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Friends of Shellman Bluff Funds Purchase of ‘Jaws of Life’ Equipment for Volunteer Fire Departments in Northern McIntosh County

Community Demonstration Scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 31 at 10:00 a.m. in Friends of Shellman Bluff Park

McINTOSH COUNTY, Ga. — January 14, 2026 — The Friends of Shellman Bluff, Inc. (FOSB), a volunteer-led non-profit dedicated to improving the quality of life for the residents of Shellman Bluff, Georgia and the surrounding communities, today announced that it has funded the purchase of battery-powered extrication equipment to benefit McIntosh County Volunteer Fire Stations in the north end of the county. Also known as the “Jaws of Life,” these specialized hydraulic tools are used by first responders to safely rescue people trapped inside a vehicle as a result of a motor vehicle accident.

“The men and women of our volunteer fire departments are literally life savers in McIntosh County, and it is an honor to support their heroic efforts through FOSB,” said Dot Durden, president of The Friends of Shellman Bluff. “We are incredibly fortunate to live, work, play, and pray in such a wonderful community, and hope that the addition of more ‘Jaws of Life’ equipment is helpful to the local heroes who put themselves in harm’s way to keep us all safe.”

Since 2001, FOSB has donated nearly \$400,000 to fund the purchase of equipment to support McIntosh County Fire Departments in Shellman Bluff and Harris Neck, including the 2018 purchase of gas-powered “Jaws of Life” equipment currently housed at McIntosh County Fire Station 3 in Shellman Bluff. Upon procurement of the newer battery-powered extrication equipment in late 2025, which is housed at McIntosh County Volunteer Fire Department 5 in Harris Neck, the decision was made to relocate Harris Neck’s existing gas-powered Jaws of Life equipment to the county’s Volunteer Fire Department 9, which previously lacked such rescue tools.

“We are incredibly grateful to Friends of Shellman Bluff for their ongoing support for our volunteer firemen in McIntosh County, and funding the purchase of state-of-the-art rescue equipment and training for our first responders is an incredible asset to our community,” said Chief Daniel Moore of McIntosh County Volunteer Fire Department. “The safety of all who reside in, visit, or travel through McIntosh County is our number one priority and having ready access to ‘Jaws of Life’ equipment across the north end of the county is a gift that will save lives, which in many ways makes it priceless.”

According to federal data, 42% of people who were killed in car crashes were alive when first responders arrived. Reducing the time it takes to get to the patient, treating what can be treated, and transporting the patient to the hospital can be the difference

between life and death. The newly acquired “Jaws of Life” rescue tools¹ will help first responders in McIntosh County deliver life-saving measures for individuals trapped in vehicles, significantly increasing chances of survival.

On Saturday, Jan. 31, 2026, at 10:00 a.m., representatives from the Shellman Bluff and Harris Neck Volunteer Fire Departments will host a demonstration of their gas- and battery-powered “Jaws of Life” equipment at Friends of Shellman Bluff Park. The family-friendly event is open to the general public.

About Friends of Shellman Bluff

The Friends of Shellman Bluff, Inc. (FOSB) was established in 2001 as a State of Georgia registered, non-profit corporation dedicated to improving the quality of life for the residents of Shellman Bluff, Georgia and the surrounding communities. In addition to raising funds to benefit the Shellman Bluff and Harris Neck Volunteer Fire Departments, along with various community improvement projects, FOSB sponsors a scholarship program for qualified McIntosh County students pursuing postsecondary education and training. To learn more about FOSB, follow us on [Facebook](#) or visit <https://friendsofshellmanbluff.org/>.

¹ Friends of Shellman Bluff purchased certified refurbished extrication equipment from Southern Rescue Tools for \$23,090.