



For Immediate Release
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9/11 Memorial 5K Run/Walk RAISED \$5,000 FOR WOUNDED WARRIOR PROJECT

Eastman, GA – The Greer Foundation today announced that it raised more than \$5,000 for Wounded Warrior Project at the 9/11 Memorial 5K Run/Walk. In partnership with the Dodge County HS JROTC Indian Battalion, the foundation hosted the 10th Anniversary event in memory of the thousands of American citizens who perished on 9/11. On Saturday, September 10, 2011, more than 200 runners and spectators of all kinds gathered on the grounds of the historic Dodge County Courthouse to pay respect to the fallen and run for Wounded Warrior Project.

At 9:00 am, JROTC Cadets Portia Batten and Tamara Tharpe posted the Colors. Cadet Paul Coogle, the Battalion Commander, led the crowd in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Following the pledge, Cadet Michael Asbell, dressed in his volunteer Firefighter uniform, read a narrative of the events of 9/11 as a reminder of that tragic day in our nation's history. Cadet Paul Coogle led the crowd in prayer followed by the playing of Taps by Dodge County HS Marching Band Bugler. At 9:30 am, runners crowded the starting line as the youngest runner, 6 year old Gracie Mann, fired the starter pistol signaling the start of the run. Led by the Eastman Police Department and two combat veterans (Robert Graham and Len Rowland) riding Harley Davidson motorcycles, runners took off for the 3.1 trek through beautiful Eastman. Less than 18 minutes later, the first runner crossed the finish line as the large crowd cheered.



Top 5 Female Runners - 1st, Heidi Taylor, 20:08; 2nd, Stephanie Freeman, 21:09; 3rd, Carrie Coleman, 24:34; 4th, Jamaica Mitchell, 25:13; 5th, Leanne Mannella, 25:50 (pushing baby stroller!). Top Five Male Runners - 1st, Rodney Hood, 17:56; 2nd, Paul Coogle, 18:14; 3rd, Jordan Jones, 18:47; 4th, Jacob Danforth, 19:44; 5th, Jake Dowdy, 19:48.

Special thanks to our race Sponsors for making this event possible: Shorty's Quik Stop, Wholesale Builders Supply, Mann & Co. Paving, Martha Sheldon Florist, Coca-Cola

Bottling Co., PriPhoto, Southside Market, First Baptist Church of Eastman, Dodge Co. HS Future Farmers of America, Georgia Army National Guard, RoadID, R & D Designs, State Farm Insurance, Robert Graham, CAMSPORTS (John Sanders), Clay & Joy Scarborough, McDonald's, Zaxby's, W.T. Howell & Sons, Eastman Drugs, Little's Forklift Repair, Rosenbaum Orthopedics, Piddlin Peddler, Dodge Connection-Communities in Schools, Inc., Wahl to Wahl Grocery, Mid-State Printing, Ray Smith-Verizon Wireless, Bubba's Automotive, Eugene Smith Lodge 279, Wayne's Lawn Equipment, Ocmulgee Veterinary Clinic, Dodge Fitness, Golf Cart World, Bob Greer, Dodge County News, Marketplace on Fifth, Rep. Jimmy Pruett & Casey Pruett, Dr. Dan Harrell, Hospice Care Options, I.V. Care Options, Dublin Chiropractic, Dr. Robert Harvill, Dodge County NAACP, Eastman Fastlube, Friends of Peggy Greer.

For more information about The Greer Foundation visit their web site at www.greerfoundation.org

The Greer Foundation focuses on promoting the values of America's Soldiers - loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage. Each year, the Foundation's programs help inspire hundreds of exceptionally promising individuals to emerge as leaders in America's Armed Forces and other professional disciplines.

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