



### Preserving history

Members of the Lincolnton Lions Club and the LCHS LEO (Leadership – Experience – Opportunity) Club volunteered their time to clean up around the historic Founders' Spring on Groves Street. The Lincolnton Historic Preservation Commission has plans to turn the area into a city park. For ways to get involved in the project, contact City Hall at 706-359-3239. Pictured are: (front row, l-r) Liz Dunaway, Taylor Dukes, Greg Dukes, (middle row) Aerial Corbett, Brittany Berrios, Kerri Seymour, Jim Butler, David Pund, Zach Bentley, Nancy Pund, and (back row) Sharon Bryan.

## Lincoln wins County Group of Five

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**Angus** – Sulecia Garcia, Oglethorpe, Champion (Fall) and McCall Houser, Oglethorpe, Reserve Champion (Winter).

**Fall Class:** Sulecia Garcia, Oglethorpe, first, second, and third; McCall Houser, Oglethorpe, fourth; Fabiola Garcia, Oglethorpe, fifth; Greg Callaway, Wilkes, sixth; Meredith Webb, Elbert, seventh; Haley Throne, Oglethorpe, eighth; and Abbey Grets, Oglethorpe, ninth.

**Winter Class:** McCall Houser, Oglethorpe, first and Shelby Eidson, Oglethorpe, second.

**Spring Class:** Shelby Eidson, Oglethorpe, first.

**Chi Influence** – Morgan Tolbert, Madison, Champion and Matt Simmons, Oglethorpe, Reserve Champion.

Morgan Tolbert, Madison, first; Matt Simmons, Oglethorpe, second; and Sammie Williams, Elbert, third.

**Hereford** – Sammie Williams, Elbert, Champion and Sara Holland, Elbert, Reserve Champion.

**Fall Class:** Sammie Williams, Elbert, first.

**Winter Class:** Sara Holland, Elbert, first and Peyton Mattox, Oglethorpe, second.

**Simmental** – Ivie Aycock, Lincoln, Champion, and Kim Chandler, Madison, Reserve Champion.

**Fall Class:** Ivie Aycock, Lincoln, first and Kim Chandler, Madison, second.

**Winter Class:** Taylor Wheless, Oglethorpe, first.

**Commercial** – Haley Throne, Oglethorpe, Champion and Kim Chandler, Madison, Reserve Champion.

**Class 1:** Kim Chandler, Madison, first; McCall Houser, Oglethorpe, second; and Gabe Strother, Wilkes, third.

**Class 2:** Stephanie Hilburn, Madison, first; Tanya Anderson, Elbert, second; and Cody Boatwright, Wilkes, third.

**Class 3:** Haley Throne, Oglethorpe, first and fourth; Ivie Aycock, Lincoln, second; Morgan Tolbert, Madison, third; and Janna Anderson, Elbert, fifth.

**Other Breeds** – Tyler Arnold, Madison, Champion and Shelby Eidson, Oglethorpe, Reserve Champion.

**Fall Class:** Tyler Arnold, Madison, first (Limousin).

**Winter Class:** Shelby Eidson, Oglethorpe, first (Shorthorn).

**Spring Class:** Natia Shonia, Madison, first (Red Angus).

**Steer Show**

Greg Callaway, Wilkes, Grand Champion (Class 4), and C.J. Goldman, Lincoln, Reserve Grand Champion (Class 5).

**Light-Weight Classes** – Matt Simmons, Oglethorpe, Champion (Class 2) and Sydney Arnold, Madison, Reserve Champion (Class 2).

**Class 1:** Presley Partridge, Lincoln, first; Haley Throne, Oglethorpe, second; and Nate Sartain, Madison, third.

**Class 2:** Matt Simmons, Oglethorpe, first; Sydney Arnold, Madison, second; and Ivie Aycock, Lincoln, third.

**Medium-Weight Classes** – Greg Callaway, Wilkes, Champion (Class 4) and Bentley Beggs, Lincoln, Reserve Champion (Class 4).

**Class 3:** Beckie Bridges, Oglethorpe, first; Ivie Aycock, Lincoln, second; Carson Goldman, Lincoln, third; and Fabiola Garcia, Oglethorpe, fourth.

**Class 4:** Greg Callaway, Wilkes, first; Bentley Beggs, Lincoln, second; Tanner Aycock, Lincoln, third; and Beckie Bridges, Oglethorpe, fourth.

**Heavy-Weight Classes** – C.J. Goldman, Lincoln, Champion (Class

5) and Reserve Champion (Class 6).

**Class 5:** C.J. Goldman, Lincoln, first; Tanner Aycock, Lincoln, second; David Bridges, Oglethorpe, third; and Haley Throne, Oglethorpe, fourth.

**Class 6:** C.J. Goldman, Lincoln, first; Greg Callaway, Wilkes, second; Stephanie Hilburn, Madison, third; Bentley Beggs, Lincoln, fourth; and Sadie Partridge, Lincoln, fifth.

**Showmanship**

**Twelfth-Grade Showmanship:** Sammie Williams, Elbert, first; Kim Chandler, Madison, second; Matt Simmons, Oglethorpe, third; Greg Callaway, Wilkes, fourth; Sulecia Garcia, Oglethorpe, fifth; and Meredith Webb, Elbert, sixth.

**Tenth and Eleventh-Grade Showmanship:** C.J. Goldman, Lincoln, first; McCall Houser, Oglethorpe, second; Beckie Bridges, Oglethorpe, third; Natia Shonia, Madison, fourth; Morgan Tolbert, Madison, fifth; Shelby Eidson, Oglethorpe, sixth; and Sadie Partridge, Lincoln, seventh.

**Eighth and Ninth-Grade Showmanship:** Tyler Arnold, Madison, first; Ivie Aycock, Lincoln, second; Stephanie Hilburn, Madison, third; Bentley Beggs, Lincoln, fourth; Haley Throne, Oglethorpe, fifth; and Abbey Grets, Oglethorpe, sixth.

Receiving honorable mention were David Bridges and Fabiola Garcia, Oglethorpe; Sara Holland, Elbert; and Nate Sartain, Madison.

**Fourth Through Seventh-Grade Showmanship:** Sydney Arnold, Madison, first; Tanner Aycock, Lincoln, second; Presley Partridge, Lincoln, third; Taylor Wheless, Oglethorpe, fourth; Janna Anderson, Elbert, fifth; Tanya Anderson, Elbert, sixth; Peyton Mattox, Oglethorpe, seventh; and Carson Goldman, Lincoln, eighth.

## Christmas morning times 100

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before curtain time, she walked on stage to check props, run around a bit, and “make peace with the vastness of the Met.”

According to Partridge, New York City was in the midst of “Blizzard Number Two,” and the roads were a mess. “I hopped in a cab and within half an hour of sliding down West End Avenue, I arrived at the Met stage door.”

After rehearsals, Partridge went to the Met cafeteria, got something to eat, and then made her way to her dressing room. “It was 6 p.m. and make-up came. I don’t remember that whole ordeal — I hardly remember getting my wig attached. But what I do remember is looking in the mirror and seeing Marie. I was Marie! The energy surge was enough to power all of Manhattan.”

“At this point, people started coming by my room — the music staff, the props people, the microphone lady, the dressers, and colleagues who needed to practice lifting me into the air. My cheerleading days at LCHS came in very handy. It seemed like Grand Central Station for a while.”

In addition to the production staff, Peter Gelb, general director for the Met, stopped by to wish her luck, and Maestro Marco Amilati, the conductor for the evening, gave her a pep talk. The maestro said: “Leah, give the audience a good time. You have a good time, and they will have a good time.”

Since Partridge had never seen the set, staff members held the audience at the door and at approximately 7 p.m., only an hour

before curtain time, she walked on stage to check props, run around a bit, and “make peace with the vastness of the Met.”

“The theater is huge but very intimate,” she said.

On the way back to her dressing room, she met the opera legend Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, who would also be performing in the production. “She was lovely and very encouraging. I bounced all the way back to my dressing room.”

Standing in her dressing room, just minutes before taking the stage, Partridge sang a verse of “Blessed Assurance,” along with a few passages from the beginning of the opera.

“I was calm,” she said. “I don’t know what happened exactly, but that mean, little gremlin, who sometimes creeps onto my shoulder when the pressure is high, took the night off. I thought I would really be frantic — I had never performed the role ever, but I was calm.”

“The next thing I knew, I picked up a pile of laundry, walked out onstage, and started singing. I was floating, beaming, and rejoicing. It was all the hard work of my entire life coming out of my body. It was all the people, who had helped me in some way, holding my hand. It was all the memories of people I miss so much there with me. It was unforgettable.”

Although the experience was somewhat unearthly, there were practical aspects as well. While on stage, Partridge thought about how glad she was she had shaved that morning and remembered to bring

her toothbrush to the theater. She also had to constantly remind herself to just breathe.

“Breathing should be simple, but it’s hard to do when the world is listening,” she remarked.

The production was broadcast live all over the world on Sirius Radio.

At the conclusion of her performance, Partridge received a standing ovation from the appreciative audience.

“It was just one of these nights — I hope I get to do something like that again. There was so much adrenaline. My brain was at full throttle. I went for it and really had a lot of fun.”

Even so, she was physically exhausted after the performance. “I was sore — I felt like I’d run a marathon.”

Once Cloud Nine landed, the singer slept for 16 hours straight.

Concerning her career at the Met, Partridge said, “I have to pinch myself all the time. I think, ‘What am I doing here at the Met?’ It’s an amazing educational experience and an incredible place to work. I’m having a great time.”

When she is not in New York or performing at different venues all over the world, Partridge and her husband, Carlos Guillen, make their home in Marietta.

The rising opera star is the daughter of Irvin and Jan Partridge of Lincolnton and the granddaughter of Melvin and Etheridge Partridge, also of Lincolnton, and the late Fortson and Janet Scott.

### City votes to proceed with road project

The City of Lincolnton held a called meeting on Tuesday, February 23.

During the meeting, the council voted to enter into executive session to discuss two personnel issues and one property matter.

Upon returning from regular session, the council voted to proceed with obtaining information for engineering proposals to complete the road by the new high school, connecting Metasville Road to Highway 378.

### Unemployment stats

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trying to find jobs.”

The current unemployment rate in Georgia is 10.3 percent.

Unemployment rates for counties in the vicinity of Lincoln County include Wilkes County, 11.5 percent; Taliaferro County, 16.4 percent; Warren County, 18.4 percent; and Hancock County, 21.4 percent.



### Wheels of life

The Lincoln County Office of Emergency Services (OES) took delivery of a brand-new Ford ambulance on Tuesday, February 23. The ambulance was built by Custom Truck and Body Works, located near Manchester, Georgia. The purchase was made possible by a \$72,000 grant from the Georgia Trauma Network. Pictured with the new vehicle are Casey Broom (l), OES director, and Wade Johnson, chairman of the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners.

**Featuring the Grill Masters Steak-Cook Off & Wine Tasting**

- All Day Activities
- Bands
- VIP Tent Dinner
- Vendors
- Fun for all Ages

**Come sample Georgia's Finest Wines!**

All tickets for alcoholic beverages must be purchased at the Chamber tent. You must be 21 or older and show proof of age along with signing a waiver of responsibility. No exceptions.

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The Lincolnton-Lincoln County Chamber of Commerce presents the Inaugural

## Georgia Grill and Chill Festival

**April 24, 2010**  
At the American Legion Post 194 Fairgrounds  
12:00pm – 7:00pm

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**2010 GRILL MASTERS COMPETITION**

Kicks off at 1:00 pm

**Deadline to enter March 8, 2010**

**RESERVE YOUR VIP STEAK DINNER NOW!**

Includes steak, baked potato, slaw, drink, & roll served only in the "VIP tent area"

**VIP Dinner Tickets—\$15.00 pp in advance \$20.00 pp at the gate\***

(\* Limited tickets will be available at the gate)

Contact the Chamber office or Director for tickets

For sponsorship opportunities, Vendor Applications, or additional Grill Master forms, Contact the chamber office @ 706.359.7970 /sbanks@lincolncountyga.com or visit our web site at [www.lincolncountyga.org](http://www.lincolncountyga.org)

Join us on FACEBOOK

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**Grill Master Rules and Regulations**

- ♦ Steaks will be judged on taste, appearance, texture, and tenderness.
- ♦ Each team will submit one steak cooked (Rare, Medium Rare, Well Done).
- ♦ All teams will be judged and the top 10 teams will advance to the finals.
- ♦ The top 10 final teams will submit another steak to be judged and the winners chosen.
- ♦ The contest for "Best Team Name" will be chosen by the judges. The winner will receive \$100 cash and will be noted in next year's promotions!
- ♦ Set-up time will begin no earlier than 10:00a.m. the day of the event. All teams must check in at the Chamber tent.

There will be a mandatory meeting at 11:00 a.m. the day of the cook-off. All grill masters must attend. If you do not attend, you do not cook, and your entry fee will not be refunded.

- ♦ Judging rulings and decisions will be final.
- ♦ There will be no unauthorized vending from your team cooking space. No selling of goods and services, etc.
- ♦ Teams must provide cooking utensils, tables, tents, seasonings, grills with gas/charcoal, chairs.
- ♦ No alcohol on premises other than that which is purchased from authorized vendors.
- ♦ Team attire mandatory.

**Grill Master Fees**

Cook-Off - \$100 per team (Includes test steaks and judging steak, water, electricity, one GA Grill and Chill Apron and entry into the "Best Team Name" contest)

**Grill Master Awards & Prizes**

- ♦ 1st Place—\$1000 and a trophy
- ♦ 2nd Place—\$500 and a trophy
- ♦ 3rd Place—\$250 and a trophy
- ♦ "Best Team Name" - \$100

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**Grill Master Entry Form**

Deadline March 8, 2010

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Chief Grill Master \_\_\_\_\_

Team Name \_\_\_\_\_

Names of Team Members \_\_\_\_\_

Method of Payment:  Check  Cash

Susan Banks  
Executive Director

LINCOLNTON-LINCOLN COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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