



Members of the Militia Color Guard will be present for the ceremony

## Lincoln County Historical Society planning 'Heroes of the Hornets Nest' day

Submitted by  
GARY EDWARDS

February 11 will be "Elijah Clarke Day" in Lincoln County. On that day, Elijah Clark State Park will host a celebration honoring Elijah Clarke, John Dooly, and other Georgia patriots from the Battle of Kettle Creek. Due to health concerns from the pandemic, the typical living history demonstrations and the chili luncheon will NOT be held.

The traditional wreath-laying ceremony and musket salute will be held at 1:30 p.m. to honor the memory of the heroes of the Hornets' Nest from Lincoln County.

Attendees will have free entrance to the event. Multiple sponsorships from individuals and organizations have covered the typical \$5 park pass fee.

Event Coordinator Charlie Newcomer will act as Master of Ceremonies. Lincoln County Commission Chairman Walker Norman will welcome guests and read the Elijah Clarke Day Proclamation. The regional color guard and militia units will be present. In the event of inclement weather, the ceremony will be held indoors at the park. Descendants of Elijah Clarke and John Dooly are welcome and encouraged to attend and participate.

The Battle of Kettle Creek served as the first significant setback to the British Southern Strategy during the American Revolution. After a largely successful campaign in New England, resulting in the occupation of New York City, the British shifted their focus to the South. Taking Savannah and Augusta, the Englishmen expected to swiftly conquer Georgia, South Carolina, and North Carolina. Hoping to recruit loyalist from the backcountry, Colonel Boyd led an expedition through Georgia and South Carolina. With about 600 loyalists having been recruited, Boyd camped on the banks of Kettle Creek in Wilkes County on February 14, 1779. He was approximately 8 miles west of Washington, Georgia.

Tracking the loyalists, roughly 300 patriots, led by Colonel Pickens (of South Carolina), Colonel John Dooly, and Lieutenant Colonel Elijah Clarke, finally overtook their target. A decisive victory was had for the Patriots. Boyd was killed in the fighting and his force diminished by almost half. The survivors retreated, eventually rejoining the main British Army.



Reenactors fire a volley

Though a small battle in context, the exchange at Kettle Creek signaled an early change in the Southern Campaign.

Following Kettle Creek, John Dooly was murdered and buried near his home place in September of 1780. That land would become Elijah Clark State Park. John Dooly's son, John, became a judge and politician in post-war Georgia, and Dooly County is named after the elder John Dooly.

Elijah Clarke continued to fight. His service saw him wounded frequently. He contracted but survived smallpox, and later the mumps. Despite his circumstances, Clarke survived, eventually serving in the Georgia State Assembly. His son, John Clark, served as Governor of Georgia.

People and organizations that want to commemorate Elijah Clarke and John Dooly by laying a wreath must contact Charlie Newcomer, the event coordinator, by email at canewcomer33@gmail.com. Letters can be mailed to Charlie Newcomer, 1601 Spartan Ln., Athens, GA 30606. A special "Penny Wreath Program" is available for those who do not have a wreath but wish to participate.

The event has many sponsors. They include the Elijah Clark State Park, the Friends of the Elijah Clark Park, the Atlanta, Athens, Little River and William Few Chapters of the SAR, the Elijah Clarke Chapter of the DAR, and the Lincoln County Historical Society. The Lincoln County Historical Society offers a special thank you to Hall Productions – Charles Hall and family, members of the Coweta

Falls Chapter SAR, who have graciously provided the sound system for this event.

Elijah Clark State Park is in Lincoln County Georgia, east of Lincolnton at 2959 McCormick Highway. For questions or information about the event or Elijah Clark State Park, call the park's front desk at (706) 359-3458.

### Bailey Ballard graduates from Georgia College

Bailey Ballard, of Crawfordville, graduated from Georgia College in December 2021.

Georgia College, the state's designated public liberal arts university, combines the educational experience expected at esteemed private liberal arts colleges with the affordability of public higher education.



The Pope Center, contact the City of Washington at 706-678-3277 or visit City Hall located at 102 E. Liberty Street.

Are you about to turn 65? Need help with Medicare? The Wilkes County Senior Center offers free help through the Georgia Cares State Health Insurance Assistance Program every first Wednesday from 10 a.m.-noon. The next session will be held at the Senior Center on Wednesday, January 5. For additional Medicare counseling services, call 866-552-4464 and select option 4.

The V.F.W. Post 5899 now has a community can recycling cage. Please take all aluminum cans behind the V.F.W. (240 Andrew Drive in Washington) and drop them into the cage for recycling purposes.

Services at the Episcopal Church of the Mediator are now being conducted by Rev. John Keeler of the Elberton Church thru March. Everyone is invited to coffee at

10:30 a.m. in the Parish House prior to church services that begin in the sanctuary at 11:15 a.m. The Mediator is located at 212 E Robert Toombs Ave and messages may be left at 706-678-7226. Look for the red door.

The Roy L. Burns Senior Citizen Center schedule: January 5-Exercise at 10 a.m. January 6-Bingo at 10 a.m.

Yard Sale at Roy C. Burns Senior Center, 108 Marshall Rd Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Stephen's House Food Pantry (God's Marketplace) is open every third Thursday of each month, 3-4:30 p.m. at The Sanctuary Church, 1365 Tignall Road. For more information, contact the church office at 706-678-3423.

The Episcopal Church of the Mediator welcomes Rev. John Wheeler to conduct services thru March while Father Bob is away. Currently, masks are required and spacing also applies. Coffee hour has been suspended also due to Covid protection. Mediator is located at 212 E. Robert Toombs Avenue and you may leave messages on the office phone. Members and visitors are encouraged to attend. Look for the red door.

QUALIFYING FEES FOR 2022 GENERAL PRIMARY WILKES COUNTY, GEORGIA	
OFFICE	AMOUNT
Chairman-Board of Commissioners -	\$1678.57
Board of Commissioners-District 3 Member	\$72
Board of Commissioners - District 4 Member	\$72
Board of Education -District 1 Member	\$72
Board of Education -District 2 Member	\$72

**NOTICE OF INTENTION TO  
INTRODUCE LOCAL  
LEGISLATION**

Notice is given that there will be introduced at the 2022 regular session of the General Assembly of Georgia a bill to amend an Act recreating the Board of Commissioners of Wilkes County, approved April 17, 1975 (Ga. L. 1975, p. 2979), as amended; and for other purposes.

**WILKES COUNTY  
TAX COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE  
will be  
CLOSED  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8  
for training**

**Looking for a great career opportunity?**

**Relyant Communications is hiring!**

We are looking for quality team members to train and work as technicians on our Installation and Repair Team and our Construction Team. Telecommunications, IT, or utility technical experience is preferred, but we will train quality candidates with the desire to learn and be part of a dedicated team.

If you are interested, please contact us at 706-678-2121 or email us at: relyantjobs@relyantcommunications.com.



A small cannon is fired to commemorate the occasion

*Independence United Methodist Church*

Invites Everyone to Attend

*Sunday Worship Service 9:30 a.m.*

*Sunday School 10:30 a.m.*

247 Independence Street  
Tignall, Georgia

Pastor: Michael Poplin  
706-474-2718 (text please)  
mpoplin59@gmail.com