

The Hooper Scoop



CHRISTMAS

Chairman's Reflection

The month of December becomes a hectic time for most everyone. We search for the perfect gift, plan for the perfect meal, worry about special events, never enough time to do everything that must be done. Why? One of the most important dates in Christianity is the birth of Jesus Christ. The story of a Baby born into poverty, the first child of a teenage girl, in a land of political unrest, but His birth changed the world. His birth is still changing the world and we get caught up with the spectacle and forget what we should celebrate. A Savior born to bring peace and love to a world of turmoil and hate. Stop sometime over this busy month and give thanks for the birth of this Christ child. On behalf of the Banks County Commission, we wish all staff and every citizen of Banks County a "Very Merry Christmas".



Christmas Jokes:

1. What do snowmen eat for breakfast?
2. What part of the body do you only see during Christmas?

~See answers on Page 3~

Bits from the Board



Merry
Christmas
and
Happy
New Year!!

Be Safe for
the Holidays and
SAVE YOUR
SHOEBOXES

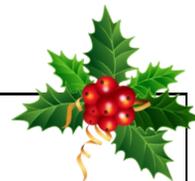
SEE THE BACK PAGE FOR DETAILS



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“KUDOS KORNER”



December Anniversaries: Yrs

Robert Bohannon	13
Geter Owens	9
Bo Purvis	9
Tyler Scroggs	9
Rachel Bond	5
Cassie Denton	5
Shawn Wilson	4
Guy Rogers	1



Who am I?



I was born in Greenwood and my wife is a school teacher.

Last month's winner : Dustin Trotter

From Arlene's Desk

Can you believe it! Only 25 days until Christmas!

As always, the big question..... When will the W-2's be ready this year? W2's along with the Affordable Care Act form 1095-C will be issued on or before January 20th. For those of you that elect to be covered by your spouse's health insurance, make sure the proper code is put on your spouse's 1095-C to avoid penalties by the IRS. Once the W-2's and 1095-C's are printed and ready for distribution for active employees, they will be given to your department. You will be required to sign for your W-2 and 1095-C. Please be mindful that it is your responsibility to maintain these forms. Forms are very expensive and reprinting them is costly and time consuming. Any requests for reprints/copies will be produced one time only – March 24, 2017.

Ride Out



December Birthdays: Day

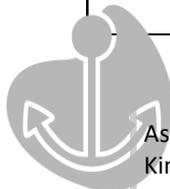
Vicki Murch	12/02
Lawrence Hulford	12/03
John David	12/04
Jody Milford	12/05
Dustin Norris	12/08
Dylan Anderson	12/08
Linda Lewallen	12/08
David Duckett	12/10
James Key	12/12
Stoney Harness	12/13
Denise Krieg	12/13
Andra Phagan	12/13
Michael Eller	12/16
Joe Williams	12/20
Chris Ammons	12/21
Kevin Cline	12/26
Bobby Eubanks	12/28
James O'Kelley	12/29



IMPORTANT:

Please make sure the information on your check or deposit verification is correct (address & etc.). Email any changes to me: aveiy@co.banks.ga.us

Welcome Aboard!



Ashley Bryant	E911	Manessah Campbell	Jail
Kimberly Carroll	Jail	Kevin Cline	Fire/EMS
Makayla Dodd	Jail	Alexia Dodson	Jail
Christopher Gilreath	Fire/EMS	Tyler Hall	Fire/EMS
Connie Morris	Sheriff		

DEPARTMENT NEWS

Jenni's Giblets

I am 56 years old. There I said it! I have seen many Christmas' and received many Christmas gifts over the years but the things I remember the most about Christmas are not things at all. I remember the year in 1972 when it came a big ice storm and I got a shiny yellow ten speed bicycle - took it out for a spin and ended up flat of my back where it slid out from



under me on the ice. You can't ride a bicycle on ice! I remember the red & white striped pajama doll I got that came with matching pajamas for me. The doll came with a sleep cap.

I always wanted to wear a sleep cap but it never was as comfortable as it looked. I slept with that doll every night in our matching pajamas.

The times that really stay in my heart are the ones that began when I was a kid.



Music was always a part of the festivities and still is. I remember when we would get together in the community and go from house to house singing Christmas carols to our neighbors.

Now, we don't even know most of our neighbors. Every year the family would present the Christmas story in some form or fashion when we gathered at my parents' house on Christmas Eve. The youngest child would always play Baby Jesus regardless of the age. Some years have been bittersweet as we lost loved ones but we have also gained new ones.

Sweet traditions live on in our hearts and a gift of presence is much more rewarding than any present one could receive. Someone else once said it well: "Remember, Christmas isn't about how big the tree is, or what's under it. It's about who's around it." This year, be keenly aware of your precious surroundings and savor the moments. If you don't

have family close by - then join friends. If you don't have friends, please let me know so you can come join my family at my house on Christmas Eve. We might let you be a shepherd or a sheep. Sorry, the roll of Baby Jesus is already taken.

Santa's Shoebox Time!

See "The Back Page" for details



Performance Evaluations

Most performance evaluations are complete. This year many new thoughts, ideas and plans came from this evaluation process. Thank you to each department head for your input and a job well done.



Bad Weather

It is hard to imagine bad weather since the temperature has been so mild this Fall. As we move into winter, please remember the telephone number the county provides for closings and weather related announcements. The telephone number is (706)677-6810. The closing of county government is not a simple issue and we make all efforts to stay open, but safety is a major concern.



Merry Christmas



Holidays
Friday, December 23rd
Monday, December 26th
Tuesday, December 27th



December Activities:



- Georgia Cares
- Christmas Dinner
- Magazine Hunt
- Christmas Shopping
- Senior Celebration-Gainesville
- Christmas Singing
- Balance Exercise
- Judy's Wellness
- Southern Pine Home Visit
- Birthday Social
- Tai Chi Exercise
- Dance
- Walking Club
- New Year's Eve Party



1. Frosted Flakes!
2. Mistletoe

DEPARTMENT NEWS



Shiny New Vehicles



At the Schools



At the Schools



Sparky at the Library

**Banks County
Department Spotlight
Fire/EMS**



At the preschool



Wow, what a difference! Who turned the light on?



Bright New Lettering



Before & After

THE REC PAGE



Congratulations to Parks & Recreation Department's **Kim McEntire**, Assistant Director & **Chase Carter**, Athletic Coordinator who have both earned their Certified Youth Sports Administrator (CYSA) certifications this year!

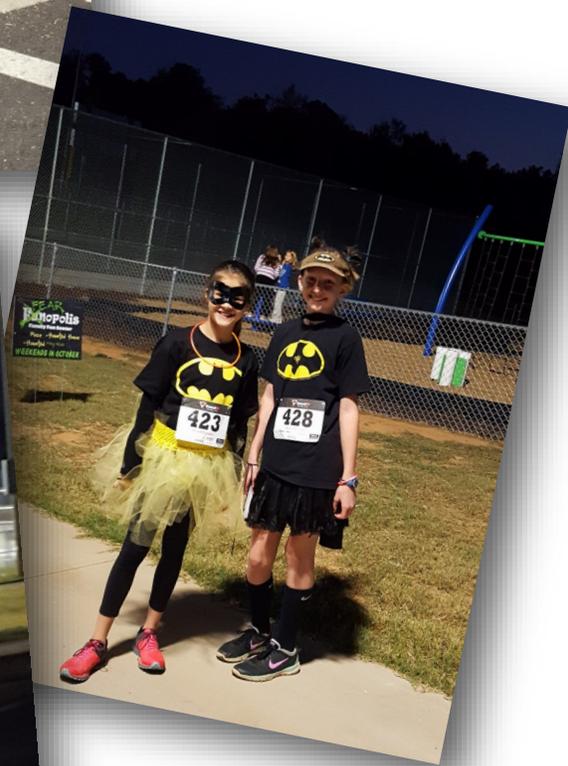
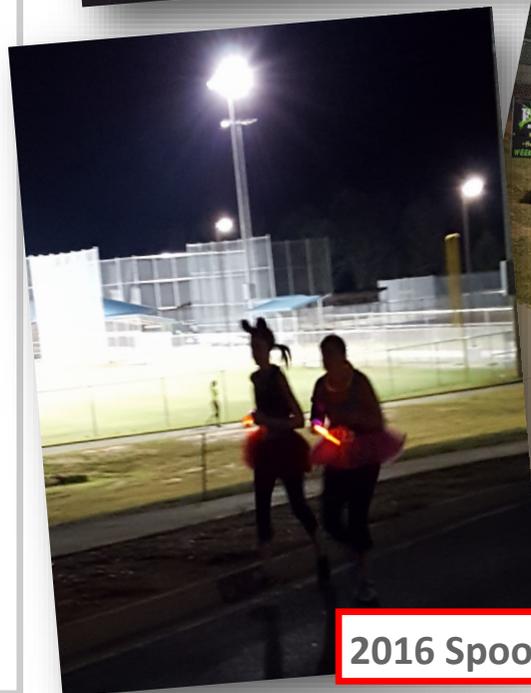
Kim was able to participate in the training & complete her CYSA certification at this year's Georgia Recreation & Parks Association (GRPA) annual conference, while Chase completed his certification last summer. All 3 staff members of the Parks & Recreation Department including **Brooke** are now CYSA certified. This means they have become 3 of over 3,000 elite parks and recreation professionals across the nation who are dedicated to offering the highest quality sports experiences their communities. By becoming CYSA Administrators the Recreation staff can access many forums and information shared from across the nation, additional national training opportunities, and a list of national standards that can be used for future planning within the Recreation Department.

Kim-*"I am excited about the opportunity to help better our department and myself through continuing education efforts."*

Chase-*"The accountability that certifications provide for us as professionals, risk-managers, and administrators will enable us to continue to offer quality programs to the people of Banks County."*



The Most Important Person In Banks County Is You!



2016 Spooktacular 5K & Fun Run

THE BACK PAGE

WE WANT TO SHOW OUR APPRECIATION TO OUR SENIOR CITIZENS AND HELP THEM HAVE A MERRIER CHRISTMAS! WANT TO HELP US GIVE A WARM SMILE AND A FEW NEEDED ITEMS? HERES HOW TO FILL A SHOE BOX WITH A FEW SURPRISES AND A LOT OF LOVE! ITS SURE TO BRIGHTEN A SWEET LADY OR GENTLEMANS HOLIDAY!



SANTA SHOE BOXES FOR SENIORS

GIVING BACK TO THOSE WHO HELPED BUILD THIS COMMUNITY



EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THE SENIORS ARE VERY THANKFUL AND HAPPY WHEN THEY RECEIVE THEIR GIFTS. WE DELIVER TO 2 NURSING HOMES, THE SENIOR CENTER AND THE ELDERS IN THE COMMUNITY THAT WE KNOW ARE IN NEED!



PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

1. FIND AN EMPTY SHOE BOX. PLEASE WRAP YOUR BOX TOP AND BOTTOM SEPARATELY (IF POSSIBLE).



2. DETERMINE WHETHER YOUR GIFT WILL BE FOR A MALE OR A FEMALE. PLACE THE SHOE BOX TAG FROM BELOW ON THE TOP OF BOX AND MARK THE CATEGORY.



3. FILL YOUR SHOE BOX WITH **NEW** GIFTS SUCH AS: CALENDAR, SOCKS, SLIPPERS NAIL CLIPPERS, POLISH, FILE, BRUSH, COMB, MIRROR, MAGAZINES, GAMES, BOOKS, LOTIONS, SCENTED SOAPS, POT POURRI, HANDKERSHIEFS, AND FLASHLIGHT ETC. PLEASE DO NOT INCLUDE RAZORS OR CANDY OF ANY SORT.



ALSO, IF YOU JUST HAVE EMPTY BOXES OR PRODUCTS YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE, WE WILL ACCEPT THOSE AND WE WILL FILL THE BOXES. WE APPRECIATE ANY AND ALL DONATIONS!

DROP OFF LOCATIONS ARE LISTED BELOW:

- BANKS COUNTY SHERIFF OFFICE
- BANKS COUNTY LIBRARY
- BANKS COUNTY REC DEPT
- HOMER CITY HALL
- BANKS COUNTY FIRE/EMS ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
- BANKS COUNTY COURT HOUSE

CONTACT US IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS

71234 OR EMIZE@CO.BANKS.GA.US

SHOE BOX FOR SENIORS

CHECK A CATEGORY

MALE

FEMALE