

Commissioners hear departmental reports

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 earlier this month by the City of Lincolnton and the Lincoln County School Board of one member each and completes the new five member Board of Elections.

Ordinance Changes to Land Division and Unsafe Buildings

The second reading of two Ordinance changes were heard and approved. The first amends Section 34-101, and waives preliminary plat requirements for "Any division of land to heirs or any division of land pursuant to a judicial partition, or any division of land occurring from foreclosure of a deed of trust; provided, however, that such exemption shall not require the county to issue permits if the resulting lots or parcels fail to meet any applicable regulations of the local jurisdiction."

Commissioners also approved the second reading of two changes concerning unsafe buildings in the county. The first, under Section 18-9, states that "All buildings or structures which are unsafe, unsanitary, or not provided with adequate egress, or which constitutes a fire hazard, or are otherwise dangerous

to human life, or which by reason of inadequate maintenance, dilapidation, obsolescence, or abandonment, are unsafe buildings. All such buildings located in R-1, R-2, R-3, and A-3 zones are hereby declared illegal and shall be abated by repair and rehabilitation or by demolition in accordance with the provisions of the Standard Unsafe Building Abatement code." Section 18-45 changes were, "All buildings or structures, located in R-1, R-2, R-3, and A-3 Zones, both existing and new, all parts thereof, shall be maintained in a safe and sanitary condition. All devices or safeguards which are required by this article in building erected, altered, or repaired, shall be maintained in good working order. The owner, or his designated agent, shall be responsible for the maintenance of buildings and structures."

Other Action

- Commissioners renewed the annual service agreement with the Greater Clark Hill Regional Library.

- Approved two estimates submitted by Trinity Lawn Care that includes the purchase of an Automate 520 model robot mower at a cost of

\$3,015, and a second contract for \$2,850 which includes yearly maintenance on the mower, trimming, detail and fall clean up services, along with fertilization and weed control on the newly installed lawn in front of the courthouse.

- Approved \$8,158 to the Georgia Forestry Commission for fire protection through June 2022.

- Renewed the annual subscription for the Court Webex System in the amount of \$59,280 funded through American Rescue Plan funds.

Department Reports

Planning and Zoning: July permits were issued for 7 new single-family homes, 1 manufactured home move out permit, 5 re-inspection/renewal/penalties; 10 alterations/renovation/addition permits; 11 accessory permits; 3 demolition permits; 1 move structure; 13 electrical; 8 HVAC; 2 solar; 3 plumbing; 2 roofing; 1 pool; and 1 well service/temp pole/irrigation permits; all permits totaling \$7335.00.

Emergency Services: Answered 105 calls with 60 transports, with an average response time of 8 minutes.

Recreation: Lincoln County Recreation Director LeTrellis Glaze reported that the Family Connections summer camp program ended on July 29; soccer season is set to begin at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, August 24, with games being played on Tuesday and Thursday at 6 and 7 p.m. Approximately 105 kids are actively participating with six teams ages 5-7 and four teams ages 8-10. Middle school softball and Pop Warner football has started practicing at the complex.

Public Works Water: July collections total \$98,596.39, which covers water, sewer, availability customers, setup, and tap fees. The department installed seven service connections and repaired four leaks on the system; performed continued maintenance on hydrants, valves, and meters; performed locates for utilities; and performed maintenance on the Savannah Bay and Pointe Shores water systems.

The next regular meeting of the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners will be at 6 p.m. on Thursday, September 9 at the courthouse.



Brie Oasen cooking with Stephanie Allen

Home Café looks to expand hours

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ham the next year, who changed the name to the Old South Café in 1952.

After selling the Lincolnton Café, the sisters moved into the new building – the current location – in July 1949, where they established the Home Café tradition over the next 21 years. The sisters finally sold out to Roy Jackson in 1970, after which the Café rotated over the next forty years to Wayne and Nancy Eppes, Dovey and Grady Reed, Lynn Blanchard, Faye Thornton, back to Dovey and Grady Reed, then to Richard Brown, Johnny Vick, Pappa's BBQ, then Richard Brown again, who just sold to Sabrina and Geoff.

"It's time for me to see more of my grandkids in Oklahoma and Florida, and be able to spend time with my wife Lisa," says Brown, as to the motive of selling the restaurant he has operated off-and-on for 21 years. "But I'm going to miss the camaraderie of my customers, friends, and employees," he added, as he now sat in the Café as a customer himself again.

Brie Oasen and partner Geoff Licalzi became interested in buying the café after visiting Lincolnton and deciding this was the place they would like to live and own a restaurant. Brie and youngest daughter Kat, along with partner Geoff moved from Fredericksburg, Virginia to run the business.

"We fell in love with Lincolnton, with how friendly everyone is here, and how quiet this community is compared to a large metro area. After taking over July 15, it



Six o'clock in the morning at the Home Café

has been wonderful how Richard's regular customers have taken us in like family."

Brie has been in the restaurant business since she was 17 at King's Dominion Amusement Park in Virginia, where she worked in food prep. She spent much of her adult years as a full-time Mom with her four children, then returned to the restaurant business with stints in multiple jobs and management at McDonalds, Wendys, Mason-Dixon Restaurant (a Home Café style restaurant in Fredericksburg), and others, always wanting to eventually own her own restaurant. "I really enjoy cooking and baking, and realized I was pretty good at it," says Brie. "We started looking at this two years ago, but I wanted to wait until all four kids were out of school."

Geoff, a Virginia native, also

comes with a background in restaurants, along with construction experience, having worked at the upscale Zumrheingarten German Restaurant in Stafford, Virginia, and the Pier 500 Sports Bar in Detroit, Michigan.

For now the new owners are intent on keeping everything exactly as is with the menu and hours, with an eye on upgrades when the situation permits. "The biggest hurdle we have right now is the same as every other restaurant in the country, which is hiring", says Licalzi. "We would like to offer extended hours of being open for breakfast and lunch six days a week as well as Sunday after church, but we have to have more people to pull that off. We are actively looking for new employees now, and will move forward as soon as we are properly staffed."



Mays assembles "Blessing Bags" for LCFP

Lincoln County Food Pantry volunteer Jayda Mays, who will be a freshman at Kennesaw State this fall, assembled "Blessing Bags" for the children of Lincoln County on Wed., Aug. 11, which were distributed on Thursday, August 12, during the pantry's bi-monthly food distribution. Approximately 75 families were served on Thursday, with the next scheduled distribution on Thursday, August 26, from 10:00 a.m. - noon at 1066 Firetower Rd.

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Nothing but smiles at Arts in the Park event

The Kenerly children, Fletcher (top photo, seated left) and Daisy created a beautiful piece of art work with the expert assistance of Lincoln Artisan member Deborah Stone (standing, left) at the Arts in the Park event held Saturday, August 14, at the Lincoln County Historical Park.

Tootsie Wright (bottom photo, standing, right) with Paint it Wright had a table full of children waiting for a lesson including Addison Marshall, Morgan Elam, and Ava Marshall. Ready to assist were (standing, back) Rozina Harris and Revenia Harris.

The Arts in the Park event is held the second Saturday of the month, which will be September 11.