

Water water everywhere, more on the way-

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- Wacaser Comer Rd.
- Wacaser Rd.
- Warren Rd.
- West Sheffield Rd.
- Griffin Sheffield Rd.
- Union Church Rd.
- Suggs Rd.
- Springhead Rd.
- Piney Pond Rd.
- New Salem Church Rd.
- Homsby Rd.
- Homsby Cemetery Rd.
- Old Donalsonville Rd.
- Curtis McCorkle Rd.
- Clenney Rd.
- Bush Rd.
- Bud Justice Rd.
- Baker County Line Rd.
- Womble Rd.
- Whites Bridge Rd. - Twilight Rd. to Brinson Rd.

Due to the road situation throughout the county, Miller County schools were closed on Monday.

In the reported damages from the rain, wind, lightning and twister-like winds, 34 homes were damaged, three businesses sustained damage, and many of the county roads were closed. The city sewer system was shut down due to power failure, and a major spill of raw sewerage was reported to the Environmental Protection Agency. This same thing happened during the 1998 flood.

A Boil Water Order has been issued by Southwest Health District and is now in effect for private wells in the counties of Colquitt, Decatur, Miller and Seminole where water contamination has been caused as a result of severe weather outbreaks on March 27 and 28, 2009.

Until further notice in the above-listed counties, private well water used for food preparation, consumption or brushing teeth should be brought to a full rolling boil and allowed to boil for two minutes, then strained, before being used.

It is not necessary to boil well water for other household activities such as washing dishes, laundry or bathing.

This Boil Water Order is limited to private wells and does not apply to municipal water systems.

It has also been advised to stay away from the Spring

Creek area below the sewerage spill that occurred when the power failed on the treatment plant. The waste water treatment plant had a major spill in excess of 10,000 gallons of sewage at 34 Mayhaw Drive in Spring Creek Park.

Catfish and carp fishing should be wonderful this summer in Spring Creek, if there is any water left.

Since the U.S. Fish and Wildlife and Georgia Department of Natural Resources put a moratorium on cleaning the log jams and removing the silt and mud that go into the creek, there is very little basin to hold the water. This has caused major flooding of homes, property, both public and private each time we have excessive rains. When we have drought, the creek beds dry up completely.

Each time, especially in the spring, when there are excessive rains, thousands of tons of sand and top soil are washed into the wet weather stream basins as well as Spring Creek. The growth in the basins and debris have filled the stream so that the water has no place to go.

The Colquitt United Methodist Church opened its doors to those who were evacuated from their homes, or did not have a place to go.

The city and county administrators urged anyone with damage to report it as soon as possible.

According to Georgia Department of Transportation, the waters have receded off the state roads. Motorists are urged to drive in this area with extreme care, since sand and dirt have washed on many of the roadways.

Monday afternoon, March 30, Miller County Emergency Management officers Debbie T. Henry, director, and Cory Thomas, deputy director, stated, "During this past weekend Miller County has experienced severe flooding of the low lying areas and creeks and streams. Spring Creek and Aycocks Creek are presently at flood stage. Several residents of the county have been evacuated or cut off from their property due to high water levels.

Forecasts from the National Weather Service have indicated that there are presently three significant storm systems that will affect our area beginning Tuesday night. This first storm system is forecast to bring approximately 4-6 inches more of rain to our area. The estimated total rainfall for all three systems is approximately 8-13 inches of rain through Monday, April 7, as indicated by the National Weather Service.

Please be advised that if you live in a low-lying area and/or have experienced flooding in past rain events, we are advising you to take the necessary precautions to protect yourselves and/or your property.

Please monitor the news media as well as weather forecasts for updated information."

Spring Creek rose to 24 feet during the 1998 flood. Spring Creek on Monday, March 30, was at 20.78 feet and still rising. With the amount of rains predicted, this has a possibility of being a larger flood than before since there is no place for the water to go, but up. If you have had problems in the past, it would be advisable to move what you can and get out of low areas.

There were many areas of the county that could not be reached to photograph, but a large number of flood photos can be seen on the web site at <millercountyliberal.com> Just click on dot photo and look for Flood.

Gene Ragan

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in animal husbandry and is a lifetime member of the UGA Alumni Association.

Ragan is a member of the Board of Directors of the Bank of Early in Blakely, a member of the Dothan Rotary Club, a Paul Harris Fellow, and a lifetime member of the Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce.

Ragan is the recipient of more than 75 awards and honors. He and his wife, Marilyn, are the parents of two sons, Russell and Middleton. The Ragans celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 2008.



Resident on Highway 91 looking for what may have floated off.



Home and buildings on SR 45 south in Colquitt get flooded out.



Living near the creek is nice, most of the time.

Swamp Gravy ends season

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SGA. Joanna will graduate this year from SGA and go to Bainbridge College.

Joanna's parents, Kent and Tammy Richardson, are also charter members of Swamp Gravy. They also played her parents in this play.

Mrs. Thomas then introduced Will Murdock. He is also a senior at SGA and is Mr. SGA. He was a member of the #1 Region One Act Play at SGA and has been a cast member of Swamp Gravy for five years. He also started the Swamp Gravy children's plays and has directed four of them. He wrote the play *Circus Marvello*. Will plans to attend Georgia State University on a scholarship, where he will major in film and theatre.

Will is the son of Betty Murdock and Bill Murdock.

Mrs. Thomas presented Joanna and Will a \$500 scholarship check each for being a cast member their



Joanna and Will were given a going away reception on their final performance of Swamp Gravy.

four years in high school.

Following the presentation, a reception was held in Cotton Hall in honor of these two fine young peo-

ple. A special cake was cut, wishing the two the best as they finish their career with Swamp Gravy and go on to higher learning.

'SuperSpeeder' Law passed

The Georgia legislature has voted overwhelmingly to support Governor Sonny Perdue and his goal to make Georgia a safer state. Today the Senate passed the "SuperSpeeder" bill that would save lives by targeting the worst-of-the-worst of speeders on Georgia highways with higher fines and reinstatement fees designed to support the trauma centers that treat Georgia's crash victims.

Under the new law, motorists who speed at 85-miles-an-hour or more on our multiple lane highways, or at 75-miles-an-hour or more on two-lane roads, would have to pay \$200.00 in fines to the state, above the cost of any local speeding tickets.

"We know by passing Governor Perdue's "SuperSpeeder" legislation, we will save lives in Georgia," said Director Bob Dallas of the Georgia Governor's Office of Highway Safety (GOHS). "Most drivers don't realize that about a quarter of our crash deaths in Georgia involve excessive speed," he said. Georgia suffered more than a speed-

ing death-a-day during 2007.

"So this is truly unique legislation," said Director Dallas. "Because not only will it help reduce the number of crashes, deaths, and severe injuries, but the fines produced will also provide revenue for trauma care in the event a crash occurs."

Most motorists are unaware that 60-percent of Georgia trauma admissions are victims of vehicle crashes.

Under "SuperSpeeder" high-risk drivers who have their licenses suspended for excessive points would also face safe driver course requirements and higher reinstatement fees. The fines and points are all designed to change the high-risk behavior of high-risk drivers to be called "SuperSpeeders."

"We look forward to Governor Perdue signing this legislation into law," said GOHS Director Dallas. "And we look forward to working with all our highway safety partners in Georgia to educate the public about this lifesaving "SuperSpeeder" law before it becomes effective."

Sunday, 12 February 2006 - 12:30 - Three years ago, I was checking myself carefully...

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