

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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Pre-kindergarten students at Lincoln County Elementary School who gathered together to celebrate the competition of the first phase of their farm-to-table garden surrounded by all those who assisted in the project were (front row, l-r) Mason Crookham, Brookelyn Mandarinini, Logan Parton, Amelia Hollimon, Swain Norman, Jaxson Crosby, Hank Wheatley, Harper Scavone, Camden Davis, Cal Davis, Jakelby Norman, (middle) Sanaa Burton, Maddox Flesner, Carrington Goolsby, Emma Kate Childs, Fulton Cartledge, McKenzie Crawford, J'Cyanna Durant, Kyson Tutt, Addi Mae Lively, Lillian Waller, (adults, back) Elizabeth Arthur, Kay Light, Betty Rivera, Cody Doran, Caden Shaufelberger, Dr. Samuel Light, Dwayne Connors and Chase McGill.

LCES farm-to-table garden project is collaboration that benefits district

Lincoln County Elementary School pre-kindergarten teacher Elizabeth Arthur took on an ambitious project this past school year with the creation of a farm-to-table garden. According to Arthur she was approached by School Nutritionist Director Kay Light about a farm-to-table garden. They were both excited and passionate about creating a program which allowed children to become immersed in an experience that gives back to their school community.

"With the full support and collaboration of LCES Principal Patty Arthur, Superintendent Dr. Samuel Light, LCHS agricultural teacher Chase McGill, and LCHS construction teacher Dwayne Connors we were able to produce a garden that benefited the entire school system.

"Students assisted the high school agriculture and construction departments in the design of the garden, planting of the seeds and

plants, and they wrote thank you notes and mailed them.

"We want this project to teach students about the entire process of developing something special," Arthur said.

With phase one complete, phase two will begin this summer with the addition of a compost bin and rain barrel to the garden.

"We will be providing our lunchrooms with organic produce and composting, while providing students with the ability to experience the process of decomposition and organic fertilization," Arthur continued.

A chicken coop is also part of the phase two design which will house the chickens which were hatched in an incubator this past spring by second grade students in Elizabeth Spratlin's and Stephanie Partridge's classes. Those students will now have the opportunity to observe the benefits of their endeavors while providing fresh eggs to the lunch-

rooms in the school district.

The plan moving forward in the fall will be to allow students in other classes the opportunity to be involved in the garden. Classes can submit essays outlining what they desire to plant and develop a schedule for how they will take care of a section of the garden. The top essays will then be submitted to the nutrition department.

"The principal and I feel that this will create a vested interest and ownership in the garden," Arthur said.

"This project has been the most rewarding of my career," she added. "To see our students running to the garden to spot what is growing, how to solve problems, what insects they can find, and excited to do more, fills my heart with joy. The outpouring of contributions and the excitement of the student body truly embraces what a small town in rural Georgia can accomplish."

Residents asked to roll up sleeves for community blood drive July 10

Shepard Community Blood Center will host the Lincolnton Community Drive from 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. on Saturday, July 10, at Lincolnton Baptist Church.

In honor of National Ice Cream Month, which is July, Lincolnton's local Milky Way Freeze Bar has partnered with Shepard and is providing the first 30 donors at the blood drive with a coupon for a free large ice cream cone.

"The nation is experiencing an ongoing blood shortage, and Lincolnton is no exception," Shepard

Recruitment Specialist Jacquelyn Clemmons said. Shepard is currently in urgent need of all blood types, but especially O Positive and O Negative donors.

"Shepard supplies blood products to several local hospitals, so when you donate with Shepard, you are helping people in your own community. Each single donation can save up to three local lives, so please come donate if you are eligible – your community needs you," Clemmons said.

To ensure a donation is success-

ful, be sure to eat a full meal before donating, stay hydrated, and get lots of rest the night before. Donors must be in good general health, weigh at least 110 pounds, and be at least 17 years old (or 16 with written parental consent) to donate. A photo ID or Shepard donor card is required when donating. All donors will receive points to use in Shepard's Donor Store on incentives such as T-shirts or gift cards.

Lincolnton Baptist Church is located at 235 South Peachtree Street.

For more information, contact Clemmons at 706-737-4551 or visit the Shepard Community Blood Center website at www.shepard-blood.org.



MG Sprouts offers hands-on learning

Raniayah Jones (second from left) and Archer Keneson were among those present for the MG Sprouts program held at the Lincoln County Agricultural Center on Tuesday, June 15. Lincoln County Agricultural and Natural Resources Agent Robyn Stewart (far right) assisted by volunteer Mel Talbert (far left) explained the use of plant markers in the garden. Hands-on activities included designing their own plant markers using popsicle sticks or plastic spoons and creating watering cans. Stewart also read the book *Jacks Garden* by Henry Cole. MG Sprouts meets every Tuesday from 11 a.m. – noon at the agricultural center on Rowland York Road.

County approves temporary general fund, misc. budgets

A temporary General Fund Budget of \$6,888,967.80 for Fiscal Year 2022 was approved at a called meeting of the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners on Thursday, June 17.

According to Finance Director Ernie Doss, the county is working from the same budget as last year until the tax digest is approved. The county's 2021 budget ends on June 30, and a temporary balanced budget must be approved to continue operation.

Doss stated that this budget does not include any salary increases for employees. Those changes will be made, along with any other changes, when commissioners adopt the final budget.

The temporary General Fund Budget revenues includes: Clerk of Superior Court, \$95,058; Code Enforcement, \$62,100; Community Support Services, \$29,657.52; County Extension Service, \$38,174.10; Development Authority, \$44,609.16; Elec-

tions, \$5,562; General Administration, \$1,599,527.17; Jail, \$37,000; Leisure Services, \$14,000; Library, \$71,178.24; Lincoln Center, \$7,000; Office of Emergency Services, \$333,000; Planning and Zoning, \$14,100; Probate/Magistrate Court, \$80,700; Recreation Department, \$9,450; Road Department, \$10,000; Road Department: LMIG, \$316,573.17; Senior Citizens Program, \$50,544; Sheriff's Department, \$35,050; Sheriff's Department: Specials, \$494,385.58; Tax Commissioner, \$3,436,652.58; and Transit Program, \$104,646.

General Fund Expenditures totaling \$6,888,967.80 include: Board of Commissioners, \$173,999.01; Capital, \$105,689; Clerk of Superior Court, \$176,349.87; Code Enforcement, \$39,174.87; Community Support Services, \$68,939; Coroner, \$12,832.96; County Attorney, \$34,320; County Extension Service, \$76,537.90; County Shop, \$93,065; Development Authority, \$44,609.16; Election Office, \$121,106.73; Em-

ployer Liability, \$704,216; Equalization Board, \$7,807.20; Finance Department, \$140,381.36; General Administration, \$605,893.17;

Geographical Information Systems, \$44,404.50; Jail, \$758,525.56; Leisure Services, \$21,223.84; Library: Local, \$167,331.19; Lincoln Center, \$16,565.97; Office of Emergency Services, \$905,734.81; Planning and Zoning, \$24,031.93; Probate/Magistrate Court, \$188,213.68; Records Retention, \$12,195.60; Recreation Department, \$128,403.92; Road Department, \$387,150.91; Senior Citizens Program, \$107,900.49;

Sheriff's Department, \$688,990.92; Sheriff's Department: Specials, \$63,576.50; Tax Assessor's Office, \$188,704.31; Tax Commissioner, \$196,095.27; Technology, \$70,560.34; Toombs Judicial Circuit, \$48,700; Transit Program, \$119,246.42; and Volunteer Fire Departments, \$29,917.25.

Commissioners also approved the Miscellaneous Fund Budget.

BOE announces new policy change to public participation at meetings

Interim Chairman D'Metric Barksdale made an announcement regarding public participation during the recent Lincoln County Board of Education meeting held on June 8.

The policy identified in a previous meeting dated March 9, as BCBI, Public Participation in Board meetings, was approved with no changes. Review of minutes in April and May, also showed no revision to the policy.

The handout provided reads as follows and includes the addition of item 13:

For Individuals Desiring to Address the Board of Education

In order to preserve the orderly pursuit of business of the Board and to provide proper opportunities for legitimate and objective discussion and analysis of the issues presented, the Board adopts as policy the following procedures and rules pertaining to public participation in board meetings:

1. An appropriate amount of time will be designated for public comment on the agenda items near the beginning of each meeting, as needed to cover the item, but not to exceed 30 minutes total.

2. Any individual desiring to speak should give his/her name, address, and the name of the group, if any, that he/she is representing. The individual should speak to the board, not the audience.

3. Each speaker shall not exceed three minutes, unless an extension

of time is granted by a majority vote of the board. The presentation should be as brief as possible, yet should include all information considered important by the speaker.

4. If a group has presented a matter, others speaking on the same subject shall usually be limited to one minute each and are asked not to repeat the same ideas.

5. Questions, suggestions, proposals, or criticisms that have been presented verbally should also be submitted, when practical, in writing and should be signed by the individual or spokesperson of the group appearing before the board.

6. Persons appearing before the board are reminded, as a point of information, that members of the board are without authority to act independently as individuals in official matters.

7. Any person concerned with an administrative question should exhaust all administrative channels before presenting the same to the superintendent and/or board. See Board Policy KN regarding complaints and grievances.

8. Any personal complaint(s) of school personnel will be received in executive session only and must be in writing. These complaints must have first progressed through the established chain of command, such as personnel who are responsible for the matter in question, Level One Administra-

tor (School Principal), and then Central Office Administrator.

9. Any appeal(s) or complaints of a specific student disciplinary matter will be handled through the procedures specified in Board Policies JCE and JCEB.

10. No profane and/or vulgar language or personal abuse against any person will be permitted.

11. Questions from the board members and/or superintendent may be asked for clarification after the presentation.

12. Visitors must refrain from conversing with individual board members during business procedures.

13. Response to identified questions will be returned within 72 hours.

Journal announces an early deadline for holiday closing

In observance of Independence Day and annual vacation week, *The Lincoln Journal* will close on Friday, June 25 and remain closed through July 4.

Early deadline for the July 1 edition of *The Lincoln Journal* has been scheduled for 9 a.m., Friday, June 25, for all classified, retail, legal, and other advertisements, as well as for society and all other news items.

We wish everyone a safe and happy Independence Day.



Free breakfast, lunch served at LCHS

The Lincoln County School District continues to provide free breakfast and lunch to all children 18 and under at the LCHS cafeteria. Children can choose to eat-in or parents can pick up. Breakfast runs from 8 – 9 a.m. and lunch is served from 11 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Monday – Thursday through July 28, with the exception of July 5-8.