



COVID-19 positive cases rise to forty-one locally

The number of Seminole Countians testing positive for COVID-19 continued to rise this week; but the number of local citizens who have died from the disease, which is caused by the novel Coronavirus, remained at two. The county's number now stands at 41 positive cases as of Wednesday, May 20. Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp's shelter-in-place continues-through June 12 for people ages 65 and older, seniors living in long-term care facilities and persons with certain chronic health issues.

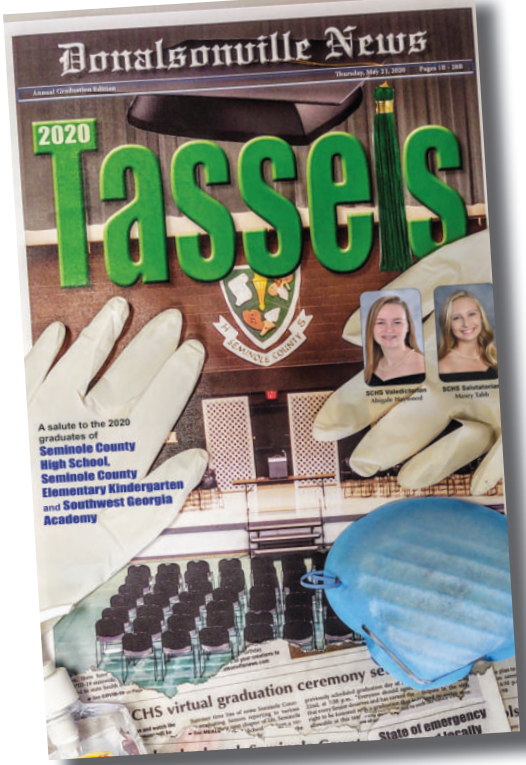
As of Wednesday, May 20 at 12 noon, there have been 39,647 cases of COVID-19 statewide, - out of 402,940 people tested - and 1,687 deaths reported to state health officials.

2014, 2016 and 2019 recipient of the Georgia Press Association's Service to the Community Award

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SCHS virtual graduation is Friday, May 22 In person, live Graduation scheduled for Friday, June 26

The Seminole County Middle/High School's virtual graduation ceremony is set for Friday, May 22, at 7:30 p.m. The ceremony can be accessed at <https://youtu.be/JHvBRryOhHo>

On May 22nd, all Seniors who plan to participate in the Senior Appreciation Drive Through need to arrive at the school by 4:30 p.m. in caps, gowns, stoles, etc. The Seniors will park in the faculty parking lot by the tennis courts. Each Senior will be given a designated space, six feet apart, to stand in a line starting with Valedictorian, and followed by the Salutatorian, Honor Graduates by rank and the remaining Senior class members.

From 5 to 6 p.m., the school is encouraging the entire Seminole County community to drive by the school, remaining in their cars, as a salute to the most deserving SCHS graduating class of 2020. Seniors who would like to have their diploma at this time will be able to receive it and display it while family and community members drive by to congratulate them.

Those wishing to drive through to honor the Seniors need to enter the school property from Sheffield Drive. Vehicles of friends and family members will not be allowed to stop for photos and no one will be allowed to exit a vehicle.

At 6 p.m. Seniors will be allowed to leave

➔ See **VIRTUAL** on Page **9A**

Graduation Edition Inside this issue

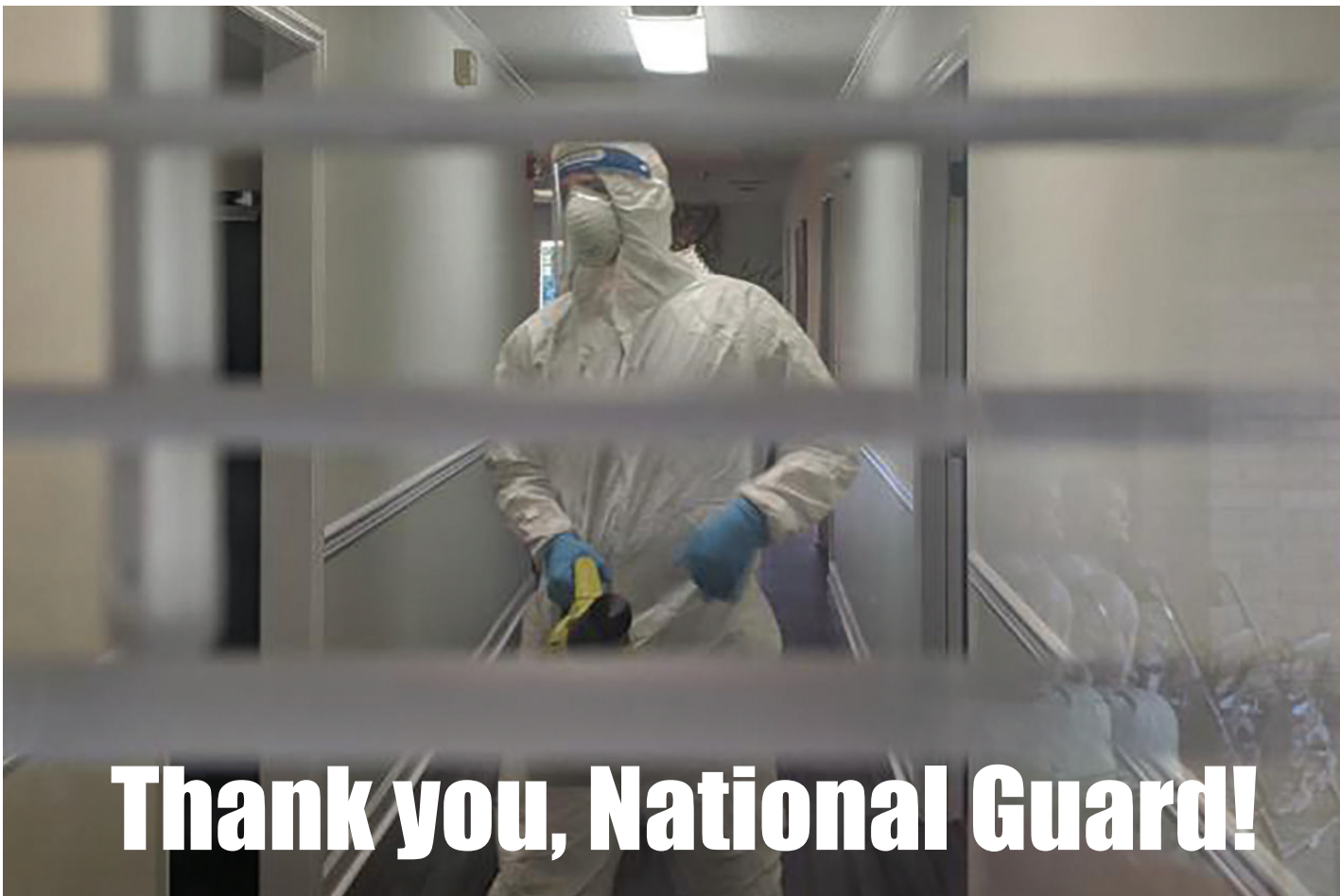
SGA to graduate twenty-four Thursday, May 21

Graduation exercises for Southwest Georgia Academy's twenty-four Seniors are to be held on today, Thursday, May 21, at 8:00 p.m. in the Wayne Proffitt, Jr. Gymnasium with a special ceremony in accordance with the Governor's continued request to use social distancing and restricting large crowds.

All graduates have been given a limited number of tickets to distribute to their family members, and family members in attendance will be seated together with space apart from other families. Graduates will also be seated with space between them. The school will be live-streaming the ceremony in an effort to give other family and friends not in attendance a chance to still be a part of this special night.

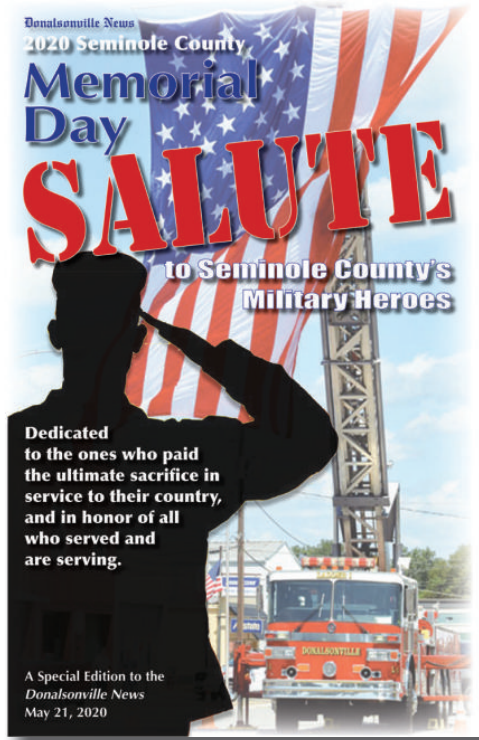
Using the traditional marches for the processional and recessional, graduates will still participate in a very formal program honoring this special event under the direction of Mrs. Harold Thomas Gordon, Jr.. Main speeches will be given by the top three Honor Graduates, and the fourth

➔ See **SGA** on Page **9A**



Thank you, National Guard!

COVID-19 FREE and staying that way. A big thank you goes out to the Georgia National Guard for its preventative sanitizing efforts performed at Seminole Manor Nursing Home and Great Gran's Personal Care home over the past two weeks. Both facilities have remained COVID-19 free and efforts such as these are working to keep it that way.



American Legion Post 157 cancels Monday's Memorial Day Ceremony

On Monday, May 25, 2020, Americans across the country will celebrate the brave men and women soldiers who died defending our country. As our nation and the state of Georgia still suffer from the effects of Coronavirus (COVID-19), Donalsonville American Legion Post 157 Commander Royce Davis announced the cancellation of this year's 2020 Memorial Day celebration.

As part of Post 157 Memorial Day observance the white crosses with the names of the fallen veterans of Seminole County will be displayed at the intersection of Highway 84 and Highway 91 for the next two weeks.

Whether you celebrate by hosting a backyard BBQ get-together or having a simple and intimate moment of silence with your loved ones, Memorial Day is a special time to honor America's history and commemorate the bravery, courage and honor of our troops.

Donalsonville American Legion Post 157 will remain closed and all monthly meetings will remain cancelled until further notice. The closing is in keeping with the shelter in place of the elderly that make up many of the post members and the sanitation requirements of the Legion Hall.

The American Legion Post continues to pray for the families of our Post members that have passed recently and the service they gave to their country and to the local Post in Donalsonville. Several members have passed this year, but Johnny F. Frith's service will be greatly missed.

Memorial Day Salute Inside this issue

Spotlighting more than 600 Seminole County Veterans



Advance voting is now in progress

Advanced in person voting began Monday, May 18 at 8:30 a.m. for the June 9 City of Donalsonville Municipal Special Election and the statewide General Primary and Presidential Preference Primary. Advance voting is taking place, from 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. through Friday, June 5 in the Office of the Probate Court in the Seminole County Courthouse located at 200 South Knox Avenue in Donalsonville. There will be a Saturday voting on May 30, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

In the City of Donalsonville, two candidates, Mitzy Moye and Ron Johnson, are on the ballot in the Municipal Special Election race for Mayor of Donalsonville to fill the unexpired term of former Mayor Dan Ponder, who announced his retirement in March.

To make the voting process run as smoothly as possible voters are reminded they must have either a Georgia Driver's License or photo identification and poll workers are requesting voters have their form of identification out and

ready to present to the election staff.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic still causing widespread health concerns in the community, the following precautions will be taken for advanced in person voting.

Wearing a mask of some sort is strongly encouraged but will not be required. No more than two people will be allowed in the voting area of the Office of the Probate Court, and without exception, children will NOT be permitted.

➔ See **ELECTION** on Page **9A**

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50 Cents



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