



Mentoring program discussed. **A7**

THURSDAY

Bears take aim at Knights, back-to-back subregion titles. **SPORTS, A10**



The GRIFFIN DAILY NEWS



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

The Georgia Economic Developers Association (GEDA) awarded David M. Luckie of the Griffin-Spalding Development Authority the 2013 Rip Wiley Award for Professional Excellence. Gov. Nathan Deal presented the award to Luckie at GEDA's Annual Awards Ceremony Tuesday in Macon.

GSDA's Luckie gets GEDA's highest honor

BY STAFF REPORTS

On Tuesday, the Georgia Economic Developers Association (GEDA), one of the leading organizations for economic development professionals in the United States, awarded David M. Luckie of the Griffin-Spalding Development Authority the 2013 Rip Wiley Award for Professional Excellence.

Gov. Nathan Deal presented the award to Luckie at GEDA's Annual Awards Ceremony, this year held at the Macon Marriott City Center. An economic developer for more than 24 years, including 20 in his current post, Luckie is a former GEDA president.

"David served with great pride in this association and always led with integrity," said Willie Paulk, who nominated him. "He has always been helpful to others in the industry and remains well-liked and respected by his peers."

Luckie is also the founder of the "GEDA All-Star Band," a group of economic development professionals who enjoy playing music at select industry events.

GEDA's most prestigious award, the Rip Wiley Award for Professional Excellence is named for the late H. W. "Rip" Wiley, a former director for the Georgia Department of Industry, Trade and Tourism.

This award was established upon his death in 1978 to be presented to the person in economic development who best represents his spirit of excellence.

Celebrating its 50th anniversary, GEDA is a nonprofit association of professionals, volunteers and supporters. The association provides networking and professional development opportunities for its members and supports public policies that promote quality job creation and sustainable economic development throughout the state.

ON THE WEB

For more information, visit www.geda.org.

County loses \$4.7 million on tax appeals, so far

BY RAY LIGHTNER
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Spalding County has lost about \$4.7 million in property tax appeals so far from the previous years.

Chief Appraiser Larry Lillard told the Spalding County Board of Commissioners Monday night that 714 appeals have been heard so far of the 1,690 certified by the Spalding County Board of Appeals. The Spalding County Board of Equalization has been hearing the prior years appeals three days a week since Oct. 6, he said.

SEE **APPEALS/PAGE A2**



RAY LIGHTNER/DAILY NEWS

Griffin's historic City Hall, at Sixth and East Solomon streets, has been listed by the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation as one of the 10 Places in Peril in the state for 2014. The building now stands alone on the block between Fifth and Sixth along East Solomon, as the most recent former city hall buildings have been torn down and are in the process of being cleared off.

Declared a 'Place in Peril'

Historic City Hall earns state designation

BY RAY LIGHTNER
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Griffin's historic City Hall building has been included on the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation's 2014 list of 10 Places in Peril.

Griffin City Manager Kenny Smith said Tuesday the city applied for that designation.

"Hopefully, that will reach some sort of historic-minded person," Smith said.

SEE **PERIL/PAGE A2**



FILE PHOTO

The historic Griffin City Hall.

Epilepsy awareness

Spalding County declared November Epilepsy Awareness Month and presented a proclamation to members of the Epilepsy Foundation, pictured from left with Spalding County Commission Chairman Gwen Flowers-Taylor, are: Claudia Woodruff, Lisa Malloy Webster and Susan Dean, who each shared their first-hand experience with the seizure disorder which affects 3 percent of all Americans.

RAY LIGHTNER/DAILY NEWS



GDOT to county: Take bridge plan or leave it

BY RAY LIGHTNER
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The Georgia Department of Transportation has told Spalding County to take the approved plan for replacement of the Jordan Hill Road bridge or take it off the list.

County Manager William Wilson Jr. told the commissioners Monday night, when asked about the status of the project, "we received a letter from GDOT

saying they've spent all they are going to spend looking at plans. Accept the closed road with a detour (during construction) or take it off the list."

Wilson said "they (GDOT) will pay all of it, except Pulte did not want it closed for eight to 12 months since it is the main way they bring customers in to Sun City."

SEE **GDOT/PAGE A2**

Inside

- Abby **A13**
- Business **A6**
- Classifieds **A14**
- Comics **A12**
- Dr. K **A13**
- Graham **A13**
- Horoscopes **A12**
- Lotteries **A3**
- Obituaries **A2**
- Puzzles **A12**
- Stocks **A6**
- Sports **A10**
- Scores **A11**
- Viewpoints **A4**

Deaths

- Mr. Merrill N. Roberts
- Mrs. Lucile Clemons
- Ms. Willie M. Thomas
- Mr. Edward Eston Terry
- Mrs. Mildred Jo Swinney
- Raleigh



Today's weather: Sunny

65 **41**
High Low