

Senator Dean Burke announces Georgia Forest Land Protection Act Reimbursements

Sen. Dean Burke recently announced that the Georgia Forest Land Protection Act (FLPA) will be reimbursing funds back into school districts for the following counties: Seminole, Colquitt, Decatur, Early, Grady, Miller, Mitchell, and Thomas.

"I am so proud to see these reimbursements going directly back to our school districts," said Sen. Burke. "In the Amended Fiscal Year 2021 budget, \$25 million has been allocated for the Forest Land Protection Act grant to offset property tax losses in rural communities. It's no secret that the COVID-19 pandemic has left many of our rural communities needing additional support, and I believe these reimbursements will do just that."

The proposed amounts to be reimbursed are as follows:

Seminole - \$163,938.08; Colquitt - \$85,561.31; Decatur - \$734,962.74; Early - \$513,479.27; Grady - \$99,614.82; Miller - \$37,173.72; Mitchell - \$62,962.91; Seminole - \$163,938.08; and Thomas - \$1,319,020.87

The FLPA provides for an ad valorem tax exemption for properties in which the current primary purpose is used for timber production or maintaining natural habitats, and excludes the entire value of any residence located on the property.

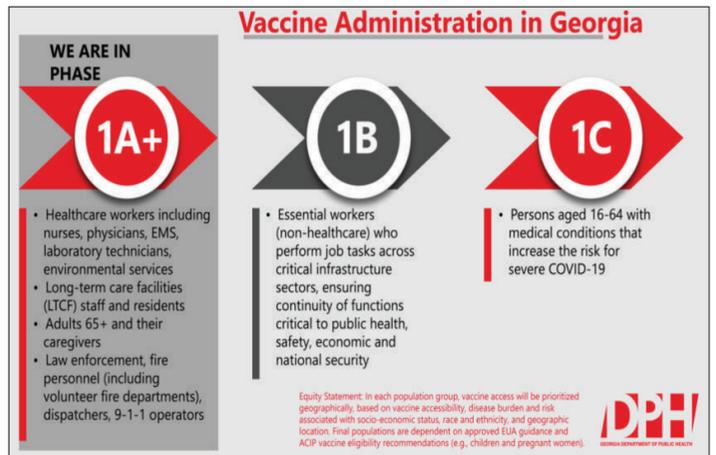
New COVID vaccine dashboard now available on DPH website

The Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) has launched a new COVID vaccine dashboard on the DPH website <https://dph.georgia.gov/>. The dashboard provides a detailed, transparent picture of vaccination administration in Georgia.

As part of the transition to the new dashboard, you will see a one-time decrease in the number of vaccines administered. This slight decrease is the result of data cleaning and removal of duplicate vaccination entries, and overall quality control.

The dashboard will update daily at 3 p.m. and now includes:

- ❖ Number of vaccine doses that have been administered in Georgia and reported to the Georgia Registry for Immunization Transactions and Services (GRITS), broken out by first and second doses.
- ❖ Number of vaccine doses administered by a Georgia provider per 100,000 residents, broken out by first and second doses.
- ❖ Vaccine doses administered by county and by day.
- ❖ Race and ethnicity data of vaccine recipients.



❖ Total number of vaccine doses that have been shipped to Georgia from the federal government's allocation for the state.

❖ The number of Georgia providers that have received vaccines from the federal allocation for Georgia.

❖ Number of vaccine doses shipped to Georgia providers and the percent of those doses administered.

DPH will regularly review and up-

date features of the dashboard to ensure data quality, accuracy, and transparency.

For updates on COVID-19, follow @GaDPH and @GovKemp on Twitter and @GaDPH and @GovKemp on Facebook.

For information about COVID-19, visit <https://dph.georgia.gov/novel-coronavirus> or <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Foreclosure moratorium deadline extended to June 30

USDA Extends Evictions and Foreclosure Moratorium to June 30, 2021 and provides additional guidance for servicing loans

The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced an extension of eviction and foreclosure moratoriums on USDA Single Family Housing Direct and Guaranteed loans through June 30, 2021. The actions announced today will bring relief to residents in rural America who have housing loans through USDA.

"USDA recognizes that the COVID-19 pandemic has triggered an almost unprecedented housing affordability crisis in the United States. That's why USDA is taking this important action today to extend relief to the hundreds-of-thousands of individuals and families holding USDA Single Family Housing loans," USDA Deputy Under Secretary for Rural Development Justin Maxson said. "While today's actions are an important step for them, we need to do more. The

Biden Administration is working closely with Congress to pass the American Rescue Plan to take more robust and aggressive actions to bring additional relief to American families and individuals impacted by the pandemic."

A recent Census Bureau survey showed that 8.2 million homeowners are currently behind on mortgage payments, and of that 8.2 million, 3 million homeowners behind on payments were Black or Hispanic.

This effort underscores a commitment by USDA to bring relief and assistance to farmers, families and communities across the country who are in financial distress due to the coronavirus pandemic. In January, USDA took action to bring relief to more than 12,000 distressed borrowers of USDA farm loans by temporarily suspending past-due debt collections, foreclosures, non-judicial foreclosures, debt offsets or wage garnishments, and more. Learn more at the following link: [USDA Temporarily Suspends Debt](https://www.usda.gov/press-releases/2020/12/23/USDA-Temporarily-Suspends-Debt)

Collections, Foreclosures and Other Activities on Farm Loans for Several Thousand Distressed Borrowers Due to Coronavirus.

Visit www.rd.usda.gov/coronavirus for additional information on USDA's Rural Development COVID-19 relief efforts, application deadline extensions and more. USDA Rural Development will keep our customers, partners and stakeholders continuously updated as additional actions are taken to bring relief and development to rural America.

Homeowners and renters can also visit www.consumerfinance.gov/housing for up-to-date information on their relief options, protections, and key deadlines from USDA, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Federal Housing Finance Agency, and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

The actions announced this week make it possible for the foreclosure and eviction moratorium

announced by USDA, Single Family Housing Direct Loan Program (SFHDLP) and the Single Family Housing Guaranteed Loan Program (SFHGLP) on Jan. 20, 2021, to be extended until June 30, 2021. The moratorium does not apply in cases where USDA or the servicing lender has documented the property is vacant or abandoned.

Lenders may continue to provide impacted borrowers relief by offering forbearance of the borrower guaranteed loan payment for up to 180 days. In addition, the initial forbearance period may be extended up to an additional 180 days at the borrower's request. Lenders may approve the initial 180-day COVID-19 forbearance no later than June 30, 2021. SFHGLP borrowers that received a COVID-19 forbearance prior to June 30, 2020, may be granted up to two additional three-month payment forbearances. Lenders should outline potential solutions that may be available at the end of the forbearance period and explain to borrowers that a

lump sum payment of the arrearage will not be required.

During the forbearance options outlined above, no accrual of fees, penalties or interest should be charged to the borrower beyond the amounts calculated as if the borrower had made all contractual payments in a timely fashion.

Upon completion of the forbearance, the lender shall work with the borrower to determine if they can resume making regular payments and, if so, either offer an affordable repayment plan or term extension to defer any missed payments to the end of the loan. If the borrower is unable to resume making regular payments, the lender should evaluate the borrower for special relief measures, which include Term Extensions, Capitalization and Term Extensions, and a Mortgage Recovery Advance.

Questions regarding program policy and this announcement may be directed to the National Office Division at sfhglpServicing@usda.gov or (202) 720-1452.

Joel Green selected as this year's Ag Person of the Year

➔ **AG PERSON OF THE YEAR** from Page 1
Greene. He and his family own and operate J&J Farms Brinson.

Joel graduated from SGA in 1980 and attended ABAC from 1980-1982. In 1982, he was involved in a farm accident which resulted in eight surgeries on his left leg. Joel transferred to Georgia Southern in 1983 and earned his degree in Ag. Management in 1985. After graduating from college, he went to work for his uncle at Alf's Farm & Garden. Joel would soon be promoted to store manager while also managing the cattle herd near Iron City. He helps at J&J

Farms after work in planting and harvesting seasons and on weekends. Joel cares for a fruit orchard on the farm as well. He has dedicated his life to helping farmers get farm supplies, feed, medication for animals and just about anything else that can be thought of for the farm. If Joel doesn't have what they need, he will order it or find another store that does.

He is a member of the Young Farmers and has always been a huge supporter of Seminole County FFA students and events. He is also a member of the Iron City United Methodist Church, and helps support the

Brinson UMC, the Giddeons and several charity groups like St. Jukes Children's Hospital.

Joel and "Alf's" have always been a tremendous asset to the community in Seminole County.

Ausleys and Cofty win big in the Seminole County Hog Show

➔ **HOG SHOW** from Page 1
The Reserve Champion Gilt was shown by Ethan Ausley, son of Bob and Renee Ausley. His white with blue butt and head gilt weighed 229 pounds.

The Grand Champion Barrow, a hamp markings weighing 259 pounds, was shown by Meg Mathis. Meg is the daughter of Andy and Nicki Mathis.

The Reserve Champion Barrow, a hamp markings barrow, weighed 264 pounds was shown by Cleve Cofty. Cleve is the son of Lynn Cofty.

The Austin Brackin Sportsmanship Award was presented to Ashley Womack.

The Larry Jr. and Brent Fennell Scholarship Award sponsored by the Donalsonville/Seminole County Chamber of Commerce went to Jad Deal.

The Ira "Buddy" Lee Senior Showmanship Award was presented by Bryan Lee and Glenn Lee to first place Senior Showmanship winner Elizabeth Ausley.

The Calvin Atkinson Outstanding Up & Coming Show Team Member award, sponsored by Calvin Atkinson's Family, was presented to Kash Dennis.

See complete details about the show and a list of all of the winners on page 18 in this edition.

PeoplesSouth Bank honors Black History Month

BLACK HISTORY MONTH



PEOPLESOUTH BANK

305 South Tennille Ave.
Donalsonville
229-524-1030



Member FDIC

Fly's in the Buttermilk; Shoo, Fly, Shoo

Betrice Cross Widner

Love those late-night snacks? Are you up late at night, wanting a snack? Well, you may not be able to stop eating this late night snack - Corn Chip Cookies. They are sweet, salty, crunchy, and chewy, all wrapped up in one bite. You may even want to take them to bed with you.

Corn Chip Cookies

1 package (10-12 ounces) corn chips
1 cup light corn syrup
1 cup sugar
1 cup creamy peanut butter

Spread corn chips in a lightly buttered 15x10 baking pan. In a saucepan over medium heat, bring corn syrup and sugar to a boil. Remove from the heat; stir in peanut butter until smooth. Pour over corn chips. Cool, break into pieces. Keep in air tight container. This is a quick way to dress up plain corn chips.

Thank you, Dale Cunningham, from down Lake Seminole way, for reading the Donalsonville News, for liking and using the recipe column. Yes, you are right, the recipes are great.

Quick Garlic Bread Sticks - For quick-and-easy garlic bread stick, split a hot dog bun down the middle and cut each half lengthwise. Butter each strip, sprinkle with garlic salt or garlic powder. Place on a baking sheet and broil until toasted.

Thank you for recycling!