

# Editorial page

## Nolia's Notes

### Cooking Kids, getting it right!

by NOLIA BIGGERSTAFF



The other day I was watching a cooking contest on television for children. There could only be one winner.

During several episodes the children were required to bake different sweets. They baked cookies, cakes, pies and different sauces and ice creams.

I noticed that this was a mixture of kids from all over. One young lady had a bit of trouble speaking with her mouth full of braces and she had a heavy Southern accent, even for me.

There were a few children who appeared to have oriental features, a few who appeared to be Hispanic and several white kids, a mixture of kids representing America.

During the shows, I heard the children encouraging one another. They would say, "That looks delicious!" They would say, "Don't forget to check your oven!" They were truly trying to help one another, even though this was a fierce competition.

When the winners were announced for each episode, and the judges said good things about one of the competitors, you could hear the other children saying, "Good job, way to go, congratulations!"

They shared ingredients and made good suggestions to really help one another.

When it got down to the final few children, they were asked what they would do with the \$25,000 prize. The little southern girl said she would buy a show cow!

When she was eliminated, the little oriental girl said, "That's ok, if I win, I will buy you that cow!" I almost cried when she said that.

Then it got down to four contestants, really intense.

One young man was doing pretty well until his three layers of cake began to slide. This competition

was down to the wire. Then I heard one little girl say, "Here, take this cake dowel and press it down through the three cakes, that will solve the problem." It did and he thanked her and gave her full credit for saving the day for him!

Wow. I truly hope that every single one of these kids quit the food business and become leaders of our country! I would campaign and vote for every single one of them!

Somewhere, at some point, these kids were taught manners and sportsmanship. They were taught to be kind and selfless. They were taught to trust that their ability, skill and efforts would pay off, and that if another child did better and won, well then, so be it.

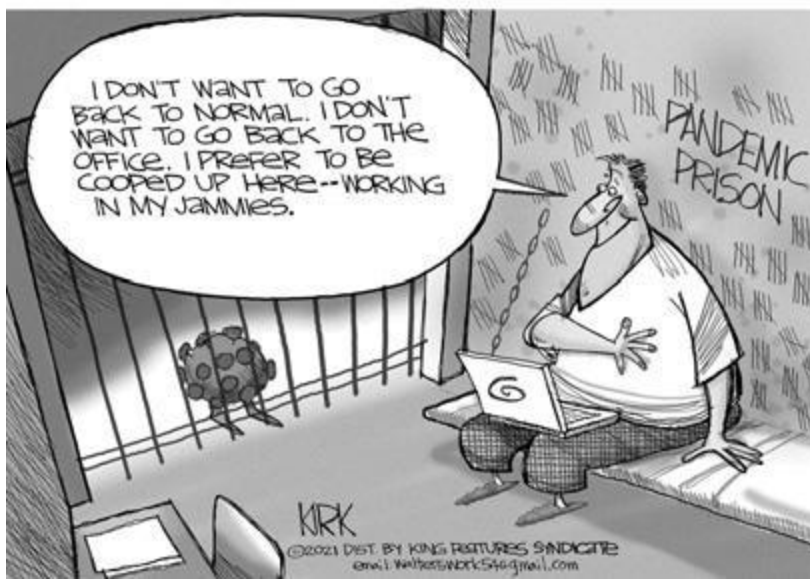
When several of the children were eliminated, they even admitted their errors and smiled and thanked the judges for the opportunity to participate. I was especially proud of the parents too. When a child was eliminated, the parents were very supportive, hugged their child and spoke words of pride and encouragement.

While kids are being "home schooled" this show would be one of the best lessons to be taught to them.

In my opinion, if parents are at home wringing their hands not knowing what or how to teach their kids, they should unplug everything but the television and tune in to The Cosby Show, Lassie, The Andy Griffith Show and The Food Network for Kids. Parents should watch these shows and talk with their children about the great lessons these shows teach about, respect, honesty, kindness, and love.

The beautiful thing is that these shows are great for the entire family and can be viewed by all ages! Just my suggestion.

STOCKHOLM SYNDROME: WHEN HOSTAGES START BONDING WITH THEIR CAPTORS



## Consumers get answers from Ga. Department of Agriculture

Consumer Q's is a weekly question-and-answer column by Arty Schronce at the Georgia Department of Agriculture. Please share your thoughts, questions and suggestions with him by phone, mail or email.

**Q: Is basil easy to grow? I see numerous types of basil at garden centers. Is one kind better than another?**

**A:** Basil is an easy herb to grow. Give it fertile, well-drained soil and a spot that receives at least five hours of sunlight per day. For maximum leaf production, keep the flowers pinched off. There are indeed numerous kinds of basil including varieties with large leaves such as lettuce-leaf basil and small leaves such as 'Spicy Globe' basil. There are varieties with purple leaves. Thai basil is has licorice-anise undertones and is especially sought after for Thai and Vietnamese dishes. Cinnamon basil has a cinnamon undertone. Lemon basil combines lemon and basil flavors. When you visit your garden center, gently touch the leaves and smell them. Select the basil you find most interesting or think will be most useful. All kinds are equally easy to grow.

**Q: What is the difference between determinate tomato plants and indeterminate tomato plants? I see these words on labels at nurseries.**

**A:** Determinate varieties of tomatoes are more compact than indeterminate varieties. They "top out" (stop growing taller) when fruit sets on the terminal or top bud. They ripen all their tomatoes at or near the same time, usually over a few weeks. Indeterminate varieties of tomatoes are also called "vining" tomatoes. They will grow and produce fruit until killed by frost and can reach heights of up to 10 feet although six feet is more common. They will bloom, set new fruit and ripen fruit throughout the growing season.

**Q: I saw a late-blooming (April 25) narcissus in an old cemetery. The cup was yellow and very small. The back petals were cream to white. It had a wonderful fragrance. The cup was pure yellow; it did not have the red rim like the pheasant's eye narcissus.**

**A:** It sounds like you are describing the twin sisters narcissus (*Narcissus x medioluteus*), so named because there are usually two flowers per stem. It has a very small cup of clear yellow and a creamy

perianth. It is thought to be a natural hybrid between the pheasant's eye narcissus (*Narcissus poeticus*) and the paper white narcissus (*Narcissus tazetta*). It is a very durable and desirable narcissus that sometimes gets overlooked because so many people focus on the early-blooming ones.

**Q: When are Georgia strawberries in season?**

**A:** Strawberry season in Georgia can begin in late March and last until June. Look for Georgia strawberries now at farmers markets, grocery stores and at produce stands. You can also pick your own on some farms. For a list of pick-your-own strawberry farms, visit the Georgia Department of Agriculture website, click on "Market Bulletin" and then on "Articles of Interest."

If you have questions about agriculture, horticulture, food safety or services or products regulated by the Georgia Department of Agriculture, write Arty Schronce (arty.schronce@agr.georgia.gov) or visit the department's website at [www.agr.georgia.gov](http://www.agr.georgia.gov).

## Registration opens for adult softball at recreation dept.

The Lincoln County Recreation Department is hosting "Summer Slugfest," an adult softball league. The season will run June 15-July 22, with games held every Tuesday and Thursday.

Teams can be co-ed or all men with a \$250 registration fee per team. Registration will run from March 15-May 31 at the recreation complex.

League rules include: all team members must be in uniform (jersey); have 15 players to a roster; use 44 core and 375 compression balls; no illegal bats; five homers per game; any homerun after five changes the inning.

The end-of-season tournament will be held July 31. For more information contact LCRD Director LeTrellis Glaze or Lisa Willingham at 706-359-2236.

### Mail in tithes

Price Grove Baptist Church members are reminded that they are able to mail in their tithes to Price Grove Baptist Church, P.O. Box 916, Lincolnton, GA 30817.



## March of the Cicadas

By Robyn Stewart  
Lincoln County Extension Service



For the last seventeen years, Brood X, or the Great Eastern Brood of periodical cicadas have been living underground as nymphs, feeding on plant roots. This May, billions of juveniles will emerge and mature into adult cicadas. The brood is expected to be seen in a variety of areas along the East Coast totaling approximately eleven states but their range in Georgia is expected to be limited to ten of our most Northern counties. The first emergence of Brood X was documented in 1715 by a Philadelphia pastor, and has been since then.

The periodical cicada, or magicicada septendecim is a term for seven different species of cicadas known for their 13- and 17-year life cycles. The life cycle of the cicada starts as an egg laid in the bark of young twigs. After 6-10 weeks, the eggs hatch and nymphs drop to the ground where they burrow approximately two feet into the earth. There the nymphs feed on the xylem fluid of plant roots and undergo five instar stages of development over the next 13 or 17 years depending on the species. In May or June of the emergence year when soil temperatures are warm enough, the nymphs burrow out of the ground and climb onto nearby vegetation where they molt and harden their exoskeletons. Adult cicadas only live a few weeks after emergence and will die by mid-July. Their purpose during their adult lives is reproduction. Males produce loud mating songs to attract receptive females, who will mate just once and then lay her eggs. These eggs begin the next life cycle of periodic cicadas.

Adult periodical cicadas are typically around 1 inch in length with females larger than males. They have translucent wings with orange veins and a black dorsal thorax. The underside of the abdomen varies in color depending on the species but can be black, orange, or striped. The mating call of a male cicada will vary based on its species. The good news for people and plants is that cicadas are relatively harmless. They do not sting, are not venomous, and do not transmit diseases. At worst, they can bite and pierce human skin, but other than being painful, this isn't harmful to humans. Mature plants rarely suffer lasting damage from cicadas, though

new or young plantings should be protected from the insects by cheesecloth or a similar material to prevent feeding and egg-laying damage.

One of the big questions is why these insects live in 13- or 17-year cycles. There are a few ideas on why that is, but it primarily revolves around a survival trait called predator satiation. Essentially, for the first week after emerging, cicada nymphs are very vulnerable prey for other animals. The goal of having billions of nymphs emerge at once is to simply overwhelm predators with sheer numbers—they can only eat so much, after all! In addition to this, it's theorized that the long underground period and odd-year emergence cycle helps prevent predators from becoming dependent on cicadas as a food source and prevents predator populations from synchronizing with the cicada life cycle. Additionally, it is theorized that any individuals that do not adhere to the life cycle of the masses would quickly be picked off by predators and thus eliminated from the gene pool.

We don't expect to see much of Brood X here in Lincoln County as we are a bit further south than their natural range, but it certainly isn't impossible. If you do spot a Brood X cicada, the Georgia Museum of Natural History would love to add it to the UGA Collection of Arthropods. Capture the cicada, sun-dry it, and ship it to the museum, or just email photographs and information on where and when you found it to [insects@uga.edu](mailto:insects@uga.edu). Otherwise, if you have any questions let us know at [age3181@uga.edu](mailto:age3181@uga.edu) or 706-359-3233.

### Dinners at Post 194

American Legion Post 194, is resuming its tradition of dinners on Friday nights from 6 - 8 p.m. from "Hoppy's Kitchen."

Friday guests will be delighted with the array of entertainment in the new lounge starting at 7 p.m. with hosts, blues and popular standards singer Al Ewing and country music singer and Elvis impersonator Kelly Ray Burkham.

Music lovers are encouraged to bring their talents or their dancing shoes to the heart of Lincolnton, 1121 American Legion Road.

Activities Thursdays through Saturdays, 5:00 - 11:00 p.m. include pool, karaoke, sports entertainment on multiple screens. The Legion Grill menu is back and available to members and guests.

For more information contact Al Ewin at 706-825-2363, Joe Kelly at 661-666-3749, 706-825-2363, or 706-359-3445. Email [djalbaby@yahoo.com](mailto:djalbaby@yahoo.com) or [Alpost194@yahoo.com](mailto:Alpost194@yahoo.com).

### Super Crossword

Answers		
L O B B I E D	I M P A S S E	S C A R F
T H E A R Y A	D E A D P A N	E A G E R
B A R G E E S	E S S E N T I A L S	D R I V E
E R R I S	T H I S	D I A
L A Y	E C I T	G R A N D F I N A G L E
S O S A	P A D I S	B L E I S S
R E I D H O T	M A G I M A	S O U R
S L E E T	N A E	A W W
V I N E Y A R D	R E G A L I T Y	S H O W
P A Y S	S T R I	G O N
H A N G O V E R	R E R M A N Y	O A T
A G O	F E U	O D E
F I N G E R	P O I N T S	N O S I R R E E
A G L O W	N R A	T W A
R A Y E	S A T E	M O R T A L S
S T I C H	A T I R Y	M O I Q U E
R U B B Y	T U E S D A Y	M A P I E S
A P E R C U	B U I D	M A R E
I S T I O O	M A I L O R D E R	B R I D G E
S E I K O	A L T E R E D	E L I T I S M
A T T E N	P L E D G E S	S E P T E T S

## This weeks tips from the BBB

A flurry of inquiries to Better Business Bureau (BBB) about vehicle wrap offers has prompted a warning for consumers considering the promotions.

The jobs, which claim easy money and are usually connected to popular soft drink, energy drink or cellphone companies, are often fraudulent, and BBB suggests consumers use extreme caution when dealing with those offering the jobs. The "car wrap scam" has been active for several years and has been the focus of previous warnings by BBB and other agencies.

One woman told BBB she found

a listing in a Facebook group about a job where she could be paid to put a popular energy drink's logo on her vehicle. The woman said she would have been paid \$400 a week for a six-month period to have the logo on her vehicle.

"I figured something was up because it seemed too good to be true," she told BBB.

The woman said the company would only communicate with her via text message. She then received a check in the mail for \$1,900. She was instructed to keep \$400 for her first week's wages and then send the rest of the money to a person who was to wrap her car with the logo. Fortunately, she did not cash the check. If she had gone through with the plan, she would have lost the \$1,500 she would have sent back to the scammers.

The "car wrap scam" is a combination of two of the riskiest scams reported to BBB's Scam Tracker — an employment scam and a fake check scam.

BBB has received multiple reports about "car wrap scams" over the last month. While the majority of those who have reported the scam did not lose money, there have been some victims.

BBB offers the following tips for those contacted about vehicle wrap offers:

- Understand that offers, which includes a "fake" check, to advertise for a company by wrapping your vehicle with their ad is a scam. The check you receive may be counterfeit.
  - Avoid sending money to someone you have not met face-to-face. Do not use a wire transfer, prepaid debit card or gift card to complete a transaction with a stranger.
  - Beware of unsolicited emails, phone calls, texts or postal letters. These are usually scams.
  - Don't believe everything you see or hear. Scammers can fake caller ID numbers to make it seem like they are someone else. They also mimic official seals and other deals. Just because something looks official, it doesn't mean that it is.
  - Make sure to check other resources like BBB and your state's attorney general's office.
- For more information on this or other popular scams, visit [bbb.org](http://bbb.org).

**Boats4Kidneys.com**

Donate your Boat to help people needing organ transplants on [MatchingDonors.com](http://MatchingDonors.com)

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**BOE meeting dates**

The Lincoln County Board of Education 2021 meeting dates are follows: May 11, June 8, July 13, Aug. 10, Sept. 14, Oct. 12, Nov. 9, Dec. 14, and Jan. 11, 2022.

The meetings will be held at 7 p.m. at the Board of Education Administration Offices Building at 423 Metasville Rd.

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