

Newsletter Insert

Grandparents Day at South Hart Elementary School



**Jalen Burton & His Grandparents:  
Charles Burton & Estell Burton**

On September 7, 2007, South Hart Elementary School had Grandparents Day. Jalen Burton had lunch with his Grandfather Charles Burton and his Grandmother Estell Burton. Lunch must have been good. Look at Jalen smile!



2008 Georgia State Legislative Priorities

1. **Long Term Care** - Provide additional funding for key long term care programs, especially those providing services that help seniors stay in their homes and communities.
2. **ID Theft** - Pass legislation to give citizens the ability to lock access to personal credit information. Known as a security freeze, this tool allows citizens to combat identity thieves and prevent new account fraud.
3. **Health Care Reform** - Support efforts to decrease the number of uninsured and under insured as well as efforts to improve health care delivery.
4. **Tax Reform** - Ensure that Georgians tax structure is fair, stable and able to produce enough revenue for the growing needs of our state. AARP Georgia will work to ensure that any proposed changes to our tax system are responsive to the needs of the state as a whole, as well as specific problems facing our most vulnerable citizens.

5. **Affordable Prescription Drugs** - Promote options for Georgia to save money on prescription drug purchasing and promote overall efforts to make prescription drugs more affordable for Georgia consumers.

**AARP Georgia 2008 Priorities - Key Points**

**Long Term Care**

- There are more than 19,000 Georgians on official waiting lists for home and community based long term care services (HCBS)
- HCBS allow citizens to remain independent and avoid placement in nursing homes - which are at least three times more expensive than HCBS alternatives.
- AARP supports increased funding for the Community Care Services Program (CCSP) and other state-funded programs which provide those services to eligible Georgians.

**ID Theft**

- More than 263,000 Georgians fall victim to identity theft each year.
- 39 states plus the District of Columbia (DC) have security freeze laws in place.
- AARP supports a freeze that can be placed and temporarily lifted quickly and affordable. AARP supports a maximum fee of \$5 for placing a freeze.

**Health Care Reform**

- Georgia has the 10<sup>th</sup> highest uninsured rate in the country, with 17.6% of Georgians lacking health insurance.
- Georgia's State Children's Health Insurance Program, PeachCare, is a comprehensive health care program for uninsured children living in Georgia. Currently, 280,000 children are enrolled in PeachCare.
- AARP supports efforts to reduce the number of uninsured and under insured Georgians and to improve the process of health care delivery itself.

**Tax Reform**

- AARP opposes TABOR like measures, such as Senate Resolution 20, that utilized formulas to limit the ability of state government to meet Georgia's budget needs.
- AARP supports tax proposals that promote a balance of power between state and local governments.
- AARP supports tax policy based on one's ability to pay and opposed increasing the tax burden on lower and fixed income Georgians - especially adding sales tax back on food and prescription drugs.

**Affordable Prescription Drugs**

- New prescription drugs may prolong life, improve the quality of life as well as replace the need for more intensive, often expensive medical treatments.
- Manufactures' prices for widely used prescription drugs are rising at an average yearly rate that is more than double the rate of inflation.
- AARP supports efforts to make prescription drugs more affordable through efforts like multi-state buying pool. Any cost saving achieved through these efforts should be reflected in lower cost and/or enhanced benefits to consumers.

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*submitted by Mrs. Kayran Logan*

*Official News*

*Inspirational Insight*



*Steve Burton, Jr. & Haleigh Lewis*



Photo courtesy of Antonia Robinson of *The Hartwell Sun*

**Prepare for the "Second Helping Dinner."**

The third annual Second Helping Dinner was held on December 19, 2007, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Hartwell First United Methodist Church's gym. Haleigh Lewis is the founder of the dinner, and Steve Burton, Jr. is the event's co-chair.

Flat Rock C.M.E. Church, where Steve is a member, joined with Hartwell First United Methodist Church for

this community event, wanting to assist in this mission. The South Hart Elementary School's cafeteria staff was responsible for cooking the meals, which were then delivered to the Church's gym.

The Second Helping Dinner not only offered meals at Hartwell First United Methodist Church's gymnasium, they also offered home delivered meals for those who called in advanced. Steve Burton, Jr. also joined Haleigh Lewis on the home deliveries. Steve was quoted as saying : "When knocking on doors telling people you have a plate for them, you just see them light up." He went on to say, "I've never experienced anything like it."

The purpose of the "Second Helping Dinner" was to minister to the physical and spiritual needs of people through fellowship and a hot meal. Steve added, "I think people have really been touched from it."

"No one was turned away because everyone was welcomed," Haleigh Lewis commented.

The Second Helping Dinner Committee had planned to feed 400 people, but they fed over 770 people. Steve Burton, Jr. would like to thank the Flat Rock Church family for their helping hand in making this ministerial fellowship event such a phenomenal success.



No Time, Too Much to Do

I knelt to pray, but not for long  
I had too much to do.  
I had to hurry and get to work  
for bills would soon be due.

So I knelt and said a hurried prayer,  
and jumped up off my knees.  
My Christian duty was now done  
my soul could rest at ease.

All day long I had no time  
to spread a word of cheer.  
No time to speak of Christ to friends,  
they'd laugh at me I'd fear.

No time, no time, too much to do,  
that was my constant cry.  
No time to give to souls in need,  
but at last the time, the time to die.

I went before the Lord,  
I came, I stood with downcast eyes,  
for in His hands God held a Book;  
It was the Book of Life.

**What if:**

God looked into His book, and said  
"Your name I cannot find.  
I once was going to write it down...  
But never found the time."