

UNION POINT AWARDED FOX THEATRE INSTITUTE GRANT

The Downtown Development Authority of Union Point is a recipient of the 2021/2022 Fox Theatre Institute grant award for \$50,000.00 to fund a preservation plan for the historic Union Theatre. Constructed in 1947, Union Theatre operated as an active, single-screen movie theatre in Union Point, Georgia in the mid-20th century. As one of the only mid-century modern buildings in the downtown area, and the only building with a large gathering space, the City of Union Point wishes to preserve and enhance this iconic downtown gathering space. The development of a preservation plan will create a roadmap to rehabilitate the Theatre as a community center to host productions, community events, gatherings, and venue rental space. The preservation plan will provide a phased project outline that allows for the building's continuous use throughout each phase and goals for fundraising, promotional efforts, and additional capital to be pursued. NEGRRC staff assisted in preparing the Fox Theatre Institute Grant application; the awarded funding will assist the DDA in its goal is to restore the Union Theatre as the center point of the community's cultural life.

Looking for assistance with preservation planning in your community? Contact **Lydia Joffray**, NEGRRC Preservation Planner, at ljoffray@negrc.org.



NEGRC HOSTS GDOT WEBINAR ON LOCAL ROAD ACTIVITY SUBMISSIONS

In September 2021, the NEGRC partnered with the Office of Transportation Data (OTD) at GDOT to offer a Local Road Activity (LRA) submissions webinar to the local governments in the Northeast Georgia region. Local road activities are changes to the road's physical characteristics and/or attributes, including: adding new roads, change of ownership, extending existing roads, abandoning roads, obliterating roads, changing road surface types, changing road names, and adding lanes. It is important for local governments to submit an LRA to GDOT as soon as any change to a local road is made, since a local government's funding is based on road mileage. Christin Holtzclaw, GDOT GIS Analyst, explained in detail how to formally submit an LRA and provided an overview of what GDOT expects when receiving an LRA submission. A recording of the webinar is available on the NEGRC Planning & Government Services Division's YouTube page (NEGRC_PGS). For more information regarding LRAs, you can also contact **Jon McBrayer**, NEGRC GIS Planner, at jmcbraayer@negrc.org.

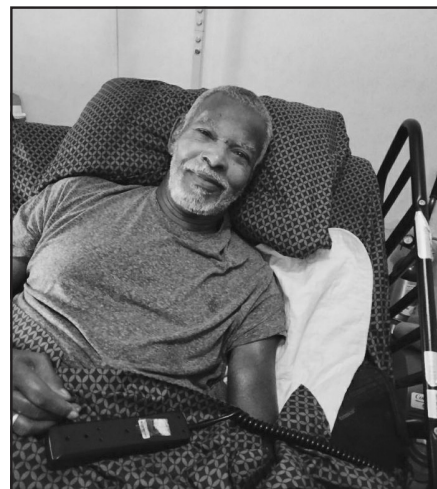
NEGRC WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT RECEIVES UNITED WAY OF NORTHEAST GEORGIA 2022 WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT GRANT

The NEGRC's Workforce Development Division/WorkSource Northeast Georgia has been selected as one of the recipients of the United Way of Northeast Georgia's 2022 Workforce Development Grants. The grant will provide youth, ages 16-24 in the Northeast Georgia service region, access to short-term welding training during the calendar year 2022. The funds received will allow approximately 20 youths to be served. For further information on this grant and other services available through WorkSource Northeast Georgia, please contact the NEGRC Workforce Development Division/WorkSource Northeast Georgia, (706) 369-5703.

THE SUCCESS STORY OF J. G.

J.G. is a 78 year old, non-ambulatory male who suffers with multiple health impairments which includes Centrilobular Emphysema, Dysphagia, Atherosclerotic Heart Disease, Chronic Respiratory Failure, Generalized

Weakness, and Hemiplegia and Hemiparesis associated with Cerebrovascular Accident. Since 2013 J.G. suffered four strokes, which caused him to be non-ambulatory and totally dependent on others for care. His wife was unable to care for him due to having her own declining medical conditions; as a result he was placed in two different nursing homes for a period of 8 years. Unable to have nursing home visitation with J.G. from March 2020 through December 2020, his eldest daughter became interested in bringing him home from the nursing home where he would be with family. J. G. family sought additional assistance to ensure that his health needs were met. His daughter left her full time job as a private duty nurse in December 2020 to take care of J.G. J.G. was discharged from the nursing home on December 14, 2020 to live with his daughter. J.G. received in-home services under Elderly and Disabled Waiver Program, Community Care Services Program and Money Follows the Person. Due to difficulty swallowing and unable to maintain nutrition by mouth, J.G. received a percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy (PEG) feeding tube. Shortly after returning home, he was placed under care of Hospice. Currently J.G. continues to thrive well while living in his daughter's home with the assistance of home care aides and family. He no longer uses his PEG tube for feedings. Hospice services were discontinued in August 2021. J.G. has strong family support and even goes out within his community to visit family members and friends.



NEGRC'S WORKFORCE DIVISION SUCCESS WITH THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY DISASTER GRANT

Sherry Wilkerson is a resident of Walton County that was laid off from her previous job in 2020 due to

the COVID-19 pandemic. During this time, the Workforce Development Division received a Department of Labor Grant (National Emergency Disaster Grant) to assist people who had been laid off during the pandemic. The assistance was intended to train and employ those who lost their jobs. It also provided work experience opportunities with local non-profit agencies, who had an increase in demand due to the effects of the pandemic. Sherry heard about this grant and took advantage of the opportunity. Kim Meadows, NEGRC Career Advisor Program Manager, began working with Sherry to get her signed-up for the program. Ms. Meadows said, "I knew Sherry was special the moment I spoke with her. She was such a positive person and was excited about the opportunity. She had a genuine desire to help people, and I knew that she would excel in anything that she put her hands on."

Sherry began the work experience program by working with the Walton County Senior Center. Vickie Gasaway, the Director at the Senior Center says, "Sherry Wilkerson came to the Walton County Senior Citizens Council through NEGRC's Dislocated Workers Work Experience Program. Her genuine care of our clients and positivity has been an incredible enhancement for our program. The program provides for food distribution by her to so many of our seniors who have been impacted by Covid-19. Sherry sets an example by taking safety precautions with herself, our equipment, and reminders for our seniors; she does all required to provide for and protect clients with efficiency, effectiveness, and sometimes most important, a smile." Sherry has worked at the Senior Center for about 9 months. The grant pays her wages.

In addition to being a valued staff member at the Senior Center, Sherry also used the grant to further her education and skills at Athens Technical College by enrolling into the Certified Nursing Assistant (C.N.A.) Program. Debi Bartlett, Program Administrator for the C.N.A. program says, "Sherry Wilkerson is living proof that dreams are reachable." Sherry is a very caring person and puts every effort into connecting with others in a way that gives them a renewed sense of purpose and hope. She has been an excellent student with a final grade average of 100. She works diligently to understand the fundamentals and takes great joy in applying them correctly. She will be a blessing to the healthcare community".

Sherry is enjoying her time at the Senior Center and in the training program. Sherry says she loves working with

the seniors, and also that she is excited to begin her new career in healthcare. Within the last weeks, Sherry officially passed her certification exam and is now a licensed C.N.A., which is a high-demand occupation in our area. Sherry's dedication and determination to complete both programs and the additional funding from the US Department of Labor has impacted our community. This success story is a testament to the program's benefits.



Sherry Wilkerson in training and working at the Walton County Senior Center





305 Research Drive
Athens, GA 30605

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Update

REGIONAL MEETINGS
NOVEMBER

5 th	10:00 a.m.	NEGA CARE-NET Caregiver Celebration	Virtual
10 th	1:00 p.m.	Solid Waste Authority Meeting	NEGRC
12 th	10:00 a.m.	Senior Center Director's Meeting	Virtual
16 th	10:00 a.m.	ADRC Advisory/Elder Rights/CARE-NET	Virtual
17 th	9:00 a.m.	UOBWA Meeting	NEGRC
18 th	Noon	NEGRC Council Meeting	Trumps Catering
25 th & 26 th	All Day	Closed for Thanksgiving	

