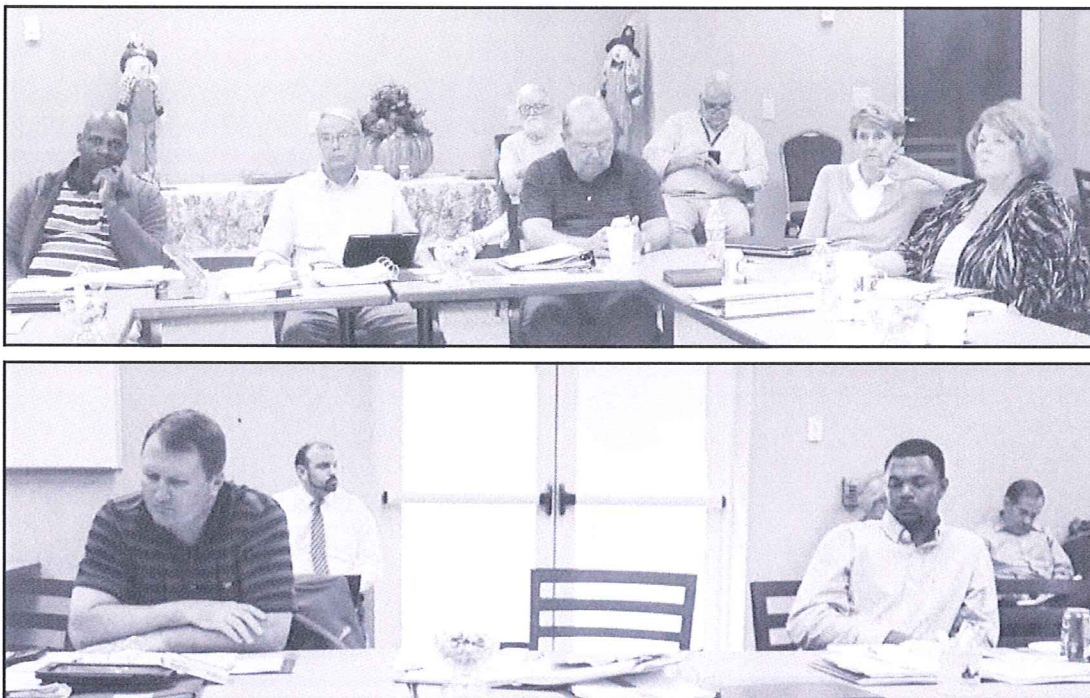


NEWTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HOLDS ANNUAL RETREAT

The Newton County Board of Commissioners held its annual retreat on October 7th at the Fire Services Headquarters in Covington. The day-long event kicked off with a financial update presented by **Wayne Tamplin** and **Pat Malcom** of Treadwell, Tamplin and Company. This was followed by a water resources presentation led by Water Resources Director **James Brown**. County Attorney **Tommy Craig** provided an overview of the Bear Creek Reservoir effort. Jenny Craig of the County Attorney's Office presented information concerning the next SPLOST referendum. It was determined that a target date for such is May 24, 2016. The afternoon portion of the session was devoted to two topics – form of government and solid waste. **Ronnie Cowan**, Chairman of the Form of Government Committee, and Solid Waste Committee Chairman **Wayne Haynie** were present for discussion regarding these items. It was agreed that BOC efforts pertaining to these topics will continue in the immediate future. Executive Director **Jim Dove** and Executive Assistant **Mott Beck** facilitated the retreat, and a summary has already been made available to Chairman **Keith Ellis** and County Clerk **Jackie Smith** for dissemination.



Newton County Commissioners in deliberation

REMINDER

The next meeting of the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission Council will be held on **Thursday, November 19th at Noon at the Athens Holiday Inn**. This will be our final meeting of the calendar year. Information on the meeting will be forthcoming.

NADO ANNUAL TRAINING CONFERENCE

Jim Dove attended the Annual Training Conference of the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) held October 25th – 28th in New Orleans. He was among more than 600 attendees representing over 200 organizations throughout the United States. The conference agenda was filled with numerous interesting and informative sessions including concurrent learning labs, regional membership meetings, and plenary sessions. Dove participated in a panel discussion on ***“Regional Development Organization’s Role in Cultivating Healthy Communities”***. A highlight of the conference was the keynote luncheon featuring the Honorable **Jay Williams**, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development, U.S. Economic Development Administration. The conference also highlighted Innovation Award winners for 2015. The Northeast Georgia Regional Commission was the recipient of such an award for the Braselton Brothers Store Rehabilitation.

CENTENNIAL FARMS AWARDED

On October 9th, two Northeast Georgia farms were awarded Centennial Farm status at the Georgia National Fair in Perry. **Boyd McLocklin Farm** in Barrow County and **Hickory Hill Farm** in Oglethorpe County received the honor. There are 482 recognized farms across the state, and 40 are located in Northeast Georgia. The program was developed in 1993 to compliment family farms that preserve Georgia’s agricultural history by maintaining working farms for over 100 years. The awards are made by the Georgia Historic Preservation Division in conjunction with the Georgia Farm Bureau Federation, Georgia Department of Agriculture, Georgia Forestry Commission, and the Georgia National Fairgrounds and Agricenter. If you have any questions or are interested in applying during the 2016 cycle, please contact **Jordan Shoemaker**, NEGRC Project Specialist, at jshoemaker@negrc.org.

HPC TRAINING IN THOMASVILLE

The Georgia Historic Preservation Division is hosting Historic Preservation Commission training in Thomasville on November 5th. The day-long session is recommended for all local Historic Preservation Commission members. Sessions will cover historic preservation law, design guidelines, architectural styles, and a case study on Thomasville’s creative district. For those interested in attending, the registration application can be found on HPD’s website at www.georgiashpo.org.

NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR REGIONAL RESOURCE PLAN

The NEGRC’s Planning & Government Services (PGS) Division will be updating the Regional Resource Plan, developed in 2010. As required by the Department of Community Affairs, this document identifies important natural and cultural resources throughout the twelve-county region and offers guidance for the protection and management of these resources. In addition, the plan is taken into consideration when determining and planning for the impacts of new developments.

The NEGRC is seeking nominations of important regional resources to be considered for incorporation in the updated Regional Resource Plan. Individuals, interested organizations, local governments, and governmental agencies are eligible to nominate resources, which will then be considered by the PGS Committee for inclusion in the plan. In order to nominate a resource, please visit our website at www.negrc.org/local-services.php to access the nomination form and to view a list of currently listed resources (those resources currently included in the Regional Resource Plan need not be resubmitted). Nominations will be accepted December 1, 2015 through January 31, 2016.

Please contact **Theresa Owen**, Planner, or Ms. Shoemaker with any questions regarding the nomination process at towen@negrc.org or jshoemaker@negrc.org.

GRANTS RECEIVED BY GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WORKFORCE DIVISION

The US Department of Labor recently announced that the Georgia Department of Economic Development, Workforce Division, was awarded two grants which will provide a direct impact to the Northeast Georgia region.

The first grant was an Apprenticeship Grant for \$2.9 million which will expand entry-level advanced manufacturing apprenticeships, create new apprenticeship programs in industrial maintenance and mechatronics to upgrade the skills of incumbent workers, and develop and implement strategies to attract workers to Georgia’s advanced manufacturing workforce. This will be delivered through collaboration

between technical colleges and employers, some of which are a part of the Northeast Georgia service area.

The second grant received was to serve persons with significant disabilities, ages 14 and older. This \$2.4 million grant will provide funds to two local areas, Northeast Georgia and Augusta, to employ a Disability Resource Coordinator. This grant will provide customized career pathways in high-demand industries to expand the services and resources available to persons with disabilities through the one stop career centers in Georgia. It is estimated that approximately 215 persons will be served over the three year grant period. The purpose of the grant is to increase the number of persons with disabilities who are employed.

For further information on these and additional workforce development services and opportunities in the Northeast Georgia region, please contact the Workforce Development Division at **(706) 369-5703**.

NEGA CARE-NET HONORS REGIONAL CAREGIVERS OF THE YEAR

When someone falls ill or is disabled in some way, that individual may come to rely on the assistance of others in a variety of ways. Those who provide that assistance are called caregivers. There are family caregivers who assume this responsibility out of a sense of love or duty. There are individuals who have made their career in caregiving. Then there are the volunteers who generously give of their time through acts of kindness and support to others in their community.

Each year NEGA CARE-NET receives nominations of individuals in three categories, Family Caregiver, Para-Professional Caregiver and Volunteer Caregiver. We are proud to announce our 2015 regional nominees at this time.

The following nominations were received in the Family Caregiver Category: **Christina Fuller**, nominated by **Yvonne Fuller**; **Denise D'Angelo**, nominated by **Debbie Nordeen**; and **Dottie Barrett**, nominated by **Janice Knight**.

The following nominations were received in the Para-Professional Caregiver Category: **Judy McGill** and **Tammy Bello**, nominated by **Toyin Okunato** with Home Partners Home Health Care Agency; **Tammy Muckle**, nominated by

Ann Stearns; and **Lynne Veazey**, nominated by the Quality Improvement Council-DBHDD Region 2.

The following nominations were received in the Volunteer Caregiver Category: **Elaine Faust**, **Sandra Eberhart**, **Charles Williams** and **Kathy Ricks** nominated by **Patsy Massey** with St. Mary's Hospice; and **Andy Walker** nominated by **Anne Hansen**, NEGRCA AAA. The NEGA CARE-NET is proud to announce the 2015 NEGA Regional Caregivers of the Year winners:

Family Caregiver: **Dottie Barrett**

Para-Professional Caregiver: **Lynne Veazey**

Volunteer Caregiver: **Andy Walker**

All local caregiver nominees and winners will be recognized during the NEGA CARE-NET's 5th Annual Caregiver Celebration to be held at the Turner Lake Complex located at 6183 Turner Lake Road in Covington on November 17th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The FREE event will include a Caregiver Panel and a Resource Panel to address tips for caregivers and how to access services in the community. Local winners will also be honored during an awards ceremony that will be held just before lunch.

For additional information or to RSVP for the event, please contact **Michele Kelley** at **(706) 369-5650** or by e-mail at **mkelley@negrc.org** by Wednesday, November 11th.





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Update

REGIONAL MEETINGS
NOVEMBER

18	9:30 a.m.	Upper Oconee Basin Water Authority	E.H. Culpepper Conference Room
19	Noon	NEGRC Commission Council	Athens Holiday Inn
19	3:30 p.m.	Firefly Trails Advocacy Group	E.H. Culpepper Conference Room
20	10:00 a.m.	NEGA Senior Centers Director	E.H. Culpepper Conference Room

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Sincerely & Respectfully,