OneGeorgia Grant Awarded to Pulaski County
By Michelle Elliott, Casie Walker and Matt Bishop

Pulaski County was awarded a $500,000 grant from OneGeorgia to assist with the construction of water and sewer infrastructure in the Hawkinsville Technology Park.

In August 2011 Robert Smith, Government Services Specialist at Middle Georgia Regional Commission, contacted Michelle Elliot, Pulaski County Archway Professional, and Lee Slade with United Pulaski to request additional help with the marketing plan aspect of the grant application. Given that the Hawkinsville-Pulaski Archway Partnership has identified economic development as one of its top priorities, much of the county’s needs and opportunities have been discussed at the Archway table.

As a result, the marketing materials added to the grant application primarily focus on a compilation of the resources that are currently used by Georgia Power, Georgia EMC, and the Georgia Department of Economic Development to market to prospective businesses and industry, as well as the current efforts of the Hawkinsville-Pulaski Archway Partnership to take advantage of opportunities with the “inland port” coming on line in Cordele, a collaboration with HERTY Advanced Materials Development Center, and current plans to expand regional marketing efforts.

“The Archway Partnership stepped up when the need was identified for a more developed marketing plan for our OneGeorgia grant application,” said Slade. “I knew the Archway Partnership had the resources available to assist me in the creation of a professional document in the short time frame required.”

The original award was for $200,000 but was increased to $500,000 because of the support from neighboring counties, Peach and Houston. These counties sent letters describing how the improvements and resulting economic development in Pulaski County would have a positive impact on the surrounding communities as well.

Advancing Community Priorities: One of the Pulaski County Archway Partnership’s top priorities is economic development. This OneGeorgia grant of $500,000 will bring new industry and commerce to Pulaski County enhancing the economic development of not only this community, but surrounding communities as well.