

# Shark Yoga



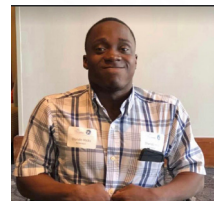
HOMEGROWN YOGA

During the month of May, the Sharks offered yoga classes. Initially the Sharks intended to partner with HOMEGROWN Yoga for a fundraiser, but due to the pandemic, the exercises were offered free of charge. HOMEGROWN Yoga in Perry conducted the virtual yoga classes through FaceBook Live each Tuesday at 4PM. The yoga was Shark style so it allowed participants to experience wheelchair or seated yoga. Because of the huge turnout, the Sharks and HOMEGROWN Yoga are contemplating extending the classes through the summer. Thanks to all who participated and came out to support the Sharks!

# Congrats Senior SHARKS!



**J**acob Stevens is a Senior at Houston County High School in Warner Robins, GA. He is the son of Dan and Melissa Stevens. After helping lead the Sharks to five state championships in two years, Jacob has decided to take his talents to Southwest Minnesota State University to continue his wheelchair basketball career. Although Jacob has skills on the court, he will also be taking a 3.5 GPA into his classes. He has a bright future ahead of him! Congratulations Jacob!



**O**'lando Hicks is a graduate of Warner Robins High School in Warner Robins, Georgia. He is a powerhouse on and off the court. O'Lando helped lead Houston Sharks to 14 state championships during his 7 years in the Houston County Schools Adapted Sports Program. In 2019, he was the recipient of the ASPIRE Award for Outstanding Male Athlete, an award he was also nominated for in 2018. After graduation, O'lando would like to pursue a career in the music industry. Congratulations O'Lando!





# SENIOR BREAKFAST

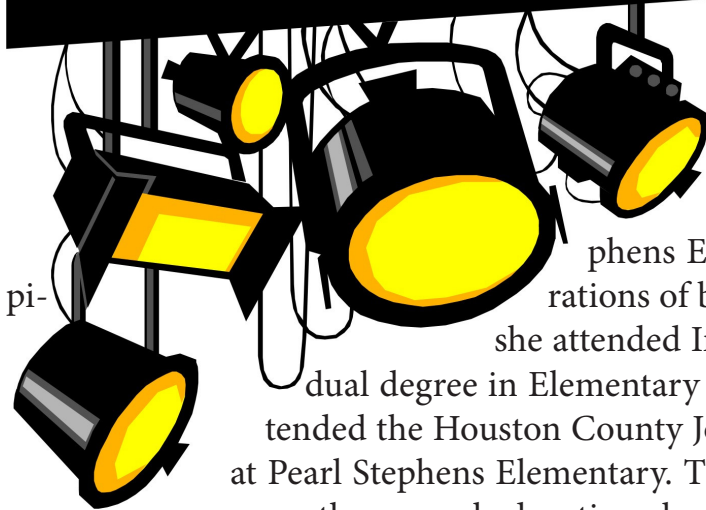
Senior year for our high school students looked very different than what they most likely imagined. However, our county made sure that they felt special despite the current circumstances! Senior breakfast has always been a tradition in our county, and we were not about to let this year be any different. Instead of a sit down meal, we partnered with each school to host a senior breakfast drive-thru. Staff decorated the bus lanes with balloons and signs of support and encouragement. The smiles on their faces as they were congratulated made the senior breakfast a special event!

# GEORGIA POSITIVE ATHLETE



Annabelle Putman, a junior at Perry High School, was recently selected as Positive Athlete of the Year for the Middle Georgia Region in the Adapted Sports Division. Annabelle has excelled in Adapted Sports since joining the Houston County Sharks. She is also a member of the Perry High School FFA. Annabelle shows steers, heifers, and pigs. She also serves as a member of the poultry judging team at PHS. Winning the region competition advances Annabelle to the state level where she could be the recipient of a scholarship.

## TEACHER SPOTLIGHT



This month we would like to spotlight Kacie Kirk, an interrelated teacher at Pearl Stephens Elementary. Kacie grew up in Indiana and had aspirations of being a teacher since preschool. After high school, she attended Indiana Wesleyan University and graduated with a dual degree in Elementary Education and Exceptional Needs. Kacie then attended the Houston County Job Fair and secured a position teaching 3rd grade at Pearl Stephens Elementary. The first three years of her teaching career were in the general education classroom, serving as the host teacher for special education. While being the host teacher, she realized the importance of specialized instruction and wanted to spend more time working with individual students. She loves getting to see her kids have that aha moment and the ability to work with students in small groups has allowed for more of those opportunities. Kacie is already thinking about the upcoming school year and is excited to implement more Orton Gillingham strategies during her reading instruction. In her free time, she enjoys going to movies, working on crafts, and spending time with family and friends. She is engaged to Alec Brown, a Northside Middle teacher, and will be wed in August. With her content knowledge, rapport with students, and desire to continue learning as a teacher we are delighted to have Kacie on our special education team!





# 2019-2020

## SNP Award Winners

### **Manager of the Year:**

Gretchen Gruber, Manager at C.B. Watson Primary  
Rose Reimers, Manager at Kings Chapel Elementary  
Pat Rice, Manager at Northside Middle  
Wanda Keene, Manager at Northside High

### **System Manager of the Year:**

Wanda Keene, Manager at Northside High

### **Director's Choice:**

James Bryant, Manager at Warner Robins High

### **Employee of the Year:**

Jennifer Graham, Food Assistant at Matt Arthur Elementary

### **Outstanding Achievement Award:**

Carolyn Ross, Manager at Matt Arthur Elementary  
Jay Weatherford, Manager at Russell Elementary  
Ivy Duchein, Manager Trainee  
Rose Reimers, Manager at Kings Chapel Elementary