



GCSO photo

New Deputy Bryce DeBoard is congratulated by Sheriff Stacy Nicholson. DeBoard was the "top gun" shooter in his training class.

New deputy 'top gun'

Gilmer County Sheriff's Office

When Bryce DeBoard became the latest deputy to be sworn in by the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office March 21, he brought along some positive baggage — he earned "Top Gun" shooter status in his class at the Georgia Public Safety Training Center held at the Cherokee County Academy.

Last Friday the auditorium in Canton was full of family members, co-workers and friends, along with several sheriffs and police chiefs who were on hand for the ceremony of the first class of 25 new law enforcement officers to graduate from the Roger D. Gar-

rison Law Enforcement Training Center.

During the 11-week training program, the cadets were given instruction on various law enforcement topics including criminal law, constitutional law, Georgia law, traffic law, accident investigation, emergency vehicle operations, firearms training, the use of deadly force and family violence law, as well as many other topics.

"We are excited to have this new officer back with us from training," said Sheriff Stacy Nicholson.

"Deputy DeBoard represented the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office very well, and I have extremely high hopes for his law enforcement career."

Garden Club welcomes spring with trip

Garden Club of Ellijay

Daffodils are one of the first flowers of spring that brighten our roadsides and yards. Gibbs Gardens near Marble Hill in Dawson County has millions of daffodils in bloom right now and members of the Garden Club of Ellijay wanted to be sure they experienced this annual display.

Recently members of the Garden Club spent the day at Gibbs Gardens wandering through the acres of freshly blooming daffodils and anticipating the bloom of the many other varieties of flowers, shrubs and trees to come. Gibbs Gardens is 220 acres of landscaped gardens which encompass 16 unique garden venues and is a delight to visit any month of the year. Every month at Gibbs Gardens provides spectacular displays of ever-changing blooms.

The Garden Club of Ellijay is a service-oriented organization dedicated to the beautification of our town and county. The club plants and maintains the large planters located around the downtown roundabout and the Fort Hetzel Monument.

Members drew inspiration from Gibbs Gardens knowing that their annual plant sale is just around the corner. Every year the club offers plants from their gardens for sale for one Sat-



Contributed photo

Garden Club of Ellijay members Kendra Boyer, Liz Andrew, Paula Lineback, Carol Harris, Edna McClellan, Kelly Altman, Chris Curtin, Joanne Waddey and Barbara Dunson enjoy the daffodils at Gibbs Gardens.

urday morning, the Saturday before Mother's Day. This has become a very popular event for the community because of the variety and quality

of the plants, as well as the great prices.

In June, the annual Flower Show is the focus of the club. Members spend weeks, if not

months, working on designs that compete for ribbons. In addition, members display examples of plants from their gardens.

Karen Handel rally



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Karen Handel, center, a Republican candidate for the U.S. Senate seat vacated by retiring Georgia Sen. Saxby Chambliss, appeared at a "meet and greet" at Poole's BBQ last Sunday. Around 100 people attended from Atlanta, Blue Ridge, Dalton and Dawsonville, including supporters Naomi Swanson of the Dalton Tea Party, left, and Handel's grassroots volunteer coordinator Margaret Williamson of Ellijay.

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