

An Infantryman who has taken part in the invasions of Africa, Sicily and France and who has just returned to this country from lines in Germany believes that the worst fighting in Europe is yet to come.

The veteran Doughboy, Private 1st Class Euell Deal, of Patterson, Georgia, spent two years and five months overseas with the 1st Infantry Division. He was given a 30-day furlough in this country under the ~~new~~ War Department policy of furloughing as many men as possible who have two or more decorations or wounds, and who otherwise qualify for rotation.

Interviewed at Camp Shanks, Orangeburg, New York where he was processed before his furlough, Private Deal told how German resistance gradually stiffened as the Americans drove them back in Europe and across their own frontiers. "We thought the invasion of Africa was tough", Private Deal said, "And then Sicily came along and we thought that was even worse. But D-day, June 6th in Normandy was the worse invasion of them all. And the Germans kept getting tougher.

"We Infantrymen, the only troops that actually came face to face with the Jerries, knows that the fighting gets rougher all the time, the farther back we push them".

The Infantryman was a member of headquarters company unit and was at Stolberg, Germany on December 7 when he was ordered back home on furlough. Private Deal has the Purple Heart and Oak Leaf Cluster for two battle wounds.

His first wound was received on the beach at Normandy on D-day when shell fragments struck him in the chin. Again he was wounded on August 1, by a bomb fragment during a German air raid near St. Lo.

For his meritorious service in setting up a command post under fire on D-day, Private Deal holds a Bronze Star Medal. He received his basic training at the Infantry Replacement Training Center, Camp Wheeler, Georgia.

He planned to spend a furlough at the home of a brother, L. E. Deal Of Patterson.

June 6, 1944

July 24, 1944

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Euell Calvin Deal was born September 29, 1919, in Appling County. He was the ninth son born to Calvin Columbus "C.C." "Lummie" and Mabel Lee Deal. His father later married Terresa Bowen Deal. His mother, Mabel, died of pneumonia in December 1919.

He grew up with his brothers, Lovin, Albert, Garlan, Jasper "Jack," Leary, Darwin, Rollie, Tera, Allison, and Gilbert "Lum," and his only sister, Lavon Deal Williamson.

As he reached adulthood, he joined the U.S. Army and served in the European Theater during World War II. He received several medals during his service, including the Purple Heart.

After the war, he married Essie Mae Johnson Deal (later Ward) (1931-2011), and they had two daughters, Jean Deal DeLong (born in 1948) and Debbie Deal Cooler (born in 1952).

Euell worked several jobs during his lifetime, including as a fuel truck driver for a business in Waycross owned by his cousin-in-law, Tracy Everett, as a service station manager for Walker Oil Company in Jesup and retired as a civil service employee, having worked for the United States Post Office in Savannah.

He was a member of the Lake Chapel Primitive Baptist Church near Patterson, where he delighted to give Juicy Fruit chewing gum to the youngsters at church.

He also was a gifted writer, composing



poems about various subjects.

Later in life, he married Mary Winn Rozier (later Moore) (1930-2001). Euell died November 30, 1978, at the Wayne Memorial Hospital in Jesup, after a long illness. He was 59. Euell's brother Tera was Jerald Deal's father. Tera (1916-1999) married Edith Carter (1919-1985) and they had Jerald, Lindon, Russell Bloyce, Terry, Curtis and Rickey.

He was buried at the Lake Chapel Cemetery in Appling County.

This article written by Jason Deal of the Blackshear Times.



Waycross-Ware County Chamber 2022 Awards



Ralph and P. O. Herrin Business and Industry Award
Jay Patel
Presented by



Entrepreneur of the Year
Emily Hadaway



Randy Sharpe Health Hero Award
Kimberly Denton



Jack Williams Community Service Award
Jon Whipple



Katherine Foss Education Award
Donna Solomon



Gus Karle Award
Heather Fluker

Mission Statement: The Waycross - Ware County Chamber of Commerce exists to provide exceptional services to its members in the areas of professional development, information and networking opportunities; and to advocate for economic and community development in Waycross and Ware County.

Photos by AHA Photography
Allen Allnoch



Ambassador of the Year
Shelby Ewen



McGregor Mayo Agriculture Award
Dan Johnson
Presented by Scout Carter



**Waycross Ware County Development
Helping Hands Award**
Lovett Young
Accepting is Albert Flynn & Ashley Young



Paul Tang Heart of the Community Award
Dr. Reba Smith
Presented by Heidi Tang & Patrick Tang



G E M Award
Allen Allnoch



Business of the Year
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WAYCROSS magazine

Ringgold, Georgia

as seen n the eyes of
Jody Whittemore



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Jody Whittemore is a native of Ringgold, Georgia, who currently lives in Lafayette, Georgia, with his wife, children, and his beloved pug companions. His love of art and drawing began at a very early age.



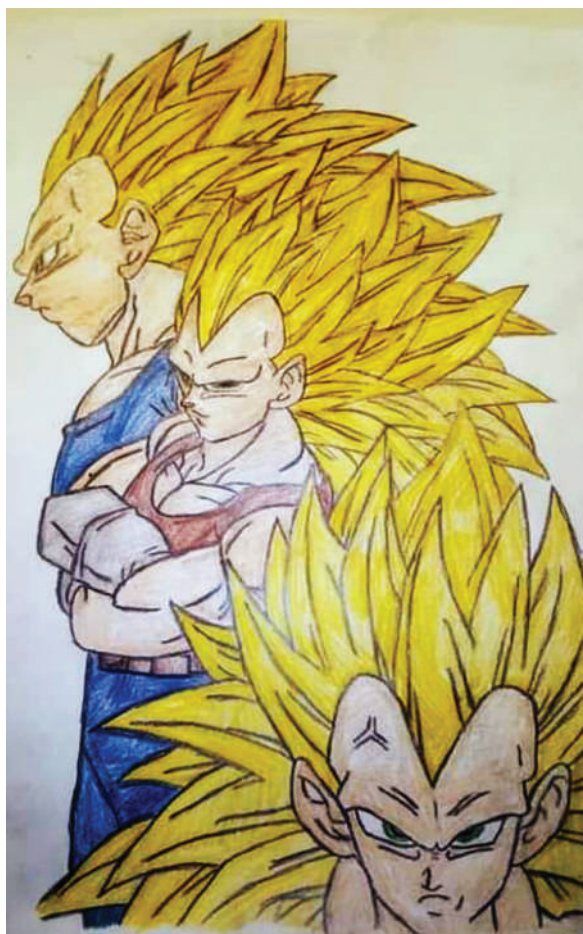
As a young adult, Jody studied drafting in school, but his career path changed when he purchased a scroll saw and discovered all that he could create with it. He began designing and building small chess sets and sculpting wooden boxes that involved delicate wood carving and painting. Eventually, Jody began to refine his drawing and painting skills on paper and canvas.

"While I still enjoy woodworking, my main focus is painting historical places of the South, especially in Georgia, as they are today. I started with Ringgold, GA, because that is where I'm from. I hope to travel more of the Southeast United States to experience and photograph more towns and places for future paintings. My preferred medium is acrylic on canvas, but I love working in just about every medium, with watercolor being another top choice of mine. I also enjoy painting realistic representations of animals, and I'm always experimenting with new techniques".

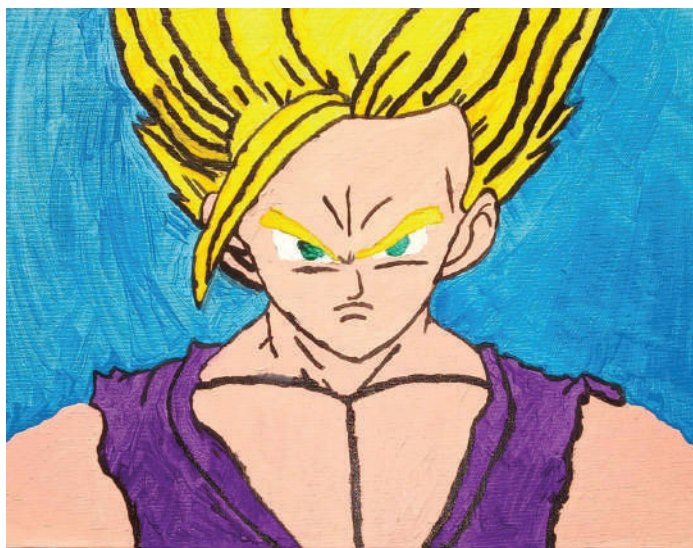
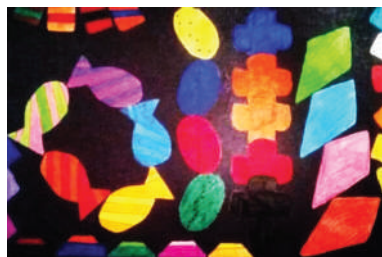
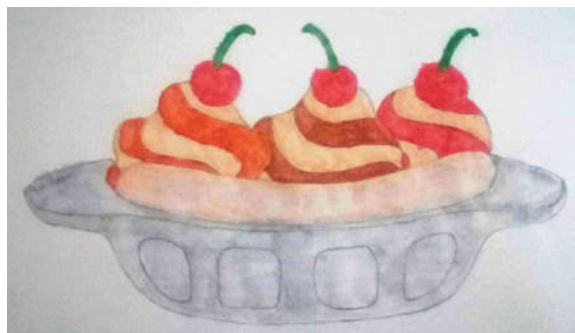
Jody is a member of the Regional Art Alliance and has shown his work in local galleries and shows, including Ringgold Art &

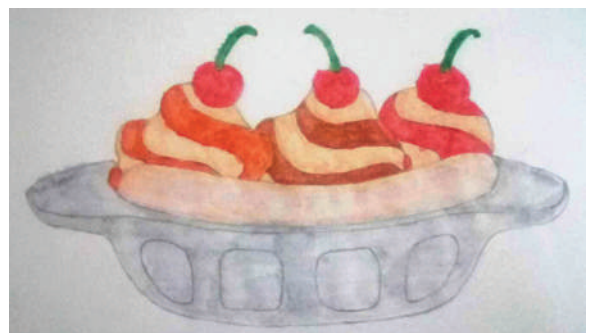
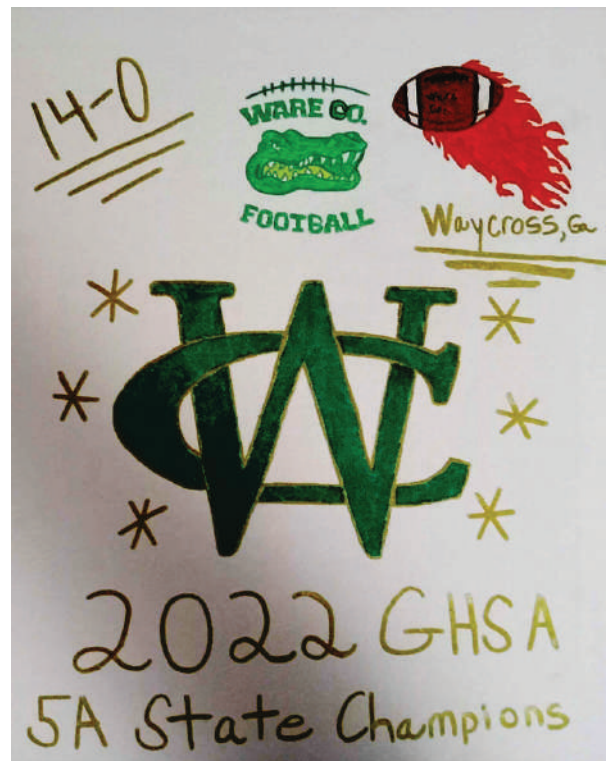
Frame. He often accepts commissions for pet and home paintings and loves to talk about the creative process with fellow artists and fans of his work.

His work can be seen online at Jody Whittemore Art on Facebook or Instagram. His email is wfawcart@gmail.com.



Art by Kelvin







Kelvin Henderson is an emerging artist from Folkston, Georgia. Kelvin grew up in Charlton County, where he became one of the most well-known people and influencers around South Georgia. He started getting into art when he was in sixth grade and likes to do various types, including drawing, painting, and shoe art.

Art is a therapy for Kelvin because it helps relieve stress, whether it is drawing, painting, or shoe art. Kelvin said one of his favorite things about art is that "you can express yourself through it." It improves your concentration, blocks out the mind's distractions, and forces your mind to slow down to focus on the details.



Kelvin's favorite things to draw and paint are portraits and characters. He has drawn and painted portraits for many people, including other artists, music performers, and NFL Pro Football Hall of Famer Champ Bailey. He dreams of owning an art gallery where he can display and sell his artwork.

Kelvin's big fans are his mom and grandparents, who are very proud of him. Besides doing art, Kelvin works as an Event Promoter for Southern Georgia Magazine in Kingsland, Ga, where he manages the online regional events calendar and event promotions. You

probably will see him around Southern Georgia, attending events and taking photos. He also wrote poetry, which was another thing that got him interested in art.

You can check out his art page on Facebook called Kelvin's Artwork. You can message Kelvin, email him at kelvinhenderson75@gmail.com or contact him at 912-276-7144. Kelvin thanks everyone for their interest and support as he continues to share his passion for art.











George Vining is a Waycross native whose passion for flying remote control aircraft started in 1988 after he found his dad's old SIG Kadet, a 3-channel RC airplane, sitting dusty and tucked away in the crawl space entrance of his childhood home. His uncle, Jerry Lee, helped him get it flyable again, and after a few lessons from Keith Douglas, a family friend and well-known pilot in the RC community, young George was flying the Kadet on his own in no time.

Over the years, the chance to fly would wax and wane; he would slip into a flight here and there whenever he got the opportunity. An even older love of George's is painting and drawing. He was always doodling on paper with different mediums, so George's parents enrolled him in art lessons at ten years old, where he learned to draw and paint using pastels, acrylics, and watercolor. He studied under the watchful eye of well-known artist and owner of The Pallet Shop, Ruth Collins, until age 15. Most of George's paintings from back then are vibrant in color.

Trading in the paintbrush for technical drawing skills, George graduated from Okefenokee Technical Institute in '96 with a diploma in mechanical and architectural drafting. He continues in this career field, drawing and designing mechanical systems and architectural drawings in various CAD (Computer Aided Design) programs.

George became interested in digital photography some years ago as another hobby. He read several books on the subject, watched videos on different techniques, and experimented with photography. He was finding himself yet again chasing the color-rich issues, taking pictures, and experimenting with different camera settings and effects every chance he got.

In 2019, his wife Rena (who he always credits with being more intelligent than him) bought him his first camera drone. It forever changed his life by combining two of his passions allowing him to fly RC and take beautiful pictures from an eagle's perspective. Encouraged by his brother, Jay, owner of Golden Isles Drone Service, George recently attained his FAA Part 107 Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Pilot certification, which enables him to fly drones commercially.

George lives in Waycross with his travel-enthusiastic wife Rena, owner of Latitude Travel Planning, their witty and hilarious son Samuel, three beloved dogs, and a pretentious cat that allows them all to live in her palace.

George is opening his drone services business, Raptor Vision Drones, a remote flying service.

George can be contacted at Raptor Vision Drones
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