

Club News

Cedartown & Rome Exchange



The Exchange Club of Cedartown President Angie Moore presents a check to FRC Executive Director Tina Bartleson and Car Show Chair Buzz Wachsteter at their club meeting last Thursday to become sponsors of Rome's charity Car Show and the FRC. Prior to making the presentation Tina explained to club members the National Exchange Method for Child Abuse Prevention and using large blocks representing how everyday demands on a parent causes stress which could lead to child abuse. She also informed the Cedartown Club how the FRC is currently servicing four families from Polk County which is a first.

Buzz thanked the Cedartown Club on behalf of the Rome Club and urged them to become a regular partner of the Family Resource Center as part of the club's support of the National Project of Exchange, Child Abuse Prevention.

Exchange Club of Richmond Hill



The Exchange Club of Richmond Hill honored a few amazing first responders in the community with their annual Public Safety Officer Awards!

Congratulations to this year's recipients:

Operations Chief Michele Meacham, RH Fire Dept.

Deputy Campbell Grieninger, Deputy of the Year for Bryan County Sheriff's Office Richard Jones, Dispatcher of the Year for Bryan County Sheriff's Office Officer Rebecca Kennedy, Corrections Officer of the Year for Bryan County Sheriff's Office Officer Brenda

Tyson, Officer of the Year for Pembroke Police Dept.

Firefighter EMTB Derek Wilson, Bryan County Emergency Services Detective Jesse Gonzales, RH Police Dept.

Firefighter Joseph Waters, Firefighter of the Year for Pembroke Fire Dept.

Exchange Club of Rome



The Exchange Club of Rome had the opportunity to learn about a program that fits into local clubs program of working with youth and child abuse prevention.

Sleep in Heavenly Peace (SHP) is a national organization that began in 2012 when one man fulfilled a child's need for a bed. A Facebook post sparked interest and that one man's efforts have grown into 460 chapters in 46 states. At the end of 2022, more than 140,000 beds had been delivered.

Locally, Rome is served by the Etowah Valley Chapter. Last year they delivered 133 beds, and have already received requests for 94 so far this year. Steven Wisenberg, Co-director of the Etowah Chapter, told the club that the forecast for 2023 is 400 beds. At a cost of \$250 per bed,

they are looking for sponsorships of \$75,000 to \$100,000.

To build the beds SHP chapters organize groups for either small or large builds. They provide all the materials and equipment needed, even generators if power is not available, and the instruction for how to build the beds in an assembly line fashion. When beds are delivered, they include the bed frame, mattress, linens, comforter, and pillow. Beds are twin beds and can be set up as bunks.

Current needs of the organization are donations (either monetary or in-kind new bedding), volunteers to deliver beds, and groups to sponsor bed builds.

Exchange Club of Columbus



Exchange Club of Columbus Young Citizenship Program was a huge success this year with thier largest participation. These middle school students are well on their way to being an asset to the community. They were honored as being caring, a self-motivator, a mentor to others, displaying servant leadership, intelligent and vested in the community. We applaud all these students. Our guest speaker, Darcy Brito shared personal experiences concerning citizenship.

Exchange Club of Albany

Book of Golden Deeds Award



Each year the Exchange Club of Albany seeks to Honor those in our community who serve and give freely of their time to make Albany and the surrounding area a great place to live. The Book of Golden Deeds Award honors these individuals who strive daily to make a difference in their community!

These dedicated individuals give endless hours of their time and talents toward making their communities a better place to live. They do their work behind the

scene and do not seek any praise or fanfare.

This award was first awarded in 1919 in Huntington, Ind and by the Exchange Club of Albany for over 50 years. There are many past recipients from our community and we had a number of them with us Friday night. They included Brady Lee, A J Nobles, Gwen Knight, and Tom Geryic. Our recipient this year is Daniel Cruz. Even though Daniel has a full-time job, he is actively working to make Albany, Leesburg and the surrounding area a better place. He started the Pop Warner league in Georgia in 2011. He has been mentoring and coaching kids in our area for over 20 years.

He volunteers with Albany YMCA, Albany Rec, Worth County Rec and Lee County Rec. Daniel is also a big supporter of the Challenger League Sports Program that supports Special Need Athletes and been involved in it!

Daniel's love for young people is obvious when you see him working with them! He has the ability to make young people Believe and it is his calling and passion.

Thank you, Daniel, for all you do for our community and serving the youth in this area.

You join a long list of dedicated people who believe in helping others with no desire to be praised who have won the Exchange Club Book of Golden Deeds Award!

Exchange Club of Tifton



The Exchange Club of Tifton recognized the Class of 2023 brightest students at a special Youth of the Year luncheon held recently.

Twelve finalists, from Tift County High School and Tiftarea Academy, were recognized for their achievements and extracurricular activities throughout their high school career. The finalists were chosen from an application process, which included listing their school achievements, extracurricular activities, grade point average, as well as writing at

least one essay.

The finalists were Caroline Barksdale, Betsy Branch, Lauren Brey, Brayden Callison, Carter James Cook, Kylei Lauren Cutts, Ella Daniell, Emma Lee Daniels, Madelyn Grace Odom, Madeline Perrin, Kaitlyn Rowe and Ann Catherine Walker.

Each finalist received a plaque and small scholarship.

The 2023 Youth of the Year for the Exchange Club of Tifton is Madeline Perrin, a senior at Tift County High School. She is the daughter of Chuck and Anna Perrin. Madeline received a larger plaque and an additional scholarship. She will represent the Tifton Club in the state Youth of the Year competition.



Exchange Club of Milledgeville

Congratulations to Tanner Humphrey, the Exchange Club of Milledgeville's March Youth of the Month. Tanner is a senior at John Milledge Academy in Milledgeville. Pictured below are Tanner, MEC President Missy Swicord, and Youth Development Chair Dr. Jeff Wells.

Exchange Club of Waycross



One of the many duties of a Regional Vice President is to visit clubs in your region and also represent the NEC for special events. The Exchange Club of Waycross, Georgia has a long history of service to Waycross and is the leading service club in their area. Club President Craig Head, his leadership team and Exchange members made Cheryl and I feel like we were at our home clubs. We enjoyed the GA peanuts on returning to Charleston.

As part of the program, I presented NEC resolutions to 15 members with 25 or more years in Exchange. I want to especially recognize Harold Wilson for his 66 years of membership. Georgia District President Elect Milton Sampson shared his vision and plans for 2023-24. Devotion to the Exchange Club of Waycross runs deep. Past National President Bill Deason is the Club's treasurer.

Exchange Club of Blackshear



Check out what the Exchange Club of Blackshear is doing for the Community!

RESULTS FROM THE FOOD DRIVE.

From Brenda Sutton at the Food Pantry:

"504 Items = 531 pounds of food
+ \$373 and the blessings of the 61 cents. What an amazing food drive."

A big Thank you to ALL at
The Blackshear Exchange Club
We appreciate all the support

Exchange Club of Savannah



Congratulations to Claire Thomas on receiving the Exchange Club of Savannah Youth of the Month for March 2023 presented by Grainger Honda! Claire is an outstanding student and leader! We are so proud of you Claire!



Exchange Club of Statesboro

Statesboro was wowed by two amazing young ladies. Emma Yates from Portal Middle High and Avery White from Statesboro High shared their speeches with us and they did not disappoint. These two are definitely going to do great things! They both are competing in our Youth of the Year competition along with several other Youth of the Month competitors for a \$1500 scholarship. The Winner will be announced on April 18th.