NATIONAL REGISTER BOARD TO REVIEW MAXEYS’ BUILDING

At its March 3rd meeting, the Georgia National Register Review Board will review six National Register nominations, including one from Oglethorpe County. The Durham Place is located in Maxeys and exists as a c.1844 house and doctor’s office built by Dr. Milledge S. Durham. Dr. Durham relied primarily on herbal remedies to treat his patients, as did subsequent doctors who practiced there. The house is a Folk Victorian cottage that evolved over the years from its original saddlebag house form. Over the years, six Durham family doctors practiced medicine from the property. Dr. Samuel Davis Durham was the last Durham doctor to practice there until 1921. As a result, the Durham Place’s period of historical significance is relatively long, spanning c. 1844 to 1921.

The Durham Place is located on North Main Street in Maxeys on the west side of State Route 77 on a 3.5 acre property. The Town of Maxeys is currently conducting research to nominate the historic town to the National Register that will also include The Durham Place. NEGRC staff is assisting the Town with this effort.

The National Register Review Board meeting will take place in Atlanta on the Twin Towers’ 12th floor from 9 a.m. until noon located at 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Staff of the Georgia Historic Preservation Division will present the nominations to the Board members and guests. If the nomination passes the Review Board, it will be finalized and prepared for submission to the National Park Service for final review and official listing.

For information about the National Register and listing eligibility, contact Jordan Shoemaker, NEGRC Project Specialist, at jshoemaker@negrc.org or (706) 369-5650.

MULTIMODAL SAFETY AND ACCESS PROGRAM PROVIDES BICYCLING AND WALKING FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

The Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) recently released information on its new Multimodal Safety and Access Program (MSAP), which provides funds for relatively small projects sited on and along the state route system. The program aims to improve access to, make connections between, and fill gaps in pedestrian and bicyclist infrastructure systems. A total of $2 million in state funding is available in FY17.

Along with Georgia’s other Regional Commissions, the Northeast Georgia RC has been asked to submit project requests on behalf of local governments. GDOT will accept proposals through March 15, 2017, and projects will be prioritized based on local impact and feasibility, with construction required to be underway by December 31, 2017 (no construction completion deadline exists).
Eligibility requirements and other descriptive information are as follows:

- Projects must be situated along a state route and either connect to or improve a connection in existing facilities for bicycling and walking or connect a bicycling/walking facility to transit (projects are not required to be situated within state rights-of-way).

- Projects should demonstrate safety improvements for people bicycling and/or walking without adversely impacting the safety of people driving.

- Sidewalks, crosswalks, median refuge islands, pedestrian lighting, crossing beacons, shoulder widening, protected bicycle lanes, and pavement markings are examples of eligible project types.

- Projects should have public support.

- Additional consideration will be given to projects that will improve health outcomes and generate economic impact in the community.

Local governments (LGS) must be in good standing in regards to receiving state funds and must provide at least a 30% match including in-kind contributions; state funds are only eligible for the construction phase. LGS will be responsible for all aspects of project development and construction. Selected projects will cost approximately $100,000-$500,000 in total (including GDOT funding and local match), though all projects will be evaluated, and a cap on cost has not been set.

Please contact Senior Planner John Devine, AICP, at jdevine@negrc.org to receive a proposal form or to obtain additional information.

**APPALACHIAN GROUP HOLDS WINTER BOARD MEETING**

The Development District Association of Appalachia (DDAA) Board of Directors held its Winter Board Meeting on January 16th and 17th in Greenville, South Carolina. Executive Director Jim Dove, Immediate Past President of the DDAA Board, was in attendance. The DDAA represents the 73 Regional Planning Districts in the 13-state Appalachian Region, which extends from New York to Mississippi. The Board includes a representative from each of the 13 states; those states having an officer on the Board have an additional member. In addition to hearing administrative reports, presentations were made regarding activities of the Training Committee, the Federal POWER Initiative, the DDAA 2020 Strategic Plan Implementation, and other pertinent matters. Appalachian Regional Commission Federal Co-Chair Earl Gohl and Executive Director Scott Hamilton briefed attendees on ARC information and activities, along with budget matters currently before Congress. An ARC staff report was given by Dan Neff, Director of Local Development District activities on the Washington staff.

Dove with ARC Executive Director Hamilton

**AGING PUBLIC HEARINGS HELD**

Three Public Hearings were recently held on the State Fiscal Year 2018 Area Plan for the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission Area Agency on Aging. The Planning and Service Area includes Barrow, Clarke, Elbert, Greene, Jackson, Jasper, Madison, Morgan, Newton, Oconee, Oglethorpe, and Walton Counties.

The Public Hearings were held at the Barrow County Senior Center in Winder on January 5th; Athens Community Council on Aging in Athens January 11th, and Greene County Senior Center in Greensboro on January 12th. These hearings are held to inform Northeast Georgia residents of the Aging Services Plan for State Fiscal Year 2018 and to provide citizens with an opportunity to discuss issues relevant to the Northeast Georgia Planning and Service Area.

Attendees received an overview of the Area Agency on Aging, the State Fiscal Year 2018 Planning Budget and the Aging & Disability Resource Connection. They also learned about several services, such as the Senior Community Services Employment Program, Adult Day Care/Health, GeorgiaCares,
Elderly Legal Assistance Program, Community Care Services Program, and Senior Center Services.

During the question and answer portion of the hearings, there were questions asked regarding how to freeze your credit, what is the difference between a will and an advance directive, what are local transportation services, what is the difference between a Power of Attorney and a guardian, and what are local emergency response system resources.

For additional information on the State Fiscal Year 2018 Area Plan Public Hearings or the services discussed, contact Peggy Jenkins at pjenkins@negrc.org or (706) 583-2546 Ext. 101.

**WIOA PROGRAM YEAR 2015 PERFORMANCE**

The Georgia Department of Economic Development recently published the Program Year 2015 Annual Report. In the report, each local area’s performance on the nine performance measures was announced. The Northeast Georgia Area, serving the 12-county Northeast Georgia region, exceeded eight of the national performance measures and met the one remaining measure. This work was done under the direction of the Northeast Georgia Workforce Development Board.

Of the 19 local workforce areas, Area 9 was one of two areas that exceeded eight of the nine measures and met the one remaining measure. This accomplishment was a result of the efforts of the more than 40 training providers that provide access to training services to the residents of Northeast Georgia.

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**Northeast Georgia (Area 09)**

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<th>Performance Group</th>
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**REMINDER**

The next meeting of the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission Council will be held on Thursday, February 16th at Noon at the Athens Holiday Inn. Information on the meeting will be forthcoming.

**DANIEL BUTH WIA SUCCESS STORY**

After a participant completes WIA/WIOA training, we never know whether we will ever hear from them again. One day in early fall 2016, D&D Heating and Air was onsite at the NEGRC Workforce Development offices to provide routine servicing of the HVAC system. As the D&D staff completed their work, one of the technicians said, “You look familiar,” to a member of the WIA staff. It was learned that Mr. Daniel Buth, a resident of Jackson County, had recently completed his Heating and Air Technology diploma program at Athens Technical College. It is always rewarding to know that a participant is on the job!

For further information on WIOA and available assistance, contact the Workforce Development Division at (706) 369-5703.

**COUNCIL CHANGES**

The Northeast Georgia Regional Commission Council welcomed six new members at its January 19th meeting. Each is a member of the Board of Commissioners in the County as follows:

- **Jeffrey Smith**, Greene County
- **Carl Pennamon**, Jasper County
- **John Scarborough**, Madison County
- **Andy Ainslie**, Morgan County
- **Marcello Banes**, Newton County
- **John Daniell**, Oconee County

We look forward to working with each of these public servants.
Update

REGIONAL MEETINGS

FEBRUARY

9  9:30 a.m.  New Officials Orientation  E.H. Culpepper Conference Room
16 Noon  NEGRC Council  Athens Holiday Inn
16 3:30 p.m.  Firefly Trails Advocacy Group  E.H. Culpepper Conference Room
22 8:30 a.m.  WIOA Youth Council  E.H. Culpepper Conference Room

Sincerely & Respectfully,