

The Lincoln Journal

"To thine own self be true, and it must follow, as the night the day, thou canst not then be false to any man."

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Devil fans go the distance

Some colorful "cheerleaders," known as the "Raw Dawgs," made their debut at the Red Devils' season opener against McCormick Friday, August 31. Covered in red and white paint, the guys serenaded fans with a variety of instruments, including a xylophone and an aluminum bucket. This Friday, the Red Devils will take on Harlem High School in Harlem. Game time is 7:30 p.m.

Sara Anne Remsen selected for apprentice dance company

Sara Anne Remsen, a senior at LCHS, is one of 57 dancers across the United States selected to join the apprentice company of the Tremaine Dance Convention organization in Los Angeles, California.

Established in 1981, the mission of Tremaine Dance Conventions is to further dance education in a positive and motivational environment through master classes with top professional choreographers from Los Angeles, New York, and other centers of dance.

Each year, the organization sponsors dance conventions in 25 cities throughout the United States. In addition to master classes, the conventions also feature competitions and a faculty dance exhibition, held the last day of the event.

As a member of the Tremaine Apprentice Company, Sara Anne is required to participate in at least five of these conventions. Her duties will include assisting the choreographers in teaching the master classes, helping with the competitions, and performing in the faculty show.

She will also have the privilege of attending workshops and choreography sessions with members of the Tremaine National Performance Company and may even be asked to serve as an understudy.

Working side by side with world-renowned teachers and choreographers such as Joe Tremaine and Julie Adler, the founders of the dance school; Doug Caldwell; and Marty Drew will prove to be invaluable to Sara Anne in her quest to become a professional dancer.

She will attend her first convention as a member of the Tremaine Apprentice Company in late October at the Westin Galleria & Westin Oaks in Houston, Texas.

Sara Anne auditioned for the company during a week-long visit to California last month. The auditions took place at the Debbie Reynolds Studio in North Hollywood.

While in California, the LCHS honor student also visited UCLA and Loyola Marymount University. Her goals are to major in math and further her dance education.

Sara Anne was bitten by the dancing bug at the age of eight when she began taking dance classes in Lincolnton from Dianne Clements, owner of August West Dance Studio. At the age of nine, she successfully auditioned for one of Clements' performing companies, and since that time, has commuted to Augusta to rehearse at least three times a week. Presently, she is a member of August West's Senior Performing Company, under the direction of dance teachers Merry Beckum and Megan Luquire.

As a result of her hard work and dedication, Sara Anne was likewise one of 16 rising juniors and seniors selected to participate in the Governor's Honors Program in dance last year. Held at Valdosta State University, the summer program is designed to provide intellectually gifted and artistically talented high school students with challenging and enriching educational opportunities not usually available during the regular school year.

According to Dianne Clements, the teenager's long-time dance instructor, "Sara Anne is the only student from Augusta West to achieve Governor's Honors status and land an apprenticeship with Joe Tremaine, who is considered a legend in the dance world."

She noted that Tremaine's organization has produced numerous first rate choreographers and dancers as well as judges and contestants for the popular television show "So You Think You Can Dance."

"To attend Governor's Honors and earn a Tremaine apprenticeship says worlds about Sara Anne's ability and where she can go with it," Clements stated. "We've only seen the tip of the iceberg — the sky's the limit for her."

Looking back, Clements said, "I recognized the talent Sara Anne had as a child and encouraged her to continue studying dance, which she did. In fact, she grew up in our organization as a performing company member — it's been a joy to watch her mature as a dancer."

Parents encouraged to join 'new' academic booster club

The LCHS Academic Booster Club will hold its first meeting of the new school year Tuesday, September 11, at 7 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

"The academic booster club has not been very active in the last few years, and we're hoping to give it a boost," said Gail Remsen, who is helping spearhead the re-organization effort.

"In order to do all that we want to do, we need to raise at least \$3,000," she continued. "We would like to raise the majority of the money by holding one big fund-raiser. Corporate sponsors are more than welcome."

During the open house held last month at LCHS, the club recruited 27 members.

"We hope to recruit more members at this meeting," stated Remsen. "With membership dues set at \$10, each new member will cut down on



SARA ANNE REMSEN

In conclusion, she stated, "Dance teaches discipline, and Sara Anne has the discipline, the dedication, the talent, and the work ethic to succeed as a dancer. She is willing to put forth the effort to realize her dreams."

Augusta West has produced Rockettes, Young Americans, Broadway entertainers, and dancers, who are employed by Disney to perform on cruise ships and at parks in the United States and Japan.

As proud as the staff at Augusta West is of Sara Anne, there are no two people any prouder than her parents, Gail and Marcy Remsen.

"This is an honor beyond measure," said Mrs. Remsen. "It is the first big step for Sara Anne in achieving her dream of making it as a professional in the dance world. We are so proud of her and happy that all of her hard work is paying off."

the amount of money we have to raise. 'Many hands make light work.'"

In other comments, Remsen said, "We have a lot of plans for this year. We don't want to just target the honor students. We want all students at LCHS to be the best they can be, and we would like to recognize them for good attendance, passing grades, and for showing improvement over the previous grading period."

Assisting Remsen and other parents in revamping the academic booster club are Dr. Becky Barden, school principal; Jeanie Smith, media specialist at LCMS/LCHS; and Brian Campbell, the system's new curriculum director, who was formerly in charge of the Lakeside High School Academic Booster Club.

In conclusion, Remsen said, "We are looking forward to all of the ad-

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Timber company files lawsuits against board of tax assessors

Forty lawsuits or notices of appeal were recently filed against the Lincoln County Board of Tax Assessors by Plum Creek Timberlands, L.P.

Plum Creek bought out Georgia Pacific and is considered the largest or second-largest landowner in the United States.

Due to the complex and specialized nature of the appeals, the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners voted to give the tax assessors the fiscal authority to hire William J. Keough III, an attorney with the Hull Firm of Augusta, to handle the case, with assistance from Britt Hammond, county attorney, and Kenny Adair, chief tax appraiser for the county.

Keough's fee is not to exceed \$155 an hour.

Moreover, Hammond will review and approve any bills from the Augusta attorney as well as issue a monthly financial statement to the commissioners.

"We're already talking about ways to keep costs down," said Hammond. "We're not concerned that this will become a big money pit — we plan to keep it reasonable. We can always stop if there is disagreement at any point."

He said he believes the firm's rates are fair, considering the level of expertise involved.

The action to give the board of tax assessors the fiscal authority to hire Keough was taken at a called meeting of the county commissioners held

Truck accident claims the life of local woman

A local woman lost her life in an accident that occurred at approximately 5 p.m. Wednesday, August 29 at the "Old Hudson Homeplace" on Hephzibah Church Road.

According to a report issued by Lincoln County coroner Paul Reviere, Iris Albea Norman, 78, was attempting to either enter or exit her truck when the vehicle apparently jumped out of gear. The door knocked her to the ground, and she was run over by the truck.

Norman was discovered by her husband, William Norman, and one of her granddaughters, who went out to check on her when she did not arrive home in a timely fashion.

The victim was pronounced dead at the scene at 5:30 p.m. by the coroner.

The accident was investigated by Reviere, the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office, and the Georgia State Patrol.

Thursday, August 30, in the conference room at the courthouse.

A copy of one of the appeals filed by Plum Creek charges that the board of tax assessors "failed to apply and execute Georgia law, resulting in the erroneous valuation of the plaintiff's property for ad valorem tax purposes. The values placed upon the property do not represent the true and accurate fair market value of said property. The grounds for this appeal include uniformity, valuation, equalization, taxability, and exemption."

According to Kenny Adair, chief tax appraiser, Plum Creek is leasing 8,000 acres of land, divided into 40 parcels, from local families for the purpose of managing the timber on the land.

"The land was valued at an average of \$1,151 per acre, which would generate a total of approximately \$92,000 in taxes — Plum Creek thinks the property should have been valued at \$482 an acre," stated the chief appraiser.

"Basically, they're suing over technical issues involved in the appraisal process," he continued. "Under the

terms of the lease, the land can be sold. However, Plum Creek is contending that the long-term lease diminishes the attractiveness of the property to potential buyers, and as a result, should receive a much lower valuation."

Adair said the timber company has asked him to look at the value of properties that have been sold while under lease, but there are not any in the state.

In other discussion, Hammond reported that he and Adair had met with representatives of the Brunswick-based law firm of Gilbert, Harrell, Sumerford, & Martin, which is representing Plum Creek in this matter. "We tried desperately to resolve the case, but we were too far apart. There was no room for resolution."

Adair said, "Plum Creek wants to pay less than the conservation rate of \$550 per acre. If I had cut it from \$1,151 per acre to \$600, the company wouldn't have accepted it."

He went on to add, "The timber

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Sixteen girls to compete for title of Miss LCHS Sept. 16

The Miss LCHS Pageant is set for Thursday, September 16, beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the school auditorium.

In addition to Miss LCHS and her first runner-up, the judges will likewise select Miss Photogenic, Miss Congeniality, Miss Freshman, Miss Sophomore, Miss Junior, and Miss Senior.

Sara Anne Remsen, the reigning Miss LCHS, will be on hand to crown her successor.

The emcee for the occasion is Brad Means, an anchorman for Channel 6 News in Augusta.

Entertainment will be provided by the LCHS Jazz Band and members of the LCHS Chapter of Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), the sponsor of the pageant.

The 16 young ladies vying for the title of Miss LCHS are:

Seniors — Ann-Anise Tanner, daughter of Audrey and Alan Austin; Marlena Mason, daughter of Mary and Marcus Mason; Amy Boland, daughter of Angie and Bill Boland; and Madison Saggus, daughter of Melody and Al Saggus.

Juniors — DeAna Parks, daughter of Bobbie Mercier; Jeree Dukes, daughter of Gerry and Jasper Dukes; Breauna Jenkins, daughter of Sharon Clark and Lorenzo Jenkins; Amanda

Scott, daughter of Ann and Russell Scott; and Amanda Gay, daughter of Lynn and Dennis Gay.

Sophomores — Jade Alenadra Deason, daughter of Debbie and Timmy Deason; Emily Hinson, daughter of Donna and Dave Hinson; and Tequilla Bussey, daughter of Carolyn Bussey and William Parks.

Freshmen — Brittany Perkins, daughter of Laura and Emerson Perkins; Taylor Dukes, daughter of Janet and Greg Dukes; Liz Dunaway, daughter of Penny and Tutt Dunaway; and Elease Matthews, daughter of Tracy and Glen Matthews.

Admission to the pageant is \$4 for high school students and adults and \$2 for middle school students and younger. Gold Cards will be accepted.

The Miss LCHS Pageant is sponsored annually by the FBLA, the premier business association designed to help high school students bridge the gap from school to work. The organization's mission is "to bring business and education together in a positive working relationship through innovative leadership and career development programs."

Janet Dukes serves as club's advisor.



Ribbon cutting ceremony held at MeMe's

A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held Thursday, August 30, at the new location of MeMe's Floor Covering in Lincoln Square, next to Bell's Food Market. Pictured are: (l-r) Dwaine Biggerstaff, mayor of the City of Lincolnton; Nancy Hohlwein, president of the Lincolnton-Lincoln County Chamber of Commerce; Sandra Gaines, store manager; Tina and Billy Adams, store owners; Nellie Peppers, interior designer; and Walker Norman, chairman of the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners.