

Marietta theater wants a facelift
Theatre in the Square waits on council approval



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Marietta Daily Journal

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FAITH, FORTITUDE, FINISH LINES

IN GEORGIA

Chat Tech merges with two schools

Technical college finalizes move today

By Brandon Wilson
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MARIETTA — Chattahoochee Technical College is now the largest technical college in the state with seven campuses in six counties and more than 15,000 students enrolled.

That's due to a merger of Chattahoochee, North Metro and Appalachian technical colleges that was made official today. The state board that oversees the Technical College System of Georgia approved the consolidation. Dr. Sanford Chandler, former president of Appalachian Tech and current president at Chattahoochee Tech, is the new college's president.

Summer quarter begins Monday.

"The three colleges will bring together operations as one institution to form the leading post secondary technical college in the state under the name Chattahoochee Technical College," Chandler said. "Each individual campus will retain, through the name, their distinct community identity. This identity is very important to the community leaders, citizens, faculty and staff who have

worked to promote, enhance and grow their respective institutions."

The campuses will be Chattahoochee Technical College: Marietta Campus; Mountain View Campus, in east Cobb; South Cobb Campus; Paulding Campus, in Dallas; North Metro Campus, in Acworth; Appalachian Campus, in Jasper; and Woodstock Campus.



Dr. Sanford Chandler

College spokesman John Furman said a Canton Campus in also in the works. He said that campus could be completed in about a year and a half.

Chattahoochee Technical College, due to the merger, offers more than 100 associate degree, diploma and technical certificate programs. The merger is envisioned as a way of providing more programs, more instruction and a better educational experience for the students.

Furman said the students have been "very pleased" with the way the merger has been handled. He said Chandler has received letters from students praising the way officials have informed them of the merger and how they will benefit from it.

July means new state legislation

Laws cover embryos, MARTA, Confederacy

By Greg Bluestein
Associated Press Writer

ATLANTA — The beginning of July ushers in a slew of new laws in Georgia, including a measure that seeks to celebrate the Confederacy while also honoring a civil rights leader, new rules praised by abortion opponents and a pair of laws long sought by prosecutors.

Those measures and dozens of others are set to take effect today. And while some of the new laws aren't among the most high-profile legislation, many are the result of hard-fought legislative battles that could have profound impact.

Prosecutors groups, for one, are thrilled that a measure allowing relatives and friends of victims to testify through prerecorded audio or video is taking effect.

Georgia law has long required the victims to testify in person and without any emotion about the crime's impact, requirements that

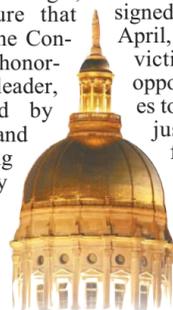
were sometimes too stiff for grieving family members. The new law, supporters say, will mean that they will not be silenced again.

Gov. Sonny Perdue, who signed the bill into law in April, said it would give a victim's supporters "the opportunity for their voices to be heard in a court of justice where all the facts and all the problems can be revealed to those that make those decisions."

Victims advocates are also cheering a second measure that gives victims who have suffered a mental injury broader access to state-funded counseling and therapy services. The law previously extended that help only to victims who suffered a physical injury.

Georgia families who use donated embryos to have a child will have new legal protections under a law going into effect that is designed to prevent an embryo donor from later claiming the child born from that embryo to

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Staff/Laura Moon

Bill Borden of Kennesaw poses with his sled dogs, from left, Pony, Nacho and Tanto and the sled that he used to complete the 2002 Iditarod race in Alaska. Borden is the first Georgian to complete the 1,151 mile race and did so on his first attempt. For story, see Page 1D.

Blast kills 33 as Iraqis celebrate urban pullout

By Hamza Hendawi
Associated Press Writer

BAGHDAD — Not a single American soldier was in sight. Gone, too, were the American helicopters whose buzz has for years defined Baghdad's background track.

Left alone to protect the capital Tuesday were thousands of Iraqi troops and police manning checkpoints, with army tanks deployed at potential trouble spots and convoys of pickup trucks with machine guns roaming the streets.

But it was elsewhere, 180 miles to the north, that militants delivered their first deadly challenge to Iraq's security forces on a highly symbolic day after the formal withdrawal of U.S. combat troops from cities at midnight.

A car bombing devastated a food market in the city of Kirkuk, killing at least 33 people

and wounding 90. The early evening attack, which bore the hallmarks of Sunni extremist groups such as al-Qaida in Iraq, was the second in the Kirkuk area since a truck bombing killed 82 people on June 20.

The latest blast was a deadly example of the violence many Iraqis fear will increase with the departure of U.S. troops from urban areas, despite Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki's confidence in Iraq's nascent security forces.

The bombing came hours after the U.S. military announced that four American soldiers were killed in combat Monday. It was the deadliest attack on U.S. forces since May 21, when three soldiers were killed and nine wounded in a roadside bombing in Baghdad.

"It reminds me that there

See Iraq, Page 7A



Market bombed

A car bomb detonated near a crowded market in Kirkuk, Iraq, killed at least 24 people and injured dozens.



A woman gives a flower to an Iraqi soldier at an army checkpoint in Basra, Iraq's second-largest city, on Tuesday. U.S. troops pulled out of Iraqi cities in the first step toward winding down the American war effort by the end of 2011.

The Associated Press

Former SNL comic wins Senate race



The Associated Press

Democrat Al Franken with his wife Franni, left, speak with the media outside their home in Minneapolis. Republican Norm Coleman conceded to Franken in Minnesota's contested Senate race Tuesday.

Victory gives Dems 60-seat majority

By Brian Bakst
Associated Press Writer

ST. PAUL, Minn. — Al Franken ascended Tuesday from the ranks of former "Saturday Night Live" comedians to an even more exclusive club, outlasting Republican Norm Coleman in an eight-month recount and courtroom saga to win a seat in the U.S. Senate.

Franken's victory gives Democrats control of 60 seats in the Senate — the critical number needed to

overcome Republican filibusters. When Franken is seated, which could come as early as next week, his party will have a majority not reached on either side of the aisle in about three decades.

"When you win an election this close, you know not one bit of effort went to waste," Franken said. "The way I see it, I'm not going to Washington to be the 60th Democratic senator, I'm going to Washington to be the second senator from Minnesota."

Coleman conceded the election hours after a

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OUTSIDE

Sunny 88° 62°
HIGH LOW
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THEY LIKE MIKE
Fans gather for Apollo's Michael Jackson tribute
Page 2A



FIRST AND FOREMOST

a rundown of harmless news

TELEVISION TONIGHT

“Monsters Inside Me” (9 p.m., Animal Planet). This series explores the icky things inside us and how they make us sick.

COBB COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS HOST LUNCH AND LEARN

From staff reports

Lunch and Learn, a new series of programs presented by Cobb County Master Gardeners, will be from noon to 1 p.m. on the second Friday of each month at the Cobb County Central Library, at 266 Roswell Street in Marietta.

Bring your lunch and enjoy an hour-long presentation on a plant-related subject.

For more information, call Cobb Extension at (770) 528-4070 or visit www.cobbmastergardeners.org.



JOHNSON FERRY BAPTIST CHURCH TO HOST PATRIOTIC CONCERTS

Johnson Ferry Baptist Church will host Patriotic Concerts at 7:30 p.m. today and Thursday at the Sanctuary at Johnson Ferry Baptist Church, 955 Johnson Ferry Road in Marietta. The theme is an American Celebration: In Defense of Freedom.

The performances will feature the 45-piece orchestra and 150-voice choir, a musical presentation with historical narrative.

The concert is less than an hour and will be followed by an ice cream social in the fellowship hall. Presenting the colors are



members of the Cobb Fire and Emergency Services Honor Guard, and active and veteran military men and women will be honored. Musical selections include “Battle Hymn of the Republic,” “Fanfare for the Common Man,” by **Aaron Copland**, “American Salute,” by **Morton Gould**; and “The Stars and Stripes Forever.”

For more information, call (770) 795-3234.

KSU HAS SPACE AVAILABLE IN SUMMER COURSES

It's not too late to secure a spot in some of the most popular classes offered this summer at Continuing Education at Kennesaw State University. Classes in “Swing Dance” and “Dancing for All Occasions” are available on Tuesday evenings beginning July 14 at KSU Center, and the cost is \$119 for each.

Perfect for anyone who wants to improve speaking skills, a professional “Voice Over” class will enhance tone, power, resonance, cadence and other vocal techniques. Sales representatives, attorneys, customer service professionals and various other professionals can benefit from polishing their skills in this class. The course, which is also offered at KSU Center, will be on Wednesday evenings from 7 to 10 p.m. The cost is \$89, and it begins Sept. 9.

“Successful Supervisor” is one of the center's most valuable courses for professionals who are ready to move up in the ranks and be eligible for a supervisory position. It begins July 21 and runs Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. It is a certificate program which offers students 2.4 IACET units. The cost is \$929.

Teachers who need help preparing for the GACE exam can attend a course at KSU Center on three Saturdays from 8 a.m. to noon July 11-25. The cost is \$249, and students will receive 1.2 continuing education units.

For more information about these and other courses or to register online, call Continuing Education at KSU at (770) 423-6765 or visit www.Kennesaw.edu/ConEd.

QUOTABLE QUOTE

“The more we learn the more we realize how little we know.”

— R. Buckminster Fuller (1895-1983)



Staff/Laura Moon

Bill and his wife, Brenda Borden, with their dogs, front to back, Tanto, Nacho and Pony, who competed in the 2002 Iditarod with Bill and completed the race in 14 days, four hours, 10 minutes and 14 seconds.

Extreme athlete

Kennesaw man shares stories from the grueling Iditarod race



By **Sally Litchfield**
MDJ Features Editor
sallylit@bellsouth.net

In 2002, Bill Borden of Kennesaw became the only Georgian to complete Alaska's Iditarod race, an ultimate test of human endurance. Through his gripping experience, Borden convinces that anything is possible with proper planning, perseverance and faith.

At age 42, after 3 years of training and qualifying, Borden ran the race of a lifetime from Wasilla, Alaska, to Nome, Alaska. A rookie musher who put his successful real estate business on hold, Borden completed the 1152-mile run in 14 days, 4 hours, 10 minutes and 14 seconds, and it was not without countless obstacles that would test his faith and spirit.

With his 16-dog sled guided by veteran Alaskan Husky Fisher King, the first 200 miles of the race were uneventful. “My goal was not to win the race,” states Borden. “I set my goals within reason.”

“I wanted to finish the race with as many happy and healthy dogs as I could.” It was on the Happy River Steps, “in the middle of nowhere,” that Borden experienced his first crisis. A cable broke, propelling him over the sled, into a tree.

“I wake up 10 seconds later and see my dogs 200 yards down the trail going on without me,” remembers Borden, senior loan officer of Checkpoint Mortgage. Borden's wife, Brenda, is president of their company named for the checkpoints on the race.

Borden suffered a cracked kneecap, broken rib and hurt back. He was left with a loaded sled and only two dogs.

“The first thing I did was pray that God would take care of my puppies,” says Borden. “Then I put one foot in front of the other and started pushing the sled.”

Remarkably, Borden secured the dogs 12 miles down the trail, thanks to information from a snowmobiler. At the next

See **Extreme**, Page 3D

‘The first thing I did was pray that God would take care of my puppies. Then I put one foot in front of the other and started pushing the sled.’

— **Bill Borden**,
Kennesaw resident and first Georgian to complete Alaska's Iditarod race



Top right: A patch is given only to finishers of the Iditarod and they become members of the Iditarod Official Finishers Club, left, and the belt buckle is given to individuals who complete the race the first year that they compete. **Above:** Borden sits with his sled dogs Pony, standing, Nacho, seated left, and Tanto.

Daniel Forst, Sarah Plowwright wed in Marietta gardens

On a beautiful evening in the gardens at the Marietta home of **Yvonne and Henry Randall**, their grandson and his bride wed on May 30. **Daniel Forst and Sarah Plowwright** married before 200 guests on May 30. The Honorable **Conley Ingram** officiated the ceremony, as he did for the groom's parents 34 years ago at the Randall home.

Following the ceremony, guests moved to a tented area for dinner



Sally Litchfield
COLUMNIST

and dancing to music provided by an orchestra.

Daniel is the son of **Susan and Artie Forst** of Manhattan, NY.

Here's a wonderful opportunity for up and coming musicians! Marietta Grassroots is launching its first Marietta Grassroots Music Festival on Sept. 12 from 3 p.m. until 9 p.m. in Glover Park at the Marietta Square. Volunteer bands will have the opportunity to play 30-45 minutes in front of large crowds, sell their merchandise, and gain recognition.

Bands must be based out of

metro Atlanta area, must have all-age appropriate music, music must be live (no recorded tracks) and solo acts will not be accepted for the main stage.

All bands and acts interested in participating must send a completed application, along with music samples, by July 31. For details, visit www.mariettagrassroots.org or e-mail **Les Sanders** at Les@mariettagrassroots.org.

Sponsorships and volunteer opportunities available for this family-friendly event. For more information, e-mail **Suzanne Murphy** at Suzanne@mariettagrassroots.org. For general information, e-mail info@mariettagrassroots.org.

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KJ Hippensteel, formerly of Acworth, is starring in three summer productions, “Wish You Were Here,” “All Shook Up” and “Rent” at the Forestburgh Playhouse in the Catskill Mountains of New York. KJ graduated from Pebblebrook High School and obtained his BFA in Musical Theatre from Wright State University in Ohio. He was recently seen in “Altar Boyz;” as Matthew in “Vero Beach;” and was in the national tour of “The Wedding Singer” as Glen Guglia.

His family traveled from Acworth, Rome and Pennsylvania to catch the finale of the first sum-

mer production and opening night of “All Shook Up.” For his dad, Ken Hippensteel, it was a perfect way to spend Father's Day.

Family making the trip included his parents, **Becky and Ken Hippensteel**; **Joseph and Kyle Hippensteel**; grandmother, **Bobbie Hippensteel**; **Danny and Arlette Drummond**; **Mollie and Bill Harrell**; and family friend **Mary Lou Fish**.

Sally Litchfield is a longtime Marietta resident. She formerly practiced law in Marietta and now stays home to raise her two children. Send Sally news at sallylit@bellsouth.net. Call Sally at (770) 425-7122.

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Staff/Laura Moon

A few of the items Bill Borden used during the 2002 Iditarod, including his easy rider model sled, his parka with a polar bear ruff and trimmed with wolverine, polar bear ruff mittens, 'bunny' boots and snow shoes made of rawhide and wood. The belt buckle shown is only given to finishers of the race on their initial year.

Extreme

Continued from Page 1D

checkpoint, Borden took his mandatory 24-hour layover before the worst part of the trail.

At Rainey Pass, the highest point of the trail, the dogs lost their footing on the 3,000-foot descent. "I said a prayer," says Borden. "God, don't let it end like this."

One of the dogs instinctively went down on all fours, forcing the team to stop and walk down. At the bottom, Borden ended up in icy water and had to mush cold and exhausted to the Rhon checkpoint.

Because of the earlier 24-hour layover, the checkers assumed Borden wasn't coming and disposed his food, requiring

that he pick it out of the gravel so the dogs could eat.

Borden faced numerous other challenges on the treacherous race, including a broken sled and a near tragic ending in icy water, where his his team intuitively pulled him out and then ran him to safety.

At any point, Borden could have given up. But he persevered and completed the race with 13 happy, healthy dogs.

A young missionary that Borden met during the race encouraged him to finish so that he could share that faith can get you through anything. Borden shares compelling life lessons, gleaned from his experience, with civic groups and school children each year. For more information, see www.cooldreams.net.

Borden, the 540th person of only 672 in the world to complete the Iditarod, arguably the world's most challenging race, earned his title as professional athlete.

'I set my goals within reason. I wanted to finish the race with as many happy and healthy dogs as I could.'

— **Bill Borden**,
Kennesaw resident and first Georgian
to complete Alaska's Iditarod race