

Letters To The Editor

Please help!

DEAR EDITOR:

The new year has passed and now its tax refund time. The Care Cottage-New Beginnings is in desperate need of your help. Please help us to restock our shelves and tables with your donations of furniture, clothing for men, women, and children of all ages, household items, and financial contributions. We have a desperate need of baby clothes and furniture and whatever else these bundles from God need. We have had to turn people away because we have nothing left to give them.

Your donations maybe dropped off at 132 Pearl Road Twin City Georgia 30471. And please make your financial donations out to Care Cottage-New Beginnings of the previously mentioned address. We are a 501 C3 Nonprofit Organization and everything goes directly to those in need.

RITA WHITE AMERSON
JOSEPH AMERSON
Twin City

Please return my 4-wheeler!

DEAR EDITOR:

On March 14, someone came in my yard and stole two 4-wheelers. One of them belonged to me. My name is Chapman Wilson and I am 9 years old. I want my 4-wheeler back. It's a green 110 Zoom 4-wheeler. The other 4-wheeler was my daddy's

* Shipp

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ing crisis, partly triggered by the imprudent lending practices in their own backyards. Several prominent lawmakers, led by Speaker Glenn Richardson, continued to pound the table in favor of massive tax cuts even as state revenues sagged and a recession appeared inevitable.

While the Legislature remains in session and on the verge of chaos, Gov. Sonny Perdue packs his bags for an extended trip to China.

And state Rep. Ron Sailor, who had played a key role in torpedoing the lending regulations, waves goodbye to the cameras as he departs the

and it was a red Honda 4-wheeler. I have had some rough times in my family. I hope whoever did this will own up to it and return the property that does not belong to them.

P.S. I will be praying for you that you will do the right thing.

CHAPMAN WILSON
Adrian

Why no umpires?

DEAR EDITOR:

I'd like to know why a county with a AAA school system can't make sure official umpires show up for a baseball game. Such was the case in Swainsboro on Friday at the ECI-Swainsboro C-Team baseball game. Come game time, no umpires- not even one. There were umpires for the Jr. Varsity game, and the Varsity game, but not the C-Team game. Why couldn't they take one of the two umpires from the Jr. Varsity game? I realize the C-Team game was a non-region game, but don't they deserve the same considerations as the other teams?

Luckily, they were able to find a totally "impartial" fan to come to the rescue. I won't call his name, but his son plays for the Tigers C-Team. Finally, after numerous bad calls through seven innings, the game ended with a 7-2 Tiger victory. Imagine that! I have to admit, though, that the Dawgs probably made too many errors in the field to win the game. But, had there been proper officiating,

Capitol. Sailor had resigned his House seat after pleading guilty to federal money-laundering charges. He also had set a new record for truancy in the General Assembly, having missed more than 90 percent of the votes in that body.

Ironically, Sailor will be remembered most for a single committee vote he cast in 2003. Sailor, a Democrat, cast the deciding vote on the House Banking Committee to gut Barnes' law restricting predatory lenders.

One might wonder whether some old-timers had lost their voices and their memories as they watched in silence while Perdue and his allies ripped apart regulations to protect consumers. The governor

I believe the game would have been a lot closer.

You know, I guess I should have accepted the "unofficial" umpire's offer to let me call the game. Yep, in the very first inning, after the first of his numerous bad calls, over a hundred ECI faithful responded negatively to his called strike three. I was one of those fans, and I commented that the ball was up around the batter's neck (which was true, by the way). It was just a fan making a comment, and it wasn't directed at him, or anyone else; it was just a comment. At this point, the "unofficial" umpire looked directly at me, sitting there holding my walking cane, and asked if I wanted to call the game. I told him that if I was able to stand up long enough that I would. You see, I'm disabled and can't stand for very long at a time. "Alright then", he said, "you need to hush."

I was floored, astonished, and needless to say, very embarrassed. Of all the many ECI fans who responded to his bad call, why did he direct his comments to the only one there holding a walking cane? Was it because he knew he could get away with it since I'm disabled? I'd hate to know that he singled me out because of my disability. I hope in the future an effort is made to ensure proper officiating. I'd hate for this to happen to someone else.

MIKE RIDGDILL
Twin City

had traveled this route before.

In the 1990s, then-state Sen. Perdue led the legislative charge to deregulate the sale of natural gas. As the bill sailed to passage, he promised that coming lower gas prices would be a boon to Georgia consumers. Observers at the time said Perdue enjoyed his finest days as the pied piper for gas deregulation. And look what happened. Consumers were forced to become expert in natural gas-price speculation to avoid being swamped by the ensuing high prices.

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It is not who we are

Around 814AD, there was a Roman emperor by the name of Charlemagne. When he was about to die, he ordered his men to bury him sitting upright upon his throne. They were to place his scepter in his hand, his crown on his head, a royal robe around his shoulders, and a book on his lap.

About 200 years later Emperor Othello had the remains uncovered to see if Charlemagne's orders were actually carried out. The gruesome scene they uncovered held true. The flesh was gone, the crown and the scepter had fallen, the robe disintegrated, but one bony finger pointed to a verse in the Bible that lay upon the ruler's lap. The verse was Matthew 16:26 which says, "For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?"

Was it co-incidence or had the men who buried him purposely pointed his finger to this verse? Although we may never know the answer to that question, it is interesting. Charlemagne may have been a prideful ruler and he carried that pride to his grave. But what did that pride accomplish for him? What good was it to him?

It is not who we are. It is who Jesus is. AND most especially who Jesus is in our lives.

It is not about how good I can sing, how much I know, or what I have. It is not about my looks, my talent, my money, my house, my car, or anything else that I possess. It is not about my popularity, my skills, or how many friends I have. It is not

Soybean management strategies for 2008

High soybean marketing opportunities have made soybeans a hot commodity for 2008. But even with high market prices, farmers must manage the crop to both maximize yields and maximize the economic return. Here are a few tips items to consider.

Tip number 1 is to purchase high quality, high yielding, root-knot nematode resistant soybean seed if they are available. In past years, farmers have had a wide range of high quality seed with many of the best characteristics for our area. Because of the high interest in soybean production nation-wide, seed supplies are down and seed quality may be an issue. Many seed beans are testing low in germination and will provide some additional challenges if ideal conditions are not available at planting time.

When soybean seed germination falls into the mid-seventies and below, seed vigor also falls. Low germination seed, that also has low vigor, can cause poor stands and lower yields. Low germination seeds need to be planted in the best environments possible. Adequate moisture, optimum soil temperature, and proper depth are extremely important.

Tip number 2 is associated with soil fertility. Many farmers are planting soybeans because of their low fertilizer requirements when compared with cotton and corn. Yet soybeans

Rev. Donna Ashworth



even about how much I do for my church, or how much I give to charity, or how much I do for my friends and family. All these things will all pass away and most assuredly I cannot take any of it with me. Even if I had great power and leadership, it would uselessly go to the grave with me.

As our verse today teaches, it profits me nothing if I gain the whole world and lose my soul.

It's not about us people - it's about Him! It's not about what we want - it's about what He wants!

Everything we own, everything we are, is because of Jesus Christ! He gives us the very breath we breathe. God even provides the air we breathe. Without Him we would not even exist.

We must throw the pride away and become the humble servant He wants us to be.

That statement right there goes against what most of the world believes. But it is true! We do not belong to ourselves, we belong to Him. Praise the Lord!

Now look at verse 27, "For the Son of man (Jesus) shall come in the glory of His Father with His angels; and then He shall reward every man according to His works."

What we do for Christ is not in vain. He will reward

us!

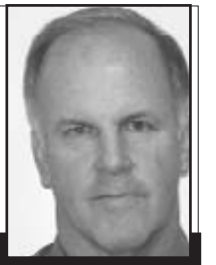
But folks - be careful. If we think we are saved by our works - that is not what the scripture teaches. We are saved by grace and grace alone. Ephesians 2:8-9, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast."

The good works we do after we are saved - are the works that earn the great rewards.

But works that are done with wrong motives or with the wrong attitudes - these will not be rewarded (not a good reward anyway). If you do good works so you can be praised by people, patted on the back, or because monetary gain is your goal then that is sin and once again pride is involved in such actions.

Charlemagne's pride went to the grave with Him. His throne, his crown, his scepter, his robe, became useless to him in death. It became a gruesome sight. If our lives are not lived in humility and service for our great King Jesus, than our lives will be just a gruesome sight in eternity.-- Rev. Donna L. Ashworth, Pastor, Lambs Chapel United Methodist Church; Pastor and Director, Bee Hive Chapel and Recovery Program.

Mark Crosby News from the Farm



need a pH of 6.0 or higher and also need large amounts of phosphorus and potassium. Soils with low levels of P and K will require 70 units of P205 and 100 units of K20. If soil P and K levels are in the high range they will still require at least 60 pounds of K20.

Tip number 3 is to inoculate your seed to help with nodulation and nitrogen fixation. If soybeans have not been planted in a field in the past 3 years, a high quality soybean inoculant is needed. Dr. John Woodruff, Extension Agronomist states that a 3 to 7 bushel increase in yield from the application of a high quality inoculant if a field has not been planted in soybeans in 3 years. Currently there are 5 ways that the seed can be inoculated. These methods include commercial seed treatments, on-farm seed treatments, insecticide box application, hopper box application. Prices for these treatments should range between \$1.50 and \$7 per acre, depending on the application method and product that you choose.

Tip number 4 is to plant

enough seed. Seed prices are up and farmers will be tempted to plant fewer seed. The University of Georgia recommendation is to plant 8 to 10 seed per foot of row in 36 inch row when the planting conditions are favorable. This is to ensure a final stand of 3 to 6 plants per foot of row. As the planting conditions become marginal, and seed germination decreases, then plant 12 seed per foot of row. Soybean seed should be planted 1 to 1.25 inches deep in moist soil.

Finally, choose a row spacing that will provide canopy closure by first bloom. For early maturing varieties or late plantings, 15 to 30 inch row spacings should work the best. For tall growing beans planted in favorable conditions, the best row spacings will usually be 24 to 36 inches. Don't forget about ripping under the row. Our soils respond to deep tillage that breaks the hard-pan under the rows and allows the roots to develop properly.

For more information on planting soybeans in 2008, call the Emanuel County Extension Office at 237-1226.

Art in the Stillmore Woods

Along with spring, brighter sunshine, warmer weather and flowers blooming, each year at this time another eagerly anticipated event occurs. Yes! It is Art in the Woods! On Saturday March 29, the Stillmoreroots Group invites us to experience art in the unique setting of a managed pine forest in Stillmore. This gathering in the woods which challenges the artist and the viewer by taking art into the environment has become an annual tradition—this is the sixth.

From 10 am until dusk, people can wonder through the trees and the art installations. All of the art is interactive. Merely walking into the installations, you become part of the art. In past years, the experience has been heightened as you are asked to participate in other ways. To add to the enjoyment, live music is played from 3-4:30pm. Local favorites, Alan Brasher, Jeb Cameron and Ron Ellison perform songs appropriate to the setting. There is a reception, artist talk and tour which will begin at 5pm.

It is amazingly difficult to express the feelings that come from attending this event, being a part of the



gathering that celebrates art, community and nature. Seeing the art, watching the people experience the work, sitting in the woods listening to the music, there is a certain peacefulness that comes to me. There is also a sense of adventure or discovery as I explore the various pieces; and the enjoyment of being out-of-doors and in the forest and sharing it with other people. And Pride—I am proud that this brave band of artists is a part of our community, establishing new ways to participate in art.

The Stillmoreroots Group is made up of artists Melissa Cartaya, Bridget Conn, Jean Gray Drake, Anthony Faris, Bryan Ghiloni, Nick Nelson, Desmal Purcell and Brandon Tatum. Currently a resident of the town, Desmal is the most Stillmore-rooted. It is his grandparent's farm that is the site for the event.

Five of the Stillmoreroots' eight members moved in the fall of 2005 to work in conjunction with the local community of Swainsboro. Participants in the Art Incubator program of Georgia Rural Economic Development Center at East Georgia College, they set up studios in the Emanuel Arts Center, and became members of the Emanuel Arts Council and the Emanuel Artists Guild and were instrumental in establishing Arts Emanuel. Desmal is the arts professor at East Georgia College. Bryan is co-director of the Gallery RFD; Anthony has recently become Swainsboro's Director of Downtown Development; and Bridget teaches at East Georgia College and Augusta State. Jean Gray has since moved to Statesboro to further her studies. The group's newest member, Mel lives in Swainsboro.