



Habersham County Senior Center
217 Scoggins Dr, Demorest, GA 30535
706-839-0260
www.habershamga.com

January 16, 2024

Re: Recognition of Sonya Turgeon, Laureen Pemberton and Joshua Haynie

Commissioners,

We are here today to recognize 3 outstanding people who simply did what they had to do. I believe this is called unconscious heroism.

Our number one goal at the senior center is to come in everyday and be the best we can be to care for our senior citizens. In the period from one Friday to the next, we had 3 occurrences of incidents. One client sat in a chair that broke, one client's oxygen level dropped very low and then one had food caught in her throat and needed the Heimlich maneuver. Senior Center employees Laureen Pemberton and Sonya Turgeon handled the first two incidents and ensured they were safe. Sonya walked up on the client who was choking and immediately took control of the incident and started Heimlich, Sonya was shorter to reach around the client so a care provider, Joshua Haynie, was there with another client stepped in and finished the maneuver, Sonya moved around to the front to observe the food was out. In each incident EMS was called to come on site, the EMS team was prompt and ensured our clients were safe. The client with low oxygen was taken to ER until he improved.

With recognition of your heroic act the benefits our clients received will not go unnoticed. The county leadership believes in our people and lifts them up in praise for a job well done. We know receiving praise was never your intention, however, we want you to know how appreciated you are in this community.

On behalf of the County Commissioners, and our county manager we would like to present you with this recognition.

Sincerely,

Kathy Holcomb
Senior Center Director