

Hall hired as new county school superintendent

By PAYTON TOWNS III
Senior Reporter

The Laurens County Board of Education unanimously named O.J. Hall as its next superintendent Friday morning.

Hall, who will be replacing



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veggies
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organic pet treats and more

ing current Laurens County Superintendent Clifford Garnto, was approved on a 5-0 vote during a called meeting.

Hall's official start date as superintendent will be when students return from Christmas break in January.

"My situation will be a little bit different in that Garnto will be here until the Christmas break," Hall said. "I will have a few more months to learn and get everything I can out of him. I know he will be just a phone call away. He and I have already started the transition process. We want to make sure there is a flow and consistency with all of the great things the foundation has been laid for, and built upon, during his five and half years as superintendent."

Hall was born and raised in Laurens County, graduating from West Laurens High School in 2002. He is married to Erica, and they have two children – Mya



O.J. Hall talks to the crowd, including his daughters and wife on the front row, after Friday's vote to officially hire him as Laurens County's new school superintendent/PAYTON TOWNS III

and Morgan.

Hall went to Georgia Southern University, where he graduated with an undergraduate degree in history education, and he graduated from Georgia College & State University, where he obtained his master's and education specialist degrees in educational leadership. He returned to GSU for his

doctorate in education and curriculum studies.

He returned to WLHS where he taught U.S. history, American government and world history before be-

coming the assistant principal and head basketball coach there.

"It is always great to be able to hire a former student to come back and teach for you," Garnto said. "Hugh Kight and I recognized those leadership capabilities he had early on. Once I became principal (at WLHS), there was an opportunity to bring him on as an assistant principal, and he came on my staff before he was snatched up to become a principal at East Laurens Middle."

Hall took that position in 2015 and continued in that role while also serving as East Laurens High School principal from 2016-2018. He was then principal at only the high school for 2019 and beginning of 2020 before the school shut down for the pandemic.

"I have been on both sides of the county," Hall said. "My wife has taught on both sides, and I've been

COUNTY SCHOOLS
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From left: Curriculum director Marcee Pool, Superintendent Fred Williams, Teacher of the Year Lakeisha Washington and school board chairman Kenny Walters/SPECIAL PHOTO

Washington named Teacher of the Year for Dublin City Schools

SPECIAL TO THE COURIER HERALD

Lakeisha Washington, a fifth-grade social studies teacher at Dublin Middle School, has been named the 2025-2026 Dublin City Schools Teacher of the Year.

A proud Dublin City Schools alumna, Washington has taught for six years at Dublin Middle School, where she is known for her passion for history, her student-centered approach, and her commitment to equity and inclusion. She now

moves forward to represent Dublin City Schools at the state level in the Georgia Teacher of the Year competition.

"Ms. Washington embodies excellence in teaching and leadership," said Willie Batts, principal of Dublin Middle School. "She builds meaningful relationships with students, models professionalism for her peers, and creates a classroom where all students feel seen, heard and valued. She is the type of teacher who

changes lives, and this recognition is a reflection of her tremendous impact."

Parent and fellow educator Keshia Howell shared how Washington transformed her son's middle school experience.

"From day one, Ms. Washington made it clear that her classroom was a safe space for all students. My son not only felt safe and included, but he also developed an excitement for

TEACHER OF THE YEAR
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Daniels chosen as interim city clerk

By PAYTON TOWNS III
Senior Reporter

A day after announcing the resignation of its city clerk, the Dublin City Council appointed its city treasurer as the interim city clerk during a called meeting.

Blake Daniels was administered the oath of office shortly after the 6-0 vote. He replaces Heather Browning who resigned Monday, a day before she was arrested and charged with theft by deception by the Georgia Bureau of Investigation. The Laurens County Sheriff's Office requested the agency to investigate after members from Cedar Grove Methodist Church reported money missing from church accounts.

According to the GBI, the investigation showed Browning breached her fiduciary duty by falsely writing and cashing checks from the bank accounts of the church.

Dublin Mayor Joshua Kight was disappointed in the situation.

"Obviously, this is something that nobody wants to have happen in any organization that they are part of," the mayor

said. "We obviously placed trust in somebody who did not live up to that trust. We've got to own that and accept responsibility for it."

"I believe all of us were close to Heather," Kight added. "We are incredibly disappointed, shocked and surprised that this happened. We do pray for her as we do pray for the victims of the church. Understand that every organization is going to face challenges. It's going to happen. The question is how do you respond to it, do you own it and do you try to make it better going forward? We are taking this opportunity to review all of our processes and protocols and make sure we are protecting the public's funds and earning the public's trust. That review will continue, but I think it's important that we take this moment so that we will come out of this as a better city."

Kight thanked Daniels for taking on an additional position. Dublin City Manager Josh Powell said he had talked with Councilman Bennie Jones, who was unable to attend

CITY CLERK
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Challenger Davis, incumbent McRae vie for school board seat

These are the first in a series of question-and-answer articles with candidates in the city of Dublin's Board of Education and City Council elections on Nov. 4.

Why do you feel that you are the more qualified candidate for the position?

Our school system is in absolute chaos and disarray, and the people who got us into this mess are not the ones to get us out of it. Our current city wide representative, Regina McRae, gave us a giant property tax increase supposedly to cover rising costs of health insurance, took an additional \$3 million of our tax dollars, and then didn't pay the health insurance premiums! Now we're looking at a projected \$13 million shortfall at the end of the school year and further increased property taxes! This is madness!

It is truly heartbreaking and appalling that she refuses to admit any responsibility whatsoever for this historic catastrophe.

Dublin City Schools, along with my church, has been the center of my social life and community service for years. Our three children attend Dublin City Schools, and are all active in sports, drama, art, and service organizations like Beta Club. I have yet to meet Mrs. McRae or see her at a single school function in support of the kids of the hundreds of events I have attended and/or served as a volunteer. The question I get asked most about her in the community is "Who is she?" My wife and I have served as officers in booster clubs, volunteers, cooks, cleaners, donors, whatever is needed. I'm willing to serve where the help is needed the most. I didn't make this mess, but



DAVIS

DAVIS
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Why do you feel that you are the more qualified candidate for this position?

After serving on the Dublin City School Board for the past two years, I feel that I am more qualified to continue to work towards building a stronger school system. I feel that I understand the relationship between policy decisions and academic success. As a professional in the mental health field with over 20 years of experience and a business owner, I feel that add an understanding of serving people and building relationships. Operating a private counseling practice and a transportation company in the community has helped me gain experience with management, budgeting and providing oversight.

In my experience with working with families in the community, I've had an opportunity to hear honest feedback and concerns. I believe that I'm very approachable and that I can connect with people. Additionally, as a proud parent of

three Dublin City School graduates who have all gone on to pursue higher education, I am personally invested in the success of the school district. My children are products of the Dublin City School System, and I have witnessed first-hand how they have been empowered and equipped to be our next generation of leaders. I offer a unique perspective to problem solving and encouraging parent involvement. I hope to utilize my skills and connections with the community to help further the goals of Dublin City Schools.



McRAE

What are the biggest issues facing the Dublin City School

McRAE
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OBITUARIES



Lillie Slade Graham

Lillie Slade Graham passed away peacefully on Sept. 30, 2025, at the age of 96, in Rockledge, Georgia. Born on April 19, 1929, in Johnson County, Ga., Lillie was the cherished daughter of Arthur and Gussie Phillips Slade. She spent her childhood surrounded by a large and loving family, a foundation that shaped her into the remarkable woman remembered by all.

Lillie's life was a testament to the enduring power of love and commitment. She was the beloved wife of the late Bennie H. Graham, with whom she shared a blissful marriage of 57 years. Together, they nurtured a family that became her pride and joy. Although preceded in death by her daughter, Amanda Graham, Lillie's legacy continues through her devoted daughter and son-in-law, Anita Graham Smith and Daniel Paul Smith.

Her sister and brother-in-law, Lenore Slade Brantley and Mervin Brantley, along with many nieces and nephews, also mourn the loss of a woman whose gentle presence was a gift in their lives.

Lillie was also preceded in death by her siblings of Charlie Slade, Louis Slade, Edna Slade Lord, Alice Lamb, Eddie Slade, William Slade and Anna Slade.

Lillie's role as a homemaker was one she embraced with grace and dedication. Her home was an extension of her heart, where the aroma of her cooking welcomed family and friends, and her gentle spirit made everyone feel loved. She was a dedicated mother, not only to her own children but to all who crossed her threshold.

A woman of strong faith, Lillie was a member of Rockledge Methodist Church and held fond memories of her childhood baptism at Buckeye Christian Church. She cherished her visits to Buckeye Christian, where she felt a deep connection to her roots. Her faith was her compass, guiding her through life's joys and sorrows with unwavering hope and grace.

Graveside funeral services were held at 10 a.m., Friday, Oct. 3, 2025 at Dublin Memorial Gardens with Rev. Harvey Al Soles officiating.

The family received friends from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 2, 2025 at the funeral home. Pallbearers will be Mark Keen, Billy Graham, Larry Tanner, Seth Edge, Jason Smith and Jeremy Stone. Arnold Horton and David Keen served as honorary pallbearers. Please visit www.townsendfuneralhome.com to sign the online memorial register. Townsend Brothers Funeral Home has charge of the arrangements.



Rondrick Dontrell Wright

Funeral services for Mr. Rondrick Dontrell Wright, of Wrightsville, Georgia, will be held on Saturday, Oct. 4, 2025, at 3 p.m. at the Buckeye Baptist Church, 2176 New Buckeye Road in East Dublin. Interment will follow in the church cemetery.

He was born to Ronnie Wright and Kimberly Hawkins Jones on Thursday, Jan. 14, 1988.

He graduated from Johnson County High School in 2006. Rondrick had numerous jobs which included a lawn service that he took pride in. He was a truck driver and was also a car detailer.

Mr. Rondrick Dontrell Wright passed away on Friday, Sept. 26, 2025. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Jackie and Zandie Hawkins, Linda Moye, C.W. Wright and a sister, Khristal Wright.

Mr. Wright is survived by his wife, Shirreka Wright, Wrightsville; daughters, Ayairi Wright, Precious Scott, Wrightsville; son, Jeston Grady, Wrightsville; his mother, Kimberly (Lucius) Jones; father, Ronnie (Gale) Wright, Wrightsville; his siblings, LaKeisha (Travis) Brinson, Wrightsville, Andrea Taylor, Aiken, South Carolina, Ronnesha Wright, Wrightsville, Gavin Peeler, Wrightsville, Brentavious Peeler, Sandersville; mother-in-law, Patricia "Ann" Jenkins, Wrightsville; grandparents, Dave (Grace) Moye, Wrightsville, Annie Lois Wright, Pringle; aunts, Zelda Cummings, Sandersville, Latoria (Maurice) Canty, Atlanta, Gloria Stephens, Pringle, Gwendolyn "Shawn" Jackson, Warner Robins, Latasha (Larry) Darrisaw; uncles, Marcus (Taeko) Arline, Sumter, South Carolina, Chris Hawkins of Germany, Johnny Lincoln, Tim Lincoln, both of Brooklyn, New York, Ricky (Arnetria) Prose of Kathleen, Tyrone Jones, Douglasville, Robbie Moye, Cochran; great aunts, Barbara Wright, Wrightsville, Hazel Wright ofTennille, Gwendolyn Wright, Pringle; devoted nieces, Ja'Naya Hawkins, Ty'Rielle Pressley, S'Riyah Bostick, Kassidi Wright, Aubree Wright, all of Wrightsville; devoted nephews, Tommy Ricks, IV, Warner Robins, Travis Brinson, Jr. Wrightsville; devoted cousin, Tomekia (Tyrone) Taylor, Wrightsville and a host of other relatives

and friends. Please post your condolences online at ServicesbyDudley.com. Services by Dudley Funeral Home of Dublin



Richard Ricardo "Peene" Phillips

Funeral services for Mr. Richard Ricardo "Peene" Phillips of Rochester, New York, were held on Friday, Oct. 3, 2025, at 1:30 p.m. at the Saint Luke Baptist Church, 620 East Main Street in Dexter, Georgia. Interment will follow in the Saint Luke Church Cemetery.

Richard Ricardo Phillips was born on Saturday, Dec. 26, 1953, in Eastman, Georgia. He was the seventh child born to the union of Willie Raymond Phillips and Margarette Curry Phillips. He received his education at Peabody High School. Upon completion of school he had his first born, Sean Fluellen. Soon after, Richard moved to Dexter, Georgia, where he worked for Lord's Sausage Company.

While in Dexter, he met Eva Mae Pittman, who he would later marry, and moved to Rochester, New York, where they had a daughter, Rachel Phillips. Together, they raised Katina Williams, Pamela Jones, and Tamela Jones. Richard was very skilled, resulting in him having many careers such as carpentry where he built beautiful homes. He was a chef at Mr. Souls Restaurant. For 20 years, he worked for Rochester Institute of Technology where he would later retire. Richard enjoyed his life to the fullest. He loved to spend time with his family and friends. Many of his weekends were spent fishing as much as he could. You could always find him listening to music, playing chess, checkers, and many different card games. His retirement allowed him the freedom to spend his days making memories with the people he loved.

Mr. Phillips passed away on Thursday, Sept. 18, 2025. Richard was preceded in death by his parents, brothers, Walter Boxton, Johnny Boxton, Joseph Phillips, and grandson, Benjamin Hood.

He is survived by his wife, Eva Mae Phillips; son, Sean (Angela) Fluellen; daughters, Rachel Phillips, Katina Williams, Pamela (Sulina) Jones, Tameila Jones; sisters, Joann C. Williams, Willie Mae (Ray) Vickers, Debra M. (Dwight) Austin; brothers, Marvin Phillips, Jimmy L. (Darnella) Phillips; aunt, Jessie Joe Curry-White; ten grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, and cousins. Please post your condolences online at ServicesbyDudley.com.

Services by Dudley Funeral Home of Dublin



Willie "Bim" Reese

Funeral services for Mr. Willie "Bim" Reese, of Lakeland, Florida, will be held on Saturday, Oct. 4, 2025, at 1 p.m. at the Saint Galilee Baptist Church, 1053 Idylwild Drive in Wrightsville, Georgia. Interment will follow in the Hightower Family Cemetery.

Willie Reese, "Bim" as he was called, was born on Monday, Oct. 21, 1929, in Wrightsville, Georgia, to Horace Hodges and Pearl Reese. To this union four brothers, Horace Hodges Jr, John Willie Hodges, Willie James Hodges and C. J. Reese, and two sisters, Edis Hodges and Lillian Hodges, were born.

Willie started out his education attending Dock Kemp school before having to later work in the fields which resulted in him receiving tutoring.

Willie "Bim" met and married Julia Pearl; to this union, four daughters were born.

He later relocated to Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and started singing with a group called "The Smiling Jubilaires" around 1950 where they recorded several albums.

He later met and married his second wife, Florine Cooper; to this union, four sons were born.

Willie "Bim" worked with several jobs to include a janitor at a school, two roofing companies, and later worked at Bonded Rental Agency as a successful repairman for 51 years until he retired.

Willie "Bim" later moved to Lakeland, Florida, when his health started to fail him. Willie became a member at Judah Temple and later started to attend Trinity Primitive Baptist Church.

Willie "Bim" was known for his singing and was loved by his church family.

Mr. Reese passed away on Thursday, September 25, 2025, in Lakeland, Florida. His parents, daughter, and all his brothers and sisters, and two daughters, Autry Reese Dennis, and Annie Vera Reese, preceded him in death.

Willie "Bim" leaves to cherish daughters, Janice Reese Howard, Pearl (James) Reese Whaley; sons, Willie (Tammy) Reese, Jr., Lawrence (Myrtho) Reese, Christopher (Sheila) Reese, Calvin (Shannon) Reese; eleven grandsons, six

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granddaughters and a host of great-grandchildren and great great grandchildren, nephews, nieces, cousins and friends.

Please post your condolences at ServicesbyDudley.com.

Services by Dudley Funeral Home of Dublin.



Donald Hugh Fountain

Donald Hugh Fountain, 75, of East Dublin, died on Sept. 27, 2025. He was born Aug. 3, 1950 in Dublin, Georgia. He grew up in a farming family, learning to work at a young age. An alumnus of East Laurens (1968) and Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, Donald began his professional career at Dixie Farm Equipment, then returned to farming. He later operated his own trucking company as an owner/operator. Donald, nicknamed Smooth by coworkers, then began his more than 40 years in the construction industry; working for Dublin Construction, Graham Brothers

Construction, Specialized Services, Brad Cole Construction, CBP Environmental, and Phillips Inc. Donald was a member of Bethlehem Baptist Church. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather.

Survivors include his wife, Eulita Kay Fountain; mother, Dorothy J. Fountain; son, Marcus (Stefanie) Fountain of Seymour, Tenn.; daughter, Sarah (Chris) Baggett of Dublin; step son, Rickey (Sandra) Rentz of East Dublin; grandchildren, Kiley (Dylan) Smith and Lauralee "Butterbean" Baggett; step grandchildren, Wayne (Caitlin) Rentz and Toya Rentz; great grandson, Beckett Smith; step great grandchildren, John Rentz, Waylon Rentz, and Willow Rentz; and sisters, Susan Frost, Kathy Henderson, Charlotte Griffin, and Nancy (Stuart) Harrell.

Donald was preceded in death by his father, Charles Fountain, and brothers in law, Vic Frost and Leslie Henderson.

A graveside service was held at 2 p.m. Friday, Oct. 3, 2025 at Bethlehem Baptist Church Cemetery.

Adam Frost, Michael Henderson, Lee Holt, Ralph Griffin, Marcus Fountain, and Chris Baggett served as pallbearers.

Townsend Brothers Funeral Home has charge of arrangements. Please visit www.townsendfuneralhome.com to sign the online memorial register.

The Courier Herald

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This newspaper is committed to the idea that the press should tell the truth without prejudice and spread knowledge without malicious intent.

ANNIVERSARIES

Oct. 6
Tamarqua & Carla Smith

BIRTHDAYS

Oct. 4
MaKinzie Page
Juan Rozier

Oct. 5
Jaxon Jeremiah Austin
Johnny Tavares Smith Jr.

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OBITUARIES



Linda Johnson

Celebratory services will be held at First Baptist Church in Dublin, Georgia on Sunday, October 5, 2025 at 2 p.m. for Mrs. Linda Johnson. Interment will follow at Magnolia Park Cemetery for family.

A warm, golden heart was born on Sept. 30, 1947, in Macon, Georgia into a home with strong Christian principles. Linda Ann Groves graduated from Warner Robins High School in 1965, and as a woman ahead of her time, Linda then proceeded to complete a Bachelor of Science degree at the University of Georgia in Biology. After college, she completed a medical technology training program at the Medical Center of Central Georgia. After schooling, she worked as a laboratory technician at the Veterans Administration of Dublin, Georgia. In her work caring for veterans, Linda met many dear friends as well as G. Hugh Johnson who was studying for his medical degree, and this circle would become her lifelong, cherished community.

As a wife, Mrs. Linda Johnson was an unwavering encourager and cheerful companion to Dr. G Hugh Johnson, a local family medicine physician who practiced in Laurens County for almost 50 years. Within the practice, she created and maintained a medical laboratory so that they could serve their patients with excellence. In her career, she was notably one of the first medical technologists to provide the radioallergosorbent test (RAST), giving their practice onsite in-vitro allergy testing.

In her home, children's schools, and church, Mrs. Linda loved to decorate joyfully for every season and birthday, making sure each of her children knew that that their life was a gift from the Lord. She was well-known for her thoughtful presents, well-planned celebrations, and a kind, reliable presence. Mrs. Linda gave with true generosity, expecting nothing in return. Perhaps no animal was more blessed than one that fortuitously landed in her arms of unparalleled safety and devotion. Witnessing Mrs. Johnson provide care was to see a glimpse of God's unconditional love and steadfast devotion to His people. She cared for her brother who valiantly battled kidney disease and three transplants as well as for her parents and mother-in-law in their final days. She dutifully observed with great precision what brought joy to others, and with careful planning, she would quietly and generously give to her recipient, directly from the love she received from her risen Savior.

A woman of deep faith, she was a faithful member of First Baptist Church of Dublin, Ga. and found spiritual fellowship and purpose through the church's Koinonia Class and the Anne Cochran Kolb Circle. Her faith guided her actions and inspired those around her.

On September 30, 2025, Linda spent her final moments with her family, comfortably in her earthly home, when the Lord, her Shepherd, called her to henceforth enjoy everlasting life and bliss. Even

though she will be sadly missed, solace is taken in her God-guaranteed eternal destiny.

She is survived by her loving husband, Dr. G. Hugh Johnson; her children, Amy Catherine (James Matthew) Hall of Lexington, Kentucky; Dr. Rodney Marc (Dr. Kathryn) Johnson of Dublin; Brian Hugh Johnson of Dublin; her grandchildren Clara Kate, Thomas and Charlotte Johnson (Dublin); her sister-in-law Joyce Groves and her nephew David Groves (Ann Arbor, Michigan).

She is preceded in death by her parents, Elizabeth and Henry A. Groves, and her brother Augustus "Gus" Groves, Jr.

In leui of flowers, her family asks for donations to be made to the local Laurens County Humane Society, 618 Firetower Road, Dublin, Georgia.



Maria E. Murphy

Mrs. Maria E. Murphy, 59, of Dublin, Georgia, passed away on Thursday, October 2, 2025, at her home surrounded by loved ones.

Born on August 15, 1966, in Savannah, Georgia, Maria touched countless lives with her kindness, laughter, and unwavering strength. She attended Saint Vincent's Academy in Savannah and drew profound inspiration from her faith, finding salvation through her deep relationship with Jesus Christ. Maria enjoyed collecting crosses, coloring, and, above all, caring for her family, whom she cherished dearly.

She is survived by her husband, Samuel Edgar Murphy; her son Kermit Neal Lowery; her sisters, Heidi (David) Allen and Victoria (Mark) Shuman; her nephews, Zack and J.C. Allen, and Chapman and Mason Shuman; and her grandchildren, Jason, Evan, and Hailey Murphy, whom she raised as her own. Maria was preceded in death by her parents, John and Linda Constantine, and her sons, Michael and Stephen Lowery.

A celebration of her life will be held at 12 p.m., Monday, Oct. 6, 2025, at Snow Hill Baptist Church in Cadwell, Georgia. Rev. Henry Dixon and Rev. Christopher

4,000 Laurens County residents to register

Dublin Courier Herald, Dispatch and Press

An estimated 4,000 to 4,500 Laurens County men between the ages of 21 and 36 will go to schools over the county on Wednesday, October 16, to register for possible selective military service.

The estimate is based on an unofficial calculation that approximately 13 per cent of the county's population of over 32,000 people are men between those two ages.

While all men, both white and colored, between 21 and 36 are required to register, Georgia probably will not be called up to furnish any men in the November draft because of the large number of enlistments from the state, according to Lieutenant Colonel Sterling A. Wood of Fort Benning.

His statement came as plans were rushed to completion for the registrations of 436,000 Georgians.

PLACES FOR REGISTRATION

All men who have reached their 21st birthday on October 16 but have not reached their 36th birthday by October 16 must register or they will be subject to prosecution by the federal government.

Those who are sick or crippled and cannot get to a school to register, must send some man to the school to give his name and address for him.

Laurens County School Superintendent Elbert Mullis and Dublin City School Superintendent A.J. Hargrove are in charge of

Jordan Wilson will officiate.

Pallbearers will be Chance Tanner, Adam Hester, Steve Mullis, Johnny Fowler, Alex Baxter and Jason Crow.

The family will receive friends from 10:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. Monday, at the church prior to the funeral service.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions in memory of Maria Murphy may be made to Snow Hill Baptist Church, P.O. Box 7, Cadwell, GA 31009.

Stanley Funeral Home and Crematory/Dublin Chapel has charge of funeral arrangements. To sign the Online Register Book please visit www.stanleyfuneral-home.com



ATTENTION LOCAL CHURCHES:

Do you have a cantata, concert or other special program/service on the calendar for Christmastime?

Let us know what your congregation has planned to celebrate the reason for the season, so that we can include it in a

Christmas Event Listing

to be published in the upcoming holiday edition of Discover Dublin magazine.

Please email the date, time and a very brief description of the event (including any details like admission cost or contact information, to tcheditor@gmail.com with "Christmas" and the name of your church in the subject line.

Submissions will be accepted by email ONLY through a deadline of Oct. 13.

LOOKING BACK... 85 YEARS AGO OCTOBER 4, 1940



By HARRIETT CLAXTON

registration for this county.

Hours are from 7:00 a.m.to 9:00 p.m., but everyone is urged to go as early as possible to speed up the work. Ample facilities will be available to accommodate all who apply for registration. Teachers, as well as volunteers, are serving as registrars.

Those who are confined to hospitals should send word to the registration board so that a deputy can be sent to register them.

Registration Places:
WHITES: Baker; Bethesda; Brewton; Cadwell; Cedar Grove; Condor; Cross Roads; Dexter; Dudley; Harmony; Lovett; Lowery; Marie; Montrose; New Bethel; Olivet; Pine Forest ; Pine Grove; Rentz ; Wilkes; Dublin High School
NEGROES: Washington Street High School

Laurens County School Superintendent Elbert Mullis, in charge of the draft registration in the county, has announced that not all Negro schools in the county will hold the draft registration, but only 32 will.

Colored persons who would otherwise register at schools in their own districts will register at one of the 32 schools designated, which in most cases are nearby anyway.

Schools to be used and the other districts from which men will come to register are these:

Holly Springs, also for Buckeye and St. Stephens districts

Lovett, also for Mt. Pulen District

Brewton, also for Zion Hill and Blackshear districts

Park Street, also for Brown Grove and Condor districts

New Evergreen, No 1, also for Charlie Baggett District

Pine Level, also for Royal Springs District

Montford Grove, also for Strawberry District

Spring Hill, also for Oconee and Holly Grove districts

Millville, also for Hickory Grove and Hogan Grove districts

Macedonia, No 1, also for Eason Hill, Pleasant Grove, Laurens Hill, and Byrd Royal districts

Rose Hill, for that district only

Pine Hill, also for Sandy Ford and Whitehead Chapel districts

Shady Grove, also for Rocky Creek District

St. Luke, also for Middle Ground and Beulah Hill districts

Reedy Springs, for that district only

Cadwell, for that district only

New Providence, for Sun Hill District

Land Branch, also for New Evergreen No. 2 District

Fleming Chapel, also fo Woodard Grove No. 2 District

Robinson Chapel, also for Woodard Grove No.1 District

Mary Grove, also for Sand Ridge District

Pearly Chapel, for that district only

Hat Off, for that district only

Barber's Chapel, also for Macedonia No. 2 District

Currie Hunt, for that district only

Currie Grove, for that district only

St. John, for that district only

St. Mark, for that district only

Claxton Grove, for that district only

Rice Hill, for that district only

Barber's Chapel, also for Macedonia No. 2 District

Valdosta, also for Liberty Hill District

Jordan Grove, for that district only

The reason for using only these schools for registering Negroes is that most of the county's colored schools are one-teacher institutions, and it was impractical to provide enough workers and supervisors for all of them.

JEWISH HOLIDAY SEASON BEGINS

Even in a war-torn world, Jews throughout the globe will welcome Rosh Ha-shanah, the Jewish religious New Year, which opens this year on Wednesday evening, October 2 (the eve of the first day of Tishri, the seventh month in the Jewish calendar.)

As a holy day concerned primarily with the life of the individual, Rosh Hashanah with its message of eternal values will bring new courage to persecuted people and new strength to those called upon to aid their fellow men.

Observed for one day by Reform Jews, the New Year is celebrated for two days by Orthodox and Conservative Jews. The two-day celebration is carried over from the time when uncertain calendar calculations made necessary the two-day observance.

Unconnected with nature or with any specific historic event, Rosh Hashanah was first observed in its present form within two generations of the fall of the Second Temple. The only holiday at this season which is mentioned in the Bible is the feast of ingathering at the end of the year.

The blowing of the shofar, a ram's horn, in the synagogue announced the New Year and is a characteristic of the Rosh Hashanah service. In the home, honey is served on the eve of the New Year as a symbol of the wish for a sweet, happy, and prosperous year.

Considered a day of judgement and memorial, Rosh Hashanah inaugurated the days of penitence which are concluded on Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement. Since Rosh Hashanah was traditionally the day on which the Lord judged each man and determined his future, greetings exchanged on the New Year were often expressed in the wish

"May you be inscribed in the book of life for a good year."

RURAL HOUSING BEING STUDIED

Plans were going forward today to set in motion the federal rural housing plan in Laurens County just as soon as an allotment is approved in Washington.

Members of the Laurens County Housing Committee and county officials attended a meeting in Fitzgerald on Thursday at which a district housing authority for 14 counties in this section of Georgia was set up with Soperton as headquarters.

Moment of Inspiration

What’s Growing in Your Garden?

Galatians 6:7 – “Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.”

Your heart is like a garden, and every choice you make plants a seed. Some seeds are good—love, kindness, faith, and obedience to God. Others are harmful—bitterness, selfishness, or sin. Over time, those seeds grow and produce a harvest. The question is not if something will grow, but what is growing in your life?

Weeds don’t need permission to grow; they come naturally. In the same way, sin creeps in when we neglect our walk with God. But the fruit of the Spirit—love, joy, peace, patience—comes only when we stay connected to Jesus, the true Vine (John 15:5). If we want a healthy spiritual garden, we must let Him pull the weeds and plant His truth in our hearts.

Ask yourself today: What seeds am I planting in my words, my thoughts, and my actions? Remember—whatever you sow, you will also reap. Sow to the Spirit, and you’ll reap a harvest that honors God.

Dr. Curt Lysaker Pastor Shady Grove Baptist Church, East Dublin, GA.

Pastors if you would like to share a devotional please email to: advertisingtch@gmail.com



These merchants and The Courier Herald take pride in presenting this message and encourage you to attend the church of your choice.

Laurens County teens to earn Scouting's highest honor

SPECIAL TO THE COURIER HERALD

Cash Brian Keith of Boy Scout Troop 65 will be honored for earning the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest rank in Scouting. His Eagle Court of Honor will include remarks from special guests and Scout leaders. The Court of Honor will be held Saturday, Oct. 4, in the sanctuary of Dublin First Methodist Church, the charter sponsor of Troop 65. The ceremony will begin at 2 p.m.

Cash is the 17-year-old son of Katelyn Keith of Dublin. His grandparents are Brian and Mindy Keith, also of Dublin.

Cash is currently a senior at West Laurens High School. He is an active member of the BETA Club and SkillsUSA. He also attends Dudley Baptist Church. After high school, Cash plans to pursue a degree in construction management at the University of Georgia.

Cash began his Scouting experience as a founding member of Cub Scout Pack 65 in 2015, where he earned its highest honor, the Arrow of Light, before crossing over into Boy Scout Troop 65.

Highlights of his Cub Scouting career include Cub-O-Ree's, Day Camps, Pinewood Derbies, Rain Gutter Regattas, camping on the USS Yorktown, and raising the flag at Fort Sumter.

Over the years, he has advanced through the ranks of Scouting, earning 30 merit badges and several special awards, including the National Outdoor Award for Camping, the Polar Bear Award, and the Snorkeling BSA Award. He has also served in numerous leadership positions, including Senior Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader, and currently Junior Assistant Scoutmaster. He has been an active member of the Order of the Arrow, completing his Ordeal in 2021 and Brotherhood in 2022.

During his Boy Scouting career, Cash has camped 76 nights, hiked over 105 miles, and provided more than 140 hours of community service. His experiences have included summer camps at Camp Rainey Mountain in Clayton, Bert Adams Scout Camp in Covington, Camp Thunder in Molena,



KEITH

high adventure Sea Base in Key West, Florida, training courses such as scuba, and countless troop activities that challenged his leadership and teamwork.

For his Eagle Scout project, Cash built and repaired a bridge walkway in downtown Dublin. His project provided a safe and lasting path for members of the community while also improving the appearance and accessibility of the area. With the help of volunteers, Cash led the planning and construction efforts that made the project possible.

SPECIAL TO THE COURIER HERALD

Konner Warren, son of Dr. Albert and Faith Warren, has earned the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest honor in the Boy Scouts of America. Since its inception in 1911, only four percent of all Scouts achieve this distinction, which represents years of dedication, leadership, and service.

A formal Eagle Scout Court of Honor will be held to recognize Konner's achievement at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 4, at Dublin First Methodist Church, 305 West Gaines Street. The community is invited to attend this special event honoring his accomplishment.

Konner's journey to Eagle included earning 26 merit badges—13 of them Eagle-required—in areas such as first aid, citizenship, and outdoor skills. Beyond completing badges, Scouts are required to serve in leadership roles, model the principles of the Scout Oath and Law, and contribute to their communities.

For his Eagle Scout service project, Konner planned and led an improvement to the property of Kid's Cup, a nonprofit

organization in Dublin that provides clothing, school supplies, and other essentials to families in need. His project involved removing large trees, landscaping, building planter boxes, and constructing a handmade bench for the entryway. These enhancements not only beautified the property but also improved safety, visibility, and accessibility for those donating to this important cause.

Konner's Scouting experience has been filled with adventure and service. From Cub Scout to Eagle, he completed over 70 nights of camping, hiked more than 50 miles, and performed over 150 service hours. He attended Sea Base, earned the Polar Bear Award for camping in below-freezing temperatures, and was inducted into the Order of the Arrow, Scouting America's National Honor Society.

Even with his full Scouting schedule, Konner has thrived outside of Scouts as well. He was a member of the West Laurens Cross Country team, achieved the rank of Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do, and maintains a 4.0 GPA while balancing Gifted, Advanced Placement, and



WARREN

Dual Enrollment classes. He maintained membership in Spanish, Anchor and Beta Clubs. Konner was awarded Silver at State competition for Career Investigation as a member of FCCLA. He was awarded by the College Board for Outstanding Academic Achievement as part of the National Recognition Program. His hard work, determination, and positive spirit shine through in all that he does.

A current senior at West Laurens High School, Konner plans on attending college majoring in information systems management.

NOW HERE'S A TIP

By JOANN DERSON

King Features

* "To speed the healing of bruises, try eating pineapple. Drink lots of water, too. I play contact sports, and this has always helped me." -- R.E. in Missouri

* Need new tires? Don't overlook big-box stores with automotive departments. Sometimes the best deals aren't at the tire places!

* Are you dreaming of a beach vacation right about now? Maybe you're looking to make an early booking. Here's a travel tip: Skip the ocean views from your hotel room. The rooms facing the ocean have a 20-25% higher rate. There's usually a nice common area where you can admire the view, anyway.

* "If you're thinking of getting a new TV, don't forget about safety. Be sure to use a wall strap, or just go ahead and mount it to the wall!" -- E.S. in Virginia

* Ease stress when dropping off a child at day care by creating a special, just-for-the-two-of-you ritual. Maybe a secret handshake or a kiss for your cheek and one in the hand to "save for later." Reinforce with your attitude that it's a good and fun thing to go to school.

* Here's a great school tip from a young reader, P.J. in Florida: "Take a photo of your spelling words with your mom or dad's cellphone, and you can go over them anytime, anywhere!"

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EXHIBIT A

NOTICE OF SALES AND USE TAX FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES REFERENDUM
ON NOVEMBER 4, 2025
TO THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF LAURENS COUNTY, GEORGIA:

1. Notice is hereby given by the Board of Education of Laurens County acting by, for and on behalf of the Laurens County School District (the "Laurens County School District"), the boundaries of which comprise all of Laurens County except the corporate limits of the City of Dublin, and the Board of Education for the City of Dublin (the "Dublin Board of Education") acting by, for and on behalf of the City of Dublin School District (the "Dublin School District"), the boundaries of which comprise the corporate limits of the City of Dublin, and by the Laurens County Board of Elections and Registration, as the election superintendent for Laurens County, that on November 4, 2025, an election will be held in Laurens County to submit to the qualified voters of the Laurens County for their determination the question of whether a one percent sales and use tax for educational purposes (the "Educational Sales Tax") shall be imposed in Laurens County for a period of 20 calendar quarters, beginning October 1, 2027, or the first day of the calendar quarter following termination of the Educational Sales Tax presently in effect in Laurens County, for the purpose of raising not more than [\$95,000,000], up to approximately [\$68,894,000] (72.52%) of which shall be received by the Laurens County School District and up to approximately [\$26,106,000] (27.48%) of which shall be received by the Dublin School District to be used for the educational purposes described in this Notice.

The exact percentages and amounts to be distributed to each school district shall be based upon the student enrollment in each school district by the latest full-time equivalent ("FTE") count in each school district prior to the referendum. An FTE count is scheduled for October 2025. The maximum approximate amounts for each system and approximate percentages shown above are based on the March 2025 FTE count.

2. The ballot to be used at such election shall have written or printed thereon substantially the following:

SALES AND USE TAX FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES

() YES Shall a one percent sales and use tax for educational purposes be imposed in Laurens County for a period of time not to exceed 20 calendar quarters and for the raising of not more than [\$95,000,000], (1) up to approximately [\$68,894,000] (72.52%) of which shall be received by Laurens County School District for the purposes of (a) the retirement of previously incurred general obligation debt in the maximum of \$9,925,000, (b) to pay the costs of acquiring, constructing, and equipping a new East Laurens Elementary School, a new athletic complex for East Laurens Middle School, and a new multipurpose athletic building for West Laurens High School, and (c) acquiring, renovating and improving existing schools within the system; constructing and renovating administrative and maintenance facilities; purchasing and equipping school buses and other vehicles; purchasing instructional equipment and materials, including textbooks and e-books; upgrading system wide technology and security equipment; renovating, constructing, and improving athletic facilities; and acquiring real and personal property necessary or to be used for the foregoing purposes and all other general purposes related to such capital outlay projects; and (2) up to approximately [\$26,106,000] (27.48%) of which shall be received by the Dublin School District for the purposes of (a) to pay the costs of acquiring, constructing, and equipping a new Elementary School; construction, additions, renovations, refurbishment, repairs and improvements to existing school buildings and facilities within the system; (b) acquisition of real and personal property; (c) acquiring, constructing, and equipping a multipurpose athletic facility and improving athletic facilities; (d) acquisition of transportation systems and school vehicles, equipping and maintenance of school vehicles including but not limited to, school buses and transportation vehicles; (e) acquisition of technology equipment, infrastructure, parking and systems; acquisition of safety and security infrastructure, solutions, and systems, (f) solutions and traffic flow renovations, additions and improvements; (g) acquisition of band instruments; purchase of instructional materials, textbooks, digital resources; and (h) acquisition, implementation, renovation, and maintenance of communication systems, disaster recovery systems, fire protection systems, HVAC systems/equipment/and infrastructure, print/copy/duplicate solutions, student information systems, and learning management systems and platforms?

3. All qualified voters desiring to vote in favor of imposing the Educational Sales Tax shall vote "Yes" and all qualified voters opposed to imposing the Educational Sales Tax shall vote "No." If more than one-half of the votes cast in Laurens County are in favor of imposing the Educational Sales Tax, then the Educational Sales Tax shall be imposed as provided by law.

4. In accordance with Official Code of Georgia Annotated § 36-82-2, the election shall be held by the same persons, in the same manner, and under the same rules and regulations that elections for members of the Board of Education are held. The returns shall be made to the officers calling or ordering the election. Such officers, in the presence of and together with the several managers, who shall bring up the returns, shall consolidate the returns and declare the result.

5. The last day to register to vote in the election is Monday, October 6, 2025, or as otherwise provided by law. Anyone desiring to register may do so by applying in person at the voter registration office located at 117 E Jackson Street, Suite A, Dublin, Georgia 31021, or by any other method authorized by the Georgia Election Code.

6. The election will be held on Tuesday, November 4, 2025. The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.

Exhibit A

NOTICE OF BOND ELECTION
TO THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE LAURENS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

1. Notice is hereby given by the Board of Education of Laurens County (the "Board of Education"), acting for and on behalf of the Laurens County School District (the "School District"), and by the Laurens County Board of Elections and Registration, as the election superintendent for Laurens County, that on November 4, 2025, an election will be held in Laurens County to submit to the qualified voters of the School District the following question:

GENERAL OBLIGATION SCHOOL BONDS

Yes ____ Shall the Laurens County School District issue general obligation bonds in the aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$40,000,000 to pay the costs of acquiring, constructing, and equipping a new East Laurens Elementary School, a new athletic complex for East Laurens Middle School, and a new multipurpose athletic building for West Laurens High School?

No ____

2. The approval of such question shall constitute authorization for the Board of Education to purchase such property, real or personal, and any interest therein, including easements, rights-of-way, and franchises needed in connection therewith or necessary therefor or incident thereto, any safety and security needed for such projects, and to pay capitalized interest on such debt and expenses incident thereto.

3. The general obligation bonds (the "Bonds") shall be a general obligation of the School District. The principal amount of the Bonds to be issued shall not exceed \$40,000,000. The maximum rate or rates of interest on such debt shall not exceed 6.00% per annum. The maximum amount of principal to be paid in each year during the life of the debt shall be as follows:

Year	Principal Amount
Year 1	\$2,265,000
Year 2	2,430,000
Year 3	2,535,000
Year 4	2,700,000
Year 5	2,820,000
Year 6	4,930,000
Year 7	5,180,000
Year 8	5,435,000
Year 9	5,710,000
Year 10	5,995,000

The School District may issue Bonds less than \$40,000,000 and reduce the principal amounts maturing which are shown above. The Bonds may be made subject to redemption prior to maturity, to the extent permitted by law, upon terms and conditions to be determined by the Board of Education.

4. To the extent available, the School District may combine available funds from the State of Georgia with proceeds from the Bonds, and any other available funds, to pay the costs of the capital outlay projects set forth in the form of the ballot question. Plans and specifications for these projects have not been completed and bids have not been received. Depending upon acquisition and construction costs and available funds, the School District may choose which capital outlay projects to undertake or not undertake, or to delay until additional funding is available, to the extent that proceeds of the Bonds, together with other available funds actually received by the School District, are insufficient to complete any of the capital outlay projects.

5. Reference is hereby made to Official Code of Georgia Annotated § 36-82-1(d), which provides in part that any brochures, listings, or other advertisements issued by the Board of Education or by any other person, firm, corporation association with the knowledge and consent of the Board of Education shall be deemed to be a statement of intention of the Board of Education concerning the use of bond funds.

6. Due provision shall be made at the holding of said election so that those voting at said election who favor the issuance of any such bonds may vote for the issuance thereof, and those voting at said election who oppose the issuance of such bonds may vote against the issuance thereof.

7. In accordance with Official Code of Georgia Annotated § 36-82-2, the election shall be held by the same persons, in the same manner, and under the same rules and regulations that elections for members of the Board of Education are held. The returns shall be made to the officers calling or ordering the election. Such officers, in the presence of and together with the several managers, who shall bring up the returns, shall consolidate the returns and declare the result.

8. The last day to register to vote in the election is Monday, October 6, 2025, or as otherwise provided by law. Anyone desiring to register may do so by applying in person at the voter registration office located at 117 E Jackson Street, Suite A, Dublin, Georgia 31021, or by any other method authorized by the Georgia Election Code.

9. The election will be held on Tuesday, November 4, 2025. The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.

EAST-WEST SOFTBALL ROUNDUP...

Once-beaten week for Falcons, Raiders reel off big road wins to extend streak

From STAFF REPORTS

The county's next-to-last week of regular season softball was a largely successful one for East and West Laurens, which combined to go 4-1 over a series of five games since Monday.

East Laurens was once-beaten, dropping a 3-2 pitcher's duel to Wheeler County Monday at home, before recording two lop-sided region shutouts, 22-0 Tuesday at Southwest and 9-0 over Washington County Thursday back home.

West Laurens went on the road to knock off a couple of top-rated Warner Robins-based teams, defeating top-rated Veterans for a first time, 9-7, on Tuesday, then proceeding to complete a season sweep of Houston County 13-4 on Wednesday.

The Falcons (19-5, 15-2 region 2-High A) were eliminated from league title

contention with ACE Charter's 19-0 win over Southwest Thursday, but are set as the 2-High A runner-up with two games remaining, a non-region home tilt with Perry on Monday leading into their region finale at Jefferson County on Tuesday.

The Raiders (22-3, 6-1 region 4-AAA), very quietly on a 10-game winning streak, will conclude their season on the road with games at Wilcox County Tuesday, and GMC on Wednesday.

The Lowther sisters and a Wheeler County tandem of Katelyn Conner and Ava Dixon squared off in Monday's pitching showcase on the Eastside, with the Bulldogs' duo striking out 12 to earn the win by virtue of an extra run in the seventh inning, on Shelley Conner's RBI triple, to go up 3-1.

Conner threw 96 pitches and had all but one of the



READING THE DEFENSE: Reagan Sasser timed things up well on this fielder's choice, breaking to the plate just after a WACO infielder committed the play to first, and slipped home ahead of the return throw to add to the East Laurens lead in the third inning/CLAY REYNOLDS

above strikeouts, allowing hits to only Deanna Lowther and Reagan Sasser. Deanna topped out her pitch count at just above 70 before giving way to DeAndrea in the circle. The two combined to allow four hits, and struck out 10.

Neither side scratched out much offensively early. Wheeler got on the board with two in its half of the fourth. East Laurens got a run to strike back in the sixth on a passed ball, but

could only pick up one more with its final shot in the seventh as DeAndrea drew a walk and scored on an error.

The Falcons scored 13 in the first to lead off their beatdown of Southwest Tuesday in Macon, as both hurlers reprised their role in the circle and combined to strike out nine, working around four walks, in a

EAST-WEST
Continued on page 6

Back-to-back...
GHSF Daily bestows top honor on WL's Cummings for second week in a row

By CLAY REYNOLDS
Sports Editor

Ty Cummings made plenty of history with his 613-yard, eight-touchdown rushing effort last Friday in a West Laurens win over Baldwin.

But after the accounting of stats recorded, records broken and minds blown over the weekend, there was still one more unheard-of accomplishment to come the following Monday when the Raider senior learned he had been selected as Georgia High School Football Daily's state player of the week for a second time in a row.

The email newsletter, a popular read among high school football coaches and fans statewide, honors both a top-performing individual and a distinguished team with awards each week.

After earning the player of the week nod in recognition of a 223-yard, two-touchdown rushing night at Harlem the week prior, Cummings' explosion – to blow both those numbers out of the water – Friday against Baldwin made his repeat win a virtual no-brainer.

GHSF Daily marketing director Ted Langford, who made a second trip down to Dexter Wednesday afternoon for the presentation, called it a "game for the ages."

"Most every week, (the decision is) very difficult, because there are so many talented players in the state of Georgia, and every week, there are great individual performances," he said. "It wasn't hard this week. It was clear, when we got up Saturday morning, of who had the best game in the state."

With over 300-something Georgia high schools, and only about 17 weeks worth of season, counting regulation and playoffs, it takes a lot for any player to stand out enough to receive the award to begin with.

"It's hard just to win it one time," Langford said. Getting it twice? An even

taller task.

To date, just two players in the publication's 17-year existence have ever been selected a second time in their high school career.

Both – Justice Haynes (one of the state's top-10 all-time leading rushers) of Blessed Trinity and Buford, along with Travis Hunter (also a leader in the state receiving record books, and an eventual Heisman-winner at Colorado) of Collins Hill – are among the state's greatest players in recent memory.

In each case, the honor was earned in two different seasons, Haynes his sophomore and senior years, and Hunter as a junior, then senior.

Cummings becomes the state's first ever to do it twice in a season, and also in back-to-back weeks.

"This couldn't happen to a better guy," said West Laurens head coach Kip Burdette. "We're really proud of Ty, proud of our program, proud of our coaching staff... I hope we're just getting rolling."

After a much-needed Friday off, West Laurens kicks off its final four-game stretch next week at Richmond Academy.

Joining Langford Wednesday was not only Brooks Hendrix, a local agent representing award sponsor Alfa Insurance, but also the company's Americus-based district manager Paul Blanchard.

The program, this time held in the school cafeteria, welcomed the entire Raider football team and coaching staff to join in acknowledging Cummings, but also multiple teammates whose contributions in the game were also singled out.

Though the award is an individual honor, it's one that's not possible without the support of the 10 other players on the field, and 70-something others on the sideline and practice.

CUMMINGS
Continued on page 6



HOW SWEEP IT IS: Audrie Lord and Rilyn Smith (left) embrace while Mattie Claire Sapp and Finlee Moss (right) trade airborne high fives in the postgame celebration after West Laurens Middle School swept a doubleheader with Bleckley County to capture its third-straight MGMSAA region softball title/CLAY REYNOLDS



WLMS softball continues dynasty with third-straight region championship

By CLAY REYNOLDS
Sports Editor

For a couple of seasons running, West Laurens Middle School has been the softball team to beat in the MGM-SAA.

Several more region challengers gave the Raiders their best shot this fall, but none in 15 games were able to take down the back-to-back champions as they swept their way through the schedule for a second-straight year to clinch a third title in a row.

The team completed its run at home in the championship series last Wednesday, sweeping Bleckley County Middle by scores of 9-1 and 8-0 to complete the three-peat, also winning a fourth region crown in five years and ninth for the program all-time.

Though a couple of losses and a

draw in non-region action did prevent it from duplicating the perfect 25-0 overall record achieved by the Raiders of 2024, this group (finishing 22-2-1) still carried on the program's recent trend of dominance, outscoring region opponents by a count of 202-7 overall.

The Raiders had a pitching staff loaded with outstanding arms as a major source of their success. Paisley Powell, Audrie Edenfield, Lydia Sahli and Payton Upshaw all saw frequent action over the course of the season, and all brought some great stuff to the circle.

Each of the above, along with Kinsley Moore and Mattie Claire Sapp, were among the leading hitters.

"People look at the scores and they just think we barreled over every-

body, but I'll be honest. In the nine years we've done it, this is the best the pitching has been, consistently, from team-to-team," said WLMS head coach Josh Carter. "Our girls did a really good job at the plate allowing their situations to dictate their approaches."

That was true in last Wednesday's championship series, when the Raiders caught both BCMS pitchers at their best. It took some time to get things going at the plate in both games of the doubleheader. Game 2 was only a 1-0 lead through three.

"Both were closer games than what it appeared as a run-rule game," Carter said. "As far as a coach, I was just steady on 'em, That was probably the

WLMS
Continued on page 6



HERE WE ARE AGAIN: Georgia High School Football Daily and Alfa Insurance reps, local agent Brooks Hendrix (far left) and Paul Blanchard (third from left), were in the house for a second-straight week Wednesday to present Ty Cummings (second from left, with head coach Kip Burdette at far right) with the digital publication's state player of the week award /CLAY REYNOLDS

Trinity softball shuts out Twiggs/FPCA, edged late by David Emanuel



GETTING IT DONE IN THE FIELD, AND AT THE PLATE: Trinity shortstop Abby Gillis slings one across the infield for an out against Twiggs Academy last Tuesday. She would go on to hit for the cycle later in the week at FPCA/CLAY REYNOLDS

By JEREMY PAYNE
Correspondent

The Trinity Lady Crusaders had a productive last week in softball action, earning a pair of run-rule victories, 12-0 over Twiggs Academy Sept. 23 and 25-0 over First Preparatory Christian the following Thursday.

Unfortunately, they weren't able to pull out a third win as they fell 6-5 in a walk-off at David Emanuel this past Tuesday.

Trinity got in the board in the first inning of the Twiggs game on a two-out single by Liza Gay to make it 1-0.

Reese Cobb reached on a bunt single to lead off the second inning, stole second, went to third on an error and scored

on a groundout to make it 2-0.

Another two-out single by Gay in the third made it 3-0, and Chloe Rozier followed with a double to make it 4-0.

Trinity broke the game open with a huge fourth inning. Two errors made the score 5-0. After a Brinley Vinson single and a hit batter loaded the bases, M.G. Allgood brought home all three runs with a double to make it 8-0.

The ninth and 10th runs came in on errors. Cobb, Eden Rowe and Lily Kidd followed with consecutive singles to make the score 12-0 and invoke the run rule.

Cobb and Gay had two hits each. Vinson, Allgood, Rozier, Rowe and Kidd also hit safely.

Allgood went four shutout innings on the mound and scattered three hits in the win.

The FPCA game was a blowout from the start as Trinity exploded for 15 runs in the top of the first. Vinson singled to lead off the contest and scored on an inside-the-park homer by Abby Gillis.

Run-scoring singles by Rozier, Cobb and Vinson, sandwiched around a pair of errors and a wild pitch, would push the lead to 7-0. Gillis would come up big again with a two-run triple to make it 9-0.

Allgood would drive her in with a single and Gay would follow with an RBI double to make it 11-0. Rozier blasted a two-run homer to left to make the score

13-0. Two more runs would then score on wild pitches to make it 15-0 before the home team even got to hit.

Trinity was far from done. A walk followed by an Allgood triple in the second made it 16-0. Gay was up next with another double to make it 17-0 and a Rozier single extended the lead to 18-0.

A bases-loaded walk and a wild pitch would make the score 20-0 before Gillis would strike again. This time, she doubled home a pair to make it 22-0. Allgood would come up next with another double to make the score 23-0.

TRINITY
Continued on page 6

CUMMINGS

Continued from page 5

"It's my belief that they don't celebrate players off of bad football teams," Burdette said. "Everybody in this room had a little part of that." It should also be noted the last time a Laurens County player was named Georgia High School Football player of the week – Dublin's JaQués "Donut" Evans in 2019 – his team went on to win the state championship.

And both the two-timers mentioned above would also win it all later in the season they were honored.

But no pressure... "You still have a lot of football to play, but when we get to the Mercedes-Benz dome at the beginning of December, Brooks and I will be the ones handing out the trophies on that night," Blanchard told the team. "I really hope that it's you guys and this man (Cummings) standing right here and y'all's coach that gets that trophy."

"This season's going to be special'..."
A lot about last Friday was absolutely bonkers.

Besides the stat line of Cummings, which mirrored a record scoring performance for the team as a whole, there were a few other interesting quirks to note in the game's box score.

Baldwin – led by the five touchdowns and over 400 yards of quarterback Kamden Patterson, who was recognized alongside Cummings among GHSF Daily's weekly "top five" – actually outgained West Laurens in total yardage, 703-643.

The gap in the possession-related stat categories was even more unthinkable.

The spread was 65 in plays from



NEW HEIGHTS: West Laurens offensive lineman Grady Howell tosses Cummings toward the sky after his record-breaking second touchdown, though Friday's climb toward some rare air for the Raiders' rushing attack was only beginning/**DANNY SCARBORO**

scrimmage, of which the Braves ran 93, and West Laurens only 28. The visitors also picked up an incredible 31 first downs, against only three.

The Raiders, in fact, snapped the ball only once past second down of a series. Baldwin, meanwhile, labored extensively in working out a 6-of-15 conversion rate on third downs, and 7-for-10 on fourth.

"The most bizarre game I've ever seen," said Laurens County Schools athletic director Jeff Clayton, who compiles the team's official numbers.

Cummings, once the enormity of it all set in, was at as much of a loss for words as everyone watching from the stands, sideline and press box.

"It didn't hit me till I got in the shower that night," he said. "I got in the shower and I was like, we just really did that? I just really rushed for 600-plus yards. That's crazy."

Covering that much ground,

on nearly 20 carries, takes some stamina, and leaves even many of the best-conditioned of players exhausted.

Cummings, who was in the same boat on some long nights involving as many wide-open runs earlier in his career, credits that durability to some strict off-field discipline when it comes to nutrition, hydration and training habits.

"I just stay conditioned outside of practice and in practice, and I don't put anything crazy in my body," he said. "I go home, do school work and go to sleep."

Cummings, Langford and Burdette each gave plenty of love to members of the West Laurens offensive line – Grady Howell, Trey Williams, Tramel Tobler, Michael Dasher, Christian Rozier and Jonathan Toney – whose work was instrumental in the big game.

Up-blockers in Evan Holmes, Evan Williams and even quarter-

back Cason Pollock were also due some major props for their work leading the way.

And there's no doubt the unique (and frequently candid) relationship between those big men up front and rushers in the Raiders' running back room is a big reason they're averaging over 11 yards per carry, and – after Friday's game – over 350 yards a night on the ground.

"We hold each other accountable," Cummings said. "If I slack, they get on my tail. If they slack, I get on them. I just like the team chemistry we've all got in practice and games."

Plenty of that also goes back to the camaraderie and competitive edge shared by West Laurens' current senior class, which – looking back – had much of this planned out way back in eighth grade.

"We've been playing all together since like fourth grade rec football," Cummings said. "Our eighth grade year, we lost in the first round, and we all told each other we were going to win it our senior year."

Following a 6-0 start, the now ninth-ranked Raiders have every possible goal in their sights... a potential region title as a definite possibility.

But if the extreme limits explored last Friday were any indication, some historic accomplishments of a much larger scale could also be in play for a generational team that's dedicated to achieving its best, whatever that happens to be.

"One of our goals was to try to be the best team to ever come through West Laurens," Cummings said. "I think the quote/unquote best team was 11-2, maybe. So we want to just win out, and our goal is to go 15-0 and win state."

"This season's going to be very special for us."

SCOREBOARD

SOFTBALL Wednesday West Laurens 13, Houston Co. 4
Thursday Brentwood 12, Trinity 4 Bleckley Co. 7, Dublin 4 East Laurens 9, Washington Co. 0

PREP
SCHEDULE

FOOTBALL Friday Dublin at ACE Charter Southwest Macon at EL Twiggs Co. at Johnson Co. Brentwood at Edmund Burke Hancock Central at Wilkinson Co. Northeast Macon at Bleckley Co. Montgomery Co. at Wheeler Co. Treutlen at Telfair Co. Washington Co. at Dodge Co./7:30 p.m.

SOFTBALL Monday Thomas Jefferson at Trinity /4:30 p.m. Perry at EL/6 p.m.

Tuesday Bulloch at Trinity/4:30 p.m. EL at Jefferson Co. West Laurens at Wilcox Co. /5 p.m.
--

Wednesday WL at GMC/5:30 p.m. Dublin at Swainsboro /6 p.m.
--

Thursday Dublin at Dodge Co. Trinity at Vidalia Heritage /5:30 p.m.

and Wilson RBI'd to get them a quick one in the first. Moss doubled, Brown singled and Allie Sahli and Lord delivered RBIs to add two in the second.

HoCo got one in the second before Hogan singled to set up Collins' two-run blast to center in the top of three.

West tacked on two more via Lord and Phillips' RBI singles in the fourth.

A couple more went on the board as the result of hits by Brown, Sahli and Lord in the fifth. HoCo kept it from ending with three to narrow the margin in the bottom half of the inning. But West Laurens blew it back open with a grand finale in the sixth, featuring an RBI double by Collins, an RBI single by Moss, then Brown's two-run homer to cap the scoring.

WLMS

Continued from page 5

worst two games that we've hit all year. Their pitchers did a really good job of mixing speeds and mixing up locations. We didn't do a good job, but our pitching was solid, and our defense showed up really well in those two games."

Is there a secret sauce that's helped make West Laurens such an unstoppable force these last few seasons?

Though it's never any one single thing, as opposed to a variety of factors that work together, Carter believes an over-emphasis on "drilling the fundamentals" throughout his time as head coach has been a major key, as consistency throwing strikes, making plays in the field and executing at the plate is what separates great teams from the good at this level.

"We're really just pounding in the fundamentals, day in and day out," said Carter, who is assisted by Case Matthews.

He credits the developmental background of players, most of whom hail from one or more of Dudley Little League, Legacy Sports and travel softball teams, with laying a great foundation in the game.

A special training program coordinated by Eric Bland and Mitchell Clegg of CrossFit DGA during the summer

has also contributed a lot to maximizing their strength and speed.

"This is our second summer that we've done CrossFit up there, and I can tell a big difference from the gains the girls have had," Carter said.

He added that the 60x100-foot softball/baseball indoor facility built by the Laurens County Board of Education shortly after the new school opened two years ago has also "paid dividends."

"We've gotten so many good reps in there, and we're able to practice still when it's raining," Carter said. "It's a facility that any college would be happy to have."

The further you get into a long streak of success, the tougher it gets to maintain the standards that underlie it. Carter applauds the character and mental toughness his team displayed in fighting off both the internal and opposing challenges it faced down the stretch.

"I was just proud of the way they stood in there," he said. "It's really hard to consistently win whenever you're getting everybody's best, everybody knows you haven't lost in a long time and everybody's gonna give you their best. It's hard to stay on top when you're on top without discipline and really good focus."

EAST-WEST

Continued from page 5

four-inning no-hitter.

Most of the East Laurens damage resulted from Southwest walks, free passes and errors that vastly outnumbered the Falcons' hits, though among the few was a Deanna Lowther home run in the fourth.

The Falcons scored three in the first, and a couple more in the third on their way to Thursday's victory, which had Deanna as the starting pitcher.

West Laurens survived a Veterans comeback effort, as the Warhawks chipped away three from its lead of five runs going to the seventh inning, to hang on for a first win of the week Tuesday in Kathleen.

Braylin Horton RBI'd a seventh run for the home team after two bases-loaded walks made it 9-6, but CheyAnn Phillips and the Raiders got the rest of the side.

Veterans started No. 2 pitcher Rizzy White over ace Caidence Scott, and some struggles with location went along with West Laurens' timely hitting to get things off to a strong start,

with three earned runs off six hits and three walks in three innings.

The Raiders broke into the scoreless ballgame in the top of the third, as K.K. Wilson and Phillips each singled to drive in a total of three. Veterans struck back for two in the bottom of the third, but West Laurens answered with a pair of its own thanks to a Demmie Moss double, a fielder's choice and a two-RBI Chandler Malone single.

The Raiders responded again after Veterans doubled its number in the fourth, with a leadoff Phillips double followed by an Ava Collins RBI single, and wild pitch to score Ella Thompson.

Insurance in the sixth, on a Hogan single and Wilson triple, and seventh, as Moss and Brown singled and scored on an error, were key in the final two-run edge.

Madison Brown was 3-for-4 with a home run to lead West Laurens Wednesday at Houston County. Collins went yard as well to help the Raiders pull away.

Maggie Shea Lord singled

TRINITY

Continued from page 5

In the third, an error made it 24-0 before Gillis would collect her single to complete the cycle and make it 25-0.

Gillis was a perfect 4-for-4 with six driven in. Rozier and Alligood had three hits each. Vinson, Gay and Cobb all collected two hits.

Alligood allowed just one hit in three innings on the mound and struck out five.

Trinity took an early lead against DEA as Vinson singled to lead off the game and eventually scored on a groundout to make it 1-0.

The Lady Eagles took the lead in the bottom of the first on a pair of errors, a single and a triple to make it 3-1.

A two-out, two-run single following an error in the second made it 5-1 DEA.

Trinity started to chip away in the fifth when Gillis delivered an RBI hit to make it 5-2.

An error, a sacrifice and another Gillis single in the seventh set the Lady Crusaders up for a comeback. Alligood singled home a run to make the score 5-3.

Gay came up next and ripped a single to left. The ball got past the left fielder, scoring two runs and allow-

ing Gay to advance all the way to third. Unfortunately she was stranded there and the score was 5-5 going to the bottom of the seventh.

DEA got a single to lead off the inning before a fielder's choice made it one

away. The next batter ripped a double in the gap to score the winning run from first.

Gillis and Gay had two hits each to lead the 10-hit Trinity attack. Vinson, Alligood, Rozier, Cobb, Rowe and Kidd also hit safely. ---

Alligood went 6 1/3, allowing just six hits and two earned runs. She walked one and struck out one.

Trinity (6-11 overall, 5-6 district) was set to host Brentwood to finish out the week on Thursday, with

Thomas Jefferson as the first of two remaining home games, both non-region, to

open the following week on Monday afternoon.

CITY OF DUBLIN
MUNICIPAL GENERAL AND SPECIAL ELECTION NOTICE

The Laurens County Board of Elections & Registration will hold the 2025 Municipal General and Special Election for the City of Dublin on November 4, 2025.

The last day to register to vote in this election is October 6, 2025. Voters may check their registration status at mvp.sos.ga.gov

Election Day voting for the City of Dublin Elections will be held at Stubbs Park Community Center Gym (Calhoun Park) at 309 N Calhoun St. Dublin, Ga. from 7:00 am – 7:00 pm

A request for absentee application must be completed and can be made to the Laurens County Board of Elections & Registration Office and returned no later than October 24, 2025 if you elect to vote absentee by mail. You may contact the Laurens County Board of Elections & Registration at 478-272-2841 to request an application be mailed.

Advanced voting or early voting for the City of Dublin Elections will be conducted at the Laurens County Board of Elections & Registration Office at 117 E Jackson St. Dublin, Ga 31021.

A drop box will be accessible during Advanced Voting Hours.

Advanced Voting days/hours are as follows:
Tuesday, October 14-Friday, October 17 8:30 am-5:00 pm
Saturday, October 18 9:00 am-5:00 pm
Monday, October 20-Friday, October 24 8:30 am-5:00 pm
Saturday, October 25 9:00 am-5:00 pm
Monday, October 27-Friday, October 31 8:30 am-5:00 pm

Laurens County Board of Elections & Registration

Classifieds

Jobs Needed

POLICE OFFICER
The City of Dublin is accepting applications for a team member with a positive attitude and initiative for the position of Certified Police Officer. This person will perform law, traffic and criminal investigations work. Performs duties which provide protection of life and property; enforcement of federal, state, and local laws; response to emergency situations; investigation of criminal activity; intervention in criminal activity; provide crime prevention information and proactive patrol. Assignment to specialized units within the Department include Support Services, Housing Authority, School Resource Officer, Special Operations Unit, or others. Work is performed according to established policies and procedures; therefore, a Police Officer must be able to exercise sound judgment, especially in emergency situations. Work requires tactful, conscientiousness, effective and efficient performance of duties with minimum supervision and contains a substantial element of personal risk. An employee in this position may be required to use force to affect an arrest, protect him or herself, or protect others. Applicants must be 21 years old and possess a high school diploma or G.E.D. and a valid Georgia driver's license. Successful applicant must pass a drug screen, Polygraph exam, physical agility test, and psychological exam. Starting salary is \$51,632.05 annually for a POST Certified Officer or \$45, 624.48 annually for uncertified. An extensive fringe benefit package is also offered. To apply, visit our website www.cityofdublin.org. Position will remain open until filled. The City of Dublin is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Miscellaneous For Sale

U Pick Sweet Potatoes, \$10 per 5 gal. bucket, bring containers.
Randy Deloach: 912-282-4300 day, 912-739-4124 night. 1026 Herman Lynn Rd, Claxton, GA.

Yard/Estate Sales

Multi Family Yard Sale
October 4, 2025

Yard Sale! 706 Country Club Rd. Dublin, Ga 31021 Sat, Oct 4th 8a-2p

Estate Sale 157 Lakeview Lane Dublin, Ga 31021 Next to Dublin Country Club Fri, Oct 3rd 4p-7p Sat, Oct 4th 8a-4p Sun, Oct 5th 1p-4p 1/2 price Sunday

Yard Sale Sat, Oct 4, 2025, 1322 Old Macon Rd, Dudley, from 8a-12p

Legals

Legals

25-471
TRADE NAME REGISTRATION
Office of
Jackie H. Dalton
Clerk Superior Court
Laurens County, Georgia
Personally appeared the undersigned who on oath deposes and says that: **Lake Commercial Inspections & Consulting, LLC** is/are doing business in Laurens County, Georgia under the name of: **Lake Country Home Inspection & Aerial Photography**
883 Taylor Grocery Rd
Cadwell, GA 31009
and that the nature of the business to be carried on is:
Aerial Inspection

October 4, 11, 2025

25-441
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
CARSON DEAN, Petitioner
CIVIL ACTION NO. _____
ORDER REGARDING FILING OF ACTION
The pleading submitted by the party with-out the assistance of counsel has been reviewed by the undersigning judge as required by O. C. G. A. section 9-15-2(d) and it has been determined as follows: The pleading on its face presents a justiciable issue of law or fact and is to be filed by the Clerk of Court.
Neither the Clerk of Court nor the Judges are permitted to give you legal advice regarding your case.
Dated August 1, 2025
Judson L. Green IV
Judge, Superior Courts
Dublin
Judicial Circuit

September 13, 20, 27 & 10/4, 2025

25-432
State of Georgia
County of Laurens.
Notice to Debtors and Creditors
All creditors of the Estate of Raymond Claude Savage Jr., late of Laurens County, Georgia, deceased, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law; and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to me.
Callie Warren
Administrator
of Raymond Claude Savage, Sr.
September 13, 20, 27, October 4, 2025

25-460
State of Georgia
County of Laurens

Notice is hereby given that the property of each and all persons listed below will be sold at public auction, separately and individually, on Monday, October 13, 2025 starting at 10 A.M. In case of inclement weather, sale will be held on October 14, 2025 at 10 A.M.

1.Alfidean Coleman, Units E-12, F-07, and L-09;
2.Darrell Platt, Unit Y-21;
3.Nathasha Boyt, Unit X-36;
4.Yvonne Sanders, Units Z-28, Z-34, and Z-35

Property is located at Garner's U Store, Incorporated, 1321 North Jefferson Street, and 1687 Highway 441 North, Dublin, Georgia, 31021. Each unit, starting first at 1321 N Jefferson Street, will be sold at public auction to the highest and best bidder for cash at 10AM on above date at the above premises. All contents of each and every person and every unit will be sold as a unit. The contents are personal items such as, but not necessarily limited to household

items, personal items, furniture, and other items. You may call 478-272-3724 for more detailed information.
September 27, Oct 4, 2025

25-483
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: STATE OF LINDA CRADDOCK YOUNG, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 25-233
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO: whom it may concern:
EDWARD COBB OUTLAW, III has petitioned to be appointed administrator(s) of the estate of LINDA CRADDOCK YOUNG, deceased, of said county. (The petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, waiver of statements, and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A section 53-12-261.) All interested persons are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the grounds must be in writing, setting forth the petitions of any such objections, and must be filed with the court on or before NOVEMBER 3, 2025
BE NOTIFIED FURTHER: All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
Genola O. Jackson
Judge of the Probate Court
By: C WARREN
Clerk of the Probate Court
PO Box 2098
Dublin, GA 31040
478 272 2566

October 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025

25-397
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
STATE OF GEORGIA
LAURENS COUNTY

WHEREAS, Tammi R Brooks, Unmarried woman, as borrower(s), executed a SECURITY DEED to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for First Guaranty Mortgage Corporation, a Corporation, Lender which was dated 6/17/2015, and recorded on 7/1/2015, in Instrument No.: Deed Book 2625, Page 7, securing the payment of a Note in the amount of \$112,917.00 in Laurens County, Georgia Register of Deeds. NOW, THEREFORE, notice is hereby given that the entire indebtedness has been declared due and payable as provided in said Security Deed by the Holder, and by virtue of the power of sale and authority vested in it, will on 11/4/2025 sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash Before the Courthouse door of the Laurens County Courthouse, 101 N Jefferson Street, Dublin, Georgia 31040 of Laurens, the following described property situated in Laurens County, Georgia, to wit:
ALL THAT TRACT OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN THE 52ND GMD OF LAURENS COUNTY, GEORGIA AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS LOT 10 OF SOMERSET SUBDIVISION, PHASE 1, ACCORDING TO A PLAT OF SURVEY BY BILLY FLANDERS, LAND SURVEY OR, DATED JULY 13, 1999, AND RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 7, PAGE 759, OF THE RECORDS OF CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT, LAURENS COUNTY, GEORGIA, SAID PLAT IS INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE FOR A MORE PARTICULAR DESCRIPTION.
SUBJECT TO COVENANTS, RESTRICTIONS, RESERVATIONS AND EASEMENTS OF RECORD.
Tax Parcel ID: E27D-053
Being real property commonly known as **954 STONEY RIDGE DR EAST DUBLIN, GA 31027**
The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the debt and all expenses of this sale including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given). Said sale will be made subject to the following items which may affect the title to said property: All restrictive covenants, easements and rights-of-way appearing of record, if any; all zoning ordinances; matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or by an inspection of the property; all outstanding or unpaid bills and assessments for street improvements, curbing, garbage, water, sewage and public utilities which may be liens upon said property; and any outstanding taxes, assessments and other liens superior to the security deed being foreclosed hereby. To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the above-described property is in the possession of the borrower and/or other persons with the consent and acquiescence of the borrower.
Except to the extent that the Holder may bind and obligate Mortgageors to warrant title to the Property under the terms of the Security Deed, conveyance of the Property shall be made without any representations or warranties whatsoever, express or implied. All sales are "as is", "where is". The entire purchase price is due and payable at the conclusion of the auction in the form of certified funds. Insufficient funds will not be accepted. Amounts received in excess of the winning bid will be refunded to the successful purchaser. This property is being sold with express reservation that the sale is subject to confirmation by lender or Substitute Trustee.
Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2, the name, address and telephone number of the person or entity who shall have full authority to negotiate, amend, or modify all terms of the above-described mortgage is as follows:
Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC, 1600 South Douglass Road, Suite 200-A Anaheim, CA 92806, Telephone No.: 800-561-4567
The foregoing notwithstanding, nothing in O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2 shall be construed to require Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC to negotiate, amend, or modify the terms of the Security Deed described herein.
Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC as Attorney in Fact for Tammi R Brooks
Attorney Contact:
Miller, George & Suggs, PLLC
3000 Langford Road, Building 100
Peachtree Corners, GA 30071
Phone: 404-793-1447
Fax: 404-738-1558
TS # 25-36200
THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
August 23, 30, September 6, 13, 20, 27, October 4, 11, 18, 25, November 1, 2025

25-447.
Notice to Debtors and Creditors
State of Georgia
County of Laurens
IN RE: ESTATE OF Carolyn H. Moore, DECEASED
All creditors of the Estate of Carolyn H. Moore, deceased late of Laurens County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law; and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to me.
Jeannette Moore Waters and Felicia Moore Breedlove
Administrator
of Carolyn H. Moore, deceased
7373 Waters Edge Drive
Stone Mountain, GA 30087
September 20 27, October 4, 11th, 2025

25-458
CITATION
IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY
IN THE INTEREST OF:
Initials: AJL
STATE OF GEORGIA
SEX: F
FILE#34.13920.1520
DOB:05/12/2017 CASE #2024J-0044
A Child Under Eighteen (18) Years of Age
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, AVIMAE L. JAVIER-LOPEZ,
UNKNOWN ADDRESS, and anyone claiming to have a parental interest in the
minor child named above. The mother of said child is NATALIA LOPEZ.
YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the above styled action seeking
Termination of Parental Rights in the above-named child was filed against you in said Court on the 20th day of February 2024, and that by reason of an Order for Service by Publication entered by the Court on the 22nd day of September, 2025; YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED AND REQUIRED to appear before the Juvenile Court of Laurens County, Georgia, in Dublin, Georgia, on the 3rd day of December, 2025, at 9:00 o'clock A.M. The hearing is for the purpose of TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS.
WITNESS THE HONORABLE PENNY MANNING SNIPES, Judge of said Court, this 9-22, 2025.
Charles C. Butler, Attorney for Laurens County Department of Family and Children Services
PO Drawer 4430
Dublin, GA 31040-4430 State Bar No. 099517
September 27, October 4, 11, 18, 2025

25-454
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, AVIMAE L. JAVIER-LOPEZ,
UNKNOWN ADDRESS, and anyone claiming to have a parental interest in the
minor child named above. The mother of said child is NATALIA LOPEZ.
YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the above styled action seeking
Termination of Parental Rights in the above-named child was filed against you in said Court on the 20th day of February 2024, and that by reason of an Order for Service by Publication entered by the Court on the 22nd day of September, 2025; YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED AND REQUIRED to appear before the Juvenile Court of Laurens County, Georgia, in Dublin, Georgia, on the 3rd day of December, 2025, at 9:00 o'clock A.M. The hearing is for the purpose of TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS.
WITNESS THE HONORABLE PENNY MANNING SNIPES, Judge of said Court, this 9-22, 2025.
Charles C. Butler, Attorney for Laurens County Department of Family and Children Services
PO Drawer 4430
Dublin, GA 31040-4430 State Bar No. 099517
September 27, October 4, 11, 18, 2025

25-460
State of Georgia
County of Laurens

25-457
CITATION
IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY
IN THE INTEREST OF:
Initials: AJL
STATE OF GEORGIA
SEX: F
FILE#34.13920.1519

DOB:05/12/2017 CASE #2024J-0042
A Child Under Eighteen (18) Years of Age
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, AVIMAE L. JAVIER-LOPEZ,
UNKNOWN ADDRESS, and anyone claiming to have a parental interest in the
minor child named above. The mother of said child is NATALIA LOPEZ.
YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the above styled action seeking
Termination of Parental Rights in the above-named child was filed against you in said Court on the 20th day of February 2024, and that by reason of an Order for Service by Publication entered by the Court on the 22nd day of September, 2025; YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED AND REQUIRED to appear before the Juvenile Court of Laurens County, Georgia, in Dublin, Georgia, on the 3rd day of December, 2025, at 9:00 o'clock A.M. The hearing is for the purpose of TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS.
WITNESS THE HONORABLE PENNY MANNING SNIPES, Judge of said Court, this 9-22, 2025.
Charles C. Butler, Attorney for Laurens County Department of Family and Children Services
PO Drawer 4430
Dublin, GA 31040-4430 State Bar No. 099517
September 27, October 4, 11, 18, 2025

25-455
NOTICE OF SALE
Pursuant to the official Code of Georgia Annotated Section 10-4-210 there will be a public sale at Little House Self Storage, 1854 Marion Street Dublin, on Wednesday, October 8, 2025 beginning at 10:00 A.M. The proceeds of said sale will be used first to satisfy the storage fee and expenses of the auction. Any other proceeds will be used to satisfy such creditors as present their claims in advance of sale.
219 Eunice Farmer
#111 Vanita Richardson
September 27, October 4, 11, 18, 2025

25-452
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF CELIA MAE GRAHAM DECEASED
ESTATE NO.25-277
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE
TO: whom it may concern:
MAURICE VERNARD HIGHTOWER has petitioned for to be appointed administrator(s) of the estate of CELIA MAE GRAHAM deceased, of said county. (The petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, waiver of statements, and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. section 53-12-261.) All interested persons are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed with the Court on or before Nov. 3, 2025.
BE NOTIFIED FURTHER: All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be (scheduled at a later date). If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
Genola O. Jackson
Judge of the Probate Court
By: C. Warren
Clerk of the Probate Court
P.O-> box 2098
Dublin, GA 31040
478 272 2566
October 4, 11, 18 & 25th, 2025

25-447.
Notice to Debtors and Creditors
State of Georgia
County of Laurens
IN RE: ESTATE OF Carolyn H. Moore, DECEASED
All creditors of the Estate of Carolyn H. Moore, deceased late of Laurens County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law; and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to me.
Jeannette Moore Waters and Felicia Moore Breedlove
Administrator
of Carolyn H. Moore, deceased
7373 Waters Edge Drive
Stone Mountain, GA 30087
September 20 27, October 4, 11th, 2025

25-458
CITATION
IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY
IN THE INTEREST OF:
Initials: AJL
STATE OF GEORGIA
SEX: F
FILE#34.13920.1520
DOB:05/12/2017 CASE #2024J-0044
A Child Under Eighteen (18) Years of Age
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, AVIMAE L. JAVIER-LOPEZ,
UNKNOWN ADDRESS, and anyone claiming to have a parental interest in the
minor child named above. The mother of said child is NATALIA LOPEZ.
YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the above styled action seeking
Termination of Parental Rights in the above-named child was filed against you in said Court on the 20th day of February 2024, and that by reason of an Order for Service by Publication entered by the Court on the 22nd day of September, 2025; YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED AND REQUIRED to appear before the Juvenile Court of Laurens County, Georgia, in Dublin, Georgia, on the 3rd day of December, 2025, at 9:00 o'clock A.M. The hearing is for the purpose of TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS.
WITNESS THE HONORABLE PENNY MANNING SNIPES, Judge of said Court, this 9-22, 2025.
Charles C. Butler, Attorney for Laurens County Department of Family and Children Services
PO Drawer 4430
Dublin, GA 31040-4430 State Bar No. 099517
September 27, October 4, 11, 18, 2025

25-447.
Notice to Debtors and Creditors
State of Georgia
County of Laurens
IN RE: ESTATE OF Carolyn H. Moore, DECEASED
All creditors of the Estate of Carolyn H. Moore, deceased late of Laurens County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law; and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to me.
Jeannette Moore Waters and Felicia Moore Breedlove
Administrator
of Carolyn H. Moore, deceased
7373 Waters Edge Drive
Stone Mountain, GA 30087
September 20 27, October 4, 11th, 2025

25-458
CITATION
IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY
IN THE INTEREST OF:
Initials: AJL
STATE OF GEORGIA
SEX: F
FILE#34.13920.1520
DOB:05/12/2017 CASE #2024J-0044
A Child Under Eighteen (18) Years of Age
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, AVIMAE L. JAVIER-LOPEZ,
UNKNOWN ADDRESS, and anyone claiming to have a parental interest in the
minor child named above. The mother of said child is NATALIA LOPEZ.
YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the above styled action seeking
Termination of Parental Rights in the above-named child was filed against you in said Court on the 20th day of February 2024, and that by reason of an Order for Service by Publication entered by the Court on the 22nd day of September, 2025; YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED AND REQUIRED to appear before the Juvenile Court of Laurens County, Georgia, in Dublin, Georgia, on the 3rd day of December, 2025, at 9:00 o'clock A.M. The hearing is for the purpose of TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS.
WITNESS THE HONORABLE PENNY MANNING SNIPES, Judge of said Court, this 9-22, 2025.
Charles C. Butler, Attorney for Laurens County Department of Family and Children Services
PO Drawer 4430
Dublin, GA 31040-4430 State Bar No. 099517
September 27, October 4, 11, 18, 2025

25-458
CITATION
IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY
IN THE INTEREST OF:
Initials: AJL
STATE OF GEORGIA
SEX: F
FILE#34.13920.1518
DOB:08/27/2016 CASE #2024J-0042
A Child Under Eighteen (18) Years of Age
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, AVIMAE L. JAVIER-LOPEZ,
UNKNOWN ADDRESS, and anyone claiming to have a parental interest in the
minor child named above. The mother of said child is NATALIA LOPEZ.
YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the above styled action seeking
Termination of Parental Rights in the above-named child was filed against you in said Court on the 20th day of February 2024, and that by reason of an Order for Service by Publication entered by the Court on the 22nd day of September, 2025; YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED AND REQUIRED to appear before the Juvenile Court of Laurens County, Georgia, in Dublin, Georgia, on the 3rd day of December, 2025, at 9:00 o'clock A.M. The hearing is for the purpose of TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS.
WITNESS THE HONORABLE PENNY MANNING SNIPES, Judge of said Court, this 9-22, 2025.
Charles C. Butler, Attorney for Laurens County Department of Family and Children Services
PO Drawer 4430
Dublin, GA 31040-4430 State Bar No. 099517
September 27, October 4, 11, 18, 2025

25-473
STATE OF GOERGIA
COUNTY OF LAURENS
ESTATE OF LINDA CRADDOCK YOUNG IN THE PROBATE COURT OF SAID STATE AND COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS

All creditors of the estate of LINDA CRADDOCK YOUNG deceased, late of Laurens County, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to me.
This 25th Day of September, 2025
Emily F. Kight
Attorney for the Estate of LINDA CRADDOCK YOUNG
Kight Law, LLC
P.O. Box 2056
Dublin, Ga. 31040
OCTOBER 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025

25-480
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF JAMES EDWIN DOBBS, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 25-108
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE
TO: Whom it may concern:
JACQUELINE LAMB has petitioned to be appointed administrator of the estate of JAMES EDWIN DOBBS deceased, of said county. (The petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, deceased, of said county. (The petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, waiver of statements, and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. section 53-12-26.) All interested persons are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed with the Court on or before NOVEMBER 3, 2025.
BE NOTIFIED FURTHER: All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be (scheduled at a later date) If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
Glenda D. Jackson
Judge of the Probate court
By: C Warren
PO Box 2098
Dublin, GA 31040
478 272 2566
October 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025

25-485
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF JIMMY WALTON SCHELL, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 24-141
NOTICE
(For discharge from office and all liability)
IN RE: Petition for Discharge of Personal Representative
TO: whom it may concern:
This is to notify you to file an objection, if there is any, to the above-referenced petition, in the Court on or before NOVEMBER 3, 2025.
This is to notify you who are required to be served personally, to file an objection, if there is any, to the above-referenced petition, in the Court on or before the 30th day after the date you are personally served or sign the return receipt.
BE NOTIFIED FURTHER: All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
Genola O. Jackson
Judge of the Probate Court
By: CWarren
Clerk of the Probate Court
PO Box 2098
Dublin, GA 31040
478-272-2566
October 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025

25-485
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF JIMMY WALTON SCHELL, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 24-141
NOTICE
(For discharge from office and all liability)
IN RE: Petition for Discharge of Personal Representative
TO: whom it may concern:
This is to notify you to file an objection, if there is any, to the above-referenced petition, in the Court on or before NOVEMBER 3, 2025.
This is to notify you who are required to be served personally, to file an objection, if there is any, to the above-referenced petition, in the Court on or before the 30th day after the date you are personally served or sign the return receipt.
BE NOTIFIED FURTHER: All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
Genola O. Jackson
Judge of the Probate Court
By: CWarren
Clerk of the Probate Court
PO Box 2098
Dublin, GA 31040
478-272-2566
October 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025

25-488
NOTICE TO BRIAN ASHLEY JOHNSON
HARLEY ANN JOHNSON was born to you in Laurens County, Georgia in March 2010, and, A Petition for Adoption has been filed and is pending in the Superior Court of Laurens County, Georgia, Case No. A24-0009-JH. The final hearing has been set for 9 a.m., in the third floor Courtroom, on November 17, 2025, before Judge Jon F. Helton. Be advised that your parental rights to the child will be terminated upon the finalization of the adoption. The Petitioner has alleged that you have: without justifiable cause, significantly failed to communicate or to make bona fide attempt to communicate with the children in a meaningful, supportive, parental manner as set out in paragraph (1) of subsection (b) of Code Section 19-8-10; OR without justifiable cause, significantly failed to provide for the care and support of the children as required by law of judicial decree as set out in paragraph (2) subsection (b) of Code Section 19-8-10. You have no obligation to file an answer, but you do have the right to appear at the hearing and to show cause why your parental rights should not be terminated by this adoption. If you wish to receive a copy of the Petition for Adoption, you may receive one by contacting the attorney for the Petitioner listed below.
James C. Garner, LLC
111 East Gaines Street
Dublin, GA 31021
478-353-8651
October 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025

25-488
NOTICE TO BRIAN ASHLEY JOHNSON
HARLEY ANN JOHNSON was born to you in Laurens County, Georgia in March 2010, and, A Petition for Adoption has been filed and is pending in the Superior Court of Laurens County, Georgia, Case No. A24-0009-JH. The final hearing has been set for 9 a.m., in the third floor Courtroom, on November 17, 2025, before Judge Jon F. Helton. Be advised that your parental rights to the child will be terminated upon the finalization of the adoption. The Petitioner has alleged that you have: without justifiable cause, significantly failed to communicate or to make bona fide attempt to communicate with the children in a meaningful, supportive, parental manner as set out in paragraph (1) of subsection (b) of Code Section 19-8-10; OR without justifiable cause, significantly failed to provide for the care and support of the children as required by law of judicial decree as set out in paragraph (2) subsection (b) of Code Section 19-8-10. You have no obligation to file an answer, but you do have the right to appear at the hearing and to show cause why your parental rights should not be terminated by this adoption. If you wish to receive a copy of the Petition for Adoption, you may receive one by contacting the attorney for the Petitioner listed below.
James C. Garner, LLC
111 East Gaines Street
Dublin, GA 31021
478-353-8651
October 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025

25-488
NOTICE TO BRIAN ASHLEY JOHNSON
HARLEY ANN JOHNSON was born to you in Laurens County, Georgia in March 2010, and, A Petition for Adoption has been filed and is pending in the Superior Court of Laurens County, Georgia, Case No. A24-0009-JH. The final hearing has been set for 9 a.m., in the third floor Courtroom, on November 17, 2025, before Judge Jon F. Helton. Be advised that your parental rights to the child will be terminated upon the finalization of the adoption. The Petitioner has alleged that you have: without justifiable cause, significantly failed to communicate or to make bona fide attempt to communicate with the children in a meaningful, supportive, parental manner as set out in paragraph (1) of subsection (b) of Code Section 19-8-10; OR without justifiable cause, significantly failed to provide for the care and support of the children as required by law of judicial decree as set out in paragraph (2) subsection (b) of Code Section 19-8-10. You have no obligation to file an answer, but you do have the right to appear at the hearing and to show cause why your parental rights should not be terminated by this adoption. If you wish to receive a copy of the Petition for Adoption, you may receive one by contacting the attorney for the Petitioner listed below.
James C. Garner, LLC
111 East Gaines Street
Dublin, GA 31021
478-353-8651
October 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025

25-454
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:
Notice is hereby given that Tony Lee Floyd alcohol agent, manager, or alcohol licensee has submitted an application to the City of Dublin for a 2025 license to sell (BEER, WINE, LIQUOR), retail. (PACKAGED TO GO, CONSUMPTION ON PREMISES), at Multitani 805 Food Mart Inc, located at 805 N Jefferson SR, Dublin, G 31021
This notice is given this 26th day of August, 2025
Tony Lee Floyd
September 26, October 4th, 2025

25-481
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF GLORIA ANN BRANCH, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 25-180
NOTICE
IN RE: The Petition to Probate Will in Solemn Form in the above-referenced estate having been duly filed.
TO: JASON CURTIS HESTER
This is to notify you to file objection. if there is any, to the petition to probate will in solemn form, in the Court on or before NOVEMBER 3, 2025.
BE NOTIFIED FURTHER: All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections.

All objections should be sworn to be before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be (scheduled at a later date). If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
Genola D. Jackson
Judge of the Probate Court
By:CWarren
Clerk of the Probate Court
P.O Box 2098
Dublin, GA 31040
478 272 2566
October 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025

25-434
State of Georgia
County of Laurens.
Notice to Debtors and Creditors
All creditors of the Estate of Gladys Ballard Graham Aaron, late of Laurens County, Georgia, deceased, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law; and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment. This 5th day of September, 2025.
Estate of Gladys Ballard Graham Aaron
David L. Ballard, Co-Executor
1173 Duggan Street
Dudley, GA 31022
Pamela Ballard, Co-Executor
P.O. Box 295
Dublin, GA 31040
Margaret Greer

no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
Genola O. Jackson
Judge of the Probate Court
By: CWarren
Clerk of the Probate Court
PO Box 2098
Dublin, GA 31040
478-272-2566

October 4, 2025

25-433

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
GEORGIA, LAURENS COUNTY

Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by Tommy Ricks III to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for Ameris Bank, its successors and assigns dated March 23, 2018, recorded in Deed Book 2859, Page 210, Laurens County, Georgia Records, as last transferred to Ameris Bank by assignment recorded in Deed Book 3557, Page 162, Laurens County, Georgia Records, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of FORTY-SEVEN THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED AND 0/100 DOLLARS (\$47,200.00), with interest thereon as set forth therein, there will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the courthouse door of Laurens County, Georgia, or at such place as may be lawfully designated as an alternative, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in October, 2025, the following described property:

SEE EXHIBIT "A" ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF

The debt secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of default, failure to pay the indebtedness as and when due and in the manner provided in the Note and Security Deed. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, as provided in the Security Deed and by law, including Attorney's fees (notice pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 13-1-11 having been given).

Said property will be sold subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), the right of redemption of any taxing authority, any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and any matters of record including, but not limited to, those superior to the Security Deed first set out above. Said property will be sold on an "as-is" basis without any representation, warranty or recourse against the above-named or the undersigned.

Ameris Bank is the holder of the Security Deed to the property in accordance with OCGA § 44-14-162.2.

The entity that has full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the mortgage with the debtor is: Ameris Bank, 1 Corporate Drive, Suite 360, Lake Zurich, IL 60047, 8475507300.

Note, however, that such entity is not required by law to negotiate, amend or modify the terms of the loan.

To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party in possession of the property is Tommy Ricks, III or a tenant or tenants and said property is more commonly known as **201 Coleman Ave, East Dublin, GA 31027**. Should a conflict arise between the property address and the legal description the legal description will control.

The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the security deed.

Ameris Bank as Attorney in Fact for Tommy Ricks III
McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLP
1544 Old Alabama Rd
Roswell, GA 30076
www.foreclosurehotline.net
EXHIBIT "A"

Tract I: Those tracts or parcels of land, lying and being in Smith District (52nd District G.M.) and being known as Lots No. 1, 2, 3 and 4 in Block "E" of survey of Lakehurst Subdivision made by E. K. Hatten, in July of 1947, plat of which said survey is recorded in Plat Book 2, Page 62, Clerk's Office, Superior Court, Laurens County, Georgia, and to which reference is made for further description of the real estate conveyed. Each of said Lots 1, 2, 3 and 4 fronting on Coleman Avenue (formerly known as Darien Street) 50 feet, and extending southwesterly with a uniform width a distance of 250 feet, the total frontage on Coleman Avenue (formerly known as Darien Street), being 200 feet

This is also the same property described in a Warranty Deed from J. Z. Thomas to Annie Catherine Lake Thomas and recorded in Deed Book 267, Page 410, on April 10, 1969, in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Laurens County.

Tract II: All that tract or parcel of land, lying and being in the 52nd District G.M. of Laurens County, Georgia, and being a part of Tract No. 23 of Block "E" of Lakehurst Subdivision, plat of which Subdivision is recorded in Deed Book 2, Page 62, Clerk's Office, Laurens County, Georgia, and further described as: BEGINNING at a point on the southeast side of Poplar Street a distance of 250 feet from the south corner of intersection of Poplar Street and Darien Street (now known as Coleman Avenue) and running thence in a southwesterly direction along Poplar Street a distance of 87 feet to property of Ned Z. Collins; thence in a southeasterly direction a distance of 175 feet to property of R. D. Brown; thence in a northeasterly direction a distance of 87 feet to Lake property; thence in a northwesterly direction a distance of 175 feet to the point of beginning, said tract being bounded on the northwest by Poplar Street; on the northeast by Lake Property; on the southeast by R. D. Brown and on the southwest by property of Ned Z. Collins.

This is also the same property described in an Executor's Deed of Assent from Jim Zenus Thomas to Catherine Thomas and recorded in Deed Book 1608, Page 276, on December 15, 2004, in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Laurens County.

MR / CA October 7, 2025
Our file no. 25-16857GA-FT18
25-16857GA
September 13, 20, 27, & October 4, 2025

25-477

CITATION
IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA

IN THE INTEREST OF:
Initials ZG SEX: M DOB: 07/11/2024
FILE#34.13920.1710
CASE# 25J-0257.
A Child Under Eighteen (18) Years of Age TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, MARVIN ALLEN, UNKNOWN ADDRESS, and anyone claiming to have a parental interest in the minor child named above. The mother of said child is KIMBERLY GEIGER. YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that the above styled action seeking TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS in the above-named child was filed against you

October 4, 11, 18, 25, 2025

25-431

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF LAURENS
IN RE: ESTATE OF RANDY WAYNE LINDSEY

All creditors of the estate of **RANDY WAYNE LINDSEY**, deceased, late of Laurens County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned Administrator, Rita A. Smith. This 5th day of September, 2025.
S. Ryan Dixon

Nelson & Dixon, LLC

125 North Franklin Street

Dublin, Georgia 31021

478-272-3545

September 13, 20, 27, & October 4, 2025

25-459

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

All creditors of MARK ALBEN DUPREE, deceased, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said Estate are required to make immediate payment.

This 23rd day of September, 2025.
Ms. Debra J. Horton, Executor
107 Ann Street
Gordon, GA 31031
September 27, October 4, 11, 18, 2025

25-476

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER

GEORGIA, LAURENS COUNTY

By virtue of a Power of Sale contained in that certain Security Deed from MARY BUTLER to BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., dated April 23, 2010, recorded May 20, 2010, in Deed Book 2183, Page 226, Laurens County, Georgia Records, said Security Deed having been given to secure a Note of even date in the original principal amount of One Hundred Ninety-Eight Thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$198,000.00), with interest thereon as provided for therein, said Security Deed having been last sold, assigned and transferred to Citibank, N.A., not in its individual capacity but solely as Owner Trustee of New Residential Mortgage Loan Trust 2020-RPL1, there will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash at the Laurens County Courthouse, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in November, 2025, all property described in said Security Deed including but not limited to the following described property:

ALL THE FOLLOWING PROPERTY:
TRACT 1: ALL THAT TRACT AND PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOT 226 OF THE FIRST LAND DISTRICT OF LAURENS COUNTY, GEORGIA, BEING PART OF LOTS 110, 111, 112 AND ALL OF LOT 113 OF THE HOLLY HILLS SUBDIVISION AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT AN IRON PIN WHICH IRON PIN IS LOCATED ON THE SOUTHERN MARGIN OF TRINITY ROAD AT THE NORTHWESTERN CORNER OF THAT PART OF LOTS 112 AND 111 AS SHOWN ON A PLAT OF SURVEY RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 370, PAGE 689, PUBLIC RECORDS OF LAURENS COUNTY; THENCE FROM SAID POINT OF BEGINNING SOUTH 42 DEGREES 30 MINUTES EAST A DISTANCE OF 119.2 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; THENCE NORTH 44 DEGREES 07 MINUTES EAST A DISTANCE OF 150 FEET TO AN IRON PIN LOCATED ON THE WEST MARGIN OF HICKORY DRIVE; THENCE SOUTH 39 DEGREES 38 MINUTES EAST ALONG THE WEST MARGIN OF HICKORY DRIVE A DISTANCE OF 15 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; THENCE SOUTH 53 DEGREES 00 MINUTES EAST A DISTANCE OF 150 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; THENCE SOUTH 22 DEGREES 44 MINUTES WEST A DISTANCE OF 207.63 FEET TO AN IRON PIN WHICH IRON PIN IS LOCATED ON THE NORTH MARGIN OF A 10 FOOT PLANTING SCREEN SEPARATING HOLLY HILLS SUBDIVISION FROM PROPERTY OF TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH; THENCE SOUTH 44 DEGREES 49 MINUTES WEST ALONG THE NORTHERN MARGIN OF SAID PLANTING SCREEN A DISTANCE OF 75.2 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; THENCE NORTH 50 DEGREES 30 MINUTES WEST A DISTANCE OF 130.6 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; THENCE SOUTH 42 DEGREES 03 MINUTES WEST A DISTANCE OF 149.3 FEET TO AN IRON PIN LOCATED ON THE EAST MARGIN OF TRINITY ROAD; THENCE NORTH 11 DEGREES 50 MINUTES WEST A DISTANCE OF 315.2 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; THENCE AN ARC DISTANCE OF 57.65 FEET TO AN IRON PIN ON THE SOUTHERN MARGIN OF TRINITY ROAD; THENCE NORTH 44 DEGREES 07 MINUTES EAST A DISTANCE OF 102.1 FEET TO AN IRON PIN AND THE POINT OF BEGINNING. THIS PROPERTY IS CONVEYED SUBJECT TO RESTRICTIVE COVENANTS FOR HOLLY HILLS SUBDIVISION, RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 297, PAGE 317, LAURENS COUNTY RECORDS. TRACT 2: ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOT 226 OF THE FIRST LAND DISTRICT OF LAURENS COUNTY, GEORGIA, BEING PART OF LOTS 111 AND 112 OF THE HOLLY HILLS SUBDIVISION AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT AN IRON PIN WHICH IRON PIN IS LOCATED 27.9 FEET ALONG THE SOUTHERLY MARGIN OF HICKORY DRIVE AS MEASURED FROM THE SOUTHEAST INTERSECTION OF TRINITY ROAD AND HICKORY DRIVE; THENCE FROM SAID POINT OF BEGINNING SOUTH 39 DEGREES 38 MINUTES EAST A DISTANCE OF 172.1 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; THENCE SOUTH 44 DEGREES 07 MINUTES WEST A DISTANCE OF 150 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; THENCE NORTH 42 DEGREES AND 30 MINUTES WEST A DISTANCE OF 199.2 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; THENCE NORTH 44 DEGREES 07 MINUTES EAST A DISTANCE OF 132.1 FEET TO AN IRON PIN ON THE EASTERLY MARGIN OF TRINITY ROAD; THENCE IN A NORTHEASTERLY DIRECTION 42 FEET (ARC MEASUREMENT) TO THE IRON PIN ON THE SOUTHERLY MARGIN OF HICKORY DRIVE AND THE POINT OF BEGINNING. SAID TRACT OF LAND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED ACCORDING TO A PLAT OF SURVEY PREPARED BY MARVIN D. CLEMENTS, SURVEYOR, ON THE 8TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1979, WHICH PLAT IS RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 370, PAGE 689, PUBLIC RECORDS OF LAURENS COUNTY, AND IS BY REFERENCE INCORPORATED AS A PART OF THIS DESCRIPTION. THIS PARCEL IS MADE SUBJECT TO ALL THOSE RESTRICTIVE

FROM THE RECORD

Marriages: Steven Ray Bedford and Colette Raquel Eck; Christian Shearod Spears and Laura Nicole Haynes; Dillon Michael Wynne and Tayler Danielle Cox; Ryan Joe Hall and Alexis Marie Blackburn; Mazi Ahmad West and Aliah Jnae James; Micheal Blake Purvis and Katherine Jeanette Cannada; Joshua Lee Beavers II and Chloe Elizabeth Mulrooney; Tommy Maquel Lanier and Essence Symone King; Kevin Barnes and Cierra Laporche Madison

Divorce: Ebonie R. Tinsley v. Antonio M. Tinsley; Artiffany Wilbur Stanley v. Robert Alexander Stanley Jr.; Ashley Taylor v. Timothy W. Taylor

Complaint for divorce: Joshua Evans v. Allison Evans; Dillon Garnto v. Haley Garnto; Eric Young v. Jamie Lynn Young

Paternity/legitimation: Anthony Flanders v. Amber Hartwell

Petition to change name of minor child: Inre: Myria Edmond

Complaint – child support: Ga. DHS ex rel Zaydee Wheeler et al v. Benjamin Wheeler; Ga. DHS ex rel Isaiah Z. Loyd v. Christopher Holmes; Ga. DHS ex

COVENANTS RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 297, PAGE 317, IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK, LAURENS SUPERIOR COURT, AND SAID RESTRICTIVE COVENANTS ARE HEREBY MADE A PART OF THIS DEED BY REFERENCE.

Said legal description being controlling, however the property is more commonly known as **274 TRINITY RD, DUBLIN, GA 31021**.

The indebtedness secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of default under the terms of said Security Deed. The indebtedness remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same, all expenses of the sale, including attorneys' fees (notice to collect same having been given) and all other payments provided for under the terms of the Security Deed.

Said property will be sold on an "as-is" basis without any representation, warranty or recourse against the above-named or the undersigned. The sale will also be subject to the following items which may affect the title: any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, whether or not now due and payable); the right of redemption of any taxing authority; matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or by an inspection of the property; all zoning ordinances; assessments; liens; encumbrances; restrictions; covenants, and any other matters of record superior to said Security Deed.

To the best of the knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the owner and party in possession of the property is MARY BUTLER, or tenants(s).

The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed.

The entity having full authority to negotiate, amend and modify all terms of the loan (although not required by law to do so) is: NewRez LLC, F/K/A New Penn Financial, LLC, D/B/A Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing, Loss Mitigation Dept., 75 Beattie Place Ste. 300, Greenville, SC 29601, Telephone Number: 800-365-7107. Nothing in O.C.G.A. Section 44-14-162.2 shall be construed to require a secured creditor to negotiate, amend, or modify the terms of the mortgage instrument.

CITIBANK, N.A., NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE OF NEW RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2020-RPL1 as Attorney in Fact for MARY BUTLER

THE BELOW LAW FIRM MAY BE HELD TO BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR, UNDER FEDERAL LAW. IF SO, ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Attorney Contact: Ruben Lublin, LLC
3145 Avalon Ridge Place, Suite 100,
Peachtree Corners, GA 30071
Telephone Number: (877) 813-0992 Case No. SHP-22-04358-10
Ad Run Dates 10/04/2025, 10/11/2025, 10/18/2025, 10/25/2025, 11/01/2025
rslaw.com/property-listing
October 4, 11, 18, 25, November 1, 2025

25-448

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

GEORGIA, LAURENS COUNTY.
All creditors of the Estate of Thomas J. Perry, deceased, late of Laurens County, Georgia,

are hereby notified to render their demands to the Executrix of his Estate according to law, and all persons indebted to the Estate of Thomas J. Perry are required to make immediate payment to the Executrix.

This 15th day of September, 2025.
Bessie J. Perry
Executrix of the Estate of Thomas J. Perry
Francis Lewis
Attorney for the Estate
1808 Bellevue Road
Dublin, GA 31021
September 20th, 27th, October 4th and 11th, 2025.

rel Kingsten Moye v. Kevin Slaughter; Ga. DHS ex rel Major Ja'Kai Jones v. Mylek Jones

Modification of child support: Ga. DHS ex rel Sarah-Gail Ledbetter v. Jacob R. Ledbetter

Automobile tort: Nancy Miller Smith v. Maryann Evelyn Dempsey, as parent of minor child

Contract: Capital One N.A. v. Thomas Shipley

Real Property: Dept. of Transportation v. Ricky Walden, Barron Howard, Reginald Howard, et al

Liens: Roxie A. Allen & Jody B. Allen to Credit Acceptance Corporation; Luz Smith to Credit Acceptance Corporation; John Wells to Barclays Bank Delaware; Bennie J. Dixon to Synchrony Bank; Lekeisha Carswell to Robins Financial Credit Union; Saniya Martasia Linder to Robins Financial Credit Union; Yolanda N. Richardson to Internal Revenue Service; Pure Water Concepts LLC Don Jones Sole MBR to Internal Revenue Service x2; Diane Kaitlyn Bennet to Robins Financial Credit Union; Andrew C. Silas to Discover Bank; Jyleesa Brown to Curry Management Corporation; Kimberly Joyner to Aica Orthopedics P.C.

Security Deed: Gary Wade Holloway and Jeanne Griffith Holloway to Bank of Dudley; Tiffany Green Kyzzer and Jake Kyzzer to Morris Bank; La Alhambra Group LLC to First Laurens Bank; River Rock Rentals LLC to The Citizens Bank of Laurens County; Hergert Enterprises LLC to Morris Bank x2; Jasmine J. Montgomery to Ameris Bank x2; Eddie Leneve Horne and Charles H. Horne Jr. to Spring EQ LLC; Property Preservation all of GA to Community Bank of Dublin-Laurens County; Toinette Doshell Boston and Darryl Ross Filding to Statewide Mortgage LLC; Jacqueline D.

RELIGION DIGEST

Free Vision Deliverance Outreach Ministry, 540 Charles W. Manning Sr. Way, will hold a community fellowship night service at 7 p.m. on Oct. 10 with guest speaker Bishop Marvin Brown and the Belah Spring Congregational Holiness Church in Cochran.

First Rehoboth Missionary Baptist Association will hold its 158th annual session on Oct. 12 at 4 p.m. with their annual musical. They will then have a session at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 14 with a special presentation from Robbie Latimore on "Preparing for the Future by Empowering Our Youth." There will be a women's period at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 15 with Thelia Smith (health care/breast cancer awareness) and Judge Genola Jackson (estate planning). The at-

NEWS DIGEST

The City of Rentz will hold a council meeting at 6 p.m. on Oct. 13 at city hall. The agenda follows:

- Call to order
- Invocation
- Approve meeting minutes
- Approval of financial statement
- Acknowledge visitors
- Old business
- New business
- Comments
- Adjourn

The Laurens County Board of Commissioner will

Shivers to Union Home Mortgage Corp.; Bailey Jonathan Brantley to Hambros LLC; Brian Keith Rozier Sr. to Georgia First Bank; Carolyn L. Edwards to Better Mortgage Corporation ISAOA; Ricky Pittman and Olivia Lynn Carlyle to Fairway Independent Mortgage Corporation; James Daniel to First Laurens Bank; Dely Jamerson to Alcova Mortgage LLC; David J. Bentley to Success Mortgage Partners Inc.; Brantley's Body Shop LLC to Morris Bank; Christopher Daniel Coody to The Four County Bank

Warranty Deed: Darrell Templeton and Rachel Ann Templeman to Cameron Templeman and Lainey Templeman; Edward Elem Hayes to La Alhambra Group LLC; Madison T. Smith and Charles J. Smith to Jasmine J. Montgomery; WJH LLC to IGI LLC; Beeman C. Keen III, Judith K. Bethea and Mary Keen Ross to Property Preservation all of GA LLC; Lanie Customs Builds LLC to Toinette Doshell Boston and Darryl Ross Fielding; Leonard Shivers to Jacqueline D. Shivers; Hayden Keith McClintock Jr and Audrey Denise McClintock to Bailey Jonathan Brantley; Flash Holding LLC to Brian Keith Rozier Sr.; The Secretary of Veterans Affairs to Carolyn L. Edwards; Alexis Herrera to Dely Jamerson; Hambros LLC to David J. Bentley; Rhonda Patrice Hambrick to Joseph Tirpak; Bailey Janathan Brantley and Alayna Nichole Brantley to Brantley's Body Shop; Southern Pine Timber Company Inc. to Christopher Daniel Coody; Rodney Dewitt Manley, William Russell Manley, Tammie Car-tee, Shannon Manley and Gregory Lamar Manley to Gregory Lamar Manley and Kellie Stokes Manley; Albert Eugene Passmore AKA Gene Passmore AKA Albert E. Passmore to Albert Eugene Passmore and Carleen O. Passmore; William Austin Frost Jr. and Krystal Dawn Frost to Suzanne Jones

tire will be white or ivory with a yellow corsage. The moderator's banquet will be held on Thursday, Oct 16 at 6 p.m. at Spring Hill Baptist Church, 494 Evergreen Road. A love donation is \$25 and the attire is dressy.

The Mount Tilla Baptist Church family will be celebrating their ushers anniversary on Oct. 26 at 11 a.m. Pastor Braddrick Silver and Silver Ford Missionary Baptist Church family. Everyone is welcome.

Religion Digest is for special services and events at our local churches. Please send in announcements to tchnewsreporter@gmail.com by 9 a.m. every Thursday to appear in the upcoming Saturday edition of The Courier Herald.

hold its next meeting Oct. 7 at 5:30 p.m. The agenda is as follows:

- call to order
- Invocation
- Approve meeting minutes for September 16, 2025
- Drug Court presentation by Judge Trey Taylor
- Discussion/approval to surplus mobile home at Dexter Fire Station
- Discussion/approval of joint development authority appointment
- Other business
- Citizen comments
- Adjourn



DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

WOMAN'S COARSE LANGUAGE DOESN'T SIT WELL WITH LONGTIME FRIEND

DEAR ABBY: When my lifelong friend "Cheryl" and I would talk once a week to catch up with each other's lives, she'd describe her other friends' woes in a really animated way, including a loud voice and extremely vulgar words about those friends. She even talked about her recently departed mother this way. Her mother had not been part of her life for more than 50 years, but when she reentered the scene, she had developed dementia. Her mom's habit of vulgar talk was probably where Cheryl picked it up.

The funny thing is, when we talk in person, Cheryl doesn't do it. It's only on the phone. I recently had a falling-out with an elderly friend, "Louise," over a similar situation, but it was politically fueled. Louise would call me, inebriated, shouting nasty stuff about my political stance. I finally hung up and blocked her on the phone. Louise is 78 and an admitted alcoholic. Cheryl and I are not; we are in our mid-60s.

I decided to text Cheryl, asking her not to use such vulgar language when we talk because it upsets me. I grew up with a father who cursed and yelled a lot, and I vowed not to talk that way. I'm not a prude. Talking with these two women triggered memories of younger years. Cheryl has now ghosted me. My text wasn't mean or brutal. Is there anything I can say to her to get my friend back, or am I blocked forever? -- OVER AND OUT IN OHIO

DEAR OVER: Because you couldn't handle Cheryl's language, you were right to tell her how it made you feel and why. As long as she's blocking you, there is nothing you can say that will get through. Perhaps it is just as well. In my view, folks who ridicule others are really not very nice at all.

DEAR ABBY: I have a neighbor I will call "Sheila." Every year, Sheila throws an over-the-top New Year's Eve party. It is not even Halloween yet, and she has already sent the save-the-date invitations. My problem is, I feel like I am boxed in to attending the party as I don't have my plans yet for New Year's Eve. I'd like to have the flexibility to be with my family or possibly attend a different type of event.

The party starts at 7 p.m., and by midnight I'm exhausted from standing and trying to make small talk at the large party. I prefer a smaller group where we can chat and socialize easily. Sheila has been known to keep track of people's comings and goings in and out of the neighborhood, so I can't hide on New Year's Eve. I wouldn't mind going for an hour or two, but more than that is just torture. Any advice? -- BOXED-IN IN FLORIDA

DEAR BOXED-IN: You are not trapped into doing anything you don't want to do. A "save-the-date" card isn't a command performance. Talk with Sheila and tell her your plans for New Year's Eve are up in the air, and that you haven't decided whether you will spend it with your family but will let her know after you receive her formal invitation.

SUDOKU

		8						6
			2		6			4
			4	1		3		
1		6					9	
5	2				3			
					5		7	
4	7			9				
	1			5				
			7			6		

Level: Advanced

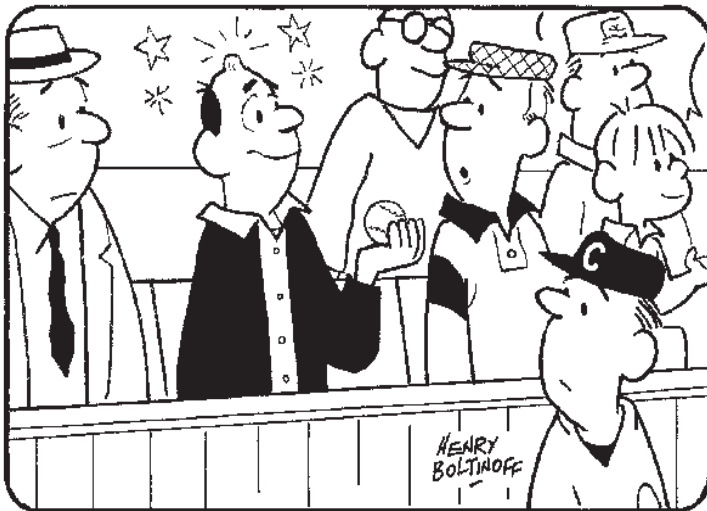
Here's How It Works: Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

6	1	9	7	2	7	5	9	8
7	2	7	8	5	6	1	8	9
8	5	9	1	6	9	2	7	4
5	7	5	9	1	7	8	6	6
1	9	8	8	7	6	7	2	5
5	7	6	2	7	6	6	3	1
2	8	5	9	1	4	7	6	9
7	4	5	6	7	6	7	5	4
2	4	8	1	2	8	5	3	7

ANSWER:

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Bump on head is moved. 2. Mouth is different. 3. Tie is longer. 4. Hand is longer. 5. Player is moved. 6. Cap is larger.

THE Daily Commuter Puzzle by Stella Zawistowski

ACROSS

- Take the wheel
- Sticky black substance
- Grocery checkout count
- Country singer Steve
- Electronics brand
- Olympic prize
- "Crocodile Rock" singer: 2 wds.
- Babble on
- Having an aroma
- Played like Ringo Starr
- Obtain
- Dupes
- Opposite of good
- Catatonic states
- Moving vehicle
- Mob informant
- Old political designation: Abbr.
- Quit working
- Discounting event
- Segment
- Prepare for publication
- Very fast tempo
- Roll of turf
- Actress Salonga
- "Sure!"
- Out of practice
- Company leader: Abbr.
- Lawyer's jobs
- Gloomy ____ (sullen person)
- Has in stock
- Snide form of humor
- From China or Cambodia
- Ancient Greek philosopher
- Try a sip of
- Wrestling surface
- Stirring utensil
- Rate of travel
- Organ with a pupil
- Busybody

- DOWN
- Notices
 - Soft mineral

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14						15				16				
17						18				19				
20								21	22					
				23			24							
			25				26				27	28	29	
		30					31			32	33			
34						35			36		37			
38						39			40			41		
42						43			44			45		
						46				47				
48	49	50						51				52	53	54
55							56	57						
58							59			60				
61							62			63				

Created by Stella Zawistowski

6/14/25

A	W	L	S		E	M	M	Y	S		S	A	F	E	
S	H	I	C		M	E	A	N	T		C	R	E	W	
S	O	S	A		A	L	G	E	R		H	E	R	E	
	A	T	L	A	N	T	I	C	O	C	E	A	N		
				P	R	A	Y			K	L	U	M		
A	S	P	E	C	T					L	E	E	W	A	Y
N	E	A	L		E	A	R	N	S		D	I	C	E	
G	E	L			S	U	E			D	H	S			
E	Y	E	D		C	H	E	W	S		O	T	O	E	
L	A	R	E	D	O					N	A	C	H	O	S
				L	I	N	T			K	I	L	T		
	B	A	U	S	C	H	A	N	D	L	O	M	B		
M	O	L	D		E	E	R	I	E		B	I	O	S	
V	A	S	E		P	R	O	F	S		E	L	S	E	
P	R	O	S		T	E	N	E	T		R	E	S	T	

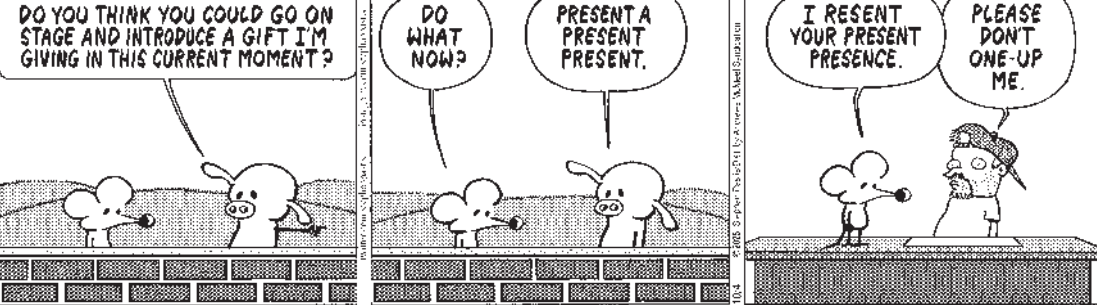
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6/14/25

- Intel gatherer
- Playfully shy
- Well prepared
- "__ Street" (kids' show)
- Woman's polite bow
- Packing box
- Car's fuel
- Purring pets
- Right away: Abbr.
- Go up
- Location
- Lots (of): 2 wds.
- Coin hole
- Actress Suvari
- Sunbeam

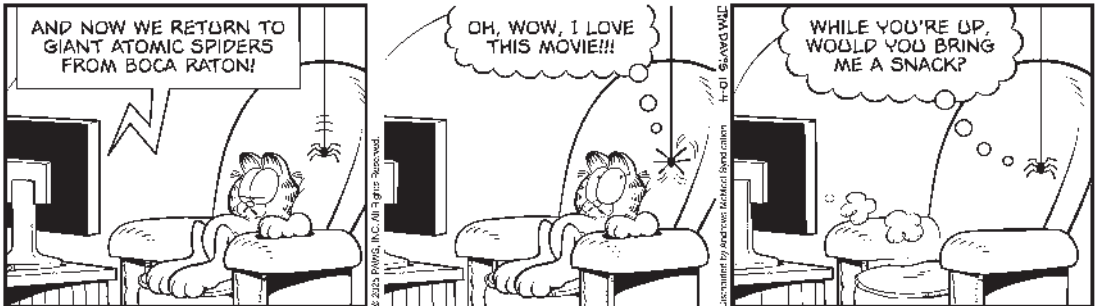
PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

BY STEVE PASTIS



GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS



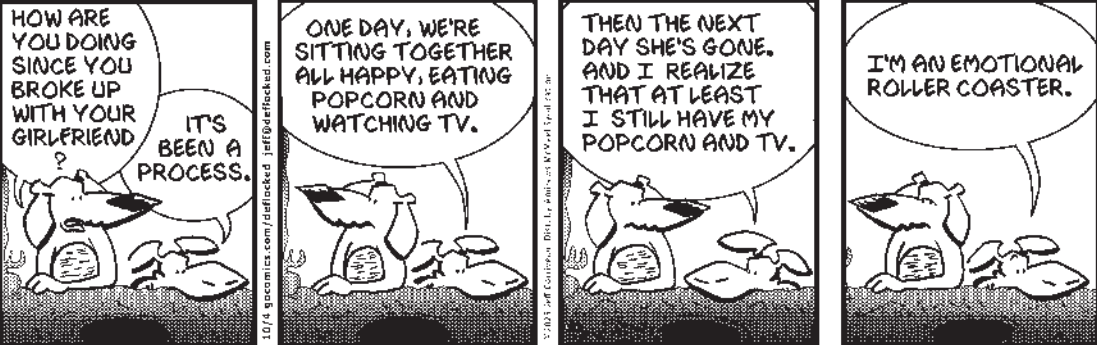
OVERBOARD

BY CHIP DUNHAM



DEFLOCKED

BY JEFF CORRIVEAU



The Garden Bug

All parts of the dandelion, including its flowers, roots and stems, are edible. Dandelion tea is full of nutrients such as vitamins A, C and K, folate, calcium and potassium. It is known to be beneficial for digestion and for detoxing the liver and bile systems, which can help clear acne and other skin problems. It also contains beta-carotene, which protects against cell damage, and polyphenols, which are anti-inflammatory, which help the heart. - Brenda Weaver

Source: health.clevelandclinic.org/dandelion

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Saturday, October 4, 2025

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH BOB JONES

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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q 1 - Neither vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ A Q 9 8 6 3 ♥ J 8 5 ♦ K Q 10 6 ♣ Void

WEST **NORTH** **EAST** **SOUTH**

3♣ 3♥ Pass 4♣

Pass 4♦ Pass ?

What call would you make?

Q 2 - North-South vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ 10 8 7 ♥ 6 ♦ A Q 9 7 6 ♣ Q 10 6 5

NORTH **EAST** **SOUTH** **WEST**

Pass 1♥ ?

What call would you make?

Q 3 - East-West vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ 10 8 5 3 ♥ J 5 ♦ A Q 9 8 6 ♣ Q 9

Partner opens 1D and right-hand opponent passes. What call would you make?

Q 4 - Both vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ K Q ♥ K 5 ♦ A Q 10 9 6 4 ♣ 8 7 2

SOUTH **WEST** **NORTH** **EAST**

1♦ Pass 1♠ Pass

? 2♣ 2♠

What call would you make?

Q 5 - North-South vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ 10 6 ♥ K Q J 7 5 3 ♦ K Q 10 ♣ 10 5

NORTH **EAST** **SOUTH** **WEST**

1♦ Pass 1♥ Pass

3♦ Pass ?

What call would you make?

Q 6 - East-West vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ A 10 2 ♥ A Q 8 7 4 ♦ J ♣ K J 10 7

NORTH **EAST** **SOUTH** **WEST**

1♦ Pass 1♥ Pass

3♦ Pass ?

What call would you make?

Look for answers on Monday.

(Bob Jones welcomes readers' responses sent in care of this newspaper or to Tribune Content Agency, LLC., 16650 Westgrove Dr., Suite 175, Addison, TX 75001.)

McRAE
Continued from page 1

System and how will you address them?

If this question were asked of me one year ago, I would tell you that our biggest issue was finding a way to keep our amazing teachers, finding a way to give tax relief to the citizens of Dublin despite higher costs and decreased funding. While these continue to be factors, I must acknowledge that the biggest challenge is the lack of trust in the leadership of the Dublin City Schools. For our community to have a thriving school system, the community must have a sense of security that resources are being managed properly. The recent poor financial decisions have had catastrophic consequences. As the board member I have welcomed a thorough investigation. I also feel it is imperative that we identify

what checks and balances were avoided and implement preventative measures. In watching this whole process, it also became very apparent to me that the relationship between the school system and the city government is in desperate need of repair. When two members of the same house fight and work against each other everyone loses. We need partnership and collaboration. Forced consolidation is not the answer, and it doesn't have to be. As a community we are strong and resilient, and we know how to solve problems. We are a community with a desire to see every single child receive an education and become a productive citizen in our community. That's how we stay strong as a community. We work together. If I am given the opportunity to continue as a board member that is exactly what I plan to continue to do.

DAVIS
Continued from page 1

I'm willing to clean it up. I'm not a rubber stamp for horrific policies, or a cheerleader. I am a proven leader, and I will 'lead,' not 'cheerlead.'

What are the biggest issues facing the Dublin City Schools and how will you address them?

Survival. Dublin City Schools is broke, and totally at the mercy of the state of Georgia for operating cash to pay the light bill, diesel bill for the buses, food bill for the lunchrooms, and paychecks for the teachers. I would ask for (Superintendent) Dr. (Fred) Williams resignation and ask the Georgia Department of Education and Georgia School Board Association to conduct a thorough, statewide search for a new superintendent. I would also ask the same for a new Chief Financial Officer. I would demand that both positions be filled by qualified, experienced, proven professionals. I would insist that budgets be balanced without raising the millage rate. We cannot continue to punish the citizens of Dublin for the total incompetence of

this administration. I would demand that financial audits be completed within six months of the conclusion of the fiscal year, with no exceptions. The main thing I would do is 'lead,' not 'cheerlead.' My opponent has been a rubber stamp and in complete denial of financial reality for her entire tenure on the board. On every board I have ever served on, I have been an overseer and a protector of the taxpayer. I will always speak up. Transparency has been completely missing from this administration. I can and will be a watchdog and an advocate for those who need my efforts and proven experience most – students, staff, teachers, and the city taxpayers. Please take three friends and vote early for Jeff Davis to restore sanity and a proven successful leader to the Dublin City Schools Board of Education. Please pray for our city and those most affected by this historic, totally preventable tragedy. Editor's note: Since Davis' response to these questions, Williams has retired as school superintendent, effective as of Friday, Oct. 3.

TEACHER OF THE YEAR
Continued from page 1

Social Studies that I rarely see at this age. She brings history to life, and she does it with compassion, fairness, and joy. She is the model of what excellent teaching should look like." Colleague and former Dublin City Schools teacher of the year Daryl O'Neal said Washington is Dublin through and through. She pours her heart back into the same community that raised her, carrying the spirit of resilience and Irish pride into everything she does. Her classroom is a place where history comes alive, where students find their voices, and where they learn that they, too, can shape the future. She represents the very best of our city, our schools, and our profession."

Superintendent Fred Williams celebrated the honor on behalf of the district, saying: "She represents the heart of Dublin City Schools – an educator who is committed to academic excellence, equity, and the whole child. We are proud that she will represent us at the state level, and we are confident she will continue to shine as an example of the power of great teaching." Washington, who began her career in education through AmeriCorps and later as Dublin Middle School's Family Engagement Coordinator, stepped into the classroom in 2020 with what she calls "accidental purpose." Today, she inspires her students to "think like historians" and helps them find their voices through the study of history and civic responsibility.

COUNTY SCHOOLS
Continued from page 1

an administrator on both sides. Throughout my 20 years in the district, we have always found a way to come together and rally around each other even in our moments of adversity. We have them. We aren't exempt from them. We work through it and find a way to come together to be a true representation to what it means to be family as a Laurens County School System." In the spring of 2020, Hall was moved to the board office to become associate superintendent. "I was able to snatch him back as I was able to bring him back here," Garnto said. "We've had that great working relationship for many years. It has been a good time together. It is good to be able to pass this torch on to someone who has grown up in our school system as a student as well

as an adult through their career. I think the board has made a sound decision in letting Dr. Hall lead Laurens County Schools." A few months ago, Garnito announced he was retiring at the end of December. Hall submitted his resume and had two interviews before he was named the sole finalist during a Sept. 18 called meeting. "It was an intense process," Hall said. "But it was a wonderful growth and learning experience for me." Because Hall has two more months in his current role before he starts as superintendent, his superintendent contract has not been negotiated yet. He commended the job Garnto and the board has accomplished in the last five and half years. Looking at the academia, academic scores, graduation rate, budget and finances, "it is obvious they have done a phenome-

nal job," he said. "The challenges are we have two sides - the east and west sides," Hall said. "We also have large schools in West Middle and West High, and we also have small schools in East Middle and East High. When you look at how school funding works and what it takes to offer certain classes, trying to create equity and equality at all of our schools does become a challenge." And of course, Hall knows all about it because he has worked on both sides of the river. "I know what it feels like," Hall said. "That encourages me and motivates me to work toward solutions. I can assure you that the heart has always been in the right place of our board. Sometimes there are logistical situations or school budgeting situations. I have worked with the board, which is an ad-

vantage, along with knowing how it feels and looks like as well. "Both sides are special places," he added. "There are great learning experiences taking place along with wonderful athletic and extracurricular activities taking place in both places." Hall received a lot of calls congratulating him on his new assignment. What he really appreciated more than anything are the prayers. "Being a superintendent is not an easy job, but it is a job that is worth it," Hall said. "But you can't do it without faith and without prayer. What made my heart smile and what made me feel good about moving forward are the number of people saying they are praying for me and supporting me. That is what will get you through the good and bad times."

CITY CLERK
Continued from page 1

Wednesday's called meeting, and Jones informed Powell that he approved of Daniels' appointment as the interim city clerk. Councilman Bill Brown thanked the staff for jumping on this situation. "I'm thankful to have someone with the knowledge and background of Blake Daniels who is willing to step into that role and take the appointment," Brown said. Councilwoman Sara Kolbie listened to the oath Daniels took, and took in the words that were said. "It really hit me hard for what we are signing up for when we come into these roles," Kolbie said. "We are here at the trust of the public. I cannot thank Blake enough for stepping up to the plate today. We are so grateful for you stepping up." Powell said he met with department heads and discussed the responsibility held by public servants. "We need to be upfront and transparent about what we do, and also responsible in what we do," Powell said.

"It's a great burden that we have all carried. I believe God has placed us in the roles that we are serving now for whatever time that is." Kight began the meeting by saying Powell was notified by GBI Special Agent Lindsey Wilkes Monday that they were investigating Browning regarding the financial issues in her work as treasurer for the church. "Mr. Powell immediately informed myself and the city treasurer that that investigation was underway, and immediately began review of any risk to the city just in case our clerk had done anything improper here," Kight said. A few hours later, Powell was told that the GBI would be seeking an arrest warrant on Browning related to her actions at the church. At that time, all access to the building, computer systems and email system was "terminated," Kight said. They spoke with Browning, who went to city hall and offered to resign. "I suggested that was the appropriate thing to do," Kight said. "She signed a resignation on the spot,

and I accepted it on behalf of the city." Before voting for an interim city clerk, Kight went over the controls the city of Dublin has on the handling of the city's money. "We are making sure that the process we have as a city protects the taxpayers' money and protect the services that we have," Kight said. "I have spent a good bit of time with our city manager and with our city treasurer to review the processes to see what we have in place and make sure that the public has trust in our handling of our funds." He went over the ways city employees have access to the city's money. After going through all of that, Kight ensured the public that Daniels was looking into all transactions Browning approved. The city council will be informed when that review is completed. Kight added that Browning had no access to the city's bank accounts, saying she was not on any approved list for doing so. "I want the public to understand the extensive controls and protocols that we have in place to protect

the public's money," Kight said. "I want to make sure that everyone knows exactly how seriously we take our handling of the city's money. Everything that we've seen so far is that our city clerk had no access to banking accounts, no improper reimbursement request, no discrepancies were noticed in any deposit transactions related to cash and that we have seen no improper check requests come through any of the departments that she had supervisors over. It appears at this point, that her actions were to her church only. "If we receive any information different from that, we'll make it public," he added. Browning was also the city's election superintendent. Powell said they have been in contact with the Laurens County Registrar's Office, which has already been contracted to run the city's early voting. "The only issue now is on election day and who will be serving in the role of the election superintendent," Powell said. "We are working with them on this."

Rock Springs Baptist Church

will be having

Homecoming @ 10:30am

celebrating 177 years of service

and fellowship

Sunday October 12, 2025

Music by Dwayne Hudson & Revival

Guest Speaker: Cody Carpenter

Pastor: Richard Wyatt

Covered Dish Luncheon to Follow

Everyone Invited - Nursery Provided

2075 Rock Springs Rd. - Dublin, GA

Community is built by a trusted team.

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