

# Charlton County Historical Society offering 'Stump Stories' dinner theater

The Charlton County Historical Society and Charlton County High School Theater Company invite the community to "Stump Stories", an original dinner theater production celebrating America's 250th anniversary and Charlton County's vibrant history.

Written by Carolyn DeLoach and directed by Natalie Newvine and Katy Ruth Huling, the show features monologues from six real historical figures, each sharing their story from a single stump on

the historic Traders Hill Pavilion stage—site of an 18th-century trading post and the original county seat along the St. Marys River.

The characters include Ya'Holo (Lower Creek warrior, 1793), Captain William Cone (frontier militiaman, 1812), Samuel Hannans (free man voting for the first time, 1866), William T. Chesser (swamp settler, 1870s), John Allen "Blackjack" Johnson (Traders Hill merchant, 1890s), and Lydia Smith Stone ("Queen of the Okefenokee," early 1900s). A

modern 10-year-old girl, Katie, ties the past to the present.

Enjoy a catered dinner by Cane Pole Café at 7:00 p.m., followed by the 45–60-minute performance at 8:15 p.m. on Friday, April 24, and Saturday, April 25, 2026, at Traders Hill Pavilion in Folkston.

Advance tickets: \$27 online at <https://charltoncountyhistoricalsociety.square.site/> or \$25 in-person/by mail. Call 912-276-2998 or email [charltonhistoryandmore@gmail.com](mailto:charltonhistoryandmore@gmail.com).

Supported by Oke-

fenokee Rural Electric Membership Corporation, Joe & Julie Hopkins, Southeastern Bank Community Foundation, Andrew Gowen, The Farm at Traders Hill, Blackwater Vineyards, Cane Pole Café Catering and Senator Mike Hodges.

"Stump Stories" is a living tribute to our shared history, performed on the very ground where it unfolded," said Carolyn DeLoach, Executive Director.

About the Charlton County Historical So-

ciety Preserving Charlton County's heritage through the History Museum, events, and

programs. For more: 912-276-2998 or [charltonhistoryandmore@gmail.com](mailto:charltonhistoryandmore@gmail.com).

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“ See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey. ”  
Matthew 21:5 (NIV)

### The Choice of Peace

When Christ entered Jerusalem, as we celebrate on Palm Sunday, he was greeted by excited and joyous crowds. A further acknowledgement of the historical circumstances surrounding this event from scripture leads to great reflection on the Gospel. History tells us that as Jesus humbly entered the city from the east on a donkey, the Roman governor Pontius Pilate would have been entering the city from the west alongside an intimidating display of Roman military power (likely including a parade of soldiers clad with iron and war horses). This historical juxtaposition serves as a powerful reminder of Christ's message of peace and how we can apply it in our everyday living. Importantly, we know that Christ entered the city in service to those who worshipped His Father, as a King living among us, leading humanity on the path to salvation. Conversely, Pilate entered the city in service to the Emperor Tiberius, seeking to display the full array of military power which the empire possessed. In our own lives, as we approach a disagreement or rough situation, do we choose to lead a procession of "might," perhaps one characterized by anger or vitriol? Or, do we choose to approach these matters following the path of humility which Christ showed us how to embark on?

—James Stone

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