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*Based on customer experience reviews shared online at www.thehartford.com/aarp as of June 2020. 006131

SCHOOL BREAKFAST

Lincoln County School System Breakfast Menu
Mon., Jan. 25 - Fri., Jan. 29

- Monday - Honey bun, mandarin oranges.
- Tuesday - Chicken biscuit, banana.
- Wednesday - Strawberry bagel, fresh apple wedges.
- Thursday - Sausage biscuit, fresh fruit.
- Friday - Mini donuts, applesauce cup.

All breakfast menus include choice of milk, 100% fruit juice.

What's for Lunch?

Lincoln County School System Lunch Menu
Mon., Jan. 25 - Fri., Jan. 29

- Monday - Chicken & rice w/ roll or pizza, romaine garden salad, whole kernel corn, fried okra, fresh fruit assortment.
- Tuesday - Spaghetti w/breadstick or pizza, Italian salad, steamed broccoli, fruit, 100% fruit juice.
- Wednesday - Chicken fajitas or pizza, green peppers & onions, Spanish rice, black bean fiesta, baby carrots w/dip, fruit, 100% fruit juice.
- Thursday - BBQ on bun or pizza, baked beans, potato wedges, buttered corn, fruit, 100% fruit juice.
- Friday - Chicken sandwich or PBJ, lettuce & tomato, devil fries, green beans, applesauce, fresh fruit assortment.

All meals include a choice of milk. Salads offered daily at middle and high school.

Divorce care group

Are you divorced or separated? Need Godly guidance with others who are struggling also? Faith Community Church is starting a DivorceCare group starting on Sept. 2 that will meet for 13 weeks. It will be on Wednesday nights from 7-8 p.m. Childcare is available. Please email Lee.haskins7@gmail.com for more information or see church's website.

Ellis fund set up

The Coach Ellis Dedication Fund has been set up at Farmers State Bank for those wishing to make a contribution to help with funding the sign and plaque recently approved for the track and field at Lincoln County High School and to initiate a scholarship fund in his honor. Those wishing to contribute can drop a check off at FSB or mail to P.O. Box 99, Lincolnton, GA 30817. Make the check payable to the Coash Ellis Dedication Fund.

Planning, zoning meetings

The City of Lincolnton Planning & Zoning Board meetings for 2021 are scheduled as follows: Jan. 26, Feb. 23, March 30, April 27, May 25, June 29, July 27, Aug. 31, Sept. 28, Oct. 26, Nov. 30, Dec. 28. These meetings will be held in City Hall at 5:30 p.m. each month if there is an agenda.

Artisan event cancelled

All Lincoln Artisans January events have been cancelled. The next board meeting will be held Wed., Feb. 3, 6 p.m., in the Development Authority Board Room.

City council meetings

The Lincolnton City Council meeting dates for 2021 are as follows: Feb. 2, March 2, April 6, May 4, June 1, July 6, Aug. 3, Sept. 7, Oct. 5, Nov. 2, Dec. 7. All meetings are held at 7 p.m. at City Hall.

Development Authority to meet

The Lincoln County Development Authority will meet on Tuesday, January 26 at 6 p.m.

Across The Savannah

The Illusion - Looking Young Forever

By TOM POLAND
tompol@earthlink.net

Late, late afternoon it was. She walked into the restaurant and lit it up. A beautiful woman will do that, light up a place, but she was an outlier, a woman who no longer dyed her hair but had taken care of herself over the years.

Her lustrous silver mane? Men took note. Yes, the light struck her hair just so, but a beautiful woman is a beautiful woman.

Nobody likes growing old, and there's but one way to avoid it, the unacceptable alternative. And so aging drags us through the years as we resist mightily, but there's no way out. All you can do is live a life that's good, one that's healthy, and accept the fact that you're going to age.

Aging's stealthy. First, an outward sign slips up on us like a thief in the night. Graying hair robs us of our youth. Thus many women pay salons big bucks to hide the gray. (Most men could get three years' worth of haircuts for one woman's cut and color.) Women pursue coloring with perfection and they get away with it. Not men. Men use dye from a bottle, a DIY project. "Yeah, man, I'm looking good."

No. You look like a fool. Uneven coloring and gray sideburns betray your amateurism. People snicker behind your back. "Did you see old so-and-so's hair? Looks like he used shoe polish on it." Nothing's more obvious that some guy dying his hair. I know because I did it. Not long though. More on that later.

The battle to stave off aging goes on and on but victory never comes. It stands no chance against sunlight, genetics, gravity, a bad lifestyle, and more. Aging can turn the prettiest of the prettiest into ruination, the handsomest into a caricature of himself. People turn to anti-wrinkle creams, Botox, sunscreen, which is wise, all manner of cosmetics, and cosmetic enhancements, which often aren't wise. The quest to look young is like an arms race, destined to end in disaster. Ever seen a cat woman?

The mirror doesn't lie, nor do photos taken in the harsh glare of reality. Still, I've known several women who were beauties far beyond their youth, like that woman in late afternoon sunlight. Somehow they beat the odds … for a while at least.

Now, full disclosure as I promised—I hung out with a woman 18 years younger than me for two years, two miserable years. She urged me to color my hair. I went to a salon and they baptized me in Clairol Ash Blonde, "age-defying permanent hair color." For two days my hair looked like Robert Redford's but for two weeks it looked like a Tang toupee—orange. Forget that salon. I took matters into my own hands and began using a dye in a cheap pink plastic bottle. Well, you get what you pay for.

Back when the author had dark hair.

One night after a spirited work out at the gym I headed home. As I approached the entrance a friend stopped me. "Hey, Tom, are you doing something different to your hair," she asked rather boldly.

"No," I said rather stupidly. When I got home I faced the mirror. My T-shirt had a purple-blue ring around the collar. The next day I had that stuff cut out, and soon the young woman moved on. Plop plop, fiz, fiz. Oh what a relief it is!

The Tams had a hit, "Be Young, Be Foolish, Be Happy." Men? Be old, be wise, be happy. Quit dying your hair. As I think of men who dye their hair a certain football coach comes to mind. You're a great coach. Be a great man. Quit dying your hair and accept aging. I did, and you can too, and you'll be glad you did.

Youth invited to enter t-shirt art contest

Hey, kids! Do you enjoy nature as well as creating artwork? Georgia's 16th annual Youth Birding Competition invites resident children and teens to celebrate birds through a T-shirt Art Contest.

Many famous ornithologists were bird artists when they were young, so perhaps you could be the next John James Audubon, Roger Tory Peterson or David Allen Sibley!

A winner will be picked from each of four age categories: primary (pre-K-2nd), elementary (third-fifth), middle school (sixth-eighth) and high school. One winner will be awarded the grand prize – their artwork will appear on the 2021 Youth Birding Competition T-shirt and they'll receive a $100 Amazon gift card. The three other winners will each receive a $50 Amazon gift card, redeemable for art supplies.

Entering is easy. Participants must draw or paint a native Georgia bird that has not been previously featured on a Youth Birding Competition T-shirt (details at www.georgiawildlife.com/YBCTshirtArtContest).

Artwork may be created on paper or sheet canvas, at least 8-by-10 inches but no larger than 11-by-17 inches. To enter the contest, email a full-frame photo (from a camera or smartphone) of the artwork by March 10, 2021, to Linda.May@dnr.ga.gov.

Be sure to provide the participant's name, school, age, grade level, city, phone number and e-mail address, and the species name of the bird depicted in the artwork.

The illustrated bird must be a wild species that is native to Georgia. Artwork of exotic or domesticated species (such as European starlings, pigeons, yellow ducks, peacocks and parrots) will be disqualified. Draw or paint the bird's features as accurately as possible. A simple background that provides habitat context is good to include, but make sure the bird stands out well and is the focus of the artwork. Also keep in mind that deep, contrasting colors scan best for a T-shirt.

Only one entry per person is allowed, and it must be the child's original artwork. Participation in the Youth Birding Competition, tentatively scheduled for April 23-24, is encouraged but not required to submit artwork for the T-shirt Art Contest.

In the 2021 Youth Birding Competition, teams try to see or hear as many bird species as possible throughout Georgia during the event's 24-hour period. While judges examine and score checklists, participants enjoy a live animal show followed by an awards banquet packed with prizes at Charlie Elliott Wildlife Center in Mansfield.

In the event the birding competition is cancelled because of COVID, 2021 T-shirts will not be produced. However, art contest winners will still receive their Amazon gift card awards.

For more information on the T-shirt Art Contest, visit www.georgiawildlife.com/YBCTshirtArtContest. You can also contact art contest coordinator Linda May at (706) 319-0211 or linda.may@dnr.ga.gov.

Details on the 2021 Youth Birding Competition, including how to register a team (March 31 deadline), will be posted soon at www.georgiawildlife.com/YBC. You can also contact competition coordinator Tim Keyes at (912) 262-3191 or tim.keyes@dnr.ga.gov.

Royal Rangers to conduct Pinewood Derby on Feb. 26

The Royal Ranger's Outpost 106 will conduct its annual Pinewood Derby race on Friday, February 26, in the Family Life Center at First Assembly of God on Thomson Highway. The race is open to all boys and girls in the county between the ages of 3 and 14.

There will be five categories: Boys & girls ages 3-4, Boys K-2, Girls K-2, Boys & Girls grades 3-5, Boys & Girls grades 6-8. The top three finishers in each category will receive a trophy. There will also be a trophy for the overall winner and "Best of Show" and "Most Creative." Prizes will be given to all participants. The cost to enter is $0.00. (Free)

The night will start with a supper at 6:30 p.m. for the racer and an adult - preferably the person who assisted in the building of the car. Racing will begin as soon as dinner is completed. Cars must be weighed in by 7:00 p.m.

Depending on the number of racers, the racing portion should take between 1-2 hours. Again the cost is free.

Kits for the cars can be purchased from the Hobby Lobby, Michaels or Online.

To enter, you must pre-register. Forms may be picked up and dropped off at the church office of First Assembly of God. Deadline for registration is February 22.

For further information please call the church office at 706-359-7237.

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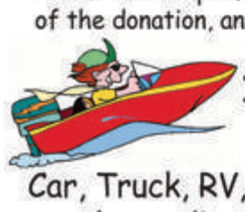

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2021 QUALIFYING FEES

THE CITY OF LINCOLNTON WILL HOLD AN ELECTION FOR THE OFFICES OF MAYOR AND TWO (2) COUNCIL MEMBERS, POST 4 AND POST 5. THESE TERMS WILL BEGIN ON JANUARY 01, 2022, AND END ON DECEMBER 31, 2025.

THE QUALIFYING FEE FOR EACH OFFICE WILL BE 3% OF THE TOTAL GROSS SALARY PAID FOR EACH OFFICE IN THE PRECEEDING YEAR. THE FEE FOR MAYOR WILL BE $120.00 AND COUNCIL MEMBERS WILL BE $72.00.

QUALIFYING DATES WILL BE ADVERTISED AT A LATER DATE. CANDIDATES WILL QUALIFY AT CITY HALL.