

Senior News

Serving **MACON** & CENTRAL GEORGIA
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***Ralph Kelly, Sr.
celebrates 100th
birthday!***

Story on pages 8

March 2018
Vol. 32, No. 3

Taking Care

Take Charge of Your Health to Reduce Complications

by LISA M. PETSCHKE

As we age, our chances of being hospitalized increase due to the increased likelihood of developing chronic health conditions.



Lisa Petsche

The good news is that numerous risk factors are within our control.

There are many ways we can help to prevent or manage a variety of health problems, reducing our chances of complications and hospitalization.

Follow these tips to help preserve your well-being and independence, or that of a loved one for whom you're providing care.

Physical health

- Get regular medical checkups. If you miss an appointment or test, reschedule it right away.
- Have your vision and hearing tested regularly.
- Ensure vaccinations are up to

date. Get vaccinated against influenza annually and early in the season.

- Stay away from people with contagious illnesses. Keep hand sanitizer by your front entrance and use it coming and going. Also keep a travel size bottle in your vehicle, or a miniature-sized one in your pocket or handbag.

- Take medications exactly as prescribed. If any of the instructions on prescription containers or over-the-counter products are unclear, contact your pharmacist for clarification. It's important to fill all prescriptions at the same pharmacy. If you take more than a few medications or your memory's not the greatest, ask the pharmacist about available aids for organizing and remembering to take your pills.

- Practice healthy lifestyle habits: eat nutritious meals, get adequate rest and exercise regularly. If you smoke, enlist your doctor's help to quit.

- Limit your sun exposure and always use sunscreen outdoors. A wide-brimmed hat is also advis-

able, as are sunglasses that block 100 percent of ultraviolet rays.

- Do as much for yourself as possible, to maintain your abilities.

- Investigate available resources in your community, which might include grocery delivery services, meals on wheels, volunteer driver programs, accessible transportation, home health services and accessible seniors' housing. Such information can be obtained from the local office on aging.

Mental health

- Do things that center you and bring inner peace, such as practicing yoga, keeping a journal or spending time in nature.

- Set aside daily time for relaxation – engaging in reading or music listening, for example.

- Keep in regular contact with friends. If your social network has diminished, make new connections. Taking a class, volunteering or joining a club are great ways to meet new people.

Safety

Hazardous conditions in home

environments are a major cause of falls resulting in hospitalization.

Fortunately, there are numerous ways to reduce these hazards for yourself or a loved one. Read on for specifics.

- *In stairwells:* Ensure steps are in good repair and have a non-skid surface. Keep them free of clutter. Have solid handrails installed on both sides of stairways and ensure adequate lighting.

- *In the kitchen:* Keep regularly used pots, dishes, staple foods and other supplies within easy reach. Ensure the heaviest items are stored in the lower cupboards. If you must reach high places, get a step stool that has a high handrail and rubber tips. Never use a chair.

- *In the bathroom:* Have grab bars professionally installed by the toilet and in the bathtub or shower area. Use a rubber mat in the tub or shower, and a non-skid bath mat on the floor. Consider getting a raised toilet seat, a bathtub seat or shower chair and a hand-held shower attachment.

General tips

- Wear slippers or shoes that fit well, offer good support and have a non-skid sole.
- Remove throw rugs and scatter mats, which are a tripping hazard.
- Keep walkways clear of electrical and telephone cords.
- Avoid clutter in rooms and hallways.
- Use night-lights in the bedroom, hallways and bathroom. Get the kind that automatically turn on in dim conditions. Also get plug-in, rechargeable flashlights that activate when the power goes out.
- Sign on with a personal emergency response service, whereby you wear a lightweight, waterproof pendant or bracelet that has a button to press if you run into a crisis and need to summon help.
- Visit a medical supply store and check out the many products that can make daily activities easier and safer.
- Consider a cane or walker if balance is a concern. Make sure you are fitted with the appropriate type and size of aid and receive instruction on how to properly use it.

Lisa M. Petsche is a medical social worker and a freelance writer specializing in boomer and senior health matters.

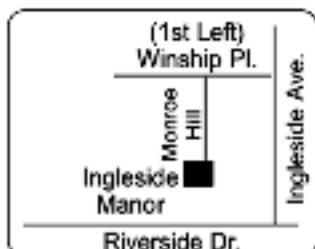
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High Cholesterol? The creator of Gatorade® can help.

Gainesville, FL - If you're one of the millions of Americans that have been diagnosed with high cholesterol, "Natural" help is now available for the creator of Gatorade®! The highly regarded late Dr. Robert J. Cade, while at the University of Florida did extensive clinical trials utilizing a special formula he developed containing soluble fiber (Acacia Gum).

This formula "CholesterolAde" proved to lower cholesterol in the human blood by over 17% during an 8 week period. Not only is this special soluble fiber proven to lower cholesterol naturally, but other positive effects showed weight loss and improving bowel functions which can help reduce the chances of many forms of cancer.

Dr. Richard Goldfarb, the medical director for the company states, "Statins and other drugs can create as many health problems as what they were developed to cure. Soluble fiber is one of the most important natural ingredients you can consume for overall good health." For the first time, Dr. Cade's original delicious tasting formula "CholesterolAde" is now available at your local Your Corner Drugstore or call 877-581-1502.

www.drinkcholesterade.com



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Let us entertain you

by CLAIRE HOUSER DODD

It may not be too interesting to you, but it certainly was to us in Fort Valley and environments. Chelle and Annette Brennan instigated a birthday bash for us at the Gourmet Club's meeting at the home of Frank and Connie Freshwater. We thought we were coming down with a cold (or flue) and decided not to go. Annette did not panic, did not scream. She only said in her calm and sweet way, "You don't have to dress up or anything. Just throw on any old thing and I'll pick you up at 7:30. If you need me, I can help you get ready." No problem. So, we threw on something and away we went, barreling in talking about a friend in Macon. Low and behold, about 50 people were standing in the hallway singing Happy Birthday. We nearly

fainted. What a wonderful surprise! So much fun and so unexpected! The cake Annette and Chelle got was of suitcase size, and we will still be eating it next year at this time! Connie had her already gorgeous home decorated in Mardi Gras style which is both our favorites. Many thanks to everybody for cards, flowers, presents and best wishes. Aquarians have the most fun! And friends.

At of this writing, we are so excited watching the Olympics in PyeongChang, South Korea and we now have seven golds. We loved skiing for close to 20 years, and had rather ski than eat; so naturally, our favorite event in the Winter Olympics is Alpine Skiing. Lindsey Vonn was our choice. You need real killer instinct with a will stronger than your body. "Do your best and bless the rest." Lindsey, win or lose, you are

still my horse.

No Entertainment In This

What a horror! Our friend E.G. Kight, the Bluez Singer, was attacked and mauled by three Pit Bulls close to her home in Kite, Georgia. She was knocked down and bitten horribly on ankles, arm and shoulder on her right side. She was attacked on the road she had been walking for forty years. E.G. said there was no rock or stick or anything to be used as a weapon. After knocking her down, the dogs took her right tennis shoe and started fighting over it. She took that time to crawl to the ditch where she found a small stick which she held in front of her face and did not move... even when they came back several times, barking and snarling, moving in closer and closer. E.G. just sat there still, praying and hoping. She has no idea how long it was before a neighbor

drove by. They almost did not see her. The husband took care of the Pit Bulls and his wife took care of E.G., got her home, called 911. The Rescue People and the Police came.

After taking E.G. to the hospital and getting her taken care of, stitched up, etc., the dogs were rounded up and two are in custody for the required time for rabies, but the other one was left at home because she had nine puppies to feed.

Good Heavens! As afraid as everyone is of this particular species of dog, we were all astounded to hear that nine more were being raised!

Alisa, daughter of Al and Tisa Horton is training for the Olympics in gymnastics. She is really good and was recently invited to participate in a weekend event at Disney World. She was first place in one event and runner up in another.

TINDALL SENIORS TOWERS IS NOW LEASING

This is to notify the public that **Tindall Seniors Towers**, located at 1855 Felton Avenue, Macon, GA., began accepting applications on Wednesday, January 17, 2018. **Interested persons may call the application line at 478-752-3781 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., or email tindallseniors@maconhousing.com and request an application. Persons with hearing or speech impairments may call the Georgia Relay Service at 7-1-1, or go to the Georgia Relay website <http://georgiarelay.org> for assistance.**

Tindall Seniors Towers is a LIHTC funded senior property with Section 8 Project Based Voucher rental assistance. The property contains 66-1BR, and 10-2BR units. All units are accessible and adaptable as defined by the Fair Housing Amendments Act. In addition, units are available that are designed specifically for persons with mobility, hearing, or visual impairments. **Persons with disabilities or those with limited English proficiency needing assistance filling out the application may call the application telephone number or Georgia Relay Service for assistance.**

In order to qualify for residency, all family members must be at least 62 years of age with a total family income that does not exceed the HUD published 50% AMI income limits for Macon-Bibb County, have a good rental history and acceptable criminal and background screening. **Please note that Tindall Seniors Towers gives a waiting list preference to those who are 62 years of age, otherwise eligible, and were residents of Tindall Heights Apartments at the time of demolition on September 9, 2015.**

Tindall Seniors Towers is an Equal Housing Opportunity property and provides housing to all without regard to race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin.



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Serving the Macon Metro Area

Website

www.seniornewsga.com

Publisher

Billy R. Tucker

478-929-3636

seniornewsga@cox.net

Advertising Account Executive

Carol W. Clegg

478-297-8804

Columnists

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Published monthly. Business Office is located at 214 Wilsons Creek Bend, Bonaire, GA 31005. Approximate Monthly Readership: Metro Augusta, 27,000; Macon/Central Georgia, 21,000. Editorial and advertising copy deadline is the 15th of the month. Preference is given to editorial copy submitted earliest. Publishers do not accept any liability whatsoever for any material supplied by advertisers or editorial organizations including the use of trademarks, logotypes, slogans, or other service marks, or any claims made by such organizations and such organizations indemnify and save harmless the publishers in the event of any lawsuit or litigation. In the event of any publishers' error in the content of any advertisement, maximum liability shall be limited to the cost of the advertising area in which the error occurred. Publishers reserve the rights to edit or reject any materials submitted for publication. Editorial information you would like considered for publication should be mailed to: Senior News, 214 Wilsons Creek Bend, Bonaire, GA 31005.

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www.seniornewsga.com

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Senior News & Views of Georgia

Poets' Corner

If I Can Dream – A Miracle in the Making

by Joel M. Adams (Grandpa Adams)
With help from Elvis
A. Presley and songs

I know I came early, *That's All Right Mama* and *Don't Cry Daddy*, cause *(Let Me Be Your) Teddy Bear* and *I Need Your Love Tonight*.

I'm *A Big Hunk of Love*. I know everyone is *All Shook Up* and they *Can't Help Falling in Love* with me!

Where Could I Go But To The Lord.

If I could Dream – *My Way* I would *Just Pretend* I'm *The Long Legged Girl* (with the short Dress on).

It's A Matter of Time - I Believe - It's No Secret (What God Can Do). *Take My Hand, Precious Lord* and lead me over the *Bridge Over Troubled Waters*.

I Want you, I Need You, I Love You!

Are You Lonesome Tonight? It Hurts Me too!

Lord, you *Gave Me A Mountain* and *I Love You So*,

but you will *Take Good Care of Her*; I *Surrender* my trust to

The Wonder of You!

Everyone *Don't be Crying in the Chapel*, I'm a *Little Sister* that's *Stuck on You*.

We won't have a *Blue Christmas*. I'll *Be Home for Christmas*.

One of these days I'll have *Memories* and *I Just Can't Help Believin'*.

I have a *Burning Love* in me! Sometimes, *That's the Way It Is*, but we'll *Patch It Up!*

GRU ain't no *Heartbreak Hotel!*

The doctors and nurses all *Love Me Tender* and love me true, but *One Night* soon I'll be with You!

Love, Lil Savannah
Presley (Adams)

Author's Comments: This poem was written about our granddaughter (1st grandchild) Savannah Presley Adams. She was born 10 weeks premature. Our son was raised on Elvis music and was/is a fan, so he used "Presley" as her middle name. His second child (our 2nd grandchild), a boy, is named Blake Aron Adams, Elvis' middle name. Savannah stayed in GRU (Georgia Regents University), or MCG as we call it, for 8 weeks. So, I came up with this poem on just one try. It just came to

me and I just put it together.

Trees

by Janice E. Childers

I love trees for many reasons. They are always giving.

They give us spices which are nice, and fruit that's good to eat.

Nuts for snacks and other things; wood for furniture and houses too!

They give shade in the summer, a home for birds and squirrels, gum from the gum tree,; and, syrup too!

Medicine, let's not forget that! Eucalyptus for sore muscles and coco for chocolate and candy.

Trees give us paper to write on and other uses too.

Trees are for climbing, tree houses and hide and go seek.

Now, let's not forget their beauty and smell;

They give us flowers in the summer and colorful leaves in the fall.

Is there more? Oh, yes, the most important thing of all;

They give us oxygen to breath to keep us alive.

I love trees for so many reasons. I hope after hearing this, if you don't, you will too.

Senior Adult Revival scheduled by Lizella Baptist Church

Special to Senior News

Lizella Baptist Church's Golden Fellowship is hosting a non-denominational Community Wide Senior Adult Revival March 12-14th to encourage all of middle Georgia. With old-time gospel favorites and special music from Rev. Jeff Cleghorn, and powerful revival preaching by the area's most sought-after teachers and preachers, this event is going to bring encouragement and joy to all. Hosea 10:12 says, "It is time to seek the Lord, until He comes and showers His righteousness on you." What a timely picture for us of His love as we head into a new spring!

Revival services begin each morning at 10:30 a.m. and will end in time for lunch. There is no fee to

attend but a love offering will be collected daily for the speakers... Dr. Johnny Hunt, Dr. Benny Tate, and Rev. Mike Stone, respectively. Rev. Chris Minton of LBC is both excited and extremely grateful to these great men of God for generously joining together to share light & hope in our community. They are each exceptionally gifted teaching speakers, coming with a Word from the Lord especially for you!

Doors open daily at 10 a.m. Enjoy coffee & juice prior to the service. With drop-off at the door and bus parking available, we can accommodate limited mobility individuals as well as larger church groups. No reservation is required. For more information or a brochure by mail, please contact Lizella Baptist Church at 478.935.8632 or visit us online at www.lizellabaptist.net.

tist.net.

Lizella Baptist Church is located at 2950 S. Lizella Road in Lizella, GA; 5 miles west of I-475 exit 3 on US Highway 80 (Eisenhower Parkway) just outside of Macon.

We hope to see you there!



Rev. Jeff Cleghorn



Dr. Benny Tate



Dr. Johnny Hunt



Rev. Mike Stone

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Golden Opportunities

The Wellness Center

3797 Northside Drive, Macon 478-757-7817

Heartworks

389 First St. (Inside the MHC)

478-633-9090

Central Georgia Rehabilitation Hospital

3351 Northside Drive

478-201-6500

Cancer Life Center

Information and Reservations: 478-

633-8537; www.cancerlifecenter.org

Alzheimer's Association, Central Georgia Regional Area Caregivers' Support Groups

Call 478-746-7050 or 800-272-3900 for details.

Bibb County

• 2nd Tues., 3:30 p.m., Alzheimer's Association, 886 Mulberry St., Macon, 478-746-7050

• 1st Wed., 10 a.m., Martha Bowman UMC, 500 Bass Rd., Macon, 478-743-7050

Houston County

• 4th Thurs., 7 p.m., Peachbelt Rehab Center, 801 Elberta Rd., Warner Robins, 478-397-4669

• 4th Tues., 7 p.m., Houston Health Care, Classroom #1, 1601 Watson Blvd., Warner Robins, 478-923-2532

Dodge County

• 3rd Thurs., 5:30 p.m., Dodge County Hospital, Educational Annex, 901 Griffin Ave., Eastman, 478-374-0600

Lamar County

• 4th Tues., 6:30 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 375 Thomaston St., Barnesville, 770-358-4516

Laurens County

• 1st Thurs., 2 p.m., Carl Vinson VA Medical Center, 12-A Family Room, 1826 Veterans Blvd., Dublin, 478-272-1210, x2328

Monroe County

• 1st Thurs., 6 p.m., Monroe County Hospital Dining Hall Downstairs, 88 Martin Luther King, Jr., Dr., Forsyth, 478-747-8754

Peach County

• 3rd Thurs., 7 p.m., The Medical Center of Peach County Cafeteria, 1960 Highway 247 Connector, Byron, 478-951-3613

Putnam County

• 3rd Wed., 10 a.m., First Baptist Church, 115 N. Madison Ave., Eatonton, 706-485-3331

Upson County

• Last Thurs., 7 p.m., Thomaston

Reflections, 302 S. Bethel St.,

Thomaston, 706-647-1607

Telephone Support Group

• 1st & 3rd Tues., 7-8 p.m., "Care Connection" facilitated by an Alzheimer's Assoc. staff member, 1-866-453-5550. To learn more about "Caring Connection" call 800-272-3900.

Meals on Wheels of Middle Georgia, Inc.

Meals on Wheels of Middle Georgia, Inc. needs volunteers to help deliver meals to home-bound clients. Volunteers must have a valid Georgia driver's license and a positive attitude. If you can spare two hours a day one day a week, then you may just be the person needed. We're currently needing volunteers Mondays and Fridays. Meals on Wheels is a wonderful organization which takes pride in everything it does. This program would not exist without volunteers.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact our Volunteer Department at 478-745-9140.

Macon-Bibb County Parks & Recreation Department Senior Center

1283 Adams Street Macon, Georgia 31201; Phone: 478-751-2790, 478-751-9238; Daily activities 9:00-2:00

Warner Robins Senior Citizen Services (50+ Years Old)

Warner Robins Recreation Department - Felicia Wright, Director; Email: FWRIGHT@wrga.gov; 478-293-1066

Senior Activity Center

152 Maple Street, Warner Robins Office: 478-293-1066

Houston County Council Of The Blind

The Houston County Council of the Blind meets the first Saturday of each month at the Centerville Lions Club located on Houston Lake Road voicing state and local concerns for the blind or visually impaired. Fellowship and membership are welcomed.

Central Georgia Genealogical Society

Meets 2nd Mon., 7 p.m., Flint Energies Conference Room, 900 Hwy. 96, Warner Robins. For complete details call 478-987-7260 or visit www.cggs.org.

Health Education

The Office of Health Education at the Macon-Bibb County Health Department has brochures-pamphlets on various topics available in English and Spanish. These materials are available to businesses, community-based organizations, and faith-based organizations upon request.

For additional information call 478-749-0113.

DivorceCare Offered By Central Baptist Church

Divorced? Separated? Find help at DivorceCare.

DivorceCare is a special weekly seminar and support group for peo-

ple who are separated or divorced. The group meets at Central Baptist Church located at 1120 Lake Joy Road, Warner Robins. Childcare is provided for babies through 5th grade.

For additional information call 478-953-9319.

Volunteers Needed

GeorgiaCares, Georgia's State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP), needs volunteers to assist seniors and persons with disabilities with Medicare problems, fraud, and abuse. Must be computer savvy. Rewarding volunteer work. Call Carol Cannon, GeorgiaCares Coordinator for the Middle Georgia Regional Commission/Area Agency on Aging, at 478-751-6489 or email: ccannon@mg-rc.org for details.

Houston County Council on Aging/Meals on Wheels

Houston County Council on Aging/ Meals on Wheels is a non-profit that delivers meals to home bound seniors. We have openings for seniors in need of meals and for volunteers able to distribute meals. Please call Alesha Mathis, Meals on Wheels Coordinator, at 478-328-6070 for more information, to sign up for meals, or to volunteer.

Ocmulgee Audubon Society

Meets 2nd Monday monthly (except July), 7:30 p.m., Museum of Arts and Sciences, 4182 Forsyth Rd.,

Macon. Birders and visitors welcome. Additional information, call 478-477-7016; <http://ocmulgeeaudubonsociety.blogspot.com>.

The GeorgiaCares Program

The GeorgiaCares Program helps people with Medicare understand their benefits, make informed decisions about health care options and provide ways to protect themselves from Medicare fraud, error and abuse. Call 1-866-552-4464 (option 4) or (478) 751-6489 to schedule an appointment at a counseling station in Baldwin, Bibb, Crawford, Houston, Jones, Monroe, Peach, Pulaski, Putnam, Twiggs and Wilkinson Counties. Visit www.mygeorgiacares.org for counseling site locations and hours.

Mid Georgia Orchid Society

Meets 2nd Tues. each month from Jan. through Nov., 7 p. m., Houston Lake Baptist Church, 2300 Houston Lake Rd. (2300 GA Hwy 127 E), Perry. Meetings include social gathering and fellowship period, business discussion, "orchids" program, refreshments, show & tell and raffle (members only please). For additional information please email: rwfaber1@gmail.com.

The Macon Arts Alliance

486 First St., Macon
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Massee Lane Gardens

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Avoiding Fraudulent Tax Preparers

by **KELVIN COLLINS**
President/CEO, BBB of Central
Georgia & the CSRA, Inc.

Tax scams, including fraudulent tax return preparation, cost taxpayers billions of dollars every year and is continuing to grow. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) reports that criminal investigations into fraudulent tax return preparers continue to rise.

Dishonest tax preparers can commit fraud in a number of ways. They can claim inflated personal or business expenses, false deductions, unallowable credits or excessive exemptions on returns prepared for their clients. Fraudulent preparers also may manipulate income figures to obtain fraudulent tax credits, such as the Earned Income Tax Credit.

Missing the signs that a preparer could be abusive could cause the taxpayer considerable financial problems. Some of the most common signs include:

- Claiming that they can obtain larger refunds than other preparers.
 - Basing their fee on a percentage of the amount of the refund. Fees should be based on the complexity of the return, never on the size of the tax savings or refund.
 - Claiming they can get you immediate payment of your return. Keep in mind that this is a loan.
- Fraudulent tax preparers often pad their pockets by giving cash up front at a high interest rate while presenting it as an instant refund from the federal government.
- Refusing to sign the tax return or provide the taxpayer a copy for his or her records. Always make sure that you have something in hand that shows proof of what transpired, and you should have a receipt for service rendered.

es rendered.

Taxpayers should be very careful when choosing tax preparers. While most preparers provide good service to their clients, a few unscrupulous tax preparers file false and fraudulent tax returns and ultimately defraud their clients. It is important for taxpayers to know that even if someone else prepares their return, they are ultimately responsible for all the information on the tax return. The Better Business Bureau, along with the IRS, recommends that taxpayers follow these tips when hiring a preparer:

- Get referrals from satisfied clients and check their BBB Business Review.
- Ask the preparer about their training, experience and current knowledge of tax law.
- Find out whether the preparer has ever represented taxpayers in an audit or has ever been denied eligibility to do so.
- Consider whether the individual or firm will be around to answer questions about the preparation of the tax return months or even years after the return has been filed.

Most importantly, taxpayers should always review their return before signing, ask questions on entries they do not understand, and get a copy of the return for their records. Finally, do not ever sign a blank tax form or one filled out in pencil!

For more trustworthy consumer tips, visit BBB.org.

Kelvin Collins is President/CEO of the Better Business Bureau serving the Fall Line Corridor, serving 77 counties in East Alabama, West Georgia, Southwest Georgia, Central

Georgia, East Georgia and Western South Carolina. This tips column is provided through the local BBB and the Council of Better Business Bureaus. The Better Business Bureau sets standards for ethical business behavior, monitors compliance and

helps consumers identify trustworthy businesses. Questions or complaints about a specific company or charity should be referred directly to the BBB at Phone: 1-800-763-4222, Web site: www.bbb.org or E-mail: info@centralgeorgia.bbb.org.

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or www.camellias-acsc.com (The American Camellia Society.)

Middle Georgia Art Association Gallery

2330 Ingleside Ave., Ingleside Village, Macon. 478-744-9557; middlegeorgiaart.org. Tues.-Fri., Noon-5 p.m.; Sat., Noon-3 p.m.

Open Sketching Portraits

Presented by the Fine Art Society of Middle Georgia, every Tuesday that is not a holiday, 6-7 p.m. at the Gallery of Fine Art, 149 S. Commercial Circle, Warner Robins. For details contact Leslie Hoops-Wallace at 478-396-9198, or email unicornsquest@hotmail.com.

Fine Art Society of Middle Georgia

Meets 4th Mondays at the Flint Energies Building, Hwy 96 & Sutherland Dr, Warner Robins. For details call 478-396-9198, email fasmidga@gmail.com, or visit www.fasmidga.org. FAS Gallery of Fine Art is located at 149 S. Commercial Circle, Warner Robins.

Heart of Georgia

17th Biennial Quilt Show...
"Everything Old Is New Again"
Fri. & Sat., March 9 & 10, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., The Methodist Home Rumford Center, 304 Pierce Ave., Macon. Raffle Quilt, Raffle Baskets, Vendors, Demonstrations, Scissor Sharpener on Site. Admission, \$7. For additional information please email dewey.godwin@cox.net.

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On the Cover

Ralph Kelly, Sr. celebrated 100th birthday

by CLAIRE HOUSER DODD
Photos provided by Chad Kelly

COVER: Ralph S. (Stewart) Kelly celebrates his 100th birthday with his 7 children. Mr. Kelly also has 23 grandchildren, 50 great-grandchildren, and 4 great-great-grandchildren.

Ralph Stewart Kelly is of the Kelly clam of Chauncey, Georgia. AND, on February 2nd family members and friends celebrated his 100th birthday with him in Eastman. It was a humdinger and we have the pictures to prove it right here in this article!

How do we know all this? We dialed a wrong number in Dublin and got Gloria Kelly who recognized us and turned us over to husband (and son of Ralph, Sr.) to mull over the good old times with Dr. Dodd, as he was our accountant until he retired. Ralph was so excited about his father's 100th Birthday coming up he told us all about it. Thank goodness. We love a wonderful success story.

Mr. Stewart Kelly has a very large family. All living except for his beloved wife, Martha Jane Kelly (school teacher and librarian), who passed away three years ago; and, as he says, "Now I have to eat out a lot." Know it is not nearly as good as all those fresh vegetables on the farm plus farm raised beef! He is still on the farm of his father and always worked in the Kelly Brothers' business, some of which is farming, running the Cotton Gin, taking care of the timberlands, cattle and the Grocery Store which is the same one known as Our Historical Agricultural Gem that was constructed in 1916. Ralph's grandfather moved from North Carolina to Dodge County in 1902 in a covered wagon.

Mr. Stewart and Mrs. Martha had seven children. Saralyn Entrekin (Eanton), Ralph S. Kelly, Jr. (Dublin), John Kelly, Brenda Stanley, Kerry Graham, and Jan Lloyd (all of Chauncey) and Linda Covington (Thomasville). He also has 23 grandchildren, 50 great grandchildren, and 4 great-great grandchildren. All enjoying the fish fry and cake!

Virtually all the Kelly family attended the reception given at The Citizen's Bank/Stuckey Pavilion in Eastman. Naturally it had to be a Fish Fry luncheon because that is the custom in this family. Congrats, Mr. Stewart, this is the first time you have been the honoree and not the cook! We hear tell you were the best fisherman/cook-

er in the county; and, had to prove it every week down by the pond.

We also heard a go fishing story about trying to start the boat and the motor just wouldn't catch up! So, you snatched the cord so hard it came back and hit you in the face and knocked you out of the boat. The boat took off and if you hadn't caught on and been dragged along you would have drowned. Thank Heaven's for quick action.

We heard another tale being told about you (really there were many)! Heard your nickname was "Slingshot" growing up. You said "Every morning when I put my pants on, I put my slingshot in my hip pocket, then I went out and filled my front pockets with chinaberries and shot birds on the way to school. I could hit one in flight too!" That was probably the highlight of a young lad's day; and, our guess is you were what our daddy called a "dead eye," which means you didn't miss!

During the luncheon a guest mentioned a friend in her nursing home was turning 106 and Mr. Ralph said, "Well, I'm feeling pretty good. I just might make it to that!" And, he is in good health; we bet he will. As we say, "Happy Birthday and many more to come!"



Stewart Kelly of Chauncey, Georgia celebrates his 100th birthday with his 23 grandchildren.



Stewart Kelly of Chauncey, Georgia celebrates his 100th birthday with 42 of his 50 great-grandchildren.

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