

# 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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## 65 graduate in LCHS Class of 2021

Larry Campbell Stadium welcomed a large crowd of family, friends, and supporters to cheer for and celebrate the accomplishments of some 65 seniors who graduated from Lincoln County High School last Friday, June 4.

At the top of the list were the honor graduates of the Class of 2021 who were recognized a week earlier at the school's Academic Honors Night. Those top graduates include Valedictorian Julianne Mattison, Salutatorian Jordyn Deason, Crystal Treadwell, Beatrice Jackson, Robert Bradley, Aubree Comtois, Shamayah Lockhart, Rhianna Aycock, Sasha Sullivan, I'lyiah White, Sydney Radford, Trontaisha Hawes, Gi-anna Anderson, and Benjamin Wade.

Graduating with highest honors were Lydia Partridge, Jenna Kinzle, Chloe Cliatt, Alexandria Gilpin, Madison Welch, Ethan Leclerc, Rachel Jordan, and Anna Cox.

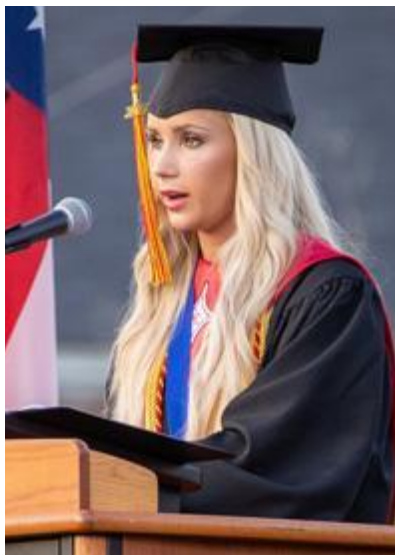
The audience rose and remained standing while the graduating class entered Buddy Bufford field to "Pomp and Circumstance," performed by the Red Pride Band.

Those in attendance were welcomed by Student Council President Jordan T'erra Norman.

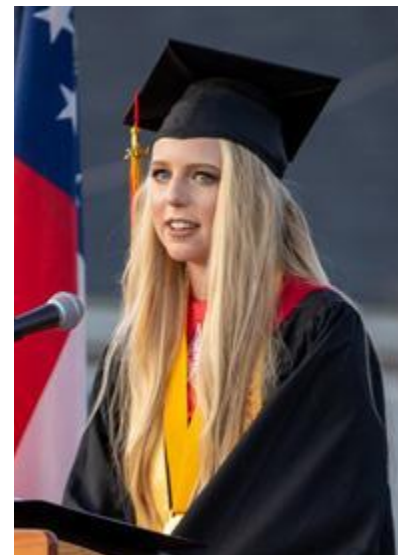
Addresses from top students including Mattison, Deason, and others were then delivered to those in attendance.

The Senior Ensemble performed "I Lived" by One Republic, followed by the recognition of scholarship recipients by LCHS Counselor India Freeman.

The certification and presentation of candidates was performed by LCHS Principal Dr. Chris Wol-



**JULIANNE MATTISON**  
Valedictorian



**JORDYN DEASON**  
Salutatorian



Family, friends, and other supporters gathered on both sides of Larry Campbell Stadium to witness the graduation exercises for the Lincoln County High School class of 2021 last Friday. (Photos by Mercer Harris)

ski, followed by the awarding of diplomas by Superintendent of Schools Dr. Samuel Light.

Honor ushers for the evening were Brynlee Bentley, Madison

Bufford, Aubren Floyd, Anna-leigh Griffith, Charlotte Hodnett, Mikenzie Norman, Emily Star-buck, Aaron Clegg, and Gaven Heitmann.



## Replacement of all water meters gets underway for city residents

The replacement of all of the water meters in the City of Lincolnton is ready to begin, Mayor Henry Brown announced during the regular meeting of City Council on Tuesday, June 1.

According to Brown, the work will be completed over the next three months by Brooks Brothers Construction and will include a new automated meter reading system which will improve accuracy and allow the city to read meters quickly.

Brown wants residents to know that access into homes will not be necessary. Most meter replacements can be performed without the contractor leaving the road right-of-way.

In some cases, however, water meters are located on private property. In these cases, the City will contact residents to arrange for the contractor to move the water meter off of private property, and to the street right-of-way.

The replacement work, in most cases, will require approximately 15-20 minutes to complete. The contractor will attempt to let customers know that the water will be turned off briefly. If the contractor cannot reach the homeowner, they will check the meter to make sure water is not flowing before the water is turned off.

The cooperation of water customers will be needed to complete the project, Brown said. Any questions customers have should be directed to City Hall at 706-359-3239.

The cost of the project will be

paid using a low interest loan and principal forgiveness from the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority State Revolving Fund.

Brown also informed city council that meetings will go back to "in-person" beginning Tuesday, July 6.

"I just want to let City Council and department heads know that we are going back to normal sessions beginning in July.

I'd like to thank everyone for the sacrifices they have made, and the work they have done, on behalf of the city during the last year. Things are starting to wind down and get back to normal, so this will be the last meeting to call in. Starting next month, it will be back to usual," he said.

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.

Lively's monthly report showed that the department answered 428 calls for service in May. The calls included 20 incident reports, 64 miscellaneous, three accident reports, along with 26 citations, and 42 warnings.

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

The council reviewed the month-

ly planning and zoning report by Building and Code Enforcement Officer Larry Goolsby which showed seven building and one moving permits were issued during the month of May totaling \$514.50. Goolsby performed 10 inspections on building permits and held six meetings with property owners/contractors during the month.

Wastewater Treatment Supervisor Ben Alligood stated that he, Travious Jones, and Darrius Jenkins have been busy working on laying the waterline on the Claire Drive project. At the end of May approximately 400 feet of line had been laid and a hook-up for a resi-

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**PERRY SMITH**

## Smith will speak at SAR's meeting on June 7, at 6:30

United States Air Force Major General Perry M. Smith Jr., retired, will be the guest speaker at the Little River Chapter Sons of the American Revolution meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 17, at the Lincoln County Historical Society pavilion located at 147 Lumber Street.

General Smith served 30 years in the U.S. Air Force, many of those as a fighter pilot flying 180 combat missions over Vietnam and Laos. As a young boy, he and his family witnessed the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941.

Smith is a teacher, author, and television and radio commentator. He spends much of his time teaching corporate executives, MBA scholars, government and military leaders, church groups, and non-profit organizations. His subjects include leadership, ethics, strategic planning, heroism, innovation, and dealing with the media. Smith has lived in Thailand, Germany, France, Italy, and Turkey and his travels have taken him to more than 100 nations.

Since moving to Augusta in 1990, he has been active in community affairs including raising funds for the river rooms of Saint Paul's Church, the new Fisher House, the Kroc Center, the Boy Scouts, the Heritage Academy, and the Augusta Museum of History.

A former board member of the Augusta Kiwanis Club, he has been an effective recruiter of new members. Recently, the club, in recognition of his leadership, presented him with the George Barrett Award. Smith serves as president emeritus of the board of trustees for the Augusta Museum of History and served on the board of the Augusta Warrior Project from 2006 until 2016.

The General Perry Smith Parkway was dedicated in his honor in 2011. When completed, this parkway will provide access to a new industrial park which will be adjacent to the Augusta Regional Airport.

Smith is married to the former Connor Cleckley Dyess, daughter of Lieutenant Colonel Jimmie Dyess, U.S. Marine Corps. Dyess is the only person to have earned American's two highest awards for heroism, the Medal of Honor and the Carnegie Medal.

The public is invited to attend.

## Wilson will be guest speaker at Martin's 100th anniversary

The community is invited to join the congregation of Martin's Crossroads Congregational Holiness Church as it celebrates the church's 100th anniversary on Sunday, June 13. The worship service will begin at 10 a.m. followed by lunch in the fellowship building.

During the service, general officials, former pastors, charter members of the church, and those who were called into the ministry from the Martin's Crossroads Church will be recognized.

The guest speaker for this special occasion will be Bishop Ronald Wilson, who pastored the church from 1994-1997. A second-generation minister in the Congregational Holiness Church, Bishop Wilson is the son of Rev. and Mrs. Vernon Wilson. Bishop Wilson's father was an ordained minister of the Congregational Holiness Church for 69 years.

Licensed with the Congregational Holiness Church in 1972 and ordained in 1974, Wilson discovered years of fulfillment and achievement working with the Royal Rangers. His leadership and organizational abilities took him from District Commander to National Commander in his own denomination and opened many doors of opportunity in Royal Ranger organizations in other denominations.

Wilson pastored churches in North Georgia and West Carolina districts. He has served three positions on the District Presbytery while pastoring in the North Georgia District. Wilson also served two years as the World Missions Superintendent. He also held the denomination's highest office, that of General Superintendent, from 2003 to 2017. He is now serving as the First Assistant General Superintendent and also the Director of History and Archives for the Congregational Holiness Church.

Wilson and his wife, Marlene, have one child, two grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren. Marlene has enjoyed working with



**BISHOP RONALD WILSON**

Missionettes and served as the North Georgia Missionettes Director for eight years and has also served as the Minister's Wives Director for the Congregational Holiness Churches from 2003 to 2017. Wilson and his wife continue to enjoy their lifelong pursuit of seeking God and finding fulfillment in living lives of obedience to the Father's calling.

In addition to Bishop Wilson, others helping celebrate the church's 100th anniversary will be General Superintendent Bishop Stephen Phillip, Second Assistant General Superintendent Rev. Leslee Bailey, who will present a brief history of the church, as well as other general and district officials of the Congregational Holiness Church.

"The church today gives thanks to God for the great heritage which has been passed on to them. We are reaping the rewards of those, departed or living, who labored for this great cause. One hundred years ago, Martin's Crossroads was started with God's grace and guidance. We pray it will continue to stand strong as we preach God's Word to all who will listen," stated Rev. James James

Martin's Crossroads Congregational Holiness Church was organized in 1921. From the very beginning, the purpose of the church has been to lift up Jesus Christ to a

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