

**FREE**  
November 19, 2008  
Volume 14, Issue 32  
Woodstock, GA

**THIS WEEK**



**TWO IN, TWO OUT:**  
Woodstock, Sequoyah survive  
first round of playoffs **18**



**A CLIMB FOR CAUSE:**  
Volunteer fire chief summits  
Mt. Kilimanjaro **23**



**LIGHT TRAFFIC:**  
DOT set to start ramp meters  
on Interstate 575 **16**

**INSIDE**

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT **25**  
CLASSIFIEDS **27**  
CROSSWORD **12**  
LAW & ORDER **9**  
OPINION **6**

# THE CHEROKEE LEDGER-NEWS

WWW.LEDGERNEWS.COM

*The Leading  
Voice of  
Cherokee  
County*

## Airport gets federal money early

BY CAROLYN MATHEWS  
carolynmathews@ledgernews.com

Using funds that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) had available to allocate before year-end, part of the runway expansion at Cherokee County Airport has been put on fast forward, and the runway now is paved to 4,100 feet.

"We can get most of the corporate jets in right now; it's not optimum, but now they can use it," said Airport Authority Chairman Don

Stevens. "Several people have been inquiring, because they are closing McCollum (Airport in Kennesaw) for paving for the next few weeks, and we're telling them it's available to use right now."

Stevens said after McCollum reopens, the final layer of pavement will be applied to the new runway at the Cherokee County Airport.

Cherokee County Commission Chairman Buzz Ahrens said the county's excellent working relationship with the FAA was a factor in get-

ting funds already promised early.

"The Airport Authority was able to respond with a plan and a commitment to utilize the funds," he said. "It does not increase the total amount of FAA funding, but completion of this segment means that the final paving will take less time. Plus, we get actual runway capacity partially extended almost two years ahead of the target."

He said when the paving portion of the airport expansion project is complete in mid-2010, the runway will be

5,000 feet – almost a mile long.

"This project will put Cherokee County in the forefront of aviation in Georgia once we get the 5,000-foot runway in 2010," Stevens said.

The \$34-million airport expansion project began in 2006, and \$17 million is being provided by the FAA, with the rest of the funding coming from county Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) expenditures and Georgia Department of Transportation funds.

SEE AIRPORT, PAGE 14

## Waleska's 14-year mayor gets send-off



PHOTOS BY CAROLYN MATHEWS | LEDGER-NEWS

**TOP:** Waleska City Councilman Bill Cline presents his cousin-in-law, Mayor Marguerite Cline, with a plaque honoring her 14 years as mayor for the city while City Manager Debbie McEntyre and Mayor Cline's longtime

## Sheriff's office clerk nabbed for molestation

BY ERIKA NELDNER  
erikaneldner@ledgernews.com

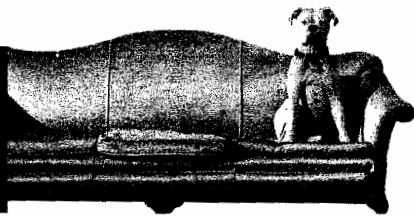
A Cherokee County Sheriff's Office employee was arrested last week for allegedly having an inappropriate sexual relationship with a 13-year-old boy.

Detectives with the Bartow County Sheriff's Office's Criminal Investigations Division arrested Shana Camille Reid, 31, of Cartersville, Nov. 12.

Reid was charged with two counts of child molestation and one count of statutory rape, said Lt. Greg



**OPENING  
November  
21!**



**WOODSTOCK  
MARKET**

Antiques • Consignments • Unique Finds

**HOME FURNISHINGS and OUTDOOR  
CONSIGNMENT STORE MARKETPLACE**

**Over 15,000 sq. ft. of Shopping!**

Remodeling? Downsizing? Unwanted Furniture?

**NOW ACCEPTING CONSIGNMENTS**

"A Great Way to Make Extra Money for the Holidays"

**Outdoor Market Space for Rent - Call TODAY!**

9464 Main Street, Woodstock, GA 30188 • 770.517.7771

Located in the Old Wal-Mart Garden Center • Corner of Main St. & Hwy. 92

**AIRPORT: Runway to be complete by mid-2010**

FROM PAGE 1

It includes the runway expansion, a widened apron, a taxiway separate from the runway and a new terminal building with a conference room.

The Cherokee County Board of Commissioners recently closed on 98 acres of land at the end of the planned runway to be used for future expansion of the runway to a possible 6,000 feet and for the Interstate 575/Airport Industrial Park, which neighbors it, Stevens said. The county paid \$38,000 per acre, using SPLOST funds.

Although there is no set plan in place for a future expansion of the airport runway, commissioners said July 15, when they approved the purchase, that further expansion of the airport is a primary objective of the economic development plan for Cherokee and called the purchase an economic opportunity for the county.

The 122-acre I-575/Airport Industrial Park is home to several industries, and property remains available.

Before the project began, according to Phil Eberly, the runway, at 3,400 feet, was the shortest in the



SPECIAL

A picture taken at a few weeks ago shows the runway expansion to 4,100 feet under way at the Cherokee County Airport. The runway will be expanded to almost a mile in length by mid-2010.

metro area.

Eberly is aviation program manager with W.K. Dickson, the firm handling the expansion. On Nov. 4, he gave a status report to the BOC regarding the project.

The airport was built in 1968, and four aircraft were hangared there. Now, approximately 100 aircraft are based at the airport. In 1996, the Bishop Road Connector to the airport was built, and a hangar complex was constructed.

Eberly said the airport expansion will enable corporate jets to use S&S Aviation, a mechanic located at the airport that he said had "a thriving business."

"People wanted to use the base or use the maintenance, and they couldn't get their aircraft in because of the runway length," Eberly said.

As part of the current project, lighting also will be improved. The terminal building under construc-

tion is set for completion in 2009.

Eberly said the county's objective with the airport expansion is to attract businesses to its tax base. He noted that the Bluffs of Technology Park and the Hickory Log Reservoir are concurrent, nearby economic development projects that can work together to attract business to the county.

"The improved airport will create a revenue stream, with fuel sales, maintenance and ad valorem taxes for aircraft based in the county," he said.

Eberly said the new taxiway improved the airport from a safety standpoint, because, previously, aircraft had to taxi down the runway itself.

He said the early pavement of half the runway was possible because the site already had been prepared and ready with dirt and grading in anticipation of FAA funds that might come early.

**Olde Towne Animal Hospital**

**Individualized, Personal Care  
For Your Animal Family Member**

