

Obituaries

John Thomas Kea

Mr. John "Thomas" Kea, 85, husband of Betty Fields Kea of Holloway Rd., Lincolnton entered into the presence of his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Wednesday, August 25, 2021 after much joyful anticipation and is "home" as he liked to refer to heaven. It was their 60th wedding anniversary.

A memorial service was held on Saturday, August 28, at 2 p.m. at Morningside Baptist Church.

Mr. Kea, son of the late Leland S. and Eunarea Hall Kea was born and raised in Norristown, Ga. When he was younger, he had attended Auto Body and Fender School in Chicago. Then, he joined the Sheet Metal Workers International Association Local 027 and was a metalsmith for years at the Savannah Shipyard and Plant Vogtle. Also, he served his country in the National Guard. In 1983, he and his family moved from Rincon, Ga to Lincolnton where he was a faithful member of Morningside Baptist Church having served as Sunday School teacher, Deacon and member of the building and grounds committee.

Always joking or picking, he really enjoyed his family and friends. His hobbies included tinkering with old cars, his tractors, boating, camping at the lake, listening to gospel music, and spending time with his family. He had a deep love for the Jewish people.

He will be greatly missed by



JOHN THOMAS KEA

his wife of 60 years, Betty Fields Kea; son, Robert Thomas Kea, Sr. of Pooler, Ga.; daughters, Suzanne Kea and Joy Bailey (Kevin) both of Lincolnton; brother, Leland Kea of Sun City, Calif.; grandchildren, Robert T. Kea, Jr. (Jezzy), Jonathan G. Kea, Brittany Freeman (Austin), Kaylee Burdette (Michael), Summer Harmon, James "Matt" Harmon; 10 great-grandchildren; three nieces, and two nephews.

Memorials contributions may be made to Morningside Baptist Church or Samaritan's Purse.

Beggs Funeral Home, 200 May Ave., Lincolnton is honored to serve the family of Mr. John "Thomas" Kea.



Lincoln County Elementary School Breakfast Menu

- Mon., Sept. 6 - Fri., Sept. 10**
- Monday - Holiday, No School
 - Tuesday - Poptart, cheese stick, fruit.
 - Wednesday - Pancake on a stick, fruit.
 - Thursday - Chicken biscuit, fruit.
 - Friday - Sausage biscuit, fruit.

All breakfast menus include choice of milk, 100 fruit juice. Entrée options are: cereal bowl or cereal bar w/graham crackers. Menus subject to change due to availability.

Lincoln County Middle/High School Breakfast Menu

- Mon., Sept. 6 - Fri., Sept. 10**
- Monday - Holiday, No School
 - Tuesday - Poptart, cheese stick, fruit.
 - Wednesday - Pancake on a stick, fruit.
 - Thursday - Chicken biscuit, fruit.
 - Friday - Sausage biscuit, fruit.

All breakfast menus include choice of milk, 100% fruit juice. Menus subject to change due to availability.

AA meetings

AA meetings are held in McCormick, S.C. on Tuesday & Thursday nights at 6 p.m. in the new Senior Center located at 1319 S. Main next to Dr's office.

Celebrate Recovery Thursday

First Assembly of God hosts Celebrate Recovery every Thursday evening at 6:30 pm with a light meal followed by large group worship at 7 pm and small groups at 8 pm. First Assembly is located on the Thomson Highway. Call the church office at 359-7237 for more information.

Across The Savannah

Mississippi's Willie Morris

By TOM POLAND
tompol@earthlink.net



Several years back, I attended Edgefield's Camellia Tea. As I was leaving, a lady in a red blazer walked up. "You're that fellow who writes about the back roads of South Carolina aren't you?"

"Guilty as charged, ma'am." "Well, you need to speak to my camellia tea ladies group. We will have a delightful time."

It was Miss Henrietta Humphries, a lovely Southern lady. I thanked her and gave her my card. The next day Miss Henrietta called. "We are thrilled that you will speak to a small gathering of camellia tea ladies. Know that you will pick me up at 422 Columbia Road at 10:30 sharp. Don't be late."

Pulling into Miss Henrietta's drive, I saw her lovely magnolia. Its glossy dark green leaves returned the light just so. Miss Henrietta, bathed in morning light, stood near it.

"Good morning, you're right on time. Come, let's walk the yards."

Miss Henrietta led me among her camellias in her spacious back yard. Inside her home a surprise waited. She pointed to a wicker chair with autumn-hued floral cushions.

"Guess who sat in that chair?" "The governor?"

"Heavens, no, Willie Morris. I lived in Mississippi for a while. Sit in it."

"Willie Morris." I liked this southern writer and used a quote of his in Geographicalia, A Southland As We Knew It. "In the South, perhaps more than any other region, we go back to our home in dreams and memories, hoping it remains what it was on a lazy, still summer's day twenty years ago." He's right. We do.

I sat in Miss Henrietta's chair. I hoped to feel a connection with the Mississippi country boy who became a literary lion and editor of Harper's magazine at 32, its youngest. From country boy to Rhodes Scholar to literary phenom he went, launching William Styron's and Norman Mailer's careers along the way. Willie



I sat in Miss Henrietta's chair. I hoped to feel a connection with the Mississippi country boy Willie Morris, who became a literary lion and editor of Harper's magazine at 32, its youngest.

Morris became a major literary figure in New York City, the Big Cave as he called it. No Big Apple for Willie.

I sat and waited for literary inspiration. I leaned back, closed my eyes, and imagined baby talking, New Orleans-born Truman Capote inviting Willie to dinner. "You must come for quiche."

Writing had led me to a throne. Willie rubbed literary shoulders with Irwin Shaw, James Thurber, and William Faulkner. I waited and waited. All I felt was a lump in the cushion.

I never met Willie. Sitting in this chair was as close as I could get. Back in 1995 my photo appeared beside his in Reckon magazine. That was four years before he died. William Weaks "Willie" Morris, a Southern writer. Dead of a heart attack at 64.

I asked James Dickey what's a

Assessors board to meet

The following dates are for the 2021 regular scheduled meetings of the Lincoln County Board of Tax Assessors. All meetings are scheduled for 5:30 p.m. in the conference room of the Lincoln County Courthouse located at 210 Humphrey Street.

Any changes in meeting, dates, and times will be posted on the bulletin board of the Lincoln County Courthouse, and the front door of the Tax Assessors Office. When time allows, we will also notify *The Lincoln Journal*.

Tues., Sept. 21; Tues., Oct. 19; Tues., Nov. 16; Tues., Dec. 21.

Board of Elections dates

The Lincoln County Board of Elections meetings are scheduled for September 23, October 28, November 18, and December 16, 2021. Meetings are subject to change. All meetings are open to the public. For more information call 706-359-6126.

Southern writer. "Material written by people who are Southerners, either lifetime Southerners or those who have some association with the area and others who deal with material based on southern themes and locales and sometimes they're the same people."

Willie was the same and he loved stories that hide along back-roads. Willie had Bob Dylan's, "Highway 61," in mind when he rented a car in Memphis and drove that legendary road that sings the Delta Blues. He wrote a novel, *The Last of the Southern Girls*, and his nonfiction works included *North Toward Home*, *My Dog Skip* and *The Courting of Marcus Dupree*.

He wrote this: "I have always had a love for American geography, and especially for the landscapes of the South. One of my pleasures has been to drive across it, with no one in the world knowing where I am, languidly absorbing the thoughts and memories of old moments, of people vanished now from my life."

And he wrote this: "It took me years to understand that words are often as important as experience, because words make experience last."

Like Dickey, like Conroy, he left us too soon. He's buried in Yazoo City, Mississippi's Glenwood Cemetery 1,252 miles from New York City, the Big Cave.



Lincoln County Elementary School Lunch Menu

- Mon., Sept. 6 - Fri., Sept. 10**
- Monday - Holiday, No School
 - Tuesday - Deli sub sandwich, potato chips, lettuce & tomato, raw veggies w/dip, applesauce.
 - Wednesday - Spaghetti w/meat sauce, hot garlic breadstick, Italian garden salad, buttered corn, diced pears.
 - Thursday - Pulled pork nachos, shredded cheese/salsa, seasoned corn, tossed salad, carrot sticks, fresh apples.
 - Friday - Chicken sandwich, lettuce & tomato, potato chips, baked beans, sliced peaches, cookies.

All meals include a choice of milk, 100% fruit juice. Entrée options are: pizza or peanut butter and jelly sandwich. Menus subject to change due to availability.

Lincoln County Middle/High School Lunch Menu

- Mon., Sept. 6 - Fri., Sept. 10**
- Monday - Holiday, No School
 - Tuesday - Chicken Alfredo, hot garlic breadstick, Italian garden salad, green beans, fruit mix.
 - Wednesday - Ranch chicken wrap, tossed salad, carrot sticks w/dip, fried okra, fresh apples.
 - Thursday - Spaghetti w/meat sauce, hot Texas toast, romaine garden salad, buttered corn, diced pears.
 - Friday - Grilled chicken sandwich, lettuce & tomato, potato chips, baked beans, sliced peaches, chocolate chip cookie.

All meals include a choice of milk, 100% fruit juice. Entrée options are: chef salad, pizza or peanut butter and jelly sandwich. Menus subject to change due to availability.

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WHITE HARDWARE
NAA MEMBER

SUNSET AUCTION COMPANY, INC.
Auction dates: In-House "estate liquidations":
September 4th & 18th
All auctions start at 6 p.m.
For more information visit sunsetauctioncompany.com
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Gartrell named Player of the Week

Lincoln County Red Devil player Tevin Gartrell #5 received the "Austin Parks #44 Strong Player of the Week" award for his outstanding performance against Bryan County.

The #44 STRONG award was presented by #44 Strong event photographer. Photo by Carolyn Zellars.

NOTICE

THE LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION DOES HEREBY ANNOUNCE THAT THE MILLAGE RATE WILL BE SET AT A MEETING TO BE HELD AT THE LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION BUILDING LOCATED AT 423 METASVILLE ROAD, LINCOLNTON, GEORGIA, ON SEPTEMBER 14, 2021 AT 7:00 PM, AND PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF O.C.G.A. 48-5-32, DOES HEREBY PUBLISH THE FOLLOWING PRESENTATION OF THE CURRENT YEAR'S TAX DIGEST AND PROPOSED LEVY, ALONG WITH THE HISTORY OF THE TAX DIGEST AND LEVY FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

CURRENT 2021 TAX DIGEST AND FIVE YEAR HISTORY OF LEVY

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
COUNTY WIDE SCHOOL						
REAL & PERSONAL	288,233,216	286,479,564	293,126,607	289,970,328	296,614,157	345,323,643
MOTOR VEHICLES	10,437,220	7,998,990	6,575,140	5,683,900	5,005,410	4,370,870
MOBILE HOMES	2,933,055	3,004,855	2,991,331	2,882,167	2,573,252	2,571,148
TIMBER - 100%	2,024,770	2,448,759	1,282,234	1,652,353	1,380,027	2,199,952
HEAVY DUTY EQUIPMENT	246,044	0	9,155	11,376	8,343	5,206
GROSS DIGEST	303,874,305	299,932,168	303,984,467	300,200,124	305,581,189	354,470,819
LESS M & O EXEMPTIONS	41,012,403	42,200,622	41,552,761	40,768,193	41,119,893	43,804,314
NET M & O DIGEST	262,861,902	257,731,546	262,431,706	259,431,931	264,461,296	310,666,505
STATE FOREST LAND						
ASSISTANCE GRANT VALUE	983,874	972,079	1,027,824	0	0	0
ADJUSTED NET M & O DIGEST	263,845,776	258,703,625	263,459,530	259,431,931	264,461,296	310,666,505
GROSS M & O MILLAGE RATE	17.006	17.000	16.999	16.847	17.000	16.929
LESS ROLLBACKS	0.006	0.000	(0.001)	(0.153)	0.071	2.361
NET M & O MILLAGE RATE	17.000	17.000	17.000	17.000	16.929	14.568
TOTAL M & O TAXES LEVIED	4,485,379	4,397,962	4,478,812	4,410,343	4,477,065	4,525,790
NET TAXES \$ INCREASE	9,588	-87,417	80,850	-68,469	66,722	48,725
NET TAXES % INCREASE	0.21%	-1.95%	1.84%	-1.53%	1.51%	1.09%