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ACHIEVERS INTERNATIONAL - GEORGIA

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Ellen Hunt Thomas/Staff

## *Sister cities*

Newnan Mayor Keith Brady, Provost Robert Campbell and County Commission Chairman Jim McGuffey sign documents to officially link the city of Newnan and Coweta County with the city of Ayr (pronounced "air") in South Ayrshire, Scotland. The sister city twinning ceremony on Friday was sponsored by Achievers International - Georgia, a non-profit global economic education program.



## Editorial

# Education provides many, many opportunities

Education brings positive results in many different ways.

Friday night there was a Sister City/County "Twinning" Ceremony linking Newnan and Coweta County with Ayr and South Ayrshire, Scotland.

At that ceremony, local officials representing our city and our county, along with officials from Scotland hailed the good things that could come out of this new partner relationship.

"I am convinced there are many ways we can all benefit," said South Ayrshire Provost Robert Campbell. He said he hoped there would be opportunities for economic development as a result of the formal joining.

The sister city/county relationship offers not only a link to the past but "an opportunity for us to move forward in this matter of commerce and continue the link of education," said Newnan Mayor Keith Brady.

Speaking of education, that's what got the ball rolling toward this international partnership. For four years now, Achievers International has been linking schools in Georgia with schools in Scotland.

Campbell spoke of these links between the schools and said that the sister city/county idea originated when educators from Coweta County visited South Ayrshire two years ago.

Achievers International has already reaped valuable benefits for students and teachers. It has quickly expanded to other communities in our state. And it has enormous potential for more students and educators.

And now, all because of this unique education program, our community and our sister area of Scotland, may reap even more benefits.

Yes, education brings positive results in many, many ways.



# Sister city ceremonies scheduled on Friday

By ELLEN CORKER  
News Editor

Dignitaries from South Ayrshire and the community of Ayr in Scotland will arrive in Newnan Wednesday, in preparation for ceremonies Friday to solidify sister city/county partnerships with Newnan and Coweta County.

Following a ceremony at the Newnan city park on Jackson Street at 6 p.m. Friday, the Scottish officials, Newnan Mayor Keith Brady and Coweta County Commission Chairman Jim McGuffey will gather for the formal ceremony in the upstairs courtroom at the Coweta County Courthouse at 7 p.m.

The partnership formalizes what has grown from a student-to-student cultural and educational exchange to a mini interna-

Local business men honored, see Page 3

tional import-export business teaching young people in Coweta County and other Georgia communities the ins and outs of international business. Dubbed Achievers International-Georgia, the program has fostered several exchange trips for students, teachers and others working with the programs in Georgia and in Scotland.

The new ties with Scotland are appropriate. Coweta County is named in honor of the half Scottish, half Creek Indian Chief William McIntosh who negotiated the Treaty of Indian Springs.

Provost Robert Campbell of the South Ayrshire Council will be representing the area of his homeland equivalent to a county in Georgia, said Brady. Campbell will also be representing the community of Ayr, equivalent to a city. Newnan and Coweta County and South Ayrshire are similar in population and size, not to mention the historical and cultural links, Brady said.

The provost will be accompanied by Tom Cairns, deputy chief executive and director of finance for the South Ayrshire Council.

The City of Newnan and County of Coweta Friday will be presenting proclamations making the sister city/county linkages official.

"This is solidifying the civic

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## Sister city program scheduled Friday

### SISTER

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part of linking the communities together," McGuffey said. In July, McGuffey and Brady will be traveling to South Ayrshire for a "Twining Ceremony" to cement the relationship between Newnan/Coweta and Ayr/South Ayrshire.

Provost Campbell will be staying with Brady and his family while visiting in Newnan and Coweta County. Cairns will be staying with hosts JoAnn and Sam Ray. JoAnn Ray is director of the Male Academy Museum and has worked with Achievers International providing historical and cultural presentations to the classes involved in the exchange program. She also serves as vice president of the Achievers board, which is headed by John Thrasher of Georgia Power Co.

At the courtroom ceremony there will be welcomes, a look at historical perspectives and remarks by the provost, Brady and McGuffey. Entertainment will be presented by Chordially Yours, a local singing trio including Cathy Wright, Carol Frank and Merry Todd. Cathy Wright's husband, Lamar Wright, is also scheduled to perform. Brady said that the public is welcome and encour-

aged to attend both ceremonies.

While in Coweta County, the provost and deputy chief are scheduled Wednesday to attend a 21st Century Coweta board meeting, meet at Bank of Coweta with Sam Edwards concerning the Achievers International program, and tour Newnan Utilities' fiber optic operation. On Thursday they will meet with Thrasher about the Achievers International pro-

gram, and on Friday they will attend the groundbreaking for the county's new Highway 16 park. During the weekend they will get a taste of Newnan and Coweta celebrations with the Magnolia Arts and Crafts Festival Saturday on the Court Square and the Pigs 'N' Wheels car show and barbecue cook-off at Powers' Crossroads.