

CITY OF HULL RECEIVES USDA-RD FUNDING

Senator Raphael Warnock wrote a letter to Mayor Paul Walton congratulating him on successfully securing federal funding for the new City Hall in Hull, GA. The secured federal investment from the USDA's Rural Development (USDA-RD) program is for the construction of a new city hall in Hull, GA. The proposed facility will be nearly double the size of the current city hall, providing more room to serve community needs and saving taxpayers money by reducing the annual cost of operations and maintenance.

Hull's existing city hall was purchased in 1987 and has become increasingly costly to maintain. The building is not compliant with the current programmatic space needed to efficiently operate city services and the building continues to deteriorate. Replacing the aged facility is a critical need of the City.

At the NEGRC's August 18, 2022 Council meeting, Martha Revelo, Outreach Director for Senator Warnock's office, asked to present the letter to Mayor Walton.

For information on USDA-RD's programs, visit: www.rd.usda.gov/ga

*Martha Revelo, Senator Warnock's office, Paul Walton, Mayor of Hull,
Burke Walker, NEGRC Executive Director*



GEORGIA TRUST CALL FOR 2023 AWARD NOMINATIONS

Each year, the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation accepts nominations for its annual Preservation Awards—a program serving the state for 40 years. The Awards cover six categories for different types of preservation projects. Eligible projects are evaluated based on their contributions to a community and/or the state. Projects and activities must also conform to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties to ensure their historic integrity and character-defining features are preserved.



The deadline to submit nominations is November 18, 2022. For additional information and access to the nomination forms, visit: <https://www.georgiitrust.org/our-programs/preservation-awards>.

For information or assistance with historic-preservation planning, contact **Lydia Joffray**, NEGRC Historic Preservation Planner at: ljoffray@negrc.org.

The Braselton Cotton Gin received an award in 2022.

COVID-19 EFFORTS CONTINUE IN NORTHEAST GEORGIA

The NEGRC's Area Agency on Aging (AAA) and its Service Providers continue to provide education to the senior citizens who call in or participate in services. The AAA and the Senior Centers have been providing educational materials on the COVID-19 vaccination and boosters in hopes to encourage its members and the community to protect themselves and their community.

Through the partnership with the Department of Public Health (DPH), the service providers can schedule onsite COVID-19 clinics. Last month, the Oconee County Senior Center and Oglethorpe County Senior Center hosted clinics in which DPH was onsite to administer the vaccine and booster shots to those interested. Also, DPH has provided educational information on the vaccine, booster, and the virus in general. The clinics were well received at both locations and some senior citizens decided to receive the vaccination for the very first time while several seniors received boosters.

Ongoing efforts like these will slow the spread of the virus and its variants. The AAA and its Services Providers will continue to do their part in the fight to end COVID-19 and will continue to encourage the senior citizens and the community to do the same. If you or if you know of anyone wanting to learn more about COVID-19, vaccination, or booster please reach out to the local public health, local senior center, or AAA for information. AAA staff can be reached at 1-888-808-8020.



Department of Public Health Staff at Oglethorpe Senior Center to administer COVID-19 vaccine and boosters.

be available on the NEGRC website under Planning and Government Services News. For questions regarding the plan update, please contact **Mark Beatty** at mbeatty@negrc.org or **(706) 369-5650**.

2022 NORTHEAST GEORGIA SENIOR NUTRITION FARMER MARKET PROGRAM

The NEGRC's Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Senior Nutrition annual USDA Senior Nutrition Farmer Markets were held July 25-29, 2022. Through the Wellness Program subcontracted to the Florida Gulf Coast University, the AAA can host annual farmer markets for senior center participants most in need.

This year, farmer market markets provided access to locally grown fruit and vegetables to 700 senior center participants. Often the seniors that participate in the farmer markets report that they don't have access to fresh produce and often only eat fruit and vegetables offered through the Congregate and Home Delivered meals programs.

If you or if you know any seniors that need nutrition support, please contact the local senior center for resources or the Aging and Disability Resource Connection at 1-888-808-8020.



Sample of fresh fruits and vegetables. Cantaloupes and Watermelons were also available.

NEGRC'S PGS DIVISION BEGINS REGIONAL PLAN UPDATE

The NEGRC's Planning and Government Services Division (PGS) is beginning the process of updating the Northeast Georgia Regional Plan. This document is required to be updated every five years and follows the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) Standards and Procedures for Regional Planning (Chapter 110-12-6). The NEGRC uses this document to guide our efforts of regional service as they relate to planning topics supported by our annual DCA contract. The plan will identify both short- and long-term strategies with the goal to enhance the region's prosperity and competitiveness, improve the quality-of-life for all residents, and establish a framework for regional coordination and cooperation.

The process will be kickstarted with a regional hearing on September 9, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. The hearing will be held at the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission, 305 Research Drive, Athens GA 30605.

Following the hearing, there will be several opportunities to participate and provide input for the plan, including an online survey which will be shared with all local governments in the region and will

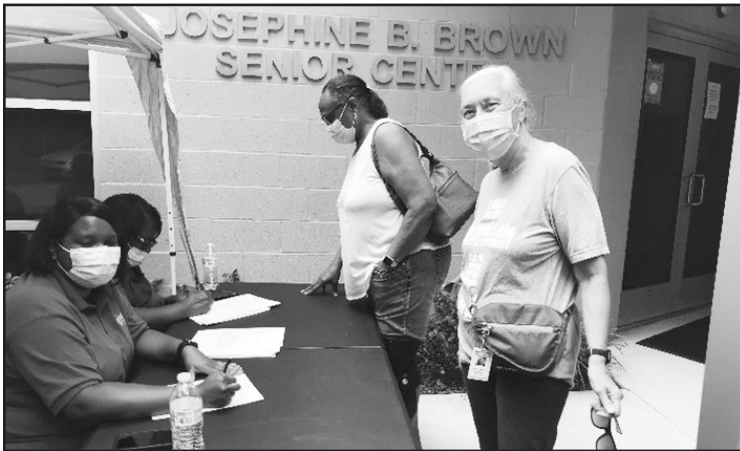


The Garden Market Farmers





Jackson County Senior Center participants receive fresh produce: (L-R) Cornell Grimes, Joyce Stark, David Lamar Highfield, Willie Lou Grier



AAA Staff (seated) Peggy Jenkins, AAA Director and Toshia Lewis, QA Senior Manager, completing the Farmer Market Surveys at Newton County Senior Center. Senior Center participants (standing L-R), Freda Broughton and Michelle Bonnie.



AAA staff, senior center participant, senior center director, Freda Reed (standing far left), and Wellness Coordinator, Dr. Lesley Clack (seated center)

THE CAREGIVER OF THE YEAR NOMINATION PERIOD IS OPENED

Each year, the Rosalynn Carter Institute (RCI) recognizes the incredible men and women who serve as caregivers in the State of Georgia. Through the Georgia Caregiver of the Year celebration, RCI honors the hard work, sacrifice, and compassion of caregivers across the state. RCI

works with Georgia's Area Agencies on Aging network of CARENETs to solicit nominations for regional winners and, of the regional winners, state caregivers of the year are selected.

The NEGRC's Area Agency on Aging Care-Net will be accepting nominations for the Annual Caregiver of the Year Celebration through September 23, 2022. The nominees and regional winners will be celebrated locally. In addition to being celebrated locally, the regional winners will be submitted to the Rosalyn Carter Institute for the opportunity to be selected as the Statewide Caregiver of the Year.

The Caregiver of the Year Award is designed to recognize selfless acts, compassion, empathy, effort, and extraordinary commitment of caregivers toward those who need their care. We believe it's essential to honor those that sacrifice their resources, time, comfort, and sometimes livelihoods for the good of others. To be eligible for the award, a caregiver must be currently providing care or must have provided care within the past year.

The Award Categories are as followed:

Family Caregiver Award

Nominees accepted:

- Any family member providing assistance to a person with a disability, chronic illness, or other condition requiring support and assistance to have a full life in the community.
- A non-relative, but perceived as family, such as neighbor or friend.

Para-Professional Caregiver Award

Nominees accepted:

- Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)
- Therapy aide
- Home Health Aide
- Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)
- Nurse's Aide/Patient Care Technician
- Direct Support Caregiver (companion/sitter)

Volunteer Caregiver Award

Nominees Accepted:

- A volunteer that has completed at least one year of service caring for an individual or individuals in a capacity that aids and/or improves their life. For example, Hospice Volunteer, Church Volunteer, and Volunteer with an Association such as Alzheimer's or Parkinson's.
- A volunteer who has been involved in an event or situation that has made a real difference in the life of a care receiver or their family.

The deadline to submit completed nomination packets is Friday, September 23, 2022.

Please contact the NEGRC's Area Agency on Aging Care-Net Coordinator, **Toshia Lewis**, at **1-888-808-8020 ext. 103** or via email at **tlewis@negrc.org** to learn how to submit a nomination or to learn more about the Northeast Georgia Care-Net.



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Athens, GA 30605

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Update

REGIONAL MEETINGS SEPTEMBER

9 th	4:00 p.m.	NEGRC Regional Plan Hearing	NEGRC
15 th	Noon	NEGRC Council Meeting	Trumps Catering
21 st	9:30 a.m.	UOBWA TPE Committee Meeting	NEGRC
28 th	9:00 a.m.	UOBWA Meeting	NEGRC