



# The Optune

## January Student of the Month Program



L-R Front - Josh Boston (AHS), Zoie Bennett (FCCA), Claire Gilreath (CHS), Jake Trebus (DHS)

L-R Back - Walter Gallman (MHS), Erik Jensen (PHS), Shakira Funez-Larios (RHS), Abigail Chivers (UHS)

### Inside this issue

**Editors:** Jan Mendence  
Mike Elliott

**Photos:** Scott Moody  
Jan Mendence

**President:** Daniel Bosarge

On Tuesday, January 16, eight students from our local high schools were honored at the **Student of the Month Program**. Each student was introduced by a school personnel. Dawn Ables, chairperson of the program emceed the program. Students, parents, and school employees enjoyed a lunch prepared by

**Armuchee, Josh Boston** - A determined athlete who displays a strong work ethic on the field as well as the classroom, a member of the soccer and golf teams, Key Club, NHS and FBLA, has 100 community service hours, works at the Recreation Center and his family's farm, has earned the recognition of Eagle Scout, would like to play soccer at the collegiate level.

**FCCA, Zoie Bennett** - Cheerful, attends Coosa High School, brings joy to others, a member of FFA and Cheer Team for Basketball and Football, Teams, works at Jack's, will attend GNWTC to study Radiology Technology, brought up by her grandmother, spreads kindness wherever she goes and makes people happy.

**Coosa, Claire Gilreath** - Amazing student and athlete, inspires teachers to do better, a member of FCA, Student Council, Cross Country (qualified for State), Basketball, volunteers at the church with nursery, Mission Trips, and Childrens Classes, has a 4.0 having taken 7 AP and 4 Dual Enrollment Classes, would like to attend college and major in Health & Community Wellness.

**Darlington, Jake Trebus** - Attended Darlington since 6th grade, serves as Day Leader, has a "team first" attitude, would like to attend Auburn University and major in Political Science or Sports Production through Communication.

**Model, Walker Gallman** - Displays a great work ethic, serves others, a member of Band, manager of wrestling team Key Club President, FBLA VP, Head Band Captain, Student Council President, NHS, Academic Decathlon Captain, Spanish

tutor for an elementary student, and would like to major in Aerospace Engineering.

**Pepperell, Erik Jensen** - Excellent example of what it is to be a Pepperell Dragon, exceptionally kind, eats lunch with 8th graders to make them feel more comfortable, is a member of the football, wrestling, soccer, and Track & Field, teams, & has taken 11 AP and 2 Dual Enrollment classes.

**Rome, Shakira Funez-Larios** - Outstanding Honor student and athlete, kind and helpful to her peers, 260 Community Service Hours, 12 AP classes with 4.48 GPA, VP Student Government, President Hosa, first HS graduate of her family, and would like to pursue Nurse Practitioner degree.

**Unity, Abigail Chivers** - A 3.99 GPA, great work ethic, involved in NHS, Interact Club, various leadership programs, Varsity Cheer, Theater Program, church volunteer, tutor for elementary student, & would like to attend Anderson College to study Biblical Integration in Teaching.

# Congrats to MEMBERS

# Upcoming Project



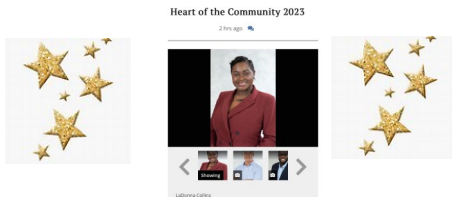
Carolyn Gooch, our newest member, was sworn in by Zone 1 Lt. Governor and club member, Bob Puckett. Carolyn received a pin and a Pancake Breakfast apron. She is seen in picture on upper left with Bob Puckett, Ruth Cipolla (her sponsor), and President Daniel Bosarge. Ruth Cipolla is seen pinning Carolyn in picture upper right. Welcome, Carolyn!

Our first *community service project* for this year will be held on **Tuesday, February 13 at 4:45 pm at the Open Door Home**. Goody bags filled with candy, mints, pencils, pens, pads, cookies, chips, and a Chick Filet A gift card will be presented to the residents. Members purchased the items, decorated, and assembled the bags and our club purchased the gift cards. There is still time to contribute. You may bring 20 of the same items to our next meeting or if you hate shopping, money may be donated. All members are invited to attend the Open Door Home on Tuesday, February 13 at 4:45 pm. Please let Jan Mendence know if you plan to attend. Thank you for participating. Pictures below taken at last year's event.



Congratulations to **LaDonna Collins**, Executive Director of Rome Floyd County Commission on Children and Youth, who was selected as the **2024 Heart of the Community Award Recipient**. The Noon Optimist Club of Rome of which she is a member, congratulates her and is so proud of her.

**Theresa Perry** had a fall at church and is now in rehab. She is not allowed to put weight on it so it will be a long healing process. Theresa joined the Optimist Club in 2012 and has been an active member volunteering with the various awards programs and the newsletter. If you would like to send her a card, the address is National Health Care, 1425 McFarland Ave., Rossville, Ga 30741. Please remember her in your prayers.



*"I hope the millions of people I've touched have the optimism and desire to share their goals and hard work and persevere with a positive attitude."* - Michael Jordan

## Anniversaries

NONE

## Birthdays

- Jan. 29 Tina Brinson
- Feb. 07 Jenny Reeber
- Feb. 12 Terri Ainsworth



## Promise Yourself...



## Future Events

- Jan. 23 - Meeting, Rep from Optimist International, Palladium, 11:45am
- Feb. 06 - Assemble Goody Bags for Open Door Project, 11:45am
- Feb. 13 - Student of the Month, Palladium, 11:45am
- Feb. 13 - Open Door Home, Goody Bag Project, 4:45pm