

SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY NEWS

Barrow Releases Recovery Act Guidebook

Congressman John Barrow (Ga.-12) released a guidebook detailing potential funding opportunities for local officials, community leaders, non-profit organizations, first responders, school districts, small businesses, and individuals from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act for 12th District.

"I'm hoping folks in our community will use this guidebook as a resource as they seek Recovery Act funds," said Barrow. "This money can do great things for communities, especially when it comes to getting folks back to work. But they need to know where the money is coming from, and where it's going, to make the best use of it – and the sooner the better."

Congressman Barrow's Recovery Act Guidebook can be found online at www.barrow.house.gov

The Obama

Administration is releasing Recovery Act funding announcements on an ongoing basis.

To get the most up-to-date information, 12th District residents should consult www.recovery.gov, a website that details where federal dollars will be spent and announces funding opportunities.

The State of Georgia has set up www.stimulus.georgia.gov so that Georgia citizens can understand where the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 dollars are allocated and how the funds are utilized to benefit the state.

Any questions about the Recovery Act, or money that's coming to the 12th District, should be directed to Congressman Barrow's Recovery Coordinators: Brandon Webb, at (202) 225-2823, or Lynthia Ross, at (706) 722-4494.

School System Collects 20 Tons in Phonebook and Recycling Drive

The 2009 Phonebook PLUS Recycling Drive, sponsored annually by SCCPSS' PTAs and Keep Savannah Beautiful, is just past the halfway point.

During the month of February, 23 tons of materials (phonebooks, newspapers, magazines and white office paper) were collected throughout the school district. That number is roughly equivalent to 15,000 phonebooks.

So far, the top recovering schools as measured by pounds-recovered-per-student-enrolled are:

- Marshpoint Elementary - 3.15 tons
- May Howard Elementary - 2.32 tons
- Southwest Middle/Elementary - 2.15 tons

Net proceeds from the materials collected will benefit each school's fund-raising effort. The three schools who collect the most materials at the end of the campaign will receive extra cash prizes from Keep Savannah Beautiful.

The Phonebook PLUS Recycling Drive continues through March 31, 2009. Drop-off bins have been placed at the following schools for your conven-

ience:

Alternative School: Coastal GA Comprehensive Academy

Elementary Schools: Bloomingdale, Butler, Gadsden, Garden City, Georgetown, Haven, Hesse, Howard, Islands, Isle of Hope, Juliet Low, Largo-Tibet, Marshpoint, Southwest, J.G. Smith and West Chatham

Middle Schools: Bartlett, Coastal, DeRenne, Myers, Southwest and West Chatham

High Schools: Beach, Jenkins, Johnson, Savannah Arts and Windsor Forest.

To support a school not listed above, just drop off materials at SP Recycling located at 10 Hoss Drive in Garden City.

Be sure to specify which school you are making the donation to, in order for it to receive credit.

SP Recycling's hours of operation are Monday through Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Fridays from 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. For more information the company can be reached at (912) 964-4224.

All-Star Basketball Returns to Savannah

The GACA North vs. South All-Star Basketball Classic presented by Memorial Health University Physicians will be celebrating its sixth year in Savannah on Sunday, March 22.

The North vs. South All-Star Basketball Classic is a Greater Savannah Sports Council managed sporting event, which partners with the Georgia Athletic Coaches Association.

The event will feature the top male and female high school athletes from across the state of Georgia.

The majority of players have committed to play at major division one programs like Georgia Tech.

The girl's all-star game is scheduled for a 2 p.m. tip-off, immediately followed by the boy's all-star game at approximately 4 p.m.

The North vs. South All-Star Basketball Classic attracts annually 3,500 spectators and is held at Tiger Arena on the campus of Savannah State University. The admission is \$5.

For more information about tickets, available sponsorships or how you can support the GACA North vs. South All-Star Basketball Classic presented by Memorial Health University Physicians, please contact Ben Wilder at 912.644.6414 or orbwilder@savannahvisit.com.

AASU Awarded National Science Foundation Grant

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has awarded two grants to Armstrong Atlantic State University totaling \$450,621 as part of the Research in Undergraduate Institutions (RUI) program. The first RUI grants ever awarded to Armstrong Atlantic, they will help advance research being conducted by four faculty members in AASU's College of Science and Technology.

George C. Shields, dean of the College Science and Technology, was awarded a \$255,200 grant that will support his research on the thermodynamics of secondary aerosol formation. The funding will permit

Shields to employ three undergraduate students to conduct summer research projects for three years.

It also allows for the establishment of a postdoctoral research associate position and the purchase of additional computational resources required for the project. The postdoctoral associate will help to develop a substantial research program involving undergraduate students.

"As a result of this grant, a significant number of students, including women and minorities, will receive intensive training in computational chemistry and develop specific skills and understanding of the

See Grant, page 14

State Seeks Input on Special Education

The Georgia Department of Education has posted its annual application for federal grants that assist with the education of students with disabilities and will be seeking public comment on the application.

In Fiscal Year 2009, school systems in Georgia received more than \$300 million in grants under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and is anticipating another \$310 million in IDEA funds through the federal stimulus package.

In order to continue to receive that funding, the state must post its Annual State Application for IDEA Grants Funds for public review for 60 days. The state must also have a 30-day public comment window.

Georgia's Annual State Application for IDEA Grant Funds has been posted on the Ga DOE's website at www.gadoe.org

The public comment period begins on April 1-April 30.

Tax Credit Passes House

The Georgia House of Representatives overwhelmingly passed House Bill 261 by a vote of 162 to 4. The measure now moves to the state Senate for consideration.

"This legislation will immediately stimulate our economy by creating an incentive to buy homes now rather than later," said Rep. Ron Stephens. Upon becoming law, this legislation will create a six month window during which anyone purchasing one single-family residence will

receive a tax credit of up to \$3,600. New and previously occupied residences as well as foreclosed residences are all eligible for this tax credit.

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Day Clean Journeys Presents A Black History Moment

Mary McLeod Bethune and Savannah



The Educator, Presidential Advisor, and Co-founder of Bethune-Cookman College in Daytona, FL Mary McLeod Bethune lived in Savannah working as a Social Worker. She resided in West Savannah. She and her husband, Albertus Bethune, experienced the birth of their only child in Savannah. It was here that she was influenced to go to Florida and start a school.



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