



## Pinnacle

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### Georgia Mountains Regional Commission

#### Executive Director's Report



◆ Thanks to the cooler days, for a while, our GIS and Planning team is getting the field collection work completed in the **City of Toccoa** Cemetery. This is the largest cemetery project we have ever contracted to inventory. Faith Bryan is leading this team as they go to this location (26 acres) and collect all the information to complete the census data of the cemetery and determine any available plots in this beautiful location. Eventually we will tie into Find-a-Grave.com and Find-a-Cemetery.com. Thanks to a dedicated staff who are collecting this data and providing valuable maps and description information back to the **City of Toccoa**.

◆ Becky Sievers and her team are preparing for the upcoming GMRC Financial Audit to be conducted by Rushton and Associates again. Audits are never fun, but our Finance team will rise to the occasion. Thanks to Bill Chafin and the Finance Committee for their leadership and assistance.

- ◆ It has been a while since we have been invited to **Sky Valley** for our monthly Council meeting. Thanks to the **City of Sky Valley** and **Rabun County** for hosting us on June 30<sup>th</sup>. Plan to join us in the beautiful facility there.
- ◆ Our July 28<sup>th</sup> GMRC Council and WIOA meetings will be hosted at **Union County**. This will be my last meeting as Executive Director and L.J. Harrison's last meeting as Chaplin/member of the GMRC. While I will miss being with you monthly, we all will miss the monthly powerful message that L.J. always brings to our meetings. It is fitting that he and I leave at the same time. Love this man like a brother, wish him and Mable all the best and wish you all the best in health and blessings for years to come.
- ◆ I know that the selection committee is preparing to nominate my replacement soon. I do not know who they plan to recommend, but I urge each of you to support this person as you have me for the past 11+ years. Shiryl and I will be moving to Greenville, SC (Easley, SC to be exact) by the next meeting. My last day here will be August 9<sup>th</sup>. Blessings to you all.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	TIME	EVENT/MEETING	LOCATION
June 30	5:00 pm 6:00 pm	GMRC Executive Committee GMRC Council Meeting	City of Sky Valley/Rabun County
July 28	5:00 pm 6:00 pm	GMRC Executive Committee GMRC Council Meeting	City of Blairsville/Union County
August 2	4pm-7pm	Retirement Reception for Danny Lewis	Gainesville Civic Center
August 15	————	ARC Pre Applications Due	Contact Heather Feldman
August 25	5:00 pm 6:00 pm	GMRC Executive Committee GMRC Council Meeting	Forsyth County

## Economic Development

- ◆ The **City of Clarkesville** was awarded \$99,500 in USDA – Rural Business Development Grant funding for downtown redevelopment.
- ◆ The **City of Hartwell** was awarded USDA – REDLG Grant funding for the development of Oakview Crossing.
- ◆ The **City of Hartwell** was awarded \$3,500 in Historic Preservation Funding for improvements to the Hart Theater.
- ◆ On behalf of the **Hart County Industrial Building Authority**, two grant applications have been submitted in conjunction with the development of Linde + Wiemann in **Hart County**:

OneGeorgia Grant – Building, Machinery & Equipment (\$600,000)

Economic Development Administration – Road Improvements (\$123,838)

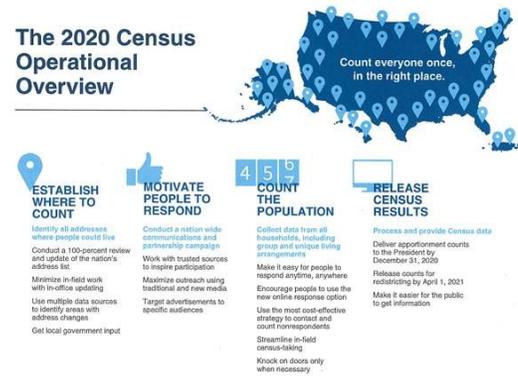
## Planning

- ◆ **Hall County's** Capital Improvement Element (CIE) update has been approved by the Department of Community Affairs (DCA)
- ◆ The **Town of Tallulah Falls** has submitted their comprehensive plan update for regional review
- ◆ Status of recent/current Development of Regional Impact (DRI) reviews:
  - Forsyth County** - #2587 Wildemeade (mixed use project) – Has confirmed traffic study parameters and will complete submittal process in the coming weeks
  - Hall county** - #2583 Atlanta River Walk (mixed use project) – Completed regional review process with no objections but with conditions cited
  - City of Dawsonville** - #2571 Name TBD (housing project) – Applicant has had consultation meeting and is preparing materials for completing submittal process
  - Forsyth County** - #1200 Lanier Golf Club (mixed use project) – Has received recommendations from the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority
- ◆ The Historic Preservation Division (HPD) is performing their required update to the Georgia Statewide Historic Preservation Plan (SHPP). Public Responses will be accepted through July 6, 2016 and draft goals are available for review at: [www.georgiashpo.org/preservation\\_plan](http://www.georgiashpo.org/preservation_plan). Comments may be submitted via email to [Jennifer.dixon@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:Jennifer.dixon@dnr.ga.gov)

## Information Services

- ◆ Coming soon to a neighborhood near you....the 2020 US Census. Stay tuned for more information.

### The 2020 Census Operational Overview



- ◆ On May 16<sup>th</sup>, GMRC hosted a very successful ESRI LiDAR Technical Workshop. The thirty-two workshop attendees were made up of aerial photography project participants, GMRC region GIS users and Regional Commission GIS staff.



- ◆ Faith Bryan presented the completed **Towns County Parcel Project** to a large crowd at the May 20<sup>th</sup> Commission Meeting at the **Towns County Convention and Recreation Center**. Results of the parcel project and the aerial photography captured for **Towns County** in 2015 can be found at <http://www.qpublic.net/ga/towns/>



### Workforce Development

- ◆ There were 11 Project Search graduates this year, and 8 received employment.
- ◆ There were three college graduates and two GED graduates this past month.
- ◆ The Youth Department Staff led workshops in **Hall, Union, and White Counties** for approximately 500 youth.
- ◆ Youth Department Staff held overviews for GED applicants in **Hall, Stephens, Union and White Counties**.

### Success Story

Hello, my name is Rosemarie Mataro. I am a 33 year old single mother to a precious 2 year old little girl.

When my daughter was almost 2 months old, I began my new journey as a cosmetology student. Hair and makeup have always been a fun hobby for me. I would help girls during prom and homecoming but never thought about making a career out of it. It was not an easy journey as I tried to juggle being a new mom, working, and going to school. At one point my job had even told me I was going to have to quit school because now they needed me to step up to another role. At that point, I was not giving up on my dream, even though there were a lot of bumps and hurdles in the road I still pressed on and made it. If it wasn't for WIA there is no way I would be graduating from school this month. Aside from the cost of school and supplies needed that I never could have afforded, the support from WIA and my advisor is what really made it possible. My advisor is the best person I could have ever met. Josette Jeanis has not only been my advisor but she has played many roles through this journey. She has been my counselor when things got tough, my friend when I needed an ear, like a big sister when I needed a push, and like a pit bull when I need someone to fight for me. I am forever grateful.

I am so thankful for all of the help and love I received from the people at Georgia Mountains WIA. Without them none of this would have been possible. Before this last semester had begun I had already started receiving job offers. Even though I'm not sure what direction I want to take; I know that my daughter and I are going to make it.

For anyone that is interested in getting help from WIA, do it! It's a lot of paperwork in the beginning but it is worth it. I could not have made it without WIA or Josette Jeanis. I hope that you are lucky enough to get an advisor as awesome as she is.

*Rosemarie Mataro*

### Career Coach

- ◆ The Career Coach staff planned and hosted the Georgia Mountains Job Fair at the **Towns County** Recreation and Conference Center.
- ◆ The Career Coach also participated in Goodwill's **Cornelia** Career Center Job Fair.
- ◆ A total of 25 students from two **Forsyth** campuses of the Mountain Education Charter High School attended resume training sessions on the Career Coach.
- ◆ Resume training sessions were also conducted for participants of the **Habersham** Probation Office and **Hall County** Salvation Army.
- ◆ The Career Coach assisted clients with career assessment surveys and offered information about schooling opportunities at the **Toccoa** Mobile Food Pantry.
- ◆ The sum of 221 students and teachers were able to learn about their career options aboard the Career Coach at Wilbanks Middle School in **Habersham County** during their Annual Career Fair.

Category of Responses	Month Total	Year Total
Total Job Searches	74	419
Total Job App	10	58
Total Resumes	56	326
Total Interviews	1	4
Total Interest Survey	10	311
Total Training Sessions	0	4
Total Testing	0	0
Total Typing Assessments	0	38
WIOA Info	61	635
Total Unemployment Claims	0	0
Computer Trainings	0	0
Microsoft Office Classes	0	0
Public Relations	457	482

RESPONSES PER COUNTY-JUNE 2016	
Banks—0	Lumpkin—0
Dawson—0	Rabun—2
Forsyth—59	Stephens—16
Franklin—18	Towns—5
Habersham—233	Union—9
Hall—81	White—18
Hart—0	Other—4

# May Council Meeting

Dawson County

