

# SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY NEWS

## Habersham Street YMCA Holds Ribbon Cutting For New Playground



Children play on the new playground located at the Habersham St. YMCA

On Thursday, August 20, 2009 the Habersham YMCA held an official dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony for their new playground facility.

Project contributors and volunteers were on site for the ceremony. The playground facility officially opened earlier this month.

Located on Habersham Street, this playground designed specifically for the Pre-K classes, is a wonderful addition to the Habersham YMCA branch.

The new playground includes swings, slides, a rock climbing area, bongo drums and so much more.

The new playground was made possible by generous gifts of time and treasures from The Goizueta Foundation, The Mary Allen Lindsay Brannen Foundation, Coastal Concrete, Bible Baptist Church, and the 260th Quartermaster Battalion (PS).

Earlier this year, the Habersham YMCA was

named as a Center of Distinction by the Georgia State licensing bureau, Bright from the Start.

This new playground will help the Habersham YMCA to continue to offer the highest level of programming and care.

For more information about the Habersham Street YMCA, please contact Rachel Meuser Bowman at (912) 354-5480, or via email at: [rachelm@ymcaof-coastalga.org](mailto:rachelm@ymcaof-coastalga.org)

## GEMA Reminds Residents of National Preparedness Month

Ready Georgia, the emergency preparedness campaign from the Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA), is asking fifth-grade students across the state to recognize National Preparedness Month in September with a creative art and essay contest about preparing for the unexpected.

The contest theme is "Get Ready Georgia," and students are encouraged to draw upon their personal experiences of how their families have already prepared for an emergency or how they plan to prepare. Students can produce original artwork that portrays one or more of the steps of emergency preparedness, or write an essay of 500 words or less that describes the steps for emergency preparedness and why it is important.

"Every Georgian, even children, should know how to prepare for emergencies and how to respond if the unexpected happens," said Charley English, director of GEMA and the Office of Homeland Security. "During National Preparedness Month this contest is a good way for families to talk about disasters, which can sometimes be an unsettling subject to address. By learning how to be ready, children can be confident about safety and help their families be their own first responders."

Children and their par-

ents are encouraged to visit [www.ready.ga.gov](http://www.ready.ga.gov) together to learn more about the three simple steps it takes to be ready – create a Ready kit, develop a family communications plan and stay informed about potential local threats – and use what they learn to create their entry. Art contest submissions could include drawing a picture of the family's emergency meeting location or painting a picture of the items in a Ready kit. Essays can describe what a student's

family has done to prepare, or the ways kids can help teach people in their community how to get ready.

First, second and third prizes will be awarded in each category and all six winners will be featured on the Ready Georgia Web site and Facebook. Deadline is September 30. For more information about the contest, and where to submit the entries, visit [www.ready.ga.gov/Get-Involved/ReadyKids](http://www.ready.ga.gov/Get-Involved/ReadyKids).

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## "Separate my trash? Whatever."



"I'm not rooting through my trash to pull out all of my cans and bottles...just so someone can make some plastic park bench out of it. What's the point? What's wrong with wooden park benches? I put out, like, three bags of garbage a week... I'm not going through all of that!"



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- 508 W. 34<sup>th</sup> St. (3 Bedrooms)..... \$550**
- 505 W. 34<sup>th</sup> St. (2 Bedrooms)..... \$485**
- 515 W. 33<sup>rd</sup> St. (3 Bedrooms)..... \$550**
- 508 W. 33<sup>rd</sup> St. (3 Bedrooms)..... \$550**
- 520 W. 33<sup>rd</sup> St. (3 Bedrooms)..... \$550**
- 520 W. 34<sup>th</sup> St. (3 Bedrooms)..... \$550**
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- 414 W. 34<sup>th</sup> St. (3 Bedrooms)..... \$550**
- 518 W. 34<sup>th</sup> St. (3 Bedrooms)..... \$550**
- 402 W. 33<sup>rd</sup> St. (2 bedrooms)..... \$485**
- 129 Millen St. (2 Bedrooms)..... \$400**
- 27 1/2 Wright St. (2 Bedrooms)..... \$350**
- 1213-A E. Anderson (1 Bedroom)... \$400**
- 1211 E. Anderson (1 Bedroom)..... \$400**

