

# The Cairo Messenger

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## FUN IN CALVARY



**BILLY CURRY** of Dublin, Ga., shows off his 4-year-old prizewinning mule, Joe, shortly after arriving at the Mule Day grounds on Tuesday.

## Huge crowd anticipated for Mule Day on Saturday

► Campers have already arrived

**Mesha C. Wind**  
Staff Writer

The Calvary Lions Club is putting on its 37th Annual Mule Day Saturday with club members and volunteers spending this week preparing to welcome the tens of thousands of visitors expected to descend on the southwest Grady County town. The youngest visitors should expect to find new activities geared their way with this year's creation of a child area.

Many campers have already pulled their RV's into Calvary and claimed prime parking spaces near the Mule Day grounds.

There will be many of the traditional favorites returning to the annual fall event, from Mule Day cane syrup and corn meal to a mule show and Mule Day Parade.

However, Mule Day Cane Syrup will be at a premium this year, with 4,000 fewer bottles available. A convolution of events over the last year resulted in the syrup situation. Sadly, skills of three of the primary

syrup makers are lost this year. Lions Club charter member Earl Williams passed away Christmas Eve 2008; and Raymond Dalton and Raber Butler have health conditions that prevent their hands-on participation, according to Sue Rodemoyer, Lions Club member.

Another challenge in the syrup-making process this year was the need of a new cane patch. Lions Club President Bob Maxwell, using 1,000 cane starts from Bell Glades, FL, planted the new patch on his property north of Calvary. Since it is the crop's first year, a smaller harvest is to be expected, Rodemoyer explains.

So, although the Lions Club usually cooks up to 12,000 bottles of cane syrup for Mule Day, this year's supply is expected to be just 7,000-8,000 bottles. The 10 ounce bottles will be sold on the Mule Day grounds Saturday at \$3 per bottle.

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## COUNTY ZONING

# Businesses may bypass Grady due to no zoning, Marlowe says

**Randolph H. Wind**  
Editor & Publisher

Grady County's top economic development official says, without reservation, that zoning plays a factor when new companies look to locate or expand in a community.

Joint Development Authority Executive Director Brian Marlowe, responding to a question by County Commissioner Charles Renaud, told members of the board of commissioners Tuesday morning that companies want to locate and ex-

pand in communities where there is zoning.

"Most companies will decide not to locate in a community if no zoning is in place. Companies want their interests protected and the interests of the property owners around them," Mar-

lowe said.

According to the development authority chief, the lack of zoning "would eliminate a community" from consideration in a highly competitive situation.

Commissioner Elwyn

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## REGISTRATION OPENS



**NEW CAIRO/GRADY COUNTY BOYS & GIRLS CLUB UNIT DIRECTOR JEFFERY BROWN** (l) observes 8-year-old Zae McFadden sign a membership/code of conduct form as part of the registration process Monday afternoon. His mother, Shan Cobb, and his infant brother, at right, are shown waiting for Zae to complete the required paperwork.

# Brown hired to head new Boys & Girls Club here

► 135 youths have already registered for membership

**Darrell Mudra**  
Staff Writer

The Cairo/Grady County Boys & Girls Club has hired its new director and registration of youth began late Monday afternoon of this week. As of Tuesday night 135 applications from children 6-14 years of age had been received.

Jeffery D. Brown of Cairo accepted the position as unit director of the local affiliate and will manage overall daily operations of the club with a primary concern for programs, supervision and training of staff, community relations, and providing guidance and discipline to youth as needed.

Brown currently works for the City of Albany Recreation and Parks Department where he has served as a therapeutic program coordinator since 1998. In addition to his position with the city of Albany, he also coaches the Cairo High School boy's and girl's swim teams. His teams have

won four region championships at the 3-A and 4-A level over the past six years.

The new director has strong ties to the program that began with a position as a lifeguard for a Boys & Girls Club in Albany, Ga., following his graduation from college. Brown's great-grandfather helped build the Holder Park pool

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## CAIRO HIGH SCHOOL BAND DIRECTOR

# Charges against Johnny Folsom are dismissed

► Dougherty D.A. drops simple battery charges filed Sept. 25 against band leader

Dougherty County judicial officials have decided, after more than a month since the Sept. 25 arrest of Cairo High School Director of Bands Johnny Folsom, to dismiss the charges against the band leader.

The Messenger learned

this week that the Dougherty County District Attorney's Office has decided to dismiss the charge of simple battery against a police officer that Folsom was charged with the night of Friday, Sept. 25.

The CHS band director was arrested by Dougherty

County School System Police following an altercation between Folsom and a gatekeeper at Albany's Hugh Mills Stadium prior to the Syrupmaker football game against the Monroe Tornados.

When Folsom and two of

his assistant directors attempted to enter the stadium, the gatekeeper instructed the two assistants to remain with the other band chaperones and to enter after a headcount of band students was completed. Dougherty County

allows only one chaperone for every 10 students to enter the gates at Hugh Mills stadium without a paid ticket.

Folsom informed the gatekeeper that the twosome were his assistants and attempted to pass into the stadium when he was arrested

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**Johnny Folsom**

## LOOK WHAT'S INSIDE THIS WEEK'S



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### HANGING IT UP!

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