



## MERIWETHER MESSAGES WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 21, 2014

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### Welcome New Member: Angela Hand with Southern Charm Realty, LLC

Angela is a real estate broker and owner of Southern Charm Realty, LLC. She is licensed throughout Georgia but specializing in selling & listing properties in west central Georgia, especially Meriwether county properties, including residential, farms/land, & commercial properties. Whether you are buying, selling or just looking, Angela is happy to help you with your real estate needs. Searching her web site can give



you a great deal of information about her property listings, and also tips on buying; relocation; no obligation consultations and tips for selling your property. You can even find a real estate glossary and special tips for first-time buyers. Give Angela a call at 706-977-9700 or 706-672-1600. Her office is located at 105A West Court Square in Greenville. You can also email her at [scrlc@yahoo.com](mailto:scrlc@yahoo.com) and visit her web site at <http://www.angelahand.georgiamls.com>

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### News from the Meriwether County Animal Shelter:

On February 8th, the Shelter conducted its first micro-chipping event and issued 15 chips during their showcase at Manchester Farm, Garden and Hardware in Manchester. They also received \$118 in donations to the shelter; took 3 t-shirt

orders and adopted out one dog.

If you are interested in pre-ordering a t-shirt from the shelter, the cost \$15 per shirt. Please email your name, telephone number, quantity and sizes of shirts wanted to [c.brown@meriwethercountyga.gov](mailto:c.brown@meriwethercountyga.gov)

Payment will be collected when you receive your tee.



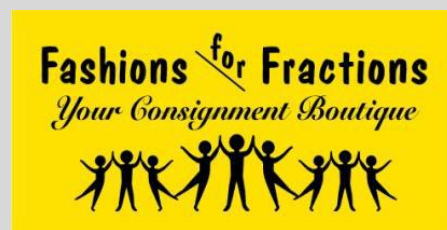
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Our *Meriwether County Extension Office* has a new logo and also wants you to know their office is open Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. to noon and then from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily. They are located at 126 N. Court Square in Greenville, in the Meriwether County Tax Commissioner's Building. Stop by and visit when you are in the neighborhood.



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*Fashions for Fractions* is looking for someone to take over their business. If a new owner is not located, the store will be closing on February 22nd. A large 60%-80% sale will be underway February 17th-22nd, so be sure to visit them at 316 W. Main Street in Manchester. Current owner, Krista Hall, says:



"Even if the sale starts, if someone can take over it that would be great. They may just have less inventory. This sure was not an easy decision. Gonna' miss everyone! Thanks for all the help from the chamber!!!"

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*Representative Debbie Buckner* is conducting a series of Town Hall meetings with her constituents. This Saturday, February 22nd, she will be at *Court Square Café*, Feb 22, from 3:30 – 4:30 to talk with the public and answer questions. The Court Square Cafe is located at 108 S. Talbotton Street in downtown Greenville

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*Mountain View Elementary School* is having their *Real Men Read* on February 28th and is inviting men from the local community to participate. Please see form attached or contact Janice Cumberlander at 706-655-3969 or [janice.cumberlander@mcsga.org](mailto:janice.cumberlander@mcsga.org) Breakfast will be provided beginning at 8:00 a.m. for guest readers.

*Greenville Middle School* is requesting your presence for Annual Career Day to take place at GMS, on Friday March 28, 2014. The presentations will begin at 9:00 a.m. and break between 11:30 a.m. and 12:00pm for lunch. The school would welcome a representative from your organization to share information about the profession and your business, to include educational background and training required to obtain that job. Brochures and sample products from your business would be greatly appreciated. Speakers are asked to report at 8:00 a.m. to set up and to meet briefly in the Media Center. Please be prepared to share information w/students for approximately 10-15 minutes.

You can respond to this invitation by calling LaToyaPhillips at 678-850-6268, or [latoya.phillips@mcssga](mailto:latoya.phillips@mcssga)

*Unity Elementary School has launched its* Junior Achievement Program targeting 4th and 5th graders. Organized by Ashley Brown (F & M Bank and Trust) and Erika White (Unity Elementary); volunteers from the Luthersville community have been recruited to conduct the 45-minute sessions. If you are interested in participating or know someone who would like to volunteer, please have them contact Ashley Brown 706-846-8415

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**Employer mandate delayed for second year**  
*By Ben Goad*

The Obama administration on Monday announced it is delaying the employer mandate under ObamaCare until 2016 for some small businesses.

This delay in the mandate — the second so far — would only apply to businesses with between 50 and 99 employees, who would have until January 2016 to decide whether to offer insurance to their employees or pay a penalty. Businesses would also be barred from cutting their workers in order to fall under the threshold.

The employer mandate, a cornerstone of the healthcare law, was set to take effect in January, but the administration announced in July that companies would have until January of 2015 to comply.

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---The Georgia Dept of Labor will be sponsoring their 11th Annual Career Expo/Job Fair on Thursday March 20, 2014 from 9 am-2 pm, at the Columbus Georgia Convention & Trade Center located in the Historic Columbus Iron Works. The Fair is expected to attract 90+employers and 2000-3000 job seekers For further details, please contact Anthony Walden or Isaac Williams Jr. at 706-649-7435. [isaac.williams@gdol.ga.gov](mailto:isaac.williams@gdol.ga.gov)

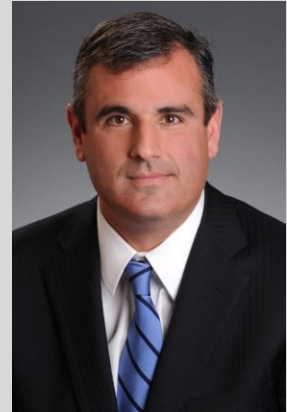






*Recognize any of these folks? Wonder what they are doing? These are just a few of the many volunteers who participated this week in the making of a music video. The video is a project from our Tourism Product Development Team who visited our county a few weeks ago. They returned to work with us on a musical production which showcases our local talent and illustrates the treasure trove of tourism possibilities for our county. The tune we used is from the musical Grease - We Go Together. We had a lot of folks involved in various segments of the production, which will be included in the community tourism presentation in late March or early April. Shown in photo from L to R: Paul Jarrell, Three Rivers Regional Commission; Linda Wilburn; Mike Mills; Jennifer Corcione; Lisa Thompson; Alayna Frausto and Carolyn Barnes*

*Georgia sets record for imports/exports in 2013 for the 4th year in a row.* Governor Nathan Deal announced this week that Georgia imported \$37.5 billion in products last year while exporting goods valued at \$37.6 billion. In both cases, the volume of products moved increased about 3.6% from the 2012 numbers. "This is a clear indication that Georgia companies are aggressively pursuing international markets and that international companies are looking to Georgia for business", said Chris Carr, Commissioner of the Department of Economic Development.



The Senate Education & Youth Committee voted unanimously Thursday for legislation to force the state to retreat from the multi-state education standards called Common Core. Before the vote, the chairman of the House Education Committee announced his support for the measure and promised it would receive quick consideration there too. Conservatives across the state have complained that the standards permit federal intrusion and jeopardize the privacy of students. Chris Clark of the Georgia Chamber is publicly backing and asking everyone else to back the Common Core standards. Mr. Clark was quoted as saying "It sends messages to companies all around the world that we're going backwards. We're not moving the ball forward; we're not having more rigorous standards. We want to lessen those standards and that doesn't give us a 21st century workforce." Ms. Carol Lane, Meriwether County School Superintendent is a strong supporter of the Common Core Standards and wants to remind everyone that curriculum remains flexible within schools, the standards simply establish common benchmarks for all children to achieve and allows them to be evaluated with other school children around the country.

*Have news to share?—Special deals?— Sales?*

*Added new staff?*

*Expanded product lines?*

*Won an award or recognition?*

*Just want to say hello to the community?*

*This newsletter is the way to do it – just send an email to  
[meriwetherchamber@windstream.net](mailto:meriwetherchamber@windstream.net)*