

# THE DAILY CITIZEN

7, 2014 Dalton, Georgia Online at www.daltonnow.com Weather: Mostly sunny; 55°/37° (p. 10A)

50¢

## 'Bad guys go to jail'

### Suspects failed escape

unsuccessfully to outrun a Tunnel Hill police officer — and elude officers from the Dalton Police Department, Georgia State Patrol and Whitfield County Sheriff's

Office, officials said. Tunnel Hill Police Lt. Scott Reneau said he was on Interstate 75 shortly after 2 p.m. when he saw a Volkswagen car heading south and failing to maintain its lane. When he tried to pull the car over, the driver, LaCharleston Haggard, left the interstate at Exit 336 in Rocky Face and took off, Reneau said.

He said Haggard tried to get back on I-75 heading north but

crashed the car at the on ramp. Then Haggard and passenger Eric McReynolds took off running, he said. Reneau said officers from the sheriff's office and police department helped set up a perimeter to keep the men from getting away and the state patrol was also involved in the chase.

The two were eventually caught about 30 minutes after the crash, roughly 300 yards away, near

Willowdale Road. Most of the chase took place away from the public, at times going through the woods, a field and a swampy area, Reneau said.

Reneau said he later discovered the men had cocaine in their vehicle and that McReynolds was wanted on a felony warrant in Chattanooga

> Please see CHASE, 7A

### CITY COUNCIL

## Man to probe of manager

"If I said that, I either mis-spoke or misunderstood Mr. Pourquoi's question," he said.

Council members Sheldon Fowler and Allan Pippin, who were on the council at the time Hall resigned, agreed that number was much too high.

"If we'd suspected him of misappropriating that much money, we would have asked for an investigation ourselves," Fowler said.

Records provided by city officials after an open records request last year by The Daily Citizen showed that monthly purchases on the card issued to Hall ranged from about \$1,200 to just over \$3,000 during 2012. Council members said when they began looking at those



Hall

charges they found some that clearly could not be for city business. For instance, several of the bills contained charges for RightNowCampaign, a company that provides videotaped sermons and lessons for churches.

"When we asked him about those, he (Hall) said he'd accidentally charged some things on his city card instead of his personal card," Pippin said.

As they dug deeper, council members said they found that Hall had not kept records

> Please see VARNELL, 7A



MATT HAMILTON/The Daily Citizen

Cassidy Bradford scans carpet swatches at Shaw Plant 52 on Riverbend Road. She started as an intern at the plant last year and is now a full-time employee.

## Collaboration offers internships, jobs for adults with disabilities

By CHRISTOPHER SMITH christophersmith@daltoncitizen.com

### 'Finally independent'

— Cassidy Bradford

When Cassidy Bradford graduated from high school in 2011 she said she didn't have a direction for her life.

Most other classmates went on to get jobs or start college. Bradford, who is developmentally delayed, stayed home with her family.

"I was just hanging out," she said.

That is, until she found Cross Plains Community Partner, a local organization that helps people with disabilities find employment. Cross Plains recently partnered with Shaw Industries to give Bradford a 10-week internship that ended on Dec. 2, 2013.

But the job she got at the end of her internship? That wasn't given. She "earned" that, she said.

"I practiced a lot (for the

interview), had my resume, everything," she said. "It feels great. It feels really good to make a paycheck."

Now, Bradford stocks and scans flooring inventory at Shaw's Plant 52 on Riverbend Road. The plant is filled with co-workers — "people she likes a lot" — who call out her name like a cheer whenever she pops out from behind shelves of carpet tiles and flooring products.

"It feels good to have a job," Bradford said. "The people are the best part."

Deborah Conway, executive director with Cross Plains, said Bradford is an exception.

"The statistics out there show that people with disabilities have a higher rate

of unemployment," she said. "It far exceeds that of typical people."

Even harder, Conway said, is finding corporations willing to look beyond the "stereotype" of adults struggling with disabilities.

"Having companies and organizations like Shaw embracing the fact that people with disabilities have something to offer the workplace ... is half the battle," she said. "We all know partnership is the best way to go. Together we can do more. But a lot of times, that's something you hear from people and it doesn't necessarily translate into how they actually interact."

Conway said Cross Plains uses Project SEARCH, a program that

helps high school seniors with disabilities and developmental delays find long-term jobs. The program started at the Cincinnati (Ohio) Children's Hospital Medical Center in 2008. The Cross Plains version of the program aims to include young graduates, not just high school seniors.

Christi Sparks, the equal employment opportunity manager at Shaw and a board member for Cross Plains, said Shaw's corporate support of the program makes her "extremely proud."

"Each year, we ask for a little bit more and we get it," she said.

Shaw put up the money and found a venue for a showcase late last year that operated like a job fair for local adults with disabilities,

> Please see JOBS, 7A

Table of contents: Forum/Viewpoints 4A, Classified 1C, Comics 7B, Crime map 10A, Crossword 5B, Dear Abby 7B, Horoscope 5B, Lottery 3A, Obituaries 9A, Sports 1-5B. Includes a barcode and address: DRE 935, Dalton, GA.

money in attorney's fees and identified as not city related, said.

## Jobs: Intern to employee

> Continued from page 1A

leading to two other interns finding full-time jobs. It was the first job fair of its kind locally, Conway said.

"Programs like that are the difference between people (like Cassidy) getting a job and losing it right away or maintaining one for 25 years," she said.

Another boost for interns, Conway said, is an end of day class where Cross Plains job coaches reiterate workplace norms like interpersonal communication and mesh-

ing with office culture. That's where Katie Hunt, an employment specialist with Cross Plains, comes into the picture. Hunt spends time with each intern to make sure they understand job requirements and "soft skills" like taking initiative.

"Those skills are often taken for granted by most people," Hunt said. "Cassidy, when she was an intern, came to me and said, 'If I leave early will that show that I don't have initiative?' So it's things like that that they learn that we take for granted."

Hunt said the program aims to help interns grow into adults without patronizing them.

"They have to be there every day, they have to learn to work as a team, they have to have responsibilities," she said. "Everything that real employees have to learn."

Learning those responsibilities has changed Bradford.

"It feels like I've finally entered the adult world and that I'm not a kid anymore," she said. "I'm finally independent."

## Chase: Suspects on the run

> Continued from page 1A

for allegedly possessing cocaine to sell it. Reneau said the men apparently didn't want to face the consequences of getting caught.

"(One of them) has a relative that lives, I think, down here in Dalton, and they had told them that we don't play down here in Whitfield County," Reneau said.

McReynolds, 23, of 1207 Belmade St., Chattanooga, was charged with possession of cocaine, obstruction and being a fugitive from justice. Haggard, 22, of 1701 Mulberry St., Chattanooga, was charged with possession of

cocaine, obstruction, failure to maintain lane, fleeing to elude a police officer and driving on a suspended license.

Reneau said he appreciated the police department and sheriff's office setting up a perimeter to help catch the men.

"That's where it ends the best — the bad guys go to jail, they're not hurt and we're not hurt," he said.

[www.daltonnow.com](http://www.daltonnow.com)

**Grandchildren are Sweethearts**  
on Valentine's Day and Every Day



Place your grandchildren's photos in  
**THE DAILY CITIZEN'S**  
*"Grandchildren Are Sweethearts"*  
pages on  
Friday, February 14, 2014

**Andrew James "AJ" Elder**  
1 month  
Grandparents:  
Greg and Kim Elder  
Brenda Terry, Sharon and Terry McDaniel

Don't miss this opportunity to show off the Grandkids!  
Better hurry! The deadline for submission is 5:00 pm, Tuesday, February 11th, 2014.

Please include:  
Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Child's Age: \_\_\_\_\_  
Grandparents (Limit 2 sets, please)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**It only costs \$12.00 per child!  
3 or more \$10.00 each**

Pre-payment is required. We accept MasterCard, Visa, Discover & American Express.  
Self-address, stamped envelope required.  
Any size photo is acceptable, individual photos please.  
Please include phone number on back of each photo.

**To participate call:**  
706-272-7703  
706-272-7707  
or fax: 706-272-7743  
jenniferhughes@daltoncitizen.com  
lauramartin@daltoncitizen.com



308 South Thornton Avenue  
Dalton, GA 30720

involves recycling and/or final disposal. The goal of this law is to hold manufacturers responsible for the disposal of sometimes hazardous materials (which of course, carpet isn't).

Most of the 76 EPR laws in the United States pertain to electronic-type or mechanical products, according to the Product Stewardship Institute, which cites 23 laws for manufacturers of electronics, 14 for manufacturers of auto switches and 10 for manufacturers of thermostats.

But California, one of our greenest states, has mandated its own EPR law for end-of-life carpet. That law is called the California Carpet Stewardship Bill and it went into effect in July 2010. Basically, that law mandates that all California carpet manufacturers are responsible for developing a carpet recycling plan to increase the percentage of post-consumer carpet diverted from the landfill.

As BuildingGreen.com points out, this actually makes carpet the building product sector's "strongest adopter of the take-back programs to date."

That's an accomplish-

and then "re-manufacture" it into the same product yet again. This, in effect, "closes the loop" by diverting waste from landfills while providing raw materials for those manufacturers.

And this "leeds," pardon the pun, to other advantages as well.

The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program actually gives credit for products that have EPR programs, and that designation is certainly desirable in the marketplace.

LEED is a building certification process that was developed by the U.S. Green Building Council to enhance environmental awareness

Garage Tune-up

\$79<sup>95</sup>

1802 Abutment Rd.  
Dalton, GA 30721  
**706-278-9501**  
KingDoorCo.com

Not valid with any other

We cannot guarantee when this offer will 1  
Clip this offer and please call today!

Now, from United of Omaha Life Insurance Company...

\$10,000

Whole Life Ins

Are you between the ages of 45 and 85?  
Then this **GUARANTEED ACCEPTANCE**  
**policy is for YOU!**

- » Choose from 4 benefit levels - up to \$10,000!
- » Rates "lock-in" at the age you enroll - never go up again!
- » Call for your FREE all-by-mail enrollment packet!
- » CALL TOLL-FREE 1-800-420-5854  
Or enroll online at [www.UnitedOmahaLife.com](http://www.UnitedOmahaLife.com)

**Why this policy?**  
Why now?

► Proceeds paid directly to you  
**NO Income Tax due!**

► Builds cash value and is renewable  
Then automatically pays YOU

► Policy cannot be canceled - changes in health!

Your affordable monthly rate will \*look like:

	\$10,000.00 Benefit		\$7,000.00 Benefit	
Age	Male	Female	Male	Female
45-49	32.50	27.00	23.05	19.26
50-54	36.00	30.00	25.50	21.30
55-59	45.00	37.50	31.60	26.55
60-64	55.00	42.00	38.80	29.70
65-69	66.00	51.00	46.60	36.00
70-74	89.00	69.00	62.60	48.60
75-79	121.00	98.00	85.00	68.90
80-85	166.00	139.50	116.50	97.95

The important thing is that, right now, you can make a decision that could help make a difficult time a little easier for your loved ones. It's a responsible, caring and affordable decision. And, right now, it's something you can do with one simple phone call.

You may have been putting off purchasing life insurance, but you don't have to wait another day. This offer is a great opportunity to help start protecting your family today.

 **UNITED OF INSURANCE**  
A MUTUAL OF C

Life Insurance underwritten by United of Omaha Life Ins of Omaha Plaza, Omaha NE 68175; 1-800-775-6000. Uni nationwide except New York. Policy Form ICC11L057P or stat 0505). This policy contains reductions, limitations and reduction in death benefits during the first two years of policy is renewable until age 121. This is a solicitation of inst (In OR: producer) may contact you.

AFN44167