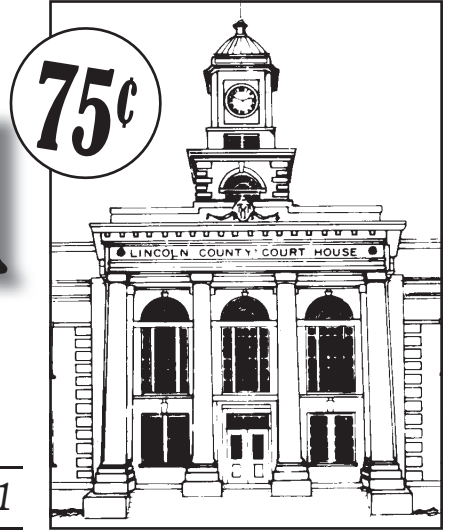


The Lincoln Journal



"To thine own self be true, and it must follow, as the night the day, thou canst not then be false to any man."

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Baseball players recognized at awards ceremony

The Lincoln County High School baseball team was recognized during an awards ceremony on Thursday, May 6. Red Devil coaches and players receiving awards were (l-r) Coach Robert McCarty, Ray Adcock - Offensive Most Valuable Player, Jack Antonakos - Most Improved, James Mattison - Coaches Award, Coach Kevin Hunt, Cole Bentley - Defensive Most Valuable Player, Peyton Rowe - Hustle Award, and (not pictured) Jackson Bryant - Best Defensive Player.

LCHS Musical Theatre to present 'Seussical the Musical' May 20-22

The LCHS Musical Theatre Department will present "Seussical the Musical" May 20-22, in the school auditorium. Performances are scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m. each evening.

With music by Steven Flaherty and lyrics by Lynn Ahrens, "Seussical the Musical" features characters from several of the much-

loved children's stories written by Theodor Seuss Geisel, known to millions as Dr. Seuss.

In essence, the musical is the story of Horton, a kind, sensitive elephant, who hears voices from a speck of dust. The voices belong to "Whos," inhabitants of "Whoville," located on the "tiniest planet in the sky." Unfortunately,

the planet, which is appropriately named "Who," is headed for disaster.

In addition to Horton, other characters are JoJo, a young boy whose imagination not only gets him into trouble but makes him a citizen of Who; Gertrude McFuzz, a rather plain-looking bird, who has a crush on Horton; and Mayzie LaBird, an ostentatious bird, who takes advantage of Horton's kindness.

As the story goes, JoJo believes in the Whos, and with the help of some of the other Seuss characters, he saves the small planet from destruction.

Cast in the leading roles are:
Bennett Ivey – The Cat in the Hat.

Ben Wade – JoJo.
Tranter Duncan – Horton the Elephant.

I'lliyah White – Gertrude McFuzz.

Anna Cox – Mayzie LaBird.
Rachel Jordan – Sour Kangaroo.
Jordan Shelton – Mr. Mayor.

Lydia Partridge – Mrs. Mayor.
TJ Bradley – General Schmitz.
Jacob Wertz – The Grinch.

Other cast members are as follows:

Wickersham Brothers and Cadets – Cameron Miller, Gavin Heitmann, Lincoln O'Neill, Ethan LeClerc.

Bird Girls – Gianna Anderson, Aubree Comtois, Danielle Gibbs, and Emily Starbuck

Whos – Jenna Kinzle, Anna Ruth Huffman, Brittan Johnson, Ellie Layton, Autumn Crook, Aubrey Gruber, Naomi Chiles.

Jungle Creatures - Madi Welch, Chloe Cliatt, Beatrice Jackson, Rhianna Aycock, Sydney Radford, Kara Hearst, and Abigail Dawkins
Dalton McMunn and Maura Easter are in charge of the lights and sound

The production is being directed by Randy Smith, with Carolee Hobbs serving as the musical director. Kaitlyn Dunaway and Shelby Folger served as choreographers.

Augusta artist Richard Worth was instrumental in designing and painting the set.

According to Smith and Hobbs, "This musical deals with several concepts – acceptance, individuality, prejudice, war, selfishness, and selflessness – but more than anything, the show is about the joy of using one's imagination."

Tickets must be purchased online through the Lincoln County High School's website. All seats are reserved. According to guidelines from the governor and the CDC, the school can sell only 50% of the seats each night. However, that is subject to change.

Tickets can be purchased at the door if seating increases to 100 percent, but can only be purchased with a debit or credit card or smartphone app.

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The final day to register for Pop Warner cheerleading will be this Saturday.

Registration for seventh season of Pop Warner set for this Sat.

Pop Warner football and cheerleading has returned for a seventh year in Lincoln County as an extension of East Georgia Pop Warner. Registration for the upcoming season will be held from 9 a.m.-noon Saturday May 15, at the Wilson McWhorter Financial office located at 130 Washington St, beside the Home Café. Registration is open to Lincoln County youth, ages 5-12, for football and cheerleading. Saturday will be the last day to register for cheerleading.

According to president and coach of the Lincoln County Association under the East Georgia League, Stanley Terry, this program is a beacon of inspiration for Lincoln County youth as it teaches core values such as sportsmanship, fair play, and physical fitness, while maintaining the importance of academic growth.

With hundreds of thousands of participants spread across 42 states and in several other countries, Pop Warner is considered one of the largest youth football, cheer, and dance programs around.

This year, four football age groups and four cheer age groups will participate throughout the season. There are no weight limits, so the age groups for football are designated as unlimited (U). They are 12U football for ages 11-12; 10U football, ages 9-10; 8U football, ages 7-8; and 6U football, ages 5-6. The four groups for cheer are Pee Wee 11-12, JR Pee Wee, ages 9-10; Mitey-Mites, ages 7-8; and Tiny-Mites ages 5-6. The Pop Warner Red Devils will play other East Georgia League teams such as the Augusta

United, the Harlem Bulldogs, the Lakeside Panthers, the Grovetown Warriors, the Evans Knights, and the Greenbrier Wolfpack.

The mission of Pop Warner Little Scholars is to enable young people to benefit from participation in team sports and activities in a structured environment. It strives to provide fun athletic learning opportunities for children, while emphasizing the importance of academic success. The organization strives to continue the legacy reflected in the life of the late Glenn Scobie "Pop" Warner.

As the season gears up for a football-filled fall, Lincoln County's branch is keeping the ideals of the Pop Warner organization at the forefront of its operation by seeking to develop well-rounded young men and women, who not only learn the fundamentals of football and cheerleading but also the importance of education in an atmosphere conducive to developing sound character.

Individuals and businesses who may wish to aid or volunteer with the Pop Warner program, may contact Stanley Terry at 706-401-5338 or Melanie Delancey at 706-284-4174.

Currently, nearly 325,000 children, ranging from 5-16 years of age, participate in Pop Warner-sanctioned football programs. The program seeks to inspire youth, instilling in them life-long values of teamwork, dedication, and a superior work ethic in the classroom and on the playing field. They have no tryouts, nor is there cutting of rosters. Safety is paramount, as players

Commissioners address issues with Notice of Violation letters

Over the past few months approximately 170 "Notice of Violation" letters have been mailed to property owners by the Lincoln County Department of Planning and Zoning Code Enforcement Office. Lincoln County Commission Chairman Walker Norman, Code Enforcement Officer Jim Butler, and Public Works Director Roby Seymour spoke to commissioners about recent complaints by recipients of the letters during the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners scheduled work session on Thursday, May 6.

In part the letter addresses property that is in violation of the Code of Lincoln County and goes on to list the sections of the code in violation such as, an unsafe building – by reason of inadequate maintenance, dilapidation, or abandonment; maintenance – buildings or structures shall be maintained in a safe and sanitary condition; or specific nuisances – decaying, or putrescible material that becomes offensive, overgrown vegetation, objectionable, or detrimental to the health or well-being.

The letter goes on to say the failure to comply with the notice will

result in the issue of a citation or summons to appear in the Magistrate Court of Lincoln County. Violations of County Ordinance are punishable by a fine of not less than \$100, not more than \$1000, 60-days confinement, or both, for each violation for each day that such violation continues after notice.

The recipient is asked to contact the Code Enforcement Office within 30 days of receipt of the notice to discuss a plan for correction of violation in a timely manner.

Norman explained to commissioners that while 170 letters have gone out the county has received very few complaints, most of which voiced concerns over the cost of removing or demolition. Others while in agreement with the letter, wish to salvage portions of the historic structures before demolition and require time.

The three men agreed that the county appreciates some of the historic buildings throughout the county and is not asking property owners to tear down these structures, merely clean them up.

According to Butler, most of the citations issued are for overgrown vegetation. Others are for miss-

ing windows, loose or missing tin roofs, or properties that have been listed as uninhabitable by the property owner. Abandoned structures can become a haven for criminal activity and are unsafe. The ordinances are in place to protect not just the landowner, but neighbors, and the community.

Understanding that cost is an issue, Seymour is currently speaking with the local fire departments to use some of the structures for training purposes at a minimum charge to the property owner. The regulations required to burn structures for training is still being worked out as well as scheduling for water usage.

"Planning, zoning, and ordinances are in place to protect Lincoln County and its property owners. Other surrounding counties are doing battle with companies dumping sludge because they don't have adequate protection against it," Norman said.

Seymour and Butler both agreed that helping property owners navigate through the process, whether it is a time issue, or financial issue is a priority and encourages them to call the office with their concerns at 706-359-5525.

Council acts on routine business, holds off on awarding paving bid

The Lincolnton City Council made short work of its agenda, approving the purchase of firewall upgrade for City Hall from IntelliSystem at a cost of \$2,790 and a roof repair around the chimney of Lincolnton Club House by Ray's Construction Alternative Roofing at a cost of \$3,500, during its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, May 4.

Mayor Henry Brown opened three bids to repave a portion of Rowland York Road. The bids were Garrett Paving Company, \$154,250.50; C and H Paving, \$108,675; and Reeves Construction, \$123,920.

Project Manager Larry Goolsby recommended having City Clerk Martha Jo Austin check the figures on the bids before awarding. Mayor Henry Brown could then phone poll the council to award the bid. The cost of the project would be covered by SPLOST and Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant funds.

With no committee reports, council moved on to departmental reports.

Lincolnton Police Chief Brandon Lively reported that he is currently looking at adding tasers to the officers list of carried equipment on shift, to increase officer safety. He assured council that officers would be fully trained on their use.

The report showed that the department answered 402 calls for service in April. The calls included 17 incident reports, 65 miscellaneous, eight accident reports, along with 31 citations, and 36 warnings.

Lively also indicated that he attended the Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police District 7 chiefs training in Wadley, Georgia. While attending, he was able to converse with other area chiefs of police on policy changes.

Councilman Ernie Norman commended Chief Lively and Officer Turner for handling a domestic situation he witnessed very professionally.

Fire Chief Matt Goldman's departmental report showed that the department answered one call during the month of April.

Moving on to other reports, the council reviewed the monthly planning and zoning report by Building and Code Enforcement Officer



City of Lincolnton road crew recently completed repairs on Elam Avenue.

Larry Goolsby which showed 10 building permits and one sign permit were issued during the month of April totaling \$963.75. Goolsby performed 13 inspections on building permits; performed one plat approval and held four meetings with property owners/contractors during the month.

Councilman Alana Burke stated that she appreciated the job he was doing as his workload has increased over the past several months.

Wastewater Treatment Supervi-

tor Ben Allgood's monthly report showed that the approximate influent for Lincoln County was 558,000 gallons, while the influent for the city was approximately 6.2 million gallons. Treated effluent that was discharged was a little over 6.7 million gallons. Routine facility, equipment, and grounds maintenance was performed, along with the line repairs, and the clearing of clogged sewer mains. Sam-

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Wilkes Publishing Co. owners announce plans for retirement

Wilkes Publishing Co. owners have announced that they will retire within the next few months. While there are no current arrangements for the continuation of their newspapers, *The Lincoln Journal* and *The News-Reporter*, a search is ongoing for a buyer. Whether an individual or investment group, the hope is that someone can be found to step in to continue the pair of legal organ newspapers.

"For a lot of reasons – business reasons, personal reasons, health reasons, and others – we have decided that it is time to let go of our two newspapers," Mary and Sparky Newsome said in making the announcement.

"It has been a tough decision that we have put off numerous times," they added.

The couple met in journalism

school at the University of Georgia while working on *The Red & Black*, student newspaper at the university. They have worked together in the newspaper business since that time, starting with *The New Glynn Reporter* in Brunswick, Georgia, at about the time they were married in 1977.

They moved to Washington in 1979 and began working at *The News-Reporter*, which had been in the family since 1967. They have been at that newspaper continuously ever since. In 1988, they purchased *The Lincoln Journal* from Tommy Drinkard and have managed it through a close remote connection for 33 years.

Through the course of their 44 years in the business, the Newsomes have published, to date, 4,002 editions together.