

# Blethe speaks to Rotary

By MORRIS BRANSON  
Staff Reporter

David Blethe, President and CEO of Harrison Poultry Inc., spoke to the Rotary Club Thursday.

WWII veteran Harold Harrison founded Harrison Poultry in 1958 in Bethlehem, Georgia. Since 1958, the company has grown to produce over 335 million pounds of chicken per year. Blethe explained that they produce “Golden Yellow” chicken, named for the color that results from introducing marigold flowers in the feeding before slaughter. The brand is popular in Mexico, where many of Harrison Poultry products are sold.

Elaborating on the challenges associated with the poultry industry, finding adequate labor ranked near the top. In July of 2021 the company was short 330 workers. Through incentives, like medical insurance and profit-sharing programs, the number of vacancies has shrunk. Employment remains a challenging issue for the company.

In 2018, Harrison Poultry Inc. began construction on an additional feed mill facility in Craw-



David Blethe speaks to the Washington Rotary Club

fordville. Chosen because of its proximity to a railroad, the location places the mill roughly within a twenty-five-mile radius of the company’s contract broiler and breeder farms. The mill structure stands at 171 feet tall. Its tallest piece of equipment stands at 208 feet. This is the largest structure in Taliaferro County, according to Blethe.

Other business at the Washington Rotary Club included introducing Amanda Christiansen, the Georgia Rotary Student (GRS) for 2022. She was accompanied by Bruce Wright from District Rotary.

Additionally, Rocky Miller is heading up a new fund-raiser. The event will involve a Corn Hole tournament. Interested volunteers must contact him.



Mans Jolly is widely considered to be one of the greatest Confederate guerrillas

## Mans Jolly to be discussed at coming Civil War Roundtable

Submitted by  
CLAIBOURNE DARDEN

Dr. Tim Drake, of Belton, South Carolina, will present “Mans Jolly, The Ultimate Confederate Guerrilla” to the Washington Civil War Round Table on Monday evening, January 24, at 6 p.m. The event will be held at the Washington Women’s Club, located at 108 North Alexander Avenue.

Mans Jolly grew up on a plantation in South Carolina alongside the Native Americans who worked there. When the Civil War broke out, Mans joined the Confederate Cavalry as a scout. After the war he returned to his South Carolina home.

The “Reconstruction” era hit South Carolina especially hard. The state was heavily criticized at the time for “starting” the Civil War with the shelling and eventual capture of Fort Sumter.

During “Reconstruction,” Union Troops became lawless and uncontrollable. Destruction of property and theft were rampant. After witnessing the

situation himself, Mans Jolly retaliated against the occupying Union Forces. Using tactics he had learned from the Native Americans he had grown up with, it can be said that Mans Jolly is the perfect example of “don’t get mad, get even.” He was later dubbed the greatest Confederate Guerrilla of all time.

Claibourne Darden, Round Table President, has invited and welcomed the public to this event. Attendance cost is \$15 per person. The price includes a buffet dinner. Reservations should be made as soon as possible by email at cdarden43@gmail.com, or by calling (404)210-5811 and leaving a message.

Membership in the Washington Civil War Round Table is open to anyone who is interested in The War Between the States. New members can join at the meeting.

The 2022 annual membership fees for the Washington Civil War Round Table are now due. Prices remain the same, \$25 for an individual and \$35 for families. Fee payments will be accepted at the meeting.



Zumba classes will be offered by certified instructor Tiffany Weser on Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m. and the first Saturday of each month at 8:30 A.M. at the Curry Colvin Rec Complex Gymnasium, 1962 Rowland York Dr., Lincolnton. Classes are \$5 per class or \$15 per month.

Send notifications of community events for this column and for the W-W Chamber of Commerce calendar of events to [online@news-reporter.com](mailto:online@news-reporter.com) and [washingtonwilkesevents@gmail.com](mailto:washingtonwilkesevents@gmail.com). or drop them off at *The News-Reporter* office, 23 W. Robert Toombs Ave. in Washington.

The Wilkes County Sunday School Union meetings have been canceled until further notice.

## Grace Butler of Tignall named to Wheaton College Dean’s List

Wheaton College student, Grace Butler of Tignall, has been named to the Dean’s List for the Fall 2021 semester.

To earn Dean’s List honors at Wheaton, an undergraduate student must carry 12 or more credit hours and achieve a 3.5 grade point average or higher on the 4.0 scale.

Wheaton College is a co-educational Christian liberal arts college noted for its rigorous academics, integration of faith and learning, and consistent ranking among the top liberal arts colleges in the country. For more information, visit [wheaton.edu](http://wheaton.edu).

## Yareli Hernandez named to Dean’s List at Eastern Connecticut State University

Student Yareli Lopez Hernandez, of Tignal, and a Biology major, has been named to Eastern Connecticut State University’s Dean’s List for the Fall 2021 semester.

She was one of nearly 1,300 students who were recognized for maintaining high GPAs.

To qualify for Dean’s List, full-time students must complete a minimum of 12 credits in letter-graded courses with an average GPA of 3.5 or higher in the semester. Part-time students are eligible if they’ve accumulated 15 or more credits of letter-graded course work with an average GPA of 3.5 or higher.

Eastern Connecticut State University is the state of Connecticut’s public liberal arts university, serving more than 4,300 students annually. Eastern draws students from 32 states and 10 countries. A residential campus offering 41 majors and 65 minors, Eastern offers students a liberal arts foundation grounded in a variety of applied learning opportunities.

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