

SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY NEWS

Community Philanthropist to be Honored at STC Opportunity Gala



Richard D. Eckburg

Annual Opportunity Gala set for December 5

Richard D. Eckburg has made a lasting impact on Savannah through years of tireless volunteerism to the community and generous contributions to area non-profit organizations. Savannah Technical College will honor his dedication Friday, December 5, at the college's annual Opportunity Gala.

The event will be held on the Savannah Campus with a reception beginning at

6:45 p.m. in the Atrium and dinner following in the Eckburg Auditorium, also named in honor of Mr. Eckburg. The Savannah Technical College Foundation along with this year's Signature Sponsor SunTrust Bank is hosting the event.

Dick Eckburg was born and raised in Amboy, IL, retiring after 32 years with United Parcel Service (UPS), only after serving in the United States Army during the Korean War. He rose through the ranks at UPS to become Vice President of Public Affairs. Mr. Eckburg also served with distinction on the executive committee of the American Trucking Association.

Since his retirement, Dick has engaged in a wide variety of charitable and philanthropic endeavors in his twenty-two years of living in Savannah.

Organizations benefitting from his leadership and gen-

See *Gala*, page 14

SBA Provides Link to Opportunities for Small Businesses

WASHINGTON — Information about federal contracting opportunities for small businesses able to support post-disaster cleanup and rebuilding in areas devastated by recent storms and flooding is now accessible through the U.S. Small Business Administration's Disaster Contracting Assistance Center.

The DCAC provides a central point of reference for small businesses, particularly minority, women and veteran-owned businesses, to register for and learn about federal contracting opportunities.

"A vast area—from the Gulf States to the Midwest—suffered millions of dollars in property damage when these massive storms struck, and the rebuilding projects will stretch well into next year," said Acting SBA Administrator Sandy K. Baruah.

"We want to make sure small businesses have the opportunity to seek federal contracting dollars, armed with detailed information that will make it possible for them to take advantage of the net-

work of available resources."

Business owners can visit the Web site at www.disastercontractingassistance.gov for a detailed look at how to seek government contracts. Also on the main page is a link to FedBizOpps, which allows businesses to sign up for e-mail notification of open contracts related to specified fields. In addition, steps on how to register for a Data Universal Number System identification number from Dun & Bradstreet, and information on how to sign up with the Central Contractor Registration — which establishes a company's eligibility to seek federal contracts—are provided on the DCAC site.

The site also provides information on prevailing wages in construction contracts, sub-contractor information and federal acquisitions regulations.

The DCAC can be contacted by phone at 1-888-4USADOC (1-888-487-2362) Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. EST, and 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. EST Saturday and Sunday. Contact the center by e-mail at disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.

For more information about SBA's Disaster Assistance program, visit the Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance.

SCCPSS Students Achieve AP Scholar Status

Fifty-two SCCPSS high school students have earned the designation of AP Scholar by the College Board in recognition of their exceptional achievement on the college-level Advanced Placement Program® (AP®) Exams; thirty-seven from Savannah Arts Academy, twelve from Jenkins High School and three from Windsor Forest High School.

The College Board's Advanced Placement Program offers students the opportunity to take challenging college-level courses while still in high school, and to receive college credit, advanced placement, or both for successful performance on the AP Exams. About 18 percent of the more than 1.4 million high school students in 16,000 secondary schools worldwide who took AP Exams performed at a sufficiently high level to merit the recognition of AP Scholar.

Students took AP Exams in May 2008 after completing challenging college-level courses at their high schools. The College Board recognizes several levels of achievement based on students' performance on AP Exams.

At Savannah Arts, 9 students qualified for the AP Scholar with Distinction Award by earning an average

grade of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and grades of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams. Jenkins High School had three students to qualify for this award.

Savannah Arts Academy had 7 students and Jenkins High had 2 students to qualify for the AP Scholar with Honor Award by earning an average grade of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and grades of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams.

Twenty-one students from Savannah Arts Academy, 3 from Windsor Forest High and 7 from Jenkins High qualified for the AP Scholar Award by completing three or more AP Exams, with grades of 3 or higher.

This year, AP exams were offered in thirty-seven subject areas. Most of the nation's colleges and universities award credit, advanced placement, or both based on successful performance on the AP exams. Research consistently shows that AP students who score a 3 or higher on AP exams typically experience greater academic success in college.

For more information about the College Board's Advance Placement Program, visit their website at www.collegeboard.com.

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AASU to Host Poet Lucinda Grey

The Poetry Society of Georgia 2008-2009 reading series continues with Lucinda Grey on Tuesday November 18, at 7:30 p.m., at Books on Bay Bookstore, 224 Bay Street. The event is free and open to the public.

Two writer's residencies she won in La Napoule, France and Mojacar, Spain inspired Grey's most recent book of poems, *The Woman Who Has Eaten the Moon*. The collection includes poems in the personae of Frida Kahlo and Federico Garcia Lorca.

The poet's other books include *Martin Flores* and *The House of Dreams and Ribbon Around a Bomb*, which won the Quentin R. Howard Poetry Prize. Her poetry has appeared in *Shenandoah*, *Tar River Poetry*, and *Southern Humanities Review*, among other journals.

The Southern Poetry Review and Armstrong Atlantic State University's Department of Language, Literature, and Philosophy sponsor this series. For further information, contact Tony Morris at 344.3123 or Tony.Morris@armstrong.edu

United Way Victory Celebration

The United Way of the Coastal Empire will host its Victory Celebration Luncheon at The Westin Savannah Harbor on Friday, November 21, 11:45 am. Community volunteers will announce their individual Unit Division reports, which will reflect money raised in local businesses and agencies within Bryan, Chatham, Effingham, and Liberty counties.



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