

# SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY NEWS

## Best Elected to Executive Board of Fielding Graduate University

The Board of Trustees of Fielding Graduate University recently elected Dr. Sandra McCord Best of Savannah to the executive board as Treasurer.

In this role, she will monitor an annual operating budget in excess of 25 million dollars.

Dr. Best was elected at the May, 2009 Board of Trustees Meeting held in Santa Barbara, CA.

She was originally elected to the Board in 2002 and has served on various committees.

Her professional career has included leadership positions in the private sector, in local and state government.

She is currently Chief



**Dr. Sandra Best**

Human Resources Officer for Savannah State University and serves as a member of the President's Cabinet.

In Savannah, she serves on the Executive Committee for the local NAACP, as Chairman of the

Board for the Consumer Credit Counseling Service of the Savannah Area, Inc. and a member of Delta Sigma Theta, Inc. Savannah Alumnae Chapter.

A communicant of St. Benedict the Moor Catholic Church,

Dr. Best is married to (retired) Captain Robert E. Best, Chatham County Sheriffs Department.

An alumnus of Leadership Savannah, Dr. Best received her undergraduate degrees from Savannah State University and her doctorate of Educational Leadership from Fielding Graduate University, a nationally accredited institute of higher education.

## Fire Program Awards Students, Announces Young Women's Camp

Two Savannah Chatham County public schools students were honored Thursday, May 28, 2009 for their accomplishments during the first firefighter/fire sciences training program at Woodville Tompkins Technical Career Institute.

Tai-g Herring, a senior at Beach High School, will be presented the Leadership Award and Dillon Woolsey, a senior at Groves High School, is recognized as the class valedictorian.

The awards were presented during ceremonies at Woodville Tompkins beginning at 8p.m.

Herring and Woolsey were among the first students to participate in the firefighter program, which is a joint effort between Savannah Fire and Emergency Services and the Savannah Chatham County Public Schools System.

The curriculum was instituted during the current school year as part of Woodville Tompkins' overall vision of preparing students for future careers.

It is designed to provide students with a clear understanding of the physical and mental requirements, as well as the hands-on skills

necessary to become candidates for local fire departments.

The program utilizes National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards and enables participating students to achieve graduation requirements by completing the career pathway program.

In addition, eligible students are able to earn dual credits toward an Associate Degree in Fire Sciences through West Georgia Technical College.

Herring and Woolsey were among eight Woodville Tompkins students who completed a "live fire" training exercise Saturday, May 16th as part of the requirements for attaining Firefighter I certification.

Both students earned credit toward an Associate's degree.

Herring plans to continue pursuit of a college degree while Woolsey plans to continue his firefighter training through the U.S. Marine Corps.

The Savannah Fire and Emergency Service Bureau congratulates these young men and all the participants in the inaugural firefighter training program at Woodville Tompkins.

Female firefighters with Savannah Fire and Emergency Services are planning a 2 day camp this fall as a means of introducing young women to the fire department and informing them about career paths in fire services.

Savannah fire Captain Kelly McDaniel and several other firefighters will introduce the concept of Camp Trailblazer Thursday, May 28th at Savannah Fire's Station 9 located at 2235 Capital St. (off Pennsylvania Ave. behind Savannah High School).

The firefighters will be available for media interviews beginning at 10:30a.m.

Camp Trailblazer will run from October 9th - 11th and is open to young women aged 16-19 who are in good physical condition and who submit a completed application form. The initial camp is limited to 25 participants.

Young women interested in participating in Camp Trailblazer can pick up an application form at any Savannah fire station.

There is a \$25 registration fee that will help offset the costs for materials.

Applications must be submitted by July 17, 2009.

## SCMPD Roles Out Operation Identification Program

To help reduce property crime in Savannah-Chatham, Metro Police are participating in a national program called Operation Identification.

Operation Identification is a Crime Prevention tool used to help reduce thefts of property.

Mr. David White, a Savannah resident allowed Metro Police and the media to come to his house to demonstrate how the program works.

Crime Prevention Officers marked Mr. White's property and record the markings under the Operation Identification guidelines.

Operation Identification (Operation ID) is a citizen's burglary prevention program for use in homes and businesses.

The Operation ID program involves marking property with an identifying number as a means of discouraging burglary and theft.

It also provides police with a way to identify property should it be stolen and recovered.

In communities where it has been properly implemented, Operation ID has shown dramatic results in burglary reduction.

Marked property is difficult for a burglar to dispose of—it can be traced

to the rightful owner with relative ease.

And, if a burglar is caught with marked property, it is solid evidence of possession of stolen goods.

Once property has been marked and a list made, display the Operation Identification sticker on doors and windows that could be used for entry.

By advertising your participation in Operation Identification in this way, you are announcing that your valuable property has been marked and will be difficult for a burglar to sell. Often, the presence of the sticker alone is enough to deter a burglar.

For additional information on Operation Identification, go to [scmpd.org](http://scmpd.org) and click on the link.

## Public Meeting

This is the 2nd Meeting in the Chatham County area.

\*This meeting seeks input from Gullah Geechee People in Chatham County with an emphasis placed on hearing from the residents of Montgomery, White Bluff, Coffee Bluff, Thunderbolt, Isle Hope, Tybee, Pin Point, Sandfly, Grimball Point, Monteith, Pt. Wentworth, Bloomingdale, the Eastern Islands, and Southside Savannah.

As part of the management plan process, Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor is seeking public input for vision, mission and purpose of the National Heritage Area. The public is invited to attend meetings to learn more about the management planning process and to provide comments to help guide the future of this important heritage area. The meeting in Old Montgomery is:

Date: Tuesday, June 9, 2009, 6:30 PM- 8:00 PM  
Turner Hodge Young Community Center  
541 Shipyard Rd  
Savannah, GA, 31406

For the most up-to-date information, contact Michael Allen at (843) 881-5516 x12, or visit the Corridor's website at [www.nps.gov/guge](http://www.nps.gov/guge).

## Survivors Sought For Breast Cancer Campaign

The American Cancer Society is seeking breast cancer survivors for the annual Voices & Faces of Breast Cancer Survivorship Campaign.

Voices & Faces is a compelling visual display of breast cancer survivorship, as well as, a critical breast cancer education and awareness campaign.

The pictorial displays will be placed in prominent public locations around Savannah during the months of October and November.

The campaign also consists of 30-second video spots which air on WSAV (NBC Affiliate) throughout the year.

Participants of this project have a unique oppor-

tunity to reach people of various communities and share their stories of hope, survivorship and victory over breast cancer!

You never know ... your story may reach one person whose life could change forever!

The 2009 Voices & Faces of Breast Cancer Survivorship committee will select 12 applicants for participation.

The committee is looking for stories of survivorship and hope, with special focus on diversity in age, gender and socioeconomic status.

This project is completed during the summer months at the WSAV TV studios, and does require travel

to Savannah, GA. Participants will be honored during the Voices & Faces Fashion Show and Luncheon on Saturday, September 26, 2009 at the Hilton Savannah Desoto Hotel.

Applications can be requested by calling your American Cancer Society at 912.355.5196.

The deadline to submit applications is Friday, June 19, 2009.

If you would like more information about tickets to the Voices & Faces Fashion Show and Luncheon, please call 912.355.5196.

For 24-hour cancer information, call 1.800.227.2345 or visit [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org)

## The Savannah Bar Announces New Slate of Elected Officers

The Savannah Bar Association, a local extension of the State Bar of Georgia, recently announced a new slate of elected officers for 2009-2010.

Jennifer J. Dickinson, an attorney at HunterMaclean, has been named President of the Savannah Bar Association.

William K. Broker, managing attorney for Georgia Legal Services's Savannah Regional Office, will serve as President-Elect. Gregory Sapp, principal of Sapp Law Group, has been elected Treasurer, while Lisa Colbert, assistant county attorney of Chatham County, has been elected Secretary.

"We have a fantastic executive board and we're all looking forward to furthering the Savannah Bar Association's distinguished tradition of service," said Dickinson. "Together, we will honor the legacy of the Savannah Bar Association's efforts in both the practice of law and in the community, while also looking to the future and examining ways in which we can achieve even more."

The officers will oversee more than 430 members of the professional organization of local attorneys and will continue pro-bono activities and projects to benefit the community at large.

The Savannah Bar Association, which is affiliated with the State Bar of Georgia, meets the second Thursday of each month.

The State Bar of Georgia exists to foster among the members of the Bar the principles of duty and service to the public, to improve the administration of justice, and to advance the science of law.

All attorneys authorized to practice law in Georgia are required to be members.

For additional information about the Savannah Bar Association, please contact Jennifer Dickinson at 912.236.0261.



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