

The Courier Herald

Wednesday, March 7, 2012

YOUR NEWSPAPER

news@courier-herald.com • www.courier-herald.com

Drawer B, Court Square Station, Dublin, Georgia 31040 • 272-5522

Volume 98, No. 56, Pub. No 161860

75 cents



47th Annual St. Patrick's Festival Events

St. Patrick's Memory

Walk for Seniors

March 8 (10 a.m.)

Dublin Mall

Sponsor: AFAC

Irish Blessing for Alaska

March 9

Pine Forest Church

Sponsor: Pine Forest Church

Easter Seals Middle Georgia/Century 21 Durden & Kornegay Golf Classic

March 9

Tee Off: 1 p.m.

Sponsor: Easter Seals

Middle Georgia/Century 21 Durden & Kornegay

St. Patrick's Dog Walk & Costume Contest

March 10 (10:30 a.m.)

Stubbs Park

Cost: \$15 entry fee

Sponsor: Dublin-Laurens Humane Society

Library Used Book Sale

March 10 (10 a.m. until 2 p.m.)

Laurens County Library

Sponsor: Laurens County Library

Miss Emerald City Pageant

March 10 (4 p.m.)

Admission: \$5 adults, children 12 and under, \$3.

Theatre Dublin

Sponsor: DLCRA

Little Miss Colleen Pageant

March 10 (2 p.m.)

Admission: Free

Dublin Mall

Sponsor: Dublin Mall

Baby Erin Go Bragh Contest

March 10 (9 a.m.)

Admission: \$5 adults, children 12 and under, \$3

Theatre Dublin

Sponsor: DLCRA

Bird House Contest

March 10-16

Admission: Free

Dublin Mall

Sponsors: Long Forestry Consultants, Morris Bank, Middle Georgia Business Products and The Courier Herald

Shamrock Invitational Band Festival

March 9 (5-10 p.m.)

March 10 (9 a.m. until)

West Laurens High School

Admission: Free

30th Annual St. Patrick's Century Bike Ride

March 10 (8 a.m.)

Southern Pines Recreation Complex

Sponsor: Dublin Rotary Club

Great Vacuum deal, or scam? Find out, 3a



■ Laurens Industries Tied To \$104 Million In Port Commerce /Page 3a

Gingrich Easily Wins Laurens, Georgia

By PAYTON TOWNS III
Laurens County picked Newt Gingrich as its Republican representative for the Presidential election in November.

Gingrich received the most votes in Laurens County, out of the nine Republican candidates in Tuesday's State of Georgia Presidential Preference Primary.

According to unofficial reports from Superintendent of Elections Helen Harper, Gingrich finished with 2,119 votes

(48.13 percent). He got 1,859 from the polls, 60 from absentee by mail and 200 from absentee ballots in person.

The former house speaker

won Georgia's 76 delegates and is now in third or fourth place. Rick Santorum won neighboring Tennessee, Oklahoma and

See VOTE page 3a



Photo by Jason Halcombe

Hannon shows off some of her 'nerve pills,' which were actually nothing more than M&Ms.

'The Cracker Queen' Cracks Up Crowd At Chamber Breakfast

By PAYTON TOWNS III
Lauretta Hannon likes to laugh and tell stories. And on Tuesday, she was glad to be in Laurens County.

Her mother, who lives in East Dublin, showed Hannon a copy of The Courier Herald's Big Green Guide.

"First thing she said was 'you made page 14,'" Hannon said. "I love The Courier Herald."

Hannon, who wrote "The Cracker Queen--A Memoir of A Jagged, Joyful Life (Gotham Books in April 2009) was the guest speaker for the Chamber of Commerce breakfast at the Dublin Country Club.

"I was really impressed with all of the activities y'all have," Hannon said. "Y'all do it first class all the way. ... What's cool about being a Cracker Queen is you can be both the life of the party and the reason the police were called."

Hannon talked about stories people can find in her book. She said she grew up on the wrong side of the tracks.

"More than anything, there was laughter," she said. "It helped some of us in our family sur-

See BREAKFAST page 6a

Mullis, Adams Announce Reelection Bids Commission Approves Land Transfer

By PAYTON TOWNS III
Two Laurens County commissioners announced Tuesday they would be running for re-election this year.

D.M. Mullis (District 2) and Buddy Adams (District 3) plan to run again in their districts for the Laurens County Board of Commissioners. Districts 2 and 3 always run the years of the presidential election while Districts 1, 4 and 5 run during the year of the governor's election.

"I wanted to go ahead and make an announcement," Mullis said. "I'm happy with the economic development (in Dublin-Laurens County). It's very satisfying



ADAMS



MULLIS

to help others."

Adams agreed.

"We've brought major jobs here," he said. "We're one of the top counties in the state. So, I'll be seeking another term for the third district."

The board recognized Cal Wray, president of the Laurens County Economic Development Authority, who was in attendance to hear the board approve a property transfer from the county to the authority. The authority has a 91 acre tract near the airport, and wanted 15 acres to help attract other prospects.

"Laurens County has a bunch of property there," said county administrator Bryan Rogers. "The Development Authority needed 15 acres. We're going to take 15 acres and transfer it to them. This will help them make a more attractive

See MEETING page 3a



Photo by Jason Halcombe

They're Stuck On Band-Aid...

Fourth graders from Northwest Laurens Elementary donned white shirts, blue jeans and even band-aids as part of a special St. Patrick's program held during the school's PTO meeting Tuesday night. The program highlighted the students' recent study of poetry, and included recitations about homework, book bags and St. Pat's. For more scenes, see 8a.

Riley Holmes Named DHS STAR Student; Terry Kennedy Named STAR Teacher

Dublin City Schools is proud to announce Dublin High School's Star Student, Riley Scott Holmes, and the teacher he selected as Star Teacher, Ms. Terry Kennedy. Riley and Ms. Kennedy were recognized on February 21, 2012 at the Dublin Exchange Club luncheon. The Dublin Kiwanis Club, in conjunction with the Dublin Exchange Club, are the local sponsors of the Dublin High School STAR program. Riley is the son of Roger and Bernadette Holmes. Riley plans to attend the University of Georgia as a pre-pharmacy student. Ms. Kennedy has been employed by Dublin City Schools for 26 years where she teaches Chemistry and Honors Chemistry I and II.

The Student Teacher Achievement Recognition (STAR) Program recognizes high-performing high school seniors across



Georgia and the teachers they select as having been the most influential and instrumental in their academic careers. In more than five decades, the STAR Program has honored more than 22,000 high school seniors and the teachers they selected to share in their recognition. Since 1994, the Professional Association of Georgia Educators Foundation Inc. has coordinated the state STAR program along with the Georgia Chamber of Commerce and the Georgia Department of Education. The Star Student program is recognized locally throughout the state by designated civic clubs. For more information on the overall Star Student program, visit the Professional Association of Georgia Educators (PAGE) Foundation.



Riley Holmes And Terry Kennedy

Index

Obituaries 2a
Editorial 4a
Weather..... 5a
Hometown..... 7a

Sports 1b,2b
Fun Page 4b
Lifestyle 1c,2c
Classifieds 4c,5c

Pitts 210 North Jefferson St.
TOYOTA SCION
www.PittsToyota.com • 478-272-3244



YOUR HOMETOWN TOYOTA DEALER
LOOKING FOR A GREAT NEW OR PREOWNED VEHICLE?
STOP BY TODAY!

Breakfast

Continued from 1a

vive. The book is funny and I hope you think it's funny. On the other hand, it's pretty serious."

Hannon talked about a time where Southern Living wanted to do a feature on her. When that didn't work out, the magazine sent her 24 questions to answer.

She wanted to know if all 24 responses would be run. In the end, the editorial board only ran 12.

Hannon said anyone could be a Cracker Queen and gave examples of what it meant to be one.

"You may be a Cracker Queen if your me-maw believes wrestling is real, but the moon landing was fake," Hannon said. "She said that it was done in a TV studio."

Hannon's book contains some pages of real crime digests taken from The Courier Herald. She said it's good "when you can read the crime reports and it's relaxing."

"I love this town," Hannon added. "I'm happy to be among you. I'd love to live here one day."

Hannon has been a commentator on National Public Radio's "All Things Considered," where her stories have been shared with 25 million listeners. Since 2000, she has been known for her Georgia Public Radio stories celebrating strong, authentic Southern women.

Hannon, who is from Powder Springs, received an award in 2009 from the State Archives for her work documenting the African American history of the town.



Photos by Jason Halcombe
(Above): Hannon jokes as Chamber Chairman Ted Short and Miss St. Pat's Heidi Locke look on. Hundreds attended Tuesday's breakfast.



GET ONLINE THIS SUMMER

Start earning your degree, diploma or certificate online this summer. Learn from any location with a computer, at your own pace, on your schedule. These programs offer a majority of classes online, saving you time and money:

Associate of Applied Science Degrees

- Accounting
- Business Administrative Technology
- Computer Support Specialist
- Criminal Justice Technology
- Early Childhood Care and Education
 - Paraprofessional Specialization
 - Program Administration Specialization
 - Infant/ Toddler Development Specialization
 - Exceptionalities Specialization
- Internet Specialist Web Site Design
- Networking Specialist
 - Microsoft Specialization
 - CISCO Exploration Specialization

Diplomas

- Business Administrative Technology
 - Business Admin. Assistant Specialization
- Computer Support Specialist
- Criminal Justice Technology
- Internet Specialist – Web Site Design
- Networking Specialist
 - Microsoft Specialization
 - CISCO Exploration Specialization

Technical Certificates of Credit

- Administrative Support Assistant
- Child Development Specialist
- Comp TIA A+ Certified Tech Prep
- Criminal Justice Technician
- Early Childhood Care and Education Basics
- Health Care Assistant
- Infant/Toddler Specialist
- Internet Specialist Web Site Developer
- Microsoft Excel Application Specialist
- Microsoft Office Application Specialist
- PC Repair and Networking Technician
- Tax Preparation Specialist

ENROLL NOW and complete your financial aid and student loan applications before April 30th for Summer Semester.

Call, click or visit OFTC today!
admissions@OFTC.edu
(800) 200-4484 or (478) 274-7842
www.OFTC.edu

OCONEE FALL LINE TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Dublin-Sandersville-Louisville-Sparta-Helena-Online
OFTC is a Unit of the Technical College System of Georgia and an Equal Opportunity Institution.

WE'VE DOUBLED OUR INTERNET UPLOAD SPEEDS.

CHARTER INTERNET EXPRESS

15 MBPS FOR

\$19⁹⁹/mo

FOR 12 MO. WHEN BUNDLED*

We know the Internet is a two-way street, so we've increased both our upload and download speeds.

Now you can upload 50 pictures in four-and-a-half minutes, or upload a 90 MB video in four minutes.

No wonder PC Magazine ranked us the #1 Internet Service Provider in the Nation. If you don't already have Charter Internet, [call 1-888-GET-CHARTER](tel:1888GETCHARTER) or visit charter.com/power.

THIS MUCH POWER COULD GO TO YOUR HEAD.

©2012 Charter Communications. Limited-time offer, valid to qualified residential customers only who have not subscribed to applicable service within the previous 30 days & have no outstanding obligation to Charter. *Purchase of additional services required; price rolls to \$29.99/mo in months 13-24; standard rates apply after 24 months. Available Internet speeds may vary by address; small percent of customers will receive lower than advertised speeds. Taxes, fees, surcharges, equipment, install extra. Service is subject to all applicable service terms & conditions, which are subject to change. Services not available in all areas. Restrictions apply. PC Magazine Report 9/11.