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1992, July - August

Ray City Community News

Vol. 3 No. 3

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Ray City Community News

Vol. 3 No. 3

July August September
Published by Ray City Community Development Council

Quarterly

July 4th Homecoming Celebration

By Terri Staines

The Homecoming Committee has planned a dynamite program for the July 4th Homecoming Day on Saturday, July 4th. Since this is Leap Year, the theme will be "Sadie Hawkins Day." This is the time when the girls ask the guys for dates, dances, and yes, even propose marriage. Look out fellows!

To help celebrate the theme, there will be a costume contest with judging at the city park at 8:30 p.m. Guys should wear frayed cut-off jeans or overalls, sleeveless t-shirts, high top boots without socks, or barefoot, bright bandanas and straw hats. Girls should wear midriff blouses and cotton skirts. Use your imagination, dress up a little, and come join the fun.

The following schedule of activities will help you plan your fun-filled day beginning with the parade at 9:00 a.m. and concluding with the street dance that ends around midnight.

Schedule of Activities

9:00 A.M.-Until - ARTS & CRAFTS, Held in the city park, \$20.00 per space. Jeane Camp, chairperson, 455-2022.

10:00 A.M. - PARADE, Begins at elementary school, ends at city park. Della Purvis, chairperson, 455-4802.

11:30 A.M. - REGISTRATION FOR HORSE SHOW, Held on Pauline St., across from school, \$1.00 per entry, per event. Donna Sue Stalvey, chairperson, 455-6806.

12:00 Noon - WELCOME CEREMONIES, Held in senior citizens center at city park.

12:30 P.M. - HORSE SHOW, Six events, pony class and four age classes, ribbons and high point trophy.

12:30 P.M. - GAMES, Held at city park, for children and youth, 25 cents per event. Diane Herring, chairperson, 455-4050.

1:00 P.M. - HORSE SHOE TOURNAMENT, Held at city park, singles and doubles, \$2.00 entry fee. J.D. Cone, chairman, 455-2168.

4:00 P.M. - SENIOR CITIZENS PICK-IN, Held at senior citizens center, bring your instrument and join in. Inez Mers, chairperson, 455-3742.

4:00 P.M. - VOLLEYBALL GAMES, Held at city park, no charge, church group competitions. Diane Herring, chairperson, 455-4050.

8:30 P.M. - SADIE HAWKINS COSTUME JUDGING, Held at city park.

9:00 P.M. - FIREWORKS

9:30 - 12 P.M. - STREET DANCE
Roped off section on Main Street, \$2.00 per person.

****Times and/or events subject to change****

****Bring your lawnchairs****



CDC Update

By Ray Register

CDC/CITY BEAUTIFICATION - The regular maintenance of our community beautification efforts is everyone's business. Most of the plants and trees which have been planted over the past two years have managed to survive. The First Methodist and First Baptist Churches' Adopt-A-Highway Program has greatly improved our community's appearance. Everyone needs to help control litter. The CDC wants to thank all persons who have contributed to making our community special and beautiful.

SENIOR CITIZENS' STUDENT INTERN - Treala Harrelson, senior Valdosta State College sociology major, has completed a student internship for the spring quarter with the Ray City community senior citizens. Our community wants to thank Treala for working with our senior adults.

Some of the senior citizens' activities included: (1) games at night, (2) indoor walking (3) decorating ceramics and manicure classes, (4) trip to Pebble Hill Plantation in Thomasville, (5) crafts, and (6) covered dish supper for the community.

The Ray City Senior Citizens Community Center's new telephone number is 455-2236. All senior citizens are encouraged to come and have fun. Beginning July 1, 1992 new programs for our senior citizens will be added. The Senior Citizens Community Center's new hours will be

cont. on page 2

CDC UPDATE
cont. from page 1

8:00 A.M. to 3:30 P.M., Monday through Friday.

The Ray City Nutritional Program at the Community Center has averaged forty senior citizens per day over recent weeks. Get involved! Help out! Volunteer drivers are needed.

Appreciation to all people who make a special effort to work together with our senior adults.

CABOOSE PROJECT - The following items have been completed since March, 1992. *cabinets in kitchen and bathroom *plumbing fixtures *central heat and air system *wall covering *electrical lights inside and outside *adjustments to irrigation system *flower beds and trees around caboose *centipede sod on entire lot *carpentry trim work inside.

July 1, 1992 is our revised target date for completing the inside of the caboose. Thanks again to all the community citizens who have helped with the Caboose Project since the beginning

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! - Our past chairman of the Ray City Community Development Council is to be thanked and congratulated for his leadership since 1988. Our community is learning that in working together, great accomplishments result. Thank you, George Skinner, for all your efforts.

Present officers effective May 1, 1992 are: CDC Chairman, Ray Register; Beautification Chairman, Jeane Camp; Communication Chairman, Terri Staines, Newsletter Editor; Residential Development Chairman, Fred Carter; Commercial Development Chairman, E.W. Wilkerson; Industrial Development Chairman, Virgil Parr.

The Mayor and City Council wishes to thank the Community Development Council and the Homecoming Committee for their hard work and commitment to improve the appearance of our town and plan events that promote a spirit of unity for the citizens of Ray City.



THE BRIGHT RED CABOOSE on Main Street, donated by Southern Railroad and restored by the combined talents of many Ray City residents, enhances the beauty of our community.

RAIN TREE HILL -- LANIER SUBDIVISION

3 miles South of Ray City -- Hwy. 125

FOR SALE

DOUBLEWIDE MOBILE HOMES

(select floor plan from factory) set-up on 1/2 acre lots

*Community Water System *Natural Gas *Cable TV

*Underground Utilities (most lots)

Dorothy Ard

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*\$1.00 & \$5.00 Money Changer

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*Engine & Tire Cleaner *Super Wax *Vending Machine Accessories

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GUARANTEED!!**

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*Complete Mobile Home Transporting *Anchoring

*Air Conditioning *Blocking & Unblocking

*Short or Long Pulls

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Owner

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Beeper # 686-6709

Lunch... At The Park

By Terri Staines

The Summer Food Service Program of the Coastal Plain Area Economic Opportunity, Inc. in cooperation with the Ray City Recreation Department is once again sponsoring a summer program just for kids called the Lunch Bunch. Running from June 8 through August 28, free lunch is available to all children ages three through eighteen in the Ray City community regardless of sex, color, race handicap or natural origin. No fee or registration is required.

Local children meet at the park from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Monday through Friday to play games, then eat a nutritious sack lunch provided by the Summer Food Program out of Lakeland.

Program Director Veronica Camon, assistant Grace Tillman, and their workers have their hands full supervising the many children who are participating in the program. They encourage all who will to come join in the summer fun.

For more information, call Veronica Camon at 455-3991.

National Day Of Prayer

Thirteen citizens of Ray City met on May 7 at City Hall to pray for our schools; our city, state and nation; and all our leaders. Pastors of Ray City's United Methodist Church and First Baptist Church led in the prayer time.

A special thanks to the Georgia Department of Transportation Safety Division for replacing all the verticle road signs with the easily read overhead signs at the intersection of Main Street and highway 125. They also expanded the turn radius at that intersection to facilitate the tractor trailer traffic southbound to Moody Air Force Base.

City's Logo

By Della Purvis
Homecoming Committee Chairperson

In 1976 Vernon Brown Vaughn, Ms. Pinkie Vaughn's grandson, was commissioned by the Homecoming Committee to design a logo for the July 4th Bicentennial celebration. This logo was to represent Ray City's past, as Ray's Mill, and present because Ray's Millpond is still a very big part of our community and way of life.

Though Mr. Vaughn's fine artistic talent, the millhouse, which is no longer standing, has been immortalized. It has been used many times in various ways over the years as the official logo of Ray City. In fact, it has found a permanent place as



part of the heading of this newsletter.

From the Homecoming Committee of 1992, and the folks of Ray City. Thanks, Brownie!



BOYD'S BARBER SHOP & Laundromat

*Complete Barber Service
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Ann's Beauty Shop

455-5041



Wolff Tanning System - Family Hairdresser
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Ray City, Georgia 31645
Matrix Products



COMMERCE

What's New

By Terri Staines

L & G EQUIPMENT SALES & SERVICE, co-owned and operated by Lucius Nix and Greg Harrell and conveniently located at 407 Patten Avenue, offers a wide variety of used tractors and other equipment for your farming needs. They also carry new and used parts. Greg says that if they don't have the part, they can get it for you. A serviceman is employed to meet all your servicing needs and even offers a welding service.

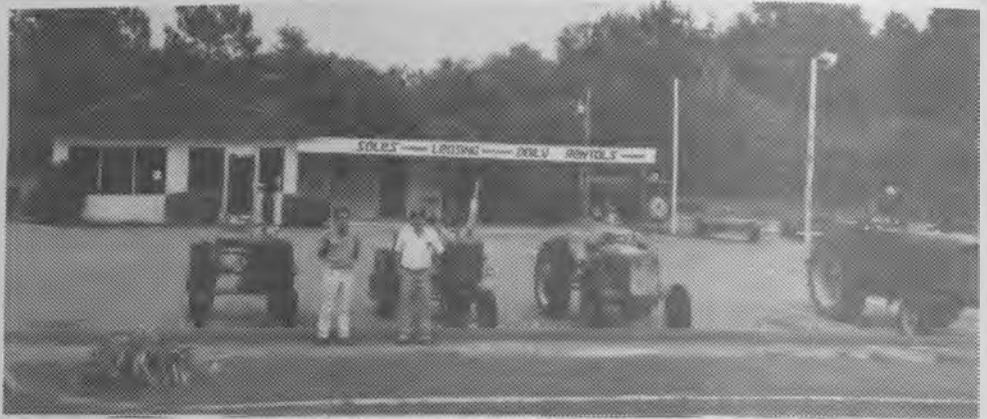
Business hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., and Saturday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. While waiting for their business phone to be installed, one may reach Greg after hours at 455-4731.

P&R SALES & SERVICE, a family business co-owned and operated by Virgil Parr and (son-in-law) Tommy Rice, has recently improved the looks of their building with vinyl siding which they also sell and install. They do residential and commercial buildings. For a free estimate, call 455-2266.

UNIQUE CRAFTS, owned and operated by Ruby Parr, is housed with P&R Sales, and is a crafter's delight. Ruby custom designs her crafts and is glad to fill special orders. Stop by and browse; you'll find something to tickle your fancy.

RAY'S MILLPOND CAFE', once a quaint waterside cafe, has through an extensive remodeling project, received dramatic yet appealing new look. Larry Booth, co-manager of the cafe, says they "felt the changes were necessary to accommodate the customers." In addition to the 75-seat dining room, new bathrooms were added and kitchen space was doubled to allow for more efficient customer service. The exterior was redesigned and vinyl siding installed by P&R Sales & Service of Ray City.

Larry emphasized that although the looks have changed, there are still "the same friendly folks and good food inside." That includes his dad, Lamar, still sitting at the counter greeting everyone with a jolly "Come in, glad to have you!"



L & G EQUIPMENT SALES & SERVICE, located in Ray City at 407 Patten Avenue. (L-R) Greg Harrell and Lucius Nix, co-owners and operators.



P & R SALES & SERVICE located in Ray City at 305 Miller Street. Pictured (L-R) is Virgil Parr and Tommy Rice, co-owners and operators.



RAY'S MILL POND CAFE' located 1 mile east of Ray City. Pictured is Lamar Booth, owner.

Unique Gifts & Crafts

*Clip this coupon & save 10% on any purchase



*Large supply of lace, ribbons, beads & other craft ideas.

*Great selection of alabaster & ceramic items

*Many handcrafts by Ruby Parr



305 Miller Street
455-2266

Ruby Parr

Mon-Fri. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sat. 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.



Wildlife Orphans

By Liz MacDonald
Wildlife Liaison

Ray City, Georgia is blessed with an abundance of wildlife, that each Spring begins to bear young in our ample woodlands, wetlands and fields. Often we come across these babies and consider them orphaned because they appear helpless and their parents are not in sight.

Also, animals might build their nests in troublesome spots in and around our workplaces and homes. The problems for people co-existing with wildlife are increasing rapidly, as we quickly encroach further into their habitats and as animals simultaneously learn to adapt to our environment.

The best solution for living in harmony with wildlife is to leave it alone. Breeding seasons are often short and the wildlife harmless. If you strongly feel animals are a hazard or could come to harm, then, please contact appropriate authorities who can give proper advice and intervene according to State and Federal laws.

The general public can not legally raise, keep, relocate or kill protected, nongame, indigenous wildlife species. According to Tip Hon, the regional wildlife superintendent for the Department of Natural Resources Game and Fish Division, these animals are confiscated and offenders can be penalized.

Hon explains wildlife is part of the public domain regulated by State and Federal government agencies. Just as hunters and fishermen must have permits to take game species, persons must have permits, such as for wildlife rehabilitation, to determine the fates of protected, non game species.

Here is a general guideline often used to help determine when young wildlife need to be rescued:

*The parent(s) is known to be dead or badly injured and the young are helpless.

*The young appear distressed, ill, weak, injured, thin and/or cold.

*Reptile and amphibian young are independent at birth and rarely need help.

*The babies are in immediate danger of being injured by human-related circum-

stances, such as being killed by a pet, drowned in a pool, or hit by a vehicle.

*Insects are flying onto or crawling on the animal.

Murky areas for rescue occur around natural predation, disasters and diseases. A helpful rule is to intervene only where you believe humanity has interfered with Nature. If you are not sure of a situation, seek out advice. For instance, songbirds leave the nest when tiny and learning how to fly. They are quite vulnerable for a few weeks. Their parents are helping them along.

The best ways to assist fledgling birds are to keep people and pets away. You can gently move them out of harm's way, such as out of the middle of a road and into a bush.

If you find young mammals or birds who have prematurely left their nests, attempt to put them back. If you can't, prepare a makeshift nest (get advice on proper construction) and place it as close to the position of the original as possible. This

option also applies when you must remove nests from troublesome spots.

You may ignore the myth parents will reject their young if you touch the babies. Parental instincts are strong and will usually recover, as long as the separation is short and the babies are healthy and easily recoverable.

In cases where reunions are not possible, put the babies in a covered, ventilated, secure box with a soft, clean towel. If the babies are not feathered or furred and feel cold to the touch, provide a hot water bottle wrapped in a towel or place the box half on a heating pad set on low. Put the box in a quiet place. Do not handle the babies or provide food, water or medical care. You should immediately find the professionals qualified to care for these animals.

Never attempt to rescue injured and/or sick adult wild animals, especially those who appear dangerous and contagious. Your local police, animal control officers, or Game and Fish Division officials should be notified.



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School Happenings

AWARDS RECEIVED

BERRIEN HIGH SCHOOL: Honor Graduate, Rhonda Chason; Nashville Woman's Club Award, Rhonda Chason; Spanish Award, Rhonda Chason; Business Education Award, Stephanie Hand; Choral Award, Julie Turner; Dr. Carter Memorial Scholarship, Mike Nazworth; STAR Student & Life of the South Scholarship, Chris Callahan.

RAY CITY EIGHTH GRADE: Honor Graduates, Jonathan Spinella, Scottie Brogdon, Stacey Clements, Erica Graham; President's Academic Fitness Award, Stacey Clements, Erica Graham; Georgia History Award, Stacey Clements; Salutatorian, Stacey Clements; Valedictorian, Erica Graham.

Leanne Stalvey and Amanda Shearl, upcoming eighth graders, are the only two

students from the State of Georgia who had "attitude boosters" (their own original or selected quotes) to be published in a school-year calendar called the POPS Calendar Plus sponsored by the Power of Positive Students International Foundation. Leanne's quote is, "School is the golden opportunity. Take it or leave it," February 25th. One of Amanda's three selected quotes is, "Forget the potholes and celebrate the journey," May 21st. The calendar will be used during the 1992-93 school year.

School resumes August 31, 1992

Summer Calendar Of Events

By Bettie Langford

July 4th

Independence Day Celebration

Sponsored by the

Homecoming Committee

July 5th

Family of Christine Outlaw's reunion

July 12

Family of J.S. Skinner's reunion

July 18

Ray family reunion

July 19

Family of George Skinner's reunion

July 25-26

Conner family reunion

August 1

Moore family reunion

August 2

Bailey family reunion

August 9

Kent family reunion

August 16

Stanley family reunion

August 30

Simpson family reunion

September 6

Mills family reunion

(Sue Mikell's Family)

September 13

Fountain family reunion

September 20

Luke and Bennett family reunions

September 27

Moore family reunion

(Mr. & Mrs J.R. Woods &

Johnny Wayne Woods family)

HOTSY OF SOUTH GEORGIA, INC.

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Sales, Service, Parts and Chemicals
Service on all makes and models.

Does your house or farm equipment need cleaning?
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*PVC Pipe & Fittings *Pressure Switches for pumps *Lawn Mower Blades
*Bug Sprays *Fertilizers *Potted Plants *Tractor Oils *NEW ITEMS
*Rug Cleaner for rent by day or weekend.
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Monday-Saturday
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400A Patten Ave.
Ray City, GA

Elect

FRED CARTER

Berrien County Commission * Post 2

I pledge honest, impartial, effective, leadership in all matters which shall come before the commission. With your support and vote in the upcoming election on July 21, 1992. I plan to do my part.

Your Candidate With Respect
FRED CARTER

paid political adv.

A Short Look At A Long History

By Terri Staines

Ray City's predecessor, Ray's Mill, was located about one mile east of the present town on Ray's millond. Mr. Thomas M. Ray, the town's namesake, operated the water powered mill that ground corn into meal and grits. It was a favorite gathering place for the men of the community to pass the time while their corn was being ground.

The original mill house was used up until around 1950, but because of safety hazards, it was torn down in the late 1970's. Ray's Mill's first post office and general store was located on the same site at the mill.

By the turn of the century, progress had moved the town to its present site. Growth was inevitable as the Georgia-Florida railroads' main line from Augusta, Georgia to Madison, Florida passed through Ray's Mill with the first passenger train moving along this line in 1908, in addition to the daily freight shipments. By 1909 the town's name was changed to Ray City and became incorporated.

With the people came the need for goods and services. Commerce began in earnest. The first established business was a blacksmith's shop and shortly thereafter came a drug store, livery stable, hardware and furniture store, meat markets, a meat curing plant and general merchandisers. There was a pecan dealer, grocery store, millinery shop, garage and gasoline station, and an ice house. A hotel, doctors'

offices, bank lumber company and turpentine distillery, a cotton gin a school, churches, a pavillion, and even a Brass Band rounded out the town. Ray City rivaled any town in the south.

Sadly enough, Ray City was not immune to the Great Depression. The economy was devastated; businesses failed, fortunes were lost. The population dwindled as Ray City lost businesses and people. Were it not for a few brave folks who felt it worthwhile to stay in spite of the hard times, Ray City would have become a ghost town. However, with the opening of Moody Air Force Base in 1940, many badly needed jobs became available to its citizens and

thus revived the city's fatigued economy.

Today we still have many of the goods and services that were offered long ago. Others may never return, yet will leave space for new and innovative trade.

Ray City has a rich history, perhaps not monetarily, but in the people whose lives and livelihood made our town what it is today. Community pride has shown itself in the outpouring of support for the Governor's Community of Pride program that has not just spruced up the town, but has made some lasting improvements that future generations will write about.

*(Historical information based on the booklet written by the late Bernard L. Johnson, A Concise History of Ray City.)

Compliments Of The Ray City Branch of the Citizens Bank

455-2111

Member F.D.I.C.

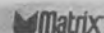


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407 Patten Avenue
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455-2021

* **Have A** *
* **Safe &** *
* **Happy** *
* **4th** *
* **Of July** *

Vote For & Elect
GEORGE SKINNER
Berrien County Commissioner
POST 1

Tuesday, July 21, 1992

Your Vote & Support Appreciated

paid adv.

Aerobics

By Gina Porter

Now's the time of year when you're feeling hot;
But, you look in the mirror and it says you're not.
You need to work on your body and soul,
So come to aerobics and get to you goal.

It's good for your heart, your health, your mind.
It'll even help firm a flabby behind.
Sit ups and leg lifts, fanny tucks and more,
We try to firm it all when we hit the floor.

Come to aerobics, you set the pace.
High or low impact, it's not a race.
Give it a chance to firm what you've got,
Two days a week is not a lot.

When you come to aerobics, we jump around.
We'll get your metabolism up, not down.
After you leave and go back home,
You'll keep burning calories on and on.

You go to the beauty shop to perm that hair;
But you'd look even better with a firm derriere.

If you want to look good in that new mini skirt,
You're gonna have to put those legs through some hurt.

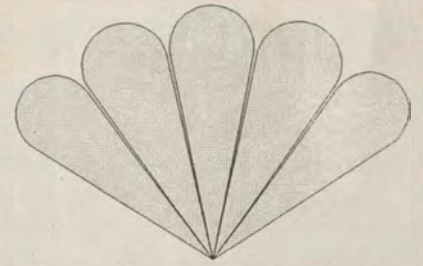
If you work real hard and get teenie-weenie,
You can even buy a brand new bikini.

Now that your skin is all tan and brown;
But your body just seems a little too round,
Come to aerobics and lose a few pounds.
You'll soon have smiles instead of frowns.

Calories, you need to burn more;
But you've got to get your feet off the floor.
If you want to melt some fat away,
Don't put it off, you should start today!

So, if you want to get firm and right,
Come to aerobics Tuesday and Thursday nights.

For more information, call Gina Porter, 455-2281.



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For
Their
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