Community Health

UGA Public Health Archway Professional Laura Gillman spoke to Taylor Regional Hospital and the Archway Executive Committee in May. She presented a “Community Health Needs Assessment” prepared by UGA College of Public Health graduate student Rich Christiana as well as the findings of community focus groups and interviews.

A local Community health issue work group will meet soon to create a work plan to improve health in Pulaski County. The Teenage Pregnancy Reduction Committee that was formed as part of the Co-Op program will be part of this new group as well as representatives from the Hospital and the Health Department. Skip McDannald will chair the committee.

Economic Development

UGA MBA student Brent Wetmore completed the second phase of United Pulaski’s strategic plan. In this planning document Mr. Wetmore identified emerging industries, work skills that will be in demand, marketing opportunities and unique assets to be developed in Pulaski County. In the next few months, this work will be presented to community members and input will be sought for the final phase of the United Pulaski strategic plan.

The UGA Small Business Development Center (SBDC) will be hosting a series of meeting to determine the needs of the business community in Pulaski County.

Work is nearing completion on the new United Pulaski website. A talented group of students has been working with United Pulaski and Georgia Web Services to provide new material to update the site. According to the State, 60% of economic development needs in Georgia now come directly from community sites.

The Chamber of Commerce and Archway hosted an agritourism workshop in June. Kent Wolfe from UGA’s School of Agriculture was the guest speaker. Tourism committee members will travel to Jaemor Farms for a workshop in July.

UGA Archway Professional Michelle Elliott and Kim Brown traveled to a one day Hotel/ Motel Tax Workshop in May. The workshop reviewed the proper use and management of Hotel/ Motel tax for tourism and was conducted by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs.
Government Service Delivery

UGA College of Environment and Design students have been in town to work on summer projects. Mapping the trails at the Uchee Shoals Boat Landing and beautification of the Technology Park entrance will be two of the projects they will be working on in Hawkinsville.

Housing

Since the community has graduated from the GICH program, Archway will continue to support community housing initiatives through HURA. At the last meeting, it was reported that locations are currently in the process of being cleared as funds are available.

Leadership Development

The 2012 Class of Pulaski Tomorrow is underway. This year’s class has 18 participants. Graduation will be Tuesday, October 23.

Pulaski Tomorrow will be hosting an “Opportunity Fair” on Tuesday, October 9. The purpose of the event is to educate class participants about volunteer opportunities and ways to get involved in the community.

Public Education

The next meeting of the Archway Education Committee will be Wednesday, July 11, 2012 at 5:30 PM in the Board of Education Training Room. We will be looking at recent improvements in standardized test scores and planning for our fall meetings.

UGA College of Education graduate student, Edward Joaquin, presented information on magnet schools, charter systems and international baccalaureate programs to school administrators in May. Archway will continue to provide research and support for Pulaski County Schools on the charter system process.

Archway Professional Michelle Elliott completed Parent Café training in June. This facilitation training was sponsored by Family Connections and seeks to build and strengthen parent relationships in a supportive setting.