

douglas county Sentinel

WEDNESDAY

May 15, 2013

Local. News. First.

\$1

COMMUNITY, B1

Local couple creates
'place to be social.'

DOGGED OUT: There used to be a saying in law enforcement that a bad guy "can outrun a Ford, outrun a Chevy or outrun a Dodge, but they can't outrun a Motorola." The phrase referred to calling ahead for help and having units waiting of a suspect. Well in Douglas County they may want to add "a Douglas County K-9 Unit" to that phrase. **Dep. Ryan Cadwell** and his K-9 partner **Boogie** assisted patrol unit's after a subject fled on foot from a stolen vehicle. Boogie tracked the subject, located him hiding in a culvert and he was taken into custody. Once again Boogie proved that it's hard to hide from a highly trained nose.

GUN VIOLENCE FORUM:

Monday night, the women of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Sigma Omega Omega Chapter hosted a community forum to discuss gun violence and its effects. The panelist included Henry Woods, a New Manchester High School student, **Deputy Chief Gary Sparks** of the City of Douglasville Police Department, **Chris Atkinson**, a math teacher at New Manchester and **Monique Rivarde**, the mother of **Bobby Tillman** and **Douglasville Mayor Harvey Persons**. Each panelist gave their personal perspective with opinions on encouragement, laws that would allow teachers to have guns, the root of gun violence and teaching children to make good decisions. The Sigma Omega Omega Chapter has a mentoring program for girls in grades sixth to eighth grade and will host a leadership program this fall for rising ninth and 10th graders. Please visit their website at www.sigmaomegaomega.com for other exciting programs that might interest you and your family.

NEW EMPLOYEE: As part of the continuing improvements in the operations of the Douglas County Animal Shelter, **Stacey Worsham** has been employed as kennel supervisor. Worsham brings 15 years of veterinary experience to the position, including work as a veterinary surgical technician, private veterinary practice manager, and emergency veterinary technician — expertise needed to be a Kennel Supervisor with a high volume of animal traffic. Worsham began work at the Douglas County Animal Shelter on May 1, and her office is inside the Shelter itself so she can be "hands on" with the animals. Worsham will also be in charge of the kennel staff, providing leadership, direction and training to the staff. She is currently working on schedules so that consistent daily attention and care is given to the animals as well as consistent cleaning of the kennel and runs.

LIBRARY CLOSURE: The Douglas County Library on Selman Road in Douglasville will be closed to the Public on Saturday, May 18, for the installation of new carpet throughout the library. The Dog River and Lithia Springs libraries will be open.

BEST DAD: In celebration of Father's Day, Front Porch Carolina Churned Ice Cream is looking for nominees for the "Best Dad in the South" Contest. Front Porch wants you to share one photo that captures that special moment between father and son that says, "I have the best dad in the South." Make sure to include a caption in 50 words or less why the picture best depicts how your father is hands-down the greatest influence in your life and your hero. Completed entries can be submitted by either mail-in entry or online entry. Mail photo with write up to Front Porch's Best Dad In The South Contest, P.O. Box 30545, Charlotte, NC 28230 or email photo as attachment with write up to contest@enjoyfrontporch.com with "Front Porch's Best Dad In The South Contest" as the email Subject Title. Entries must be received by June 15, 2013 by 5 p.m. EST. One winner will be chosen and notified during the week of June 17, 2013 and will receive two gift certificates to the **Dale Jarrett Racing Adventure** (prize package valued at \$2,000) along with two coupons, each for a free pint of Front Porch Ice Cream. To see complete and official rules visit <http://enjoyfrontporch.com/bestdad/>

Road hazard

Family of 2009 crash victim gets \$1.5 million, awaiting city to move guardrail

BY RON DANIEL
STAFF WRITER

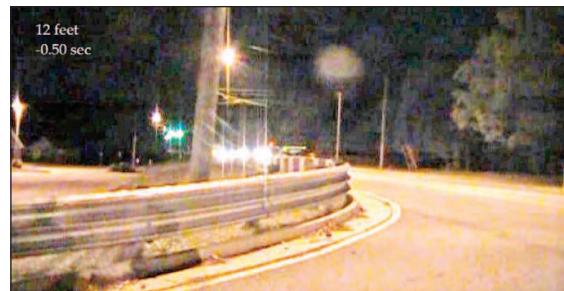
Faye Bouchard was devoted to helping others. She loved making covered dishes for get-togethers and singing in the choir at the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd on Chapel Hill Road. Bouchard also worked as a bus monitor on special needs buses, where she loved the students as much as they loved her.

But Bouchard's life was cut short in 2009 after a potluck dinner just before Thanksgiving at the Luther-

an church. Bouchard was trying to turn left out of the church at 8:08 p.m. on the evening of Nov. 18, 2009, according to the police report. She was T-boned by another car traveling south on Chapel Hill Road and transported to Atlanta Medical Center where she passed away early the next morning.

"She was a very healthy, active, fun-loving woman," said Tessia Perkey, one of Bouchard's children. "She

SEE GUARDRAIL/PAGE A15



Submitted photo

Jed Manton, with the law firm **Harris, Penn, Lowry**, represents the family of a woman who was killed pulling out of the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd on Chapel Hill Road in 2009. The firm says this guard rail is dangerous as it blocks the view of oncoming traffic, especially at night.



Ron Daniel/Douglas County Sentinel

The Rotary Club of Douglas County was treated to the magic of Joe M. Turner at its Monday meeting. Turner incorporated business concepts into his show for the club.

Rotarians amazed by magician

Turner delivers message with card tricks

BY RON DANIEL
STAFF WRITER

The job title on Joe M. Turner's business card reads "Chief Impossibility Officer," which alludes to his corporate background before he got into the business of being a magician and entertainer.

Turner, who has entertained

celebrities, corporate executives and been featured on TV shows like Good Morning America, Nightline and CNN Headline News, put on a show of seemingly impossible illusions at the Rotary Club of Douglas County's Monday luncheon.

Turner is known for adapting his performances to emphasize

group-specific messages and he showed the crowd of business and community leaders at the Rotary Club how card tricks and other tools magicians use can relate to the business world.

He started off his act with a card trick, something he said went against popular wisdom among magicians because

SEE MAGICIAN/PAGE A14

WSA settles with gymnastics studio in sewage case

BY RON DANIEL
STAFF WRITER

The owner of a gymnastics studio whose business was flooded by sewage reached a settlement with the Douglasville-Douglas County Water Sewer Authority's insurance, WSA Executive Director Pete Frost told the board at its Tuesday meeting.

Frost said the WSA's insurance company paid Amber Strickland, owner of DC Gymnastics and Dance Stars on Palazzo Way, \$71,495 in the settlement.

Strickland came before the board in April and told them her business had been flooded with sewage on Feb. 22.

She told the board an insurance company hygienist who inspected her studio found that 97 percent of the items tested positive for E. coli.

"All of my contents are damaged," Strickland told the board in April. "I don't

SEE SEWAGE/PAGE A14



Special to the Sentinel

Like this group last year, members of the Douglasville Police Department will once again be running through the streets of the city in support of Special Olympics Georgia in the "Flame of Hope" torch run today.

Special Olympics torch run comes through Douglasville

BY AMANDA THOMAS
STAFF WRITER

Members of the Douglasville Police Department will once again be running through the streets of the city in support of Special Olympics Georgia.

Local law enforcement officers will be participating in the "Flame of Hope"

torch run Wednesday to raise awareness and donations to support the athletes of Special Olympic Georgia. All funds raised are used to fund the six state games that include winter games, summer and fall games, a horse show, state sailing and master's bowling.

SEE TORCH/PAGE A14

Officials recover body of missing Villa Rica man in Alabama creek

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The search for a missing Villa Rica man has ended with the news his family had feared.

The body of Nicholas Bower was found at 11:49 a.m. Tuesday near Talladega. The 28-year-old Bower had been reported missing from the Talladega SuperSpeedway May 4.

According to the Talladega County Coroner's Office, Bower's body was spotted by an Etowah County Sheriff's Office helicopter floating in Choccolocco Creek. It was confirmed to be his body.

Officials say there are no immediate signs of foul play. The body was sent to forensics in Montgomery and the family was immediately notified.

A Twitter account which



Officials recovered the body of **Nick Bower**, right, Tuesday morning, after he was reported missing from the Talladega Superspeedway on May 4.

had been set up to help coordinate the search for Bower posted a statement shortly after the news broke.

"Nick's body has been recovered. We thank you for your thoughts and prayers during this unimaginable time," read the post notified.

SEE MISSING/PAGE A14

Copyright © 2013,
Douglas Co. Sentinel

The Douglas County Sentinel
• 8501 Bowden Street, Douglasville, Ga. 30134
• Open for business Monday-Friday
from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. 770-942-6571

www.douglascountysentinel.com

CIRCULATION

To subscribe or report
a delivery problem:
770-214-2285
Call before 10 a.m. for redelivery

INSIDE

Abby B2 Deaths..... A5
Astrology..... B2 Opinion..... A4
Classifieds.. B3-23,C1-8 Sports A12-13
Comics..... B2 Television..... B24



High
83
Low
57
Sunny
Details, Page A2

TORCH

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

The athletes don't have to pay to attend any of the state games and it costs about \$147 per athlete to send them to one of the events.

The DPD participates in the torch run each year because of its ongoing involvement and support of the Special Olympics. The torch itself has already been making its way across the state to reach its eventual destination — the State Games at Emory University — on May 17.

"The 'Flame of Hope' represents hope for these athletics participating (in) these sports — being able to play and not have to worry about anything," Sgt. Matt Underwood, torch run organizer for the police department, said.

The mission of Special Olympics Georgia is to provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in the sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympic athletes and the community.

Local police officers will carry the torch along a 4.5-mile route from Olive Garden on Douglas Boulevard to the police department on Fairburn Road beginning at 10:30 a.m. About 80 special education students will be running the last 100 yards of the event.

"We'll run, then this torch will actually be handed off to the next county or city that's running it," Underwood said. "It'll end up at the State

Capitol Friday morning and it will be run from the state capitol to Emory University, which is where the state games are held this year."

The state games will be kicked off at 6:30 p.m. Friday with the games being held Saturday and Sunday. A cook-out will be held at the police department from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. to raise money for Special Olympics with a hamburger, hot dog, chips and a drink costing \$3.

The Citizen's Law Enforcement Academy Alumni will be assisting the police department with the event by manning a fundraising table that will be set up at the Douglas County courthouse and police department.

"Once they have passed the county courthouse, we pack that location up and head over to the city," Tammie Cook, who handles community affairs for the organization, said. "We help them throughout the year as they do their different fundraisers for Special Olympics."

The event is free and open to the public.

"Everyone can come out, watch and be humbled by the athletes participating in these sports," Underwood said. "We can learn so much from special education athletes and how they handle situations — winning or losing. They don't decipher the difference between the two. It's always a win for them. If we could take a little bit of that on our own account, we'll be a much happier society."

Anyone interested in making a donation or purchasing a Special Olympics Torch Run shirt or hat can contact Underwood by email at underwm@douglasvillega.gov or call him at 678-293-1789.

MISSING

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

from @PlsHelpFindNick.

Bower's sister Bridget Chambers said Tuesday that he will be missed.

"He was a great man," Chambers said. "I don't know how I'm going to function without him. I will miss him more than words can describe."

No further information has been released. Officials would not comment or speculate on any cause of death. It was indicated that the body was sent to Alabama Department of Forensics Laboratory in Montgomery as a part of the ongoing investigation.

Bower, 28, was last seen May 4 at 11 p.m. sitting in a lawn chair near his campsite in the South Park area of Talladega Super-Speedway, according to a release from the Talladega County, Ala., Sheriff's Office. He was in town that weekend with friends and longtime girlfriend Jennifer Boesch for the Aaron's 499 NASCAR race.

Boesch called Bower the "love

of her life" shortly after the body was recovered Tuesday.

"Nick is a great guy — the love of my life," Boesch said. "Nobody can light a candle to all the joy and love he has brought to me. He will always be my rock. I know he is watching down on me."

The search began after he did not return to the campsite Sunday morning.

The South Park campground, on the southeast corner of the property, has a creek running through it that feeds into a reservoir, according to a map of the property at talladegasuperspeedway.com. Rain that night had swelled the creek.

Searches initially were hampered by swelling water from the creek, but became more thorough as the days passed.

Jennifer Boesch, who lived with Bower in Villa Rica, said late last week that there was a lot of water at the campground the night he went missing.

The Talladega County Sheriff's Office used boats, dogs and aircraft to comb the area during the search.

Boesch said she went to sleep

in a car around 9 p.m. Saturday and left Bower sitting in a chair around a campfire with friends. She woke up around 12:30 a.m. Sunday and discovered Bower was missing. She and several friends searched nearby campsites, but no one had seen him.

Russell Branham, director of public relations for the track, said the South Park campground is free for anyone with a ticket, and is filled on a first-come, first-serve basis.

He said parts of the South Park campsite are prone to flooding on rainy weekends.

"I know we had rain throughout the weekend. Did we have wetness? Absolutely," he said. "We encourage our race fans to move and don't be near the creek because of the flood-prone area there. We have countless signage throughout the area, and we also have our security and sheriff personnel that go throughout the area to encourage fans to relocate within the campsite."

Talladega County Sheriff Jimmy Kilgore said last week that this is the first time he had heard of someone completely disappearing after the race.

SEWAGE

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

know about you, but I don't want my kid rolling around on a mat that has feces on it."

Frost said earlier the sewer line that spilled over into Strickland's business runs along Cherokee Boulevard and branches off to DC Gymnastics.

Originally, the WSA's insurance denied Strickland's claim, citing sovereign immunity.

Strickland originally told the WSA board in April that her total loss, including lost revenue because of lost business while her studio was shut down, was \$165,000.

In other action at Tuesday's meeting, the board signed off con-

tracting with IPR Southeast, LLC, for \$627,810 for the Chapel Hills Golf Course sanitary sewer lines rehabilitation project.

The board also approved the following resolutions unanimously at Tuesday's meeting:

- A resolution authorizing the chairman and executive director to execute the memorandum of understanding regarding the economic development in the city of Douglasville and Douglas County with the city, the Douglasville Development Authority, the Douglas County Board of Commissioners and the Douglas County Development Authority.
- A resolution authorizing the executive director to issue a purchase order to East Electrical Contractors

Inc. for the standby generator for 8763 Hospital Drive in the amount of \$98,600.

- A resolution awarding the quote for the administration building security bollards installation project to Kellogg Excavating Co. Inc. in the amount of \$30,873.60.
- A resolution awarding the bid for the administration building fence installation project to Accurate Fence, LLC, in the amount of \$56,786.77.
- A resolution authorizing the rollover of the annual contract for 2-inch PVC pipe installation to Site Engineering Inc., on an as-needed basis.
- A resolution authorizing the rollover of the annual contracts for 8-inch, 30-inch and 36-inch ductile iron pipe

line installation to Ronny D. Jones Enterprises Inc. on an as-needed basis.

- A resolution authorizing the rollover of the annual contracts for 12-inch, 16-inch, and 20-inch and 24-inch ductile iron pipe line installation to Unity Construction Co. Inc. on an as-needed basis.
- A resolution authorizing the executive director to issue a purchase order to RDJE Inc. for the East Chapel Hill Road 2-inch water line replacement in the amount of \$66,000.
- A resolution approving the operating and renewal and capital improvements budgets for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013, and ending June 30, 2014, as presented in the budget document (for introduction only).

MAGICIAN

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

they're normally routine. But Turner's illusions weren't, as he put it, your "uncle Joe's card tricks." He had seven Rotarians pick a card and then went back and asked each person the card they had before magically presenting the card.

For instance, Rotary Club President Lisa Doney had the 6 of spades. When Turner

asked Doney which card she had, he pulled the 6 of spades from his pocket.

He said magicians will tell you that demonstration of highly developed skills are a critical piece of an effective show.

"For the business world, the lesson we can take away from that is if we want people that interact with our brand to be amazed, what piece of our expertise are we hitting them with early on," Turner said.

"The first phone call, the first email, the first thing they see

when they engage with our website. What piece of expertise are we going to wow them with up front?"

Turner did another trick where he had Douglas County Juvenile Court Judge Peggy Walker count out 10 cards from the deck and put them underneath her. He did the same with community volunteer Rochelle Robinson, asking her to count off 10 cards and put them aside.

Then he had WellStar Douglas President Craig Owens pull a random card

from the deck — which was a 3. Turner then proceeded to "move" three cards from Walker to Robinson, using a dinner knife like a magic wand. After he "moved" the cards, he asked Walker and Robinson to check how many cards they had. Walker looked under her seat and had just seven cards. He then went to Robinson, who now had 13 cards.

"Never underestimate the impact that even simple tools can have on an audience when delivered in the right pre-

sentational framework, when delivered with committed presentation and when delivered with precise execution," said Turner.

He told the Rotarians a deck of cards could be bought anywhere for \$3. He said that within that cardboard box of cards lies an infinite number of possibilities.

"Highly developed skill, committed preparation and precise execution aren't magic, they just look like it to those who aren't doing them," Turner said.

AIRLINES ARE HIRING



Train for high paying Aviation Career.
FAA approved program.
Financial aid if qualified - Job placement assistance.
CALL Aviation Institute of Maintenance
866-564-9634

WELDING CAREERS



Hands on training for career opportunities in aviation, automotive, manufacturing and more.
Financial aid for qualified students - Housing available.
Job placement assistance. CALL AIM
877-205-1779

Southern Waterbeds & Futons Since 1975

OLDEST WATERBED STORE IN GEORGIA!
Complete Waterbeds & All Accessories
Across from GA Square Mall in Athens
Mon-Sat 10-7 • Closed Sun • 706-543-4323
www.southernwaterbeds.com

Visit **P&N Engraving and Designs**
9130 Highway 5, Douglasville / 770-942-5349

Let's team-up to find the purrfect trophy at a great price!



www.pandnengraving.com

ONSITE AUCTION 13 Bank Foreclosed Properties Georgia & Alabama

3 Day Auction Event
May 29, 30 & 31
Timber, Residential & Recreational Land

For Maps, Directions & Additional Information visit RowellAuctions.com
Rowell Auctions, Inc. | 800-323-8388
A MarkNet Alliance Member • GAL AU-C002594 | AAL 743 • 10% Buyer's Premium
RowellAuctions.com

DOUGLASVILLE THERAPEUTIC Massage

Changing Lives One Massage at a Time®

Individualized Techniques for:
Fibromyalgia • Migraine Headaches
Low, Mid Back, Neck & Shoulder Pain
Edema/Lymphedema • ASH Provider
Massage for Cancer Patients

Call or make your appointment online:
DouglasvilleTherapeuticMassage.com

Mary Lou Ross, LMT, CDT, Neuromuscular Therapist
404.402.9985, 5908 Fairburn Road, Ste. C

WE MAKE LOANS!



770-942-5464
7436 Douglas Blvd. • Douglasville
Apply online at www.1ffc.com

*All loans subject to our liberal credit policy and limitations, if any. 1st Franklin Financial Corporation, NMLSR #141654, Georgia Residential Mortgage Licensee #5656.

STATE FARM



JANICE THOMPSON
770-489-1400

Hightower's Memorial Chapel and Cremation Service 770-489-2818

We Make Funeral and Cremation Planning Easier

Making final arrangements in advance has become a standard practice at funeral homes all across America. We have already helped many local citizens pre-plan their final arrangements. When you call us to assist in making your choices, we try to make it as easy as possible for you. Whether you choose to make plans in the privacy of your own home or from some other location where you are more comfortable, we can help make your decisions a little easier.

Family Owned and Operated  7034 Broad Street, Douglasville, Georgia 30134
www.hightowersmemorial.com
West Georgia's Trusted Choice Since 1928