Pulaski County

Monthly Key Accomplishments – February 2015

Pulaski Leadership Programs Begin in January
Pulaski Tomorrow adult leadership classes began in January. This year’s class includes 18 participants from a variety of backgrounds. The program has been energized with a new format and a new team of facilitators trained by the UGA Fanning Institute for Leadership Development. Other changes to this year’s adult leadership program include a greater regional initiative that has brought in participants and facilitators from surrounding counties to encourage regional collaboration, and the addition of two Charles Johnson Foundation Scholars. The Charles Johnson Foundation has provided two scholarships to African American women this year. Mrs. Bettie Solomon and Mrs. Geraldine Bembry are the first to receive this recognition.

Youth Leadership Academy also began in January with 25 students participating. The program is conducted by Pulaski Tomorrow, the Hawkinsville Chamber of Commerce and Pulaski County Schools. The UGA Fanning institute also developed a new curriculum for youth leadership programs called Youth Leadership in Action. As a class project, participants will collect children’s books that will be distributed by a local pediatrician to young children to encourage early interest in learning.

UGA Engineering Students Visit Local Pecan Farm
Eight UGA Agricultural Engineering students will be working on a senior design project this spring to create a new pecan cracking machine for Lamar Pecan in Hawkinsville. In January, many of the students, along with their professor Dr. Tollner, made the trip to Hawkinsville to see the cracking machine and meet with Lamar Pecan owner R.G. Lamar. Mr. Lamar is a third generation pecan farmer and has developed a considerable business in China. The students were also welcomed by Mr. Sam Way, a former Regent and one of the founding Executive Committee members of the Pulaski Archway Partnership. Mr. Way’s nephew, J. Walker Meadows III, is one of the engineering students working on the project.

UGA College of Pharmacy and Taylor Regional Hospital collaborate to Improve Patient Care
The staff and leadership of Taylor Regional Hospital in Hawkinsville are working to improve patient care through a partnership with the UGA College of Pharmacy. The study will be a retrospective observational study to assess understanding of discharge instructions (post-discharge care and discharge medications) among patients who were discharged to home after being hospitalized for acute coronary syndrome, heart failure, pneumonia, asthma, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) at Taylor Regional Hospital. The goal of the study is to improve patient outcomes and reduce penalties to the hospital for readmissions.