



KIRK DeKALB with a beaver caught last week in Turner County.
Photo Scott Utley

BEAVER

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"Two people called me out of Berrien County. They saw it in your paper and they live in Berrien County," Mr. DeKalb said.
So far, he's caught a few beavers, but nothing like he

expects to get next month. He said it's still two warm.
The Commission has budgeted \$24,000 for this year's eradication efforts. Mr. DeKalb said that should cover around 600 beavers.
Mr. DeKalb can be contacted at 229-873-2530.

CHIP

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Mr. Kinney said the co-payment is the problem for many.
"That is a requirement of the program which a lot of people have a problem with," he said.
Mrs. Wynn also said the County program is running behind because the grant administrator John Wheeler has had some family issues. Phone calls to Mr. Wheeler on Thursday and Monday were not returned by presstime.
There's another issue creating delays in the County program, lead-based paint in a home. Older homes, which often do have lead-based paint in them, must be tested. There are only a few places in Georgia which are certified to test for lead levels in paint. This process often takes several months

Thursday night. Once that's done, the City's CHIP will begin taking applications.

Mayor Jim Hedges said the City is planning an event, either an open house or a housing fair, probably next week to announce the CHIP program. Ashburn is using its money to provide a down payment for potential homeowners. Those eligible for CHIP can combine that money with other government-sponsored home ownership incentives to hopefully get an affordable mortgage.

How much the mortgage payment will be depends on the mortgage amount financed plus taxes and insurance. In turn, that depends on how much the house will cost, after deducting down payments and any related closing costs.

In order to qualify for CHIP, the applicant must have good credit. There's the problem. Ashburn has already brought many home ownership incentives programs to town, but so far one person has qualified. Bad credit kept the rest from being eligible.

West side water improvements are on the way

by Ben Baker
Editor

A number of residents in a southwest Ashburn community will get better water pressure and access to the City's sewer system thanks to a federal grant.

A public hearing was held to discuss the Community

Development Block Grant (CDBG) to upgrade the water and sewer system in a west Ashburn neighborhood. A CDBG must be spent in low income neighborhoods to improve the community. No one from the public spoke at the hearing.

City Manager Ben Taylor

EQIP deadline fast approaching

The deadline is fast approaching for forest landowners to apply for cost-share funding through a special national program. Applications are due November 1, 2007 for the 2008 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), which can help landowners pay for a variety of forest management practices.

"Many forest landowners are eligible for these funds," said Robert Farris, Interim Director of the Georgia Forestry Commission. "A number of activities qualify for financial assistance through this program, including tree planting, prescribed burning, thinning, wildlife habitat enhancement and more. I urge interested landowners to quickly contact their local Georgia Forestry Commission or USDA Farm Service Center office for more information."

EQIP was originally established under the 1996 Farm Bill. Managed by the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service, it provides technical and financial assis-

tance to landowners for voluntary actions that address soil, water and related natural resource concerns on private lands.

More information on NRCS conservation programs can be found at under "Programs." The Georgia Forestry Commission website.

said the project is expected to take up to 2 years to complete.

Water lines less than an inch in diameter will be replaced with 6 or 8 inch mains.

In addition to improving water supplies, the new lines will also support fire hydrants. Mr. Taylor said the new hydrants will increase the fire protection capability of the fire department.

Several homes which still use septic systems will be connected to sewer lines.

A CDBG requires matching funds from the community which receives it. In most cases this is done through in-kind work such as grading and clearing. In this case, the City Manager said it is more feasible to add cash instead of work.

The CDBG's match is \$63,000. The CDBG itself is \$500,000.

In other business at the Oct. 4 meeting:

- The invocation was given by Evang. Joseph Bell, Lake Park Church of God, Lake Park, Georgia

- Quantrell Ezell had filed for permission to speak to the City Council but did not attend the meeting.

- The Council held a closed session to discuss personnel. After returning to open session, they voted unanimously to make Sheree Hickman the new City Clerk effective Jan. 1, 2008. Present Clerk Sandra Lumpkin will retire Dec. 31. The job has a \$36,000 a year salary.

CITY OF ASHBURN PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE COMMUNITY HOME INVESTMENT PROGRAM (CHIP) GRANT NO. 07m-x-142-2-2963

The City of Ashburn will hold a public hearing on November 6, 2007, at 4:00 PM, at the City Council chambers, 121 East Madison Avenue, Ashburn, GA for the purpose of discussing the approved activities of the City's Community Home Investment Program Grant. On September 7, 2007 the City was awarded a grant of \$300,000 to provide Downpayment and Closing Cost assistance for homebuyers residing within the City limits of Ashburn.

Items to be discussed include:

- The amount of funds received and a description of the activities.
- The amount of funds available for each activity and the amount of funds that will benefit low and moderate income persons.
- The plan, if applicable, to minimize or prevent displacement of persons and the plan to assist persons who may be displaced.
- Fair Housing laws and the City's plan to further Fair Housing.

The public is invited to attend this meeting to become informed of the City's grant activities. Persons with special needs relating to handicapped accessibility or foreign language shall contact the City Administrator Ben Taylor, at (229) 567-3431 prior to November 6, 2007. This person can be located at the Ashburn City Hall, between the hours of 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except holidays. Persons with hearing disabilities can contact the Georgia Relay Service at (TDD) 1-800-255-0056 or (Voice) 1-800-255-0135.



Turner County Public Schools Sale of Surplus Property

The Turner County Board of Education is accepting bids for the following surplus property.

1- 1997 Ford Crowne Victoria, 157,227 miles,
VIN:2FALP71W2VX172890

1 - 1984 Ford Ranger Pickup Truck, Converted to
Full Electric Power, VIN:1FT8R10A4EUC46465

Property may be viewed at the Turner County Schools Transportation Facility on North Street in Ashburn, GA. Interested parties should contact Tommy Day, Joel Rooks or Michael Wiggins at, 229-567-2449 for additional information and formal bidding procedures. All bids must be received by 12:00 noon, Friday, November 9, 2007.

The Turner County Board of Education does not discriminate in employment or educational activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, or disabilities.

MX5000 KUBOTA 2WD

50 HP
Power Steering
2 yr. warr. on tractor
3 yr. warr. on drive train

16' trailer
6' rotary cutter
6' box blade



Kubota

\$234⁷⁷ per month
*w.a.c.

All Kubota
Products sold with
NO MONEY
DOWN

72 months at 6.49% 10% down
Perrin Farm Equipment
Hwy 82 E. Tifton
229 382-9821

Right on "Que."



For the times of my life...

Name: Keith Massey
My business: Keith A Que
"There's nothing better than seeing a big smile on my customers' faces. It lets me know I'm right on cue!"
My bank: South Georgia Banking Co.

**South Georgia
Banking Company**

www.sgbconline.com / (229) 567.9686 / 561 E. Washington St.

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