

We Wish You a Safe and Happy Independence Day!



# THE COOSA COUNTY NEWS

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## Chamber plans future fundraiser, event participation

By Christa Jennings

Senior Staff Writer

The Coosa County Chamber of Commerce is in the early stages of planning a possible Chamber fundraiser, as well as its participation in future community events.

During its monthly board meeting this month, Chamber board members discussed the idea of having a Christmas card fundraiser. It is in the early stages of planning, with board members brainstorming about the possibilities for now.

The initial idea is to have a local artist or artists do custom art featuring local landmarks from various parts of Coosa

County. The chamber would then have cards printed through Leonard Printing Company in Goodwater featuring the local custom artwork.

The cards would then be sold in bundles as a fundraiser. More details will be available as further plans are made.

Concerning recent events, the board members also recapped the annual Hatchet Creek Festival and the Chamber After Hours event with Russell Medical Center.

Concerning the Hatchet Creek float, it was reported that they received good feedback on the Chamber's setup, with some participants saying it was the best setup ever. It was also mentioned that this was the first float for many participants,

including a group from New York. Members briefly discussed future plans for next year's event, as well.

Concerning the Russell Medical event held on June 11, they shared that it was a great success and that they had received good feedback on it. It was an informative, but casual, gathering in a "mix and mingle" fashion as guests enjoyed refreshments, learning more about Russell Medical Center and networking with other Chamber members.

For future community events, members briefly discussed the Rockin' Hawg BBQ Cookoff in Rockford on August 18 and the annual Holiday in the Country to be held in Stewartville on November 10. They discussed possible participation

in those events, with final decisions to be made later concerning the level of participation and what they can do.

It was also mentioned that on July 4, there will be a potluck dinner held at Flagg Mountain with a "Fourth on Flagg" event, with people gathering at 4 p.m. and eating at approximately 5:30 p.m.

The board also said it would resume the "Chamber Spotlight" feature in the newspaper, with this month's featured member being CodeHeight Solutions, LLC. It also reported that it had received good feedback and positive comments concerning its member logo board, which was also advertised in the newspaper, and plans to continue

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## Chamber of Commerce spotlight: CodeHeight Solutions

Special to the News

The Coosa County Chamber of Commerce is proud to spotlight Chamber member CodeHeight Solutions.

CodeHeight Solutions, LLC was founded by Josh Yates of Montgomery, Alabama, in February 2017. The company specializes primarily in consulting services for software development, cloud migrations, database management, and project management. Located in downtown Montgomery, Josh is the sole member of the company.

The company has a solid foundation based on Yates' professional experience, which began with the Marine Corps from 2000 to 2005. During his military tour, Yates excelled as an Avionic Technician with a skill set to troubleshoot, repair and replace radar jammers for the Marine Harrier aircraft.

While deployed to Iraq in 2003, he was delegated to keep track of more than 1,000 classified assets and successfully completed the mission in a highly stressful environment.

After Yates received an honorable discharge in 2005, he exhausted his GI Bill and completed a Bachelor's of Science in Computer Science from

  
**CodeHeight Solutions**



Josh Yates, owner of CodeHeight Solutions, LLC, pictured with his daughter, Ryleigh Yates.

Photo Submitted

Columbus State University. In 2008, Yates was contacted by Lockheed

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## Rockford swears in reserve officer



Town Clerk Kris Rambo swears in the town's newest reserve police officer, Lamar Taylor.

Photo submitted



Rockford Police Chief Corey Shaw, left, with reserve officer Lamar Taylor.

Photo submitted

By Christa Jennings  
Senior Staff Writer

The Town of Rockford oversaw some matters pertaining to the Rockford Police Department during the Town Council meeting last Tuesday evening.

During the meeting, Town Clerk Kris Rambo swore in the town's newest reserve police officer, Lamar Taylor. Police Chief Corey Shaw stated that Taylor had gone through training on his own time and at his own expense.

Shaw also introduced each of the additional reserve officers present at the meeting. Those were Chris Davis, William Farris and Stephen Morrison.

In other Police Department-related business at the meeting, the council approved a job posting for a part-time police officer to work 40 hours per month. This officer would primarily write tickets and fill in for Shaw when he is off duty.

During the meeting, Mayor Randall Lewis thanked Shaw and Tommy Ayers for helping him install the fence posts at the softball field. There is still more work to be done, but the town hopes that the field will be ready in the near future.

It was reported that a pecan tree at the ballfield was recently damaged by a storm. Part of the tree was cut up and hauled away by town maintenance personnel. Lewis said he would get

quotes on removing the rest of the tree and having the wood hauled away.

In other business, Lewis stated that the town had received two quotes to edge and clean the sidewalks in town. He suggested that instead, the town purchase an edger and other necessary equipment and then have the town's maintenance personnel edge and clean the sidewalks this winter.

Micah Harris, Sylacauga Chick-fil-A franchise owner, and Aimee Martin, director of marketing for Chick-fil-A, were also in attendance for the meeting and provided some food and refreshments for the council and attendees.

Harris spoke of his background with Chick-fil-A and expressed that he hopes to develop a relationship with the town for any future events in Rockford.

## Goodwater Library wraps up summer program



Special to the News

This Tuesday marked the final week for the Goodwater Public Library's annual Summer Reading Program. For this final day of the program, participating youth enjoyed story time with librarian Shirley Thompson, as well as making a craft.

Thompson would like to thank all of the people who help make the summer reading program possible. This year's

event was quite a success, and the library is already looking forward to next summer's program.

"Thanks to all the children who attended, because without them there would be no program," Thompson said. "I also want to thank all the ones who help with the SRP from the special guests to all of the workers. This year was really good, and we are looking forward to next year."

## Enjoy the holiday safely, responsibly

Special to the News

Before you take to the road for the Independence Day holiday, Alabama State Troopers would like to share the following information:

As of Monday, June 25, Troopers have investigated 273 traffic deaths.

Of those 273 individuals, 236 of them were traveling in vehicles equipped with seatbelts, but only 88 individuals were buckled up at the time of the crash.

Additionally, only one of two children

ages 3 and younger was restrained.

Therefore, State Troopers would like to encourage everyone to:

- Buckle up – no matter how short the drive!
- Focus on driving. Put aside cell phones and other items that may distract.
- Prior to a celebration involving alcohol, select the group's designated driver or plan to call a cab.

Everyone is encouraged to enjoy the holiday period, but to do so safely and responsibly.

Haynes indicated that a large reason

for the number of participants was scholarships. We asked people in the county to sponsor or assist students in going to camp. In addition, we applied for a grant through Coosa Valley Resource Conservation and Development Council that allowed us to utilize some of the funds to assist students.

We are just grateful and thankful to the following sponsors: Mr. Spencer Hardy and Mrs. Lattie Hardy, Judge Richard

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Special to the News

This year Coosa County Extension 4-H Program had 22 youth and three adult volunteers to attend 4-H Summer Camp at the 4-H Center in Columbiana, Ala.

Participants enjoyed activities such as the climbing wall, giant swing, canoeing, and paddle boarding, as well as team-building games. They also had an opportunity to learn and be creative in building certain tools for survival.

County Extension Coordinator Sharon

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