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### Mid-Year Celebration: **Building the Nation with Stars in Education**



**Front Row (L-R): Chamber Chair Evie McNiece, Frankie Liker, Tanisha Lewis, Nancy Griffin. Top Row (L-R): Richard Estes, Jan Fergerson, Pete McDonald, Urs Maire.**

**W**ith a patriotic backdrop on Flag Day, the Mid-Year Celebration of Excellence in Education featured a salute to the stars of our community's school systems. "Building the Nation with Stars in Education" was the theme of the event held at *Shorter College* in June.

Proceeds from the annual event are put toward the Rome-Floyd Communities in Schools program, the STAR student/teacher program and the GOAL award for technical education. The Communities in Schools program is designed to promote students' success in high school and is now going into its 14th year.

Among those receiving recognition were **Liang Hou**, a 2007 *Rome High School* graduate who earlier this year was honored as the region STAR Student award winner; **Eric Angel**, the STAR Student award winner from *Coosa High School*; and **Treceia Jones-Watts** of *Coosa Valley Technical College*, who earlier this year was honored as GOAL Award recipient.

Several mentors, as well as the students they mentored, also spoke about their

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### **Floyd County, Russell Regional Airport Receive Grant Money for CVTC Aviation Project**

**T**he Georgia Department of Transportation will provide funding for the *Richard B. Russell Regional Airport* to be applied to *Coosa Valley Technical College's* avionics facility, *Floyd County* officials announced in a news release in June. This \$500,000 funding is in addition to \$300,000 of state airport aid program funds that will be provided for apron and taxi-lane construction at the airport and will be available July 1.

"This morning GDOT Commissioner Linnenkohl approved \$500,000 of funding to the Richard B. Russell Airport to facilitate infrastructure improvements for Coosa Valley Technical College's aviation maintenance and avionics facility," according to an email from GDOT sent to all parties involved. "The \$500,000 represents approximately 20% of the total cost of the project, with Floyd County providing the remaining 80% or \$1.9 million."

"We appreciate the State of Georgia's willingness to assist us financially in a project that we feel will benefit both Floyd County and the state as a whole," said *County Commissioner Eddie Lumsden*. "We are excited to know we are one step closer to moving forward with this project for Coosa Valley Technical College and the Richard B. Russell Regional Airport."

"This community owes a huge thank you to the GDOT Commissioner, *Board Member David Doss*, *Representative Katie M. Dempsey*, *Senator Preston W. Smith*, and the Greater Rome Chamber of Commerce for their efforts in securing DOT funding to support the construction of the aviation facility," said *CVTC President Craig*

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