

The Courier Herald

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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2025

COURIERHERALDTODAY.COM

Church members hold armed man at gunpoint until law arrives

By PAYTON TOWNS III
Senior Reporter

The Laurens County Sheriff's Office is looking into an incident at a local church where a man was found with a loaded gun on the property during Sunday morning's service. According to LCSO Cpt. Robbie Toney, an 18-year-old man is in custody and will be charged with carrying a concealed weapon without a permit and possession of a pistol by an underage person. More charges are pending, Toney added.

Interim Pastor Kevin Tanner announced in a Facebook post that there had been a threat at Brewton Baptist Church on Sunday, Nov. 9, but that all members, guests and staff were safe.

"Law enforcement responded quickly and professionally, and the situation has been resolved without harm," he wrote. "We are deeply grateful for the swift actions of local authorities and for the prayers and

CHURCH GUNMAN
Continued on page 10

UGA Archway helping develop plan to promote Mega Site

By KYLE DOMINY
Staff Reporter

The Dublin-Laurens County Development Authority has used the Archway Partnership, a program by the University of Georgia to connect communities to university resources, to help develop a plan to promote the Heart of Georgia Mega Site.

With the help of two recently released studies through the Carl Vinson In-

stitute of Government, the authority hopes to solicit assistance to pre-develop the site or even attract investment from a large employer.

"We've had activity on it over the years, and a couple of projects are looking at it right now," said Mitch Griggs, president of the Dublin-Laurens County Development Authority. "The primary challenge of the site is infrastructure. It is

currently not served by water, sewer or natural gas."

The Heart of Georgia Mega Site is a 2,000-acre tract of land near Ga. 199 and Interstate 16. The site has access to railroads and electricity. It is owned by timberland management firm Weyerhaeuser and marketed in partnership with the development authority.

One of the two studies, dubbed the "Dublin-Lau-

rens Site Study" compiles area demographics such as population, education level and tax statistics for Laurens and surrounding counties. Such data is often requested by potential investors as companies examine available workforce and the full cost of locating a business to an area.

The data shows that Laurens County is expected

UGA ARCHWAY
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Teenager dies after shooting

STAFF REPORTS

A 17-year-old died in a Macon hospital after he was shot on Telfair Street early Sunday morning.

Devauoris Lewis was pronounced dead at 10:39 a.m. Sunday at the hospital, said Laurens County Coroner Richard Stanley. Lewis' body was transported to the Georgia Bureau of Investigation's Crime Lab in Atlanta for an autopsy Monday.

According to Dublin Police Chief Keith Moon, officers were dispatched to Lessons Lounge, 1111 Telfair St., around 12:40 a.m. on Nov. 9 in reference to a shooting. Officers found Lewis with several gunshot wounds.

Lewis was transported to Fairview Park Hospital and was later transferred to a Macon hospital.

Anyone with information is asked to call the DPD at (478) 277-5023 or the GBI in Eastman at (478) 374-6988. People can send information to Dublin Police Crime Text at (478) 595-7279.



Sheila Herring places a photo of Lester Porter at the memorial statue in the Normandy American Cemetery in France. Porter was among the later waves of American troops that landed in France and fought to liberate Western Europe from Nazi forces/KYLE DOMINY

During trip to France, retired educator honors Lester Porter

By KYLE DOMINY
Staff Reporter

Dr. Lester Porter experienced much in the European theater during World War II.

The Dublin native, and later beloved optometrist and civic leader, battled across France as part of the famed 12th Armored Division, driving back Nazi forces and leading the first American troops into Germany. His company liberated five concentration camps and led the charge into several harrowing battles, including at "Bloody Herrlisheim," where he was wounded.

"I caught some shrapnel in my left hip, and then a German shot my helmet off as I was evacuating the field and missed me three or four times as his bullets would hit the snow and bounced, spinning over me as I crawled out in a trail throughout the snow already red with the blood of wounded who had gone ahead of me," Porter would say later, describing that day.

When his service ended in 1946, he embarked on a successful civilian life, serving his community as a doctor, the mayor of Dublin and head of the local chamber of commerce, among other roles. He was barely an adult as he fought to liberate Europe, and it wouldn't be until his later years that he fully opened up and shared his experiences. He would never return to France. Porter died January 2021.

Among the people to hear Porter's stories was Sheila Herring. Herring would get to know Porter



Former Dublin mayor Lester Porter led the first American troops into Germany during World War II /SPECIAL PHOTO

through the Veterans Day program she would organize and produce at Northwest Laurens Elementary School. The music teacher always invited local veterans to the annual show, and Porter was a regular, eager spectator. The program

FRANCE TRIP
Continued on page 10

City to celebrate completion of Madison Street Project

Council rolls back millage rate to avoid tax increase

By PAYTON TOWNS III
Senior Reporter

The city of Dublin will be celebrating the end of the Madison Street project this Thursday.

Toward the end of the Dublin City Council meeting last week, Dublin City Manager Josh Powell announced that they will celebrate the completion of the project at 11 a.m. Thursday.

"I'm glad to say that the Madison Street project is mostly over," he said. "This will be a final brick-laying ceremony. We'll then open the road shortly thereafter. We will be glad to get that one behind us."

Powell also announced that the city will be offering free golf at the Riverview Golf Course to all veterans. All they need to do is bring their government ID card to receive a free round.

"It's going to be cold, so you may want to bring your jacket," Powell said.

The council approved the rollback rate, which is 4.497 mills. Last year's rate was 4.6. Powell believes this is the lowest millage rate for at least the last 20 years.

"We are expecting that revenues from this collection, if we have 100 percent collection, will be just over \$3.5 million," Powell said. "Often times people will make comments about the city's use of property taxes. Our entire budget is just below \$90 million. The amount used to operate the local government is very minimal. I think this council has done a really good job to utilize all of the resources we have."

Dublin Mayor Joshua Kight said it is possible to do this because of the grant

funds the city has received and the successful management of their enterprise funds.

"Not to mention the good work that our city employees do by running the city pretty efficiently so that we are able to provide a lot of services at a very low tax rate," Kight said.

Later, the council awarded the 2025 annual street resurfacing project to Reeves Constructions, which will include the resurfacing and striping of approximately 3.6 miles of city streets, for a total of \$587,741.50. Those streets are: Johnson Street, Palmer Street, Dudley Street, West Avenue, Eleanor Street, Benton, Cypress, Grady, Cordelia, Pilot Place, Five Point Way, East

CITY COUNCIL
Continued on page 10



SADDLE UP: EASTERSEALS HOSTS ANNUAL RODEO

The Southeastern Professional Rodeo Association was in town last weekend for the 8th annual Easterseals of Middle Georgia Rodeo at the Southern Pines Ag Center, including this show Friday morning for local special education students/RODNEY MANLEY

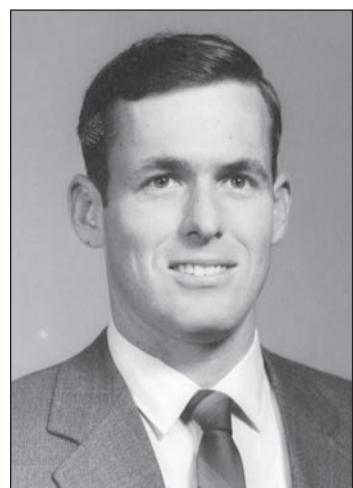


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OBITUARIES



Randolph "Craig" Adams

Randolph "Craig" Adams, 82, of Big Canoe, Georgia, died Monday, Oct. 27. Craig was born in Newport News, Virginia to Mary Ellen and Hugh D. Adams. He was raised in Newport News with his brother, Dan, and his grandparents close by. He graduated from Warwick High School in Newport News in 1961 and Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University with a degree in Business Administration in 1965.

He joined the United States Navy, where he graduated from the U.S. Naval Officer Candidate School. He rose to the rank of lieutenant serving on the destroyer, USS Joseph P. Kennedy Jr. (DD-850). He piloted Gyrodyne DASH drone anti-submarine helicopters and spent his final years of service as a flight instructor at the Dam Neck Naval Station. After leaving the Navy, he had a successful career in the furniture industry. He started in sales before moving to manufacturing leadership roles. He was a strong leader and an innovative thinker, enabling success with each opportunity he pursued and earning him several awards and acknowledgments.

He earned his MBA from Georgia College and State University in 1992 and taught as an adjunct professor for several years at Guilford College in North Carolina. His career kept him moving. He lived in Newport, R.I., Virginia Beach, Va., Chester, Va., Lancaster, Pa., Furlong, Pa., Landisville, Pa., Dublin, Ga., High Point, N.C., Starkville, Miss., and ultimately retired to Big Canoe, Ga. He and his loving wife made many lifelong friends along the way. He loved to play tennis. It was his favorite pastime for most of his life and in retirement he would frequently play multiple matches in a single day. He also liked to run, hike, snow ski and play bocce. He loved to be active outdoors. He had several beloved dogs throughout his life and leaves behind his faithful retirement sidekick, Flop. He was a talented musician in his youth, playing guitar and piano, and was even in a band during college.

Craig was a loving husband and father. He instilled in his kids a strong work ethic, a love of family (including pets), a passion for learning, and a sense of adventure. He is survived by his loving wife, Louann Adams of Big Canoe, Ga.; his children Randy (Melanie) Adams of Carlsbad, Calif.;

Scott (Brooke) Adams of Cumming, Ga.; and Katie (Jeremiah) Nicholson of Cashiers, N.C.. He was a proud and devoted grandfather to Emily, Kendall, Claire, Drew and Olivia, whose laughter and love brought him great joy. He is also survived by his brother, Dan (Jeanne) Adams of Stafford, Va., and many dear friends who will cherish his memory. A Celebration of Life will be held at the Big Canoe Club, Saturday, Nov. 22, 2025 from 12 p.m. until 3 p.m.

Arrangements are entrusted to the Staff of Roper Funeral Home and Crematory.



Ruby Pauline Yancey White

Ruby Pauline Yancey White was joyfully reunited in heaven with her beloved husband, Ralph Edmondson White, on the morning of Friday, Nov. 7, 2025. She was 98 years old.

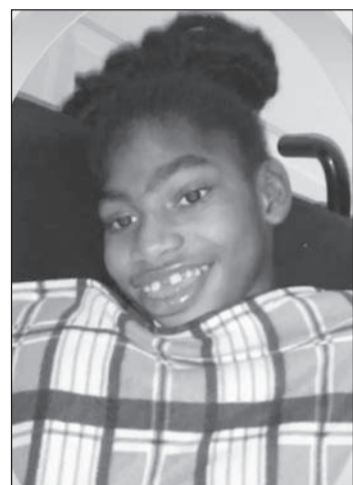
Born on Aug. 24, 1927, in Montrose, Ga., Pauline was the daughter of the late Paul Davis and Ruby Lee Cook Yancey. She graduated from Dudley High School in Dudley and went on to attend Southern Business University in Atlanta. Pauline proudly served her country through her career in civil service at Robins Air Force Base, from which she retired after many dedicated years. A devoted member of First Baptist Church of Haynesville, she found great joy in worship and fellowship with her church family and was an active participant in the JOY (Just Older Youth) Sunday School Class. Pauline more recently attended Cornerstone Church in Cochran.

Beyond her professional and church life, Pauline loved playing Scrabble, going to Panama City Beach, watching game shows and cooking shows and sitting on her front porch, but most importantly she adored spending time with her children and grandchildren. In addition to her husband and parents, Pauline was preceded in death by her brothers, Breeman Yancey and Max Yancey. Pauline's memory will forever be treasured by her loving children, Randall Ralph White (Lynne) of Perry and Janet Alisia Dowd (Tony Leroy) of Centerville; grandchildren, Jason White (Lisa) of Prattville, AL, Travis White (Candace) of Lizella, Stephen White of Perry, Trevor Dowd of Warner Robins, Kelly Migliore (Chris) of Warner Robins, Kyle Tucker (Stephani) of Warner Robins, and Jessica Bedsole (Cameron) of Cochran; great-grandchildren, Travis "T.J." White Jr., Joshua White, Micah White, Sophia Migliore, Olivia Migliore, Izabella Migliore, Gabriella Migliore, Gianna Migliore, Chandler Simmons, Kent Tucker and Charlie Bedsole; siblings, David Yancey (Ruth) of Macon, and Nellie Hamm of Warner Robins; and a host of adoring nieces, nephews and extended family.

Pauline's family will receive visitors at McCullough

Funeral Home on Wednesday, Nov. 12, 2025, from 2 p.m. until 3 p.m. A funeral service will immediately follow at 3 p.m., in the chapel of McCullough Funeral Home, with Rev. David Miller and Rev. Stephen White officiating. After the service, Pauline will be laid to rest next to her husband, Ralph, in Glen Haven Memorial Gardens. The family will accept flowers or donations may be given in memory of Pauline to Cornerstone Church at <https://tithe.ly/give?c=69443>.

Go to www.mccullough-fh.com to sign the Online Registry for the family. McCullough Funeral Home and Crematory has the privilege of being entrusted with these arrangements.



Jamon M. Mills

A celebration of life memorial service for Master Jamon M. Mills will be held Tuesday, Nov. 11, 2025 at 11 a.m. in the G.O. Wyche Sr. Memorial Chapel at Wyche's Funeral Home, the Rev. Dr. Michael Parker will officiate.

Jamon Marquese Mills, affectionately known as "Skeeter," was born on Nov. 12, 2004, in Dublin, Georgia, to Annelle Mills and James King. He peacefully departed this life at home on Nov. 6, 2025, in his hometown of Dublin, Georgia. Jamon was 20 years old.

Jamon was a bright spirit whose infectious smile and joyful laugh could light up any room. Despite the challenges he faced, he radiated strength, warmth and joy that deeply touched everyone around him. He especially enjoyed spending time with his family, listening to music, and watching his favorite Transformers movies and shows.

He was preceded in death by his grandfather, Edward Mills, and his great-grandmother, Linnie Mae King.

Jamon leaves cherished memories with his parents, Annelle Mills, Marlon Davis, and James King; his siblings, Kobi Todd, Jamesia King, James Mills, Jayden King, Jamarion Stewart, Kinjal Mills, Jamarkus King, Aubrey King, Jamyah King, Jakhayah King, and Saryiah King; his grandparents, Susie Mills and James and Patricia King; and his great-grandfather, Willie King, Sr. He will also be lovingly remembered by a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Though Jamon's time on earth was brief, his light shone brightly and left a lasting imprint on every heart he touched. His laughter, love and strength will never be forgotten.

Friends are being received at the home of his mother, Ms. Annelle Mills, 305 Cypress Drive, Dublin, Ga.

Arrangements entrusted to Wyche's Funeral Home (www.wychesfuneralhomeinc.com)



Carol Lord Evans

It is with heavy hearts and deep love that we announce the passing of Carol Lord Evans, 90. Affectionately known by family and friends as "Gran," she will be remembered as a woman of extraordinary faith, generosity, style and grace whose life was defined by love and service to others.

Born in Laurens County, Mrs. Evans was the daughter of the late Wilbur Iverson Lord and Flora Sapp Lord. She was a member of Dudley Baptist Church. She went home to be with her Lord and Savior peacefully surrounded by her family on Nov. 8, 2025. She was preceded in death by her parents, her beloved husband, Hobert "Buddy" Engle Evans, and two brothers, Carl Lord and Hugh Lord. Survivors include her son, Burt Evans (Michelle) of Dublin, her daughter, Dawn Holley (Dennis) of Dublin, seven grandchildren, Morgan Barker (Taylor), Molly Strickland (Fisher), Jared Holley (Nikka), Taylor Holley (Kristen), Hobbie Evans (Abby), Kip Evans (Sarah), Hanna Williams (Chas), and eight great grandchildren, Fisher Strickland, Collier Strickland, Grady Barker, Evelyn Evans, Wells Barker, Charlie Williams, Wren Williams and Winston Evans.

The heart of her family, Gran was a source of comfort, wisdom and unconditional love. She poured herself into caring for others, whether volunteering her time at the VA hospital, where she brightened the days of countless veterans, or lending a helping hand and her cheerful spirit at the Freckled Frog, where she made everyone feel welcome. Her kindness and compassion touched countless lives in the community.

An avid bridge player, Gran cherished the camaraderie and challenge the game provided. She was known for her sharp mind and joyful laughter around the card table. Her love for bridge brought her joy, friendship and a playful competitive spirit that kept her heart full.

A devoted grandmother, she cherished every moment spent with her grandchildren — sharing stories, laughter and her famous hugs, back scratches and homemade brownies that could make any worry disappear. Above all, she treasured her family and found her greatest happiness in time spent with her children and grandchildren, whom she adored beyond measure.

Gran's legacy is one of service, faith and love. She showed us, through her example, the beauty of giving freely and living fully. Though our hearts ache in her absence, we are forever grateful for the love she gave and the memories and legacy she leaves behind. Her

memory will continue to inspire kindness and compassion.

A celebration of Gran's remarkable life was held at The Holley House on Monday, Nov. 10, 2025 from 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. A graveside service will be held at Dublin Memorial Gardens on Tuesday, Nov. 11, 2025 at 11 a.m. In lieu of flowers, the family would love for everyone to write down their favorite memory of Gran and consider continuing her legacy of generosity by sponsoring a child this Christmas.

Please visit www.townsendfuneralhome.com to sign the online memorial registry.



Jerry B. Daniel

Memorial services for Dr. Jerry B. Daniel, Esq., of Rentz, Georgia, will be held on Saturday, Nov. 15, 2025, at 12 p.m. at the Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, 1601 Popular Springs Church Road. Rev. Dr. Mario Webb will officiate. The family will also receive friends on Friday, Nov. 14, 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. at the Saint Mark Baptist Church, 1533 Saint Mark Road in Dublin.

Dr. Daniel, who passed on Wednesday, Oct. 22, 2025, was born on July 15, 1967, in Detroit, Michigan, to the late Louise and Jerry Daniel and grew up in Rentz and Dublin, Georgia. He gave his life to Christ at an early age and joined the church of his grandmother, Nunie Bell Daniel, which is Saint Mark Baptist Church. He graduated from West Laurens High School, and as a result of his love for learning, he continued his education while working full-time as a correctional officer. He graduated from Middle Georgia College with his Associate of Science in Criminal Justice, Mercer University with his Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice, Fort Valley State University with his Master of Science in Counseling Psychology, Clark Atlanta University with his Master of Social Work, University of Pittsburgh with his Master of Public Health and his Doctor of Philosophy in Social Work, and University of Georgia Law School with his Juris Doctor degree.

Dr. Daniel's passion for social work led him to Albany State University, where he inspired his students to "research the literature" and aim for excellence in all they

aspire to accomplish. In addition to holding the position of MSW Program Director at Albany State University, as a licensed clinical social worker, he started First Choice Behavioral Health over 10 years ago to embrace healthy individuals, families and communities. In addition to being the recipient of several fellowship awards, Dr. Daniel's excellent research skills and outstanding practice in the field of social work afforded him the awesome opportunity to participate in the Fulbright Specialists project in Russia at Volga Region State University of Service. He was an advocate for helping those in his family and in his community, especially in the areas of legal issues and behavioral health. Outside of his work in the area of social work, he had a love for antique cars.

Dr. Daniel was preceded in death by his parents, Louise and Jerry Daniel; his dear brother, Gary Daniel; his beloved niece, Venezuela Alexis Coleman.

He leaves to cherish his memories: his daughter, Sha'Kristin Anyiah Williams, four sisters, Tina Watkins of Macon, Pamela Daniel of Rentz, Angel (Dexter) McSwain of Queen Creek, Ariz., and Thessalonica Jones of Dudley, brother, Terry (Amanda) Daniel of Perry, sister-in-law, Alejandra (brother Gary) Daniel of Macon, and a host of special nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends. He also leaves to cherish his memories: his devoted Albany State University colleagues and students.

Please post your condolences online at [.com](http://www.com).

Services by Dudley Funeral Home of Dublin.

Susie L. Mills

Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest...was God's calling for...

Mrs. Susie L. Mills, resident of 524 Pine Street, who passed quietly, Sunday, Nov. 16, 2025 surrounded by her loving family. Final rites are incomplete at this time, but will be announced later. Friends are being received at the family residence.

Arrangements entrusted to Wyche's Funeral Home. (www.wychesfuneralhomeinc.com).

Sherelle K. Ricks

Ms. Sherelle K. Ricks of Lawrenceville, Georgia, passed away on Saturday, Nov. 8, 2025. Funeral arrangements are incomplete but will be announced later.

Services by Dudley Funeral Home of Dublin. servicesbydudley.com



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BIRTHDAYS

Nov. 11
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Johnathan Kowtko

Nov. 12
Betty Hudgins
Heather Wells
Linda Wright

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First woman, black resident elected to council

Dublin Courier Herald

By Doug Hall

Emery C. Thomas will be the first Black Councilman in Dublin's 164-year history. Lena Opie will be the first woman on Council.

Buddy Adams will return to City Hall after a one-year absence.

Glen Harden will serve his third term on Council.

And Robert E. Cochran will be Dublin's Mayor for two more years.

These are the results of Monday's city election for four ward aldermen and the mayor:

WARD ONE	
Emery C. Thomas	305
Otis McLendon	164
Hank Wohlrabe	60
Lillian Brown	59
WARD Two	
Glen Harden	307
Charles Robinson	137
W.C. Walters, Sr.	101
Jerry Keith	99
WARD Three	

Buddy Adams	514
John Reed Deamer	325
WARD Four	
Lena Opie	491
Lois Alexander	359
MAYOR	
Robert E. Cochran	2,228
Henry Raymaker	(write-in) 116

Thomas, an agriculture teacher and resident of Dublin for over forty years, swept Ward One balloting to gain his seat on Council. He led the field of four candidates with 47.7 per cent.

Opie, former City Clerk and City Hall employee for 19 years, slipped by incumbent Louis Alexander, serving his first term, to win the Ward Four slot. She garnered 56.6 per cent.

Adams, a former councilman, landed 61 per cent to defeat first term incumbent John Reed Deamer in Ward Three.

Harden, the only incumbent to retain his seat, beat his nearest challenger, Charles Robinson, Jr. with 45.6 per cent of the votes in Ward Two.

In the Mayor's race, incumbent Robert E. Cochran, with no formal challenger to the one-term mayor, easily handled a write-in effort for former Councilman Henry Raymaker.

For Thomas, the win came on his third attempt in three years to win the spot on Council. In 1973, he lost to John Reed Deamer in a runoff. Last year he was second to Dr. Joel Radney in the at-large election.

Thomas' election culminates a year-long drive by Dublin blacks for representation on City Council. The effort began last fall just days before the November city election when a suit was entered in Federal Court challenging Dublin election methods. The settlement of that suit brought the newly structure election process.

Thomas will be the only new face at City Hall when the new city government takes over in January.

Harden will return for his third term.

Adams served on Council from 1970 to 1974, but did not run last year.

Opie resigned earlier this year as City Clerk after 12 years in the job. Obviously, the Opie-Alexander race in Ward Four drew the most voters, 866, or 28.6 percent of the total votes.

On the other hand, the well-publicized race for Ward One brought the smallest turnout, 21.1 per cent.

A good voter turnout was recorded with 3,022 voting, or 52 per cent of the 5,836 registered voters.

The election for mayor and four aldermen two years ago set a modern record with, 403 voting.

Mrs. Bessie Devereaux served as election superintendent. She was assisted by election managers Margaret Chappell, Jessie Jordan, and Ruth Hodges.

Although many people in lines at the voting were mumbling about the new process, pre-election preparations provided for smooth, but slower, voting.

There was much talk in City Hall corridors yesterday of balloting in each ward in future elections.

ELECTION REFLECTIONS

By Doug Hall

Maybe impelled by a last minute, jumped-up mayoral write-in campaign, a promise by one candidate of the revision of the city charter, strong challenges to two pro-city manager aldermen, a new election method, the certainty of a first black councilman, and beautiful weather, Dublin voters turned out in large numbers in the city election.

Some City Hall watchers said that the heavy turnout resulted from the eleven-hour suit challenging the city election process and that this year's heavy turnout could be attributed to the consequences of that suit, a new method of electing city officials, and to the nature of the ward aldermen races.

Also, late efforts to mount write-in campaigns for a former alderman, Dr. Henry Raymaker, and an unidentified black winner surely turned considerable attention to the almost forgotten mayor's race. Incumbent Mayor Robert E. Cochran had no formal opposition. The write-in campaigns mused the mayor's dander, and he got on Dublin radio stations over the weekend and characterized the write-in candidacies as "political factions." He charged the effort was an attempt to come in the back door of City Hall and averting the front door.

Interest in the election began to build in the closing days of last week, and an underlying issue in the race - the city manager - surfaced when former Alderman Buddy Adams advertised that he would move to revise the city charter if elected. Adams' proposed revisions would weaken the manager and strengthen the mayor and council by giving elected officials more control over hiring, firing, and city finances. Adams' opponent for Ward Three, incumbent John Reed Deamer, charged that the proposals would put "politics" back in City Hall decisions.

Two of four councilmen who have sided with City Manager Ron McLemore on a number of important issues, Deamer and Louis Alexander, were up for re-election. A third, Roy Banks, did not run for re-election, and Ed Martin, the fourth, will not be up for re-election until next year.

Deamer, Alexander, Banks, and Martin had voted to hire McLemore and have voted on several issues, backed by the city manager and opposed by

the other three aldermen, Albert Franks, Glen Harden, and Joel Radney.

Alexander is being challenged by former City Clerk Lena Opie, who has not run an open campaign against McLemore, but is not expected to be a backer of the city manager if she is elected.

After creating interest in the city election in the Ward One race, where a black candidate was likely to become the first black to serve on Dublin City Council, three blacks and one white were seeking the post.

Of course, this election was the first time the new city election method had been used. Most voters knew their ward, but many were uncertain and were assisted by the election workers.

Despite the predictions, Dublin voters did break with tradition and had better than a 50 per cent turnout.

LAB TRAINING AT VA

The Dublin VA Center announces that a new class for Certified Laboratory Assistant Trainees will begin on January 1, 1976, and continue for a 12-month period.

This training will provide an opportunity for young people to prepare for a career in one of the health service fields.



LOOKING BACK...
50 YEARS AGO
NOVEMBER 11, 1975

By HARRIETT CLAXTON

Successful completion of the training program will qualify persons to perform routine clinical laboratory tests in community hospitals, clinics, or other health institutions throughout the country. While the VA does not guarantee job placement after training, assistance is given to each student.

Applicants must be graduates of accredited high schools or expect to graduate prior to the start of the training program. Certificates of equivalent training may be substituted. Preference will be given to students successfully completing courses in the biological sciences, chemistry, and mathematics, including algebra and geometry. A course in elementary physics would be helpful.

There are no limitations as to age, race, or sex. The one-year training is given to the accepted student at no cost and, in addition,

the student receives a VA stipend of \$104 per month and uniforms are furnished. Living quarters at the VA Center are also available to the students for very reasonable rates.

Applications for enrollment are to be submitted on Standard Form 171, personal qualifications statement, which may be obtained at any Post Office or from the VA Center, Dublin, Georgia.

A transcript of high school record, including courses and grades with an explanation of the school's marking system, applicant's rank in class, and scores on any tests administered by the school must accompany the application.

Applications must be mailed to the Chief, Personnel Service, VA Center, Dublin, Georgia 31021, no later than November 15, 1975, for the class beginning on January 1, 1976.

OBITUARIES



Leonard Caulion Peacock

Leonard Caulion Peacock was born on Sept. 17, 1940 to the late General Lee Peacock and Edna Grey Peacock. He graduated from Dodge County High School in 1959. L.C. and Brenda Hubbard married in 1959 and God blessed them with 66 wonderful years together. L.C. worked at Dunn's Department Store for over 20 years before opening his own business, Peacock's Mens Wear. He was a member of Dublin First Church of the Nazarene, where he was a member of board and choir director for many years. He was a proud member of the Dublin Civitan Club. L.C. loved his family and his church. He also had a love for music. He cherished his time singing in quartets and playing his piano.

L.C. is preceded in death by his parents, his son, Benjie Peacock, brother, Harvard Peacock and his sister, Ruby Dennis.

He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Brenda Peacock of Dublin; his children, Mike Peacock, Michelle Barlow, and Debbie Peacock; eight grandchildren; eight great grandchildren and a brother Raford Peacock.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 10, 2025 at the Dublin First Church of the Nazarene. Burial will follow in Dublin Memorial Gardens. Rev. Don Hicks and Rev. Mike Peacock will officiate. L.C.'s family will receive friends one hour prior to service time at the church.

Darin Keen, Marcus Clements, Stan Sheppard, Casey Peacock, Justin Peacock, Alan Hubbard, Ryan Peacock and Brad Poucher will serve as pallbearers. The Terry Soles Sunday School Class will serve as honorary pallbearers.

Please visit www.townsendfuneralhome.com for service updates and to sign the online memorial register.

Koaknee Ricks

Ms. Koaknee Ricks of Lawrenceville, Georgia passed away on Saturday, Nov. 8, 2025. Funeral arrangements are incomplete at this time.

www.ServicesByDudley.com

LAURENS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

INVITATION TO BID

Scaled bids for the Laurens County Board of Commissioners' "Highway 257 Rail Served Site Driveway Improvements" project (the "Project") in Dublin, Georgia, will be received by the Laurens County Board of Commissioners (the "County"), at the County Commissioners' Office, 117 East Jackson St. Suite B, Dublin, GA 31040, until 10:00 am, local time, on **December 02, 2025**.

This Invitation to Bid is issued pursuant to and is subject to the Georgia Local Government Public Works Construction Law, O.C.G.A. § 36-91-1 et seq. (the "Construction Law"), and bidders must comply with all requirements of the Construction Law. Any capitalized terms used but not defined herein but which are defined in the Construction Law or the below-referenced Bidding Documents shall have the same meaning herein as therein.

All bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope addressed to Bryan Rogers, County Administrator, at 117 East Jackson St. Suite B, Dublin, GA 31040. Electronic and facsimile submission will not be accepted. Bids received after 10:00 am local time on December 02, 2025, will not be considered. Each sealed envelope containing a bid must be plainly marked on the outside as "Bid for Laurens County Board of Commissioners' Highway 257 Rail Served Site Driveway Improvements Project" and must include the bidder's name, address and contact information. All bids must be on the required bid form.

Bids will be opened publicly at 10:00 am local time on December 02, 2025, at the office of the Laurens County Board of Commissioners, 117 East Jackson St., Dublin, Georgia. The County will award the bid by 11:59 pm local time on December 09, 2025.

The contract, if awarded, will be awarded to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder. If the bid from the lowest responsive, responsible bidder is more than the Project budget, the County may negotiate with that bidder to obtain a price within budget.

The successful bidder will be required to pay sales and use tax on materials purchased or used on this project. Bidders must comply with O.C.G.A. Sec. 43-14-8.2 regarding a Georgia utility contractor's license to the extent such license is required to perform the contract.

No bidder may withdraw his bid for a period of 60 days after the date of the bid opening. The County reserves the right to reject all bids or any bid that is non-responsive or not responsible, to waive technicalities or informalities, and to issue change orders altering the original scope of work to address changes or unforeseen conditions necessary for the Project completion.

A bid bond in the amount of five percent (5%) of the bid must accompany each bid in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders. A payment and performance bond, each in an amount equal to 100% of the Contract Price, shall be required of the successful bidder. Each bond shall be in the form prescribed by the Bidding Documents and shall be accompanied by a "Power of Attorney" authorizing the attorney-in-fact to bind the surety and certified to include the date of the bond. The surety must be authorized to do business in Georgia by the Commissioner of Insurance.

The Project work is defined by the Bidding Documents and includes but is not limited to the following: driveway improvements to serve the industrial site known as the Highway 257 Rail Served Site. The Work includes demolition of existing driveways, construction of a new driveway and right-turn lane, within the State Route 257 right-of-way. Although shown in the Plans, no water or sanitary sewer will be included.

These terms and conditions apply to this Invitation to Bid:

- All responses and supporting materials as well as correspondence relating to this Invitation to Bid will become property of the County when received. All expenses for preparing and submitting responses are the sole cost of the party submitting the response. The County is not obligated to any party to reimburse such expenses. Labeling information provided in submittals "proprietary" or "confidential" or any other designation of restricted use will not protect the information from public view. Submittals are subject to the provisions of the Georgia "Open Records Act," O.C.G.A. §50-18-70, et seq.
- All applicable Federal and State of Georgia laws, Laurens County ordinances, and license requirements and regulations of all agencies having jurisdiction shall apply to the bidders throughout and are incorporated herein.
- Any person or entity that (i) is in arrears to Laurens County with respect to any debt, or (ii) is in default with respect to any obligation to the County, is considered, without limitation, to be not responsible and no bid shall be accepted from, and no contract will be awarded to, any such person or entity.
- Pursuant to O.C.G.A. §13-10-91, qualifying contractors and subcontractors performing work within the State of Georgia on a contract with the County must register and participate in a federal work authorization program. A certification form verifying participation in such a program will be required of all bidders in addition to the S.A.V.E. Program Affidavit required by the County in compliance with O.C.G.A. §50-36-1. A non-collusion affidavit must be completed and submitted with the bid.
- All contracts are subject to Federal, State, and local contract provisions; locally owned firms, small businesses and minority-owned businesses are encouraged to respond.

A pre-bid meeting will not be held.

The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is:

Hussey Gay Bell
Attention: Evan Bennett
329 Commercial Drive
Savannah, GA 31406
ebennett@husseygaybell.com

Prospective bidders may obtain or examine the Bidding Documents at the Issuing Office on Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM local time and may obtain copies of the Bidding Documents from the Issuing Office as described below.

- Electronic copies of the Bidding Documents may be obtained at no charge from the Issuing Office by sending an email request to ebennett@husseygaybell.com.
- Printed copies of the Bidding Documents may be obtained from the Issuing Office by paying a non-refundable amount of \$150.00 for each set.
- All questions should be submitted to the Issuing Office by email to ebennett@husseygaybell.com.

The conditions and requirements of bidding on this Project are summarized in this Invitation to Bid, but this Invitation to Bid is qualified in its entirety by the complete package of Bidding Documents.

SONNY D. WILKES MINISTRIES
presents
COMMUNITY SERVICE

"RAPTURE READY (R & R)"
"WHOSE TRUMPET IS THAT?"
"WHAT'S GOING ON IN THAT GRAVEYARD?"

Saturday
NOVEMBER 15, 2025 @ 6:30PM

TRINITY ASSEMBLY OF GOD **BASIK TRUTH**

City On A Hill (formerly World Harvest Church)
2778 GA HWY 257 | DUBLIN, GA 31021

OUR TAKE...



American flags fly in the breeze/PAYTON TOWNS III

Appreciate the veterans who gave us freedom

Their eyes were filled with kindness while the hands looked like they could not hurt a fly. And yet, one could tell that they've been placed in positions where they've killed more than a fly.

Their stories are of a time and place we can barely imagine. And even though we have seen images in movies or television shows, we know they do not come close to the real horror of war.

Rather it is storming a fortified beach, hunkering down in a snowy field in the middle of nowhere or watching out for a roadside bomb in the middle of the desert, these soldiers did their jobs in some of the worse situations imaginable. Unfortunately, some are now protecting us without pay - something that is shameful no matter what side of the political aisle one is on. This should never - ever - happen.

These soldiers eventually came home, returning to their family, love ones and friends who mostly did not have a clue what they had been through. Most of these veterans did not want to talk about what happened, taking that to their graves.

Others, have spoken out, talking about the events they went through, the lives they saved and the friends who sadly did not make it home.

Every veteran who has served in war, various campaigns or even through peace times, deserves our gratitude and that is why we honor them today.

Today we celebrate those who put their life aside to answer the call to serve in our armed forces. We should all want to say "Thank You" to the men and women who have served our country.

Truthfully, they deserve so much more.

- Payton Towns III

THOUGHT FOR TODAY...

"If freedom of speech is taken away, then dumb and silent we may be led to the slaughter."

- George Washington

DAILY SCRIPTURE...

"You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself."

- Galatians 5:13-14

EVERY DAY'S A HOLIDAY...

Nov. 11, 2025 is...

- Veterans Day
- Remembrance Day
- National Metal Day
- National Sundae Day
- National Education Day
- Singles' Day
- Origami Day

The Courier Herald

LOCAL MATTERS



Judged a newspaper of General Excellence 2024

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES Print: \$12.50/month
Digital: \$10.50/month

Periodicals Postage Paid at Dublin, Georgia
(USPS 161-860) - Published Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday
POSTMASTER: Send address change to:
The Courier Herald, 115 South Jefferson Street, Dublin, GA 31021

GEORGIA TRUST

— for Local News —

DuBose Porter/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Pam Burney/GENERAL MANAGER
Courtney Vessell/CIRCULATION MANAGER

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

Election night has changed since 2000

As I stood at the front of the Laurens County Commissioners board room Tuesday night, I could not help but notice the difference between the two men I was talking to and the group of people sitting in the chairs behind them.

While co-worker Rodney Manley, TV-35's James Deal and I were killing time by talking about first one thing then another, the people in the room were quietly looking at their phones and barely talking. I get it, they were glued to their electronic devices looking for any information they could get that would let them know the outcome of their elections.

I could not help but notice that we only had two candidates in attendance. Normally, the room would be filled with candidates and their supporters. Instead, there were only two last Tuesday - and they just happened to be the two who were vying for the third and final seat for the at-large city council position.

I have probably covered 20 if not more elections in my journalism career. Boy, have they come a long way. My first election night coverage was in 2000 in Milledgeville. Back then it took until almost 11 p.m. or midnight for all of the results to come in and a winner declared. I remember one election when a Macon news station kept calling the election superintendent asking for updates and when he thought he would have results. I remember the superintendent staring at his employee and shaking his head when they told him he had a phone call from that news network. That employee just nodded and went back to the phone to tell the news to wait.

The candidates were always nearby waiting for a winner to be declared in the basement of the Baldwin County Courthouse. After the results were gathered, I had to drive across town and write up a quick story in order to get it in the next day's paper. Since we worked so long the night before, we were usually allowed to come in a little lat-



By PAYTON TOWNS III

er the next day.

Whether it was 25 years ago, or last Tuesday night, waiting is the name of the game when it comes to election night. Technology has thankfully sped things up. If everything goes smoothly, we know we should hear the results around 9 p.m. Deal and I recalled a time we interviewed a man we thought had beaten an incumbent for a board of education seat. After the man left, the election superintendent came into the courtroom to tell us that it was officially too close to call. We had to run out and get the man who had been declared the winner and tell him that we needed to interview him again.

When the recount was done, the man was officially declared the winner - again.

I like to look at the numbers after we receive the sheets on election night. It

is always interesting to see how much of the voter registration for the city and county came out to vote.

Looking at the Nov. 4, 2025 election, and one that is obviously glaring is that out of 10,797 registered city voters, only 2,205 cast a ballot in the city council and city school board races. That equals out to 20.42 percent. When it came to the county's part of the election, only 4,409 of the 25,152 registered county voters cast a ballot for a grand total of 17.53 percent making the decision.

For the combined ESPLOST, 6,614 county and city registered voters cast a ballot, meaning 18.40 percent voted in the decision to pass it. That means that the remainder of those who could vote decided to sit this one out. Amazing since people had not just Nov. 4 but 16 days of early voting, which included two Saturday's.

Looking at the stats, advanced voting brought in 1,407 in the city with only 697 on election day. Compare that to the county's bond vote which saw 1,221 in advanced voting and 3,139 on Nov. 4.

Today is Veteran's Day. It is worth noting that many of our soldiers who have fought for our freedoms - and continue to fight for our freedoms even if they are not getting paid (message to both political parties, please end the government shutdown - how would the pol-

iticians like to have to work without receiving pay?) - to vote. We may not agree with each other on a certain politician or question but we have the chance to have our voices heard when we step into that voters booth.

That is when we read over the nominees or questions, make our decisions, print out the results, place them in the machine next to the poll worker and receive a sticker to proudly wear, telling others we have taken part in the voting process.

Veterans gave us that right, along with being able to say or write what we want to, and if somebody does not like that we can agree to disagree, or even turn the page and read something else. That is what is so good about our country. And we get to vote almost every year, or every other year depending what or who is on the ballot and where one lives.

There is absolutely nothing that can be done about the previous election. It is, as they say, in the books. Nearly 20 percent have spoken for the city, while 17 percent spoke for the one lone county question and 18 percent spoke for the ESPLOST. The results have been tabulated and we will move on.

But the next election is not far on the horizon. And a great way to thank a veteran is to make your way to the voting booth and let your voice be heard.



PSC race was about pocketbooks, not politics

I am getting mail giving me credit for the defeat of the two incumbent Republican members of the Georgia Public Service Commission this past week. I am getting mail blaming me for the defeat of the two incumbent members of the Georgia Public Service Commission this past week. To quote Mark Twain when he read a report he had died: "The report of my death was an exaggeration." So was my influence on the outcome of the PSC elections.

If I had that kind of influence, nobody would dare think of drilling in our Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge for titanium dioxide in order that the world never run out of toothpaste whitener. I have expressed righteous indignation on the subject numerous times yet my sources tell me the issue is still very much a possibility, thanks to an unholy alliance of powerful timber barons, disingenuous politicians and sneaky chemical companies. More on that subject later. Today, we are talking about why the two incumbent commissioners, Tim Echols and Fitz Johnson, were given the heave-ho by the voters.

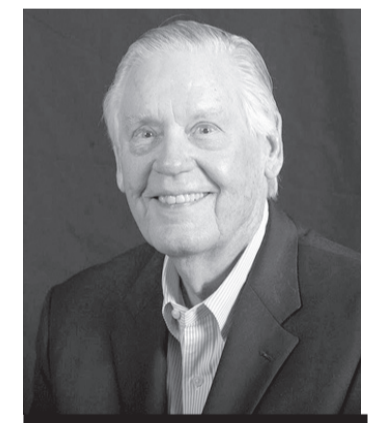
According to the Atlanta Journal-Constitution, nearly 1.5 million Georgians voted in the PSC race. Democrats Alicia Johnson and Peter Hubbard won their seats on the commission by roughly 25 points. Not even close.

Looking back, the defeat

of Echols and Johnson was no surprise to me. I got the feeling early on that there was a real possibility the two incumbents were in trouble when I kept reading and hearing that the election was all about Republicans versus Democrats. If Democrats won, Georgia would become "another California." Windmills and solar panels and transgender operations for prisoners. Except to the voters it wasn't about party loyalty or California. It was about our utility bills.

I think the reason the political consultants made the PSC races about party loyalty was that selling the performance of Echols and Johnson as effective utility regulators was not an option. No one wanted to talk about six rate increases in the last three years (Note: Commissioner Echols told me that six increases was not correct. There were only three. One increase was phased in over three years. I will leave it to you to decide if you want to count that as one hit to your pocketbook, or three.)

How do you tiptoe past voters the fact that the average Georgia Power residential customer's bill has increased about \$43 per month or over \$500 annually? You raise the specter of Georgia becoming the land of Fruits and Nuts and for good measure you throw in transgender operations for prisoners as an additional idiotic reason.



By DICK YARBROUGH

The Georgia Public Service Commission is seen by many as being too cozy with Georgia Power. To voters, perception became reality. As I wrote earlier, the PSC has allowed Georgia Power to charge ratepayers for \$7.5 billion of the \$10 billion in costs overruns at the Vogtle nuclear power plant, instead of making Southern Company shareholders pay. Georgia Power is a Southern Company subsidiary. As information, Southern Company reported 2024 earnings of \$4.4 billion, a \$400 million or 10 percent increase from 2023. Those are bad optics, folks. Why should we ratepayers be on the hook for Georgia Power's cost overruns? It is not our fault they blew their budget.

Earlier this year, the commission voted unanimously to freeze base power rates for the next three years, although your power

bill could still be "adjusted" next year for fuel prices and hurricane cleanup costs, which could mean a further rate increase on your monthly bill.

If any of the geniuses who provided political advice to the two incumbents are reading this, my reader mail might be instructive. A lot of readers consider themselves Republicans, but not automatons. They told me they didn't vote for the incumbents for many of the reasons listed above. Pocketbooks above party.

To the Democrats high-fiving and thinking this is the first sign of a political left turn in our state, don't get your hopes up. This was a pocketbook issue, not a political statement. Like your Republican colleagues you are being held captive by the extremists in your party.

To the Republicans braying about Georgia becoming California, may I remind you that you still have a 3-2 majority on the commission. I would suggest you tell those three members that going forward they pay more attention to us and less to Georgia Power's wish list and there is a good chance we won't have to have this particular conversation again.

You can reach Dick Yarbrough at [dick@dickyarbrough.com](mailto:dick@ dickyarbrough.com) or at P.O. Box 725373, Atlanta, Georgia 31139.

Dublin Police Department

- On Oct. 1, an officer received a phone call from an investigator with the Johnson County Sheriff's Office, saying he was obtaining an arrest warrant for Anthony Daniel Morris, 47, who lives in Dublin.

The Dublin officer ran Morris' information through GCIC and saw that he had multiple warrants through many agencies and that his license was suspended. Around 6:19 p.m., Morris was seen walking into Kroger and then leaving the store.

An officer followed and pulled him over in the Valero parking lot.

Dispatch advised the officer that Morris had warrants from Jeff Davis County Sheriff's Office, Appling County Sheriff's Office and Hazelhurst Police Department. Morris was arrested and transported to the Lau-



POLICE BEAT...

rens County Law Enforcement Center.

He was charged with driving while license suspended or revoked.

- Donell Parker, 45, was charged with DUI around 3:06 a.m. at the intersection of East Jackson Street and Truxton Street. An investigation led to Parker being transported to the sheriff's office.

- Kemya Monay Bryant, 24, was charged with driving while license suspended or revoked and seatbelt violation - adult, around 3 p.m. on Oct. 6. An officer saw a driver not wearing a seat belt in a black Malibu.

Bryant's information

returned showing that her license was suspended for failure to appear. She was transported to the police department.

- William W. Garvey, 38, was charged with criminal trespass around 6:41 p.m. on Oct. 3 at Dollar General on South Jefferson Street. An officer responded about a possible shoplifter.

The officer found Garvey near the dumpster behind the store. Though merchandise was not found on him or the dumpster, an store employee handed a demand to leave the property form from a prior incident that had been signed by Garvey. He was transported to the

sheriff's office.

- Mekayiah Lafaye Dawson, 25, was charged with disorderly conduct and giving false name, address or birth date to law enforcement around 10:16 a.m. on Oct. 3 on South Jefferson Street at Cash and Carry. An officer responded to that location because someone called and said a woman was there with a warrant.

The officer met with a woman, who matched the description he was given, after she got into a car. She told him her name was Kayla Johnson.

She would not give her birthday, but said, "You know who I am" and stepped out of the vehicle. The woman began cussing, drawing a crowd and using fighting words, beating her fist against her hand in front of a juvenile.

She was placed under arrest and transported to the LEC.

Laurens County Sheriff's Office

- On Oct. 20, a deputy met with a person at the sheriff's office about an incident that happened around 1 p.m. on Coleman Street in Cadwell.

- A cargo trailer was stolen on Ga. 257 around 10:37 a.m. on Oct. 18.

- On Oct. 19, a deputy performed a traffic stop on Country Club Road around 12:12 a.m. The deputy seized prescription medication that was not in its original container.

- On Oct. 17 around 8:24 p.m., a deputy observed a person driving his bicycle with no red light emitting from the back of the bicycle at the intersection of Rex Miller and Nathaniel Drive.

- A deputy responded to the sheriff's office in reference to a walk-in about an incident that happened on Fourth Street around 5:05 p.m. on Oct. 18.

- A deputy was dispatched to Scolfield Lane in reference to an assault around 11:52 p.m. on Oct. 18. The offender was no longer on the scene when the deputy arrived.

- On Oct. 17, around 10:21 a.m., a deputy met with the complainant at the sheriff's office about an incident that occurred on Willie's Way in Cadwell.

Editor's note: This information is public record and was taken from reports of local law enforcement agencies. These reports do not reflect guilt or innocence. An "arrest" does not always indicate incarceration. Readers are cautioned that people may have similar names. Police Beat does not identify minor children, victims of sexual assault, suicide attempts or medical conditions. Cases dismissed do not appear if the newspaper is notified before deadline.



TELL IT!

CALL 272-0375, EMAIL CHTELLIT@GMAIL.COM, OR TELL IT! AT COURIERHERALDTODAY.COM

Fred should never have another good night of sleep again for what he has done to this system, students and staff. And he never showed any humbleness.

I can't stand to hear certain board members comment because they are still deflecting and acting like the victims. Poor them!

Dublin City wants advanced money to stay open - what happens when it come times for that money and you don't get it because it was advanced already to you?

The state report blames Dublin's school budget mess on "mismanagement," "excess" and a "lack of fundamental financial knowledge." So Fred and company had to know about the fraud and mismanagement. They've been lying to the state for years. Can't they cancel Fred's retirement pay for this? Mr DA, where are the indictments? Where are the orange jumpsuits?

Who is responsible for the culture of excess? Fred. DCS sent unaudited financial numbers to the state.... That's fraud-lying/falsifying information. Isn't that a federal offense Fred?

All of the Laurens County elementary and Middle School have gifted student only classes within their schools with certified to

teach gifted students. Why does Dublin City think they need a separate school for gifted students with teachers with gifted student certifications?

There is room in the high school for another grade. Why not move 8th to the high school, the 7th to the Gifted Academy building, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and

5th to the middle school. Pre-k through 1st all at Susie Dasher and close Hillcrest?

What is the percentage of the IGA and county students? Do they pay a tuition to come to the IGA? What is the ratio of students/teachers in IGA? Questions that taxpaying citizens has the right to know!

Dublin City has a cul-

ture of overspending, cover-ups and smoke and mirrors. This won't be changed until audits are completed, new board is seated, those responsible are accountable and they face reality.

We see Dr. Vyas' true colors - only IGA is worth saving because it's the shining light. What about the rest of Dublin City students and staff? Are they not worthy?

This section in the newspaper is probably the most middle school thing I've ever seen. Put your name people. Don't be scared.

We know the game you are playing. It's not funny. You went from parking the prison vans all together at the hospital to spreading them out in different areas. You can't fool us. It needs to stop.

The politicians need to pick up their political signs at the side of the road.

Local 7-day Forecast:

The next 48 hours:

	TUESDAY: 53° Plenty of sunshine, but cool. Sunrise: 6:58 a.m.
	TUESDAY NIGHT: 29° Clear and cold; there will be a freeze. Sunset: 5:32 p.m.
	WEDNESDAY: 68° Plenty of sunshine. Sunrise: 6:59 a.m.
	WEDNESDAY NIGHT: 42° Clear. Sunset: 5:32 p.m.

Thursday 11/13 HIGH/LOW 75/41 Sunny and comfortable. Sunrise: 6:59 a.m. Sunset: 5:31 p.m.	Friday 11/14 HIGH/LOW 75/41 Beautiful with plenty of sun. Sunrise: 7:00 a.m. Sunset: 5:31 p.m.	Saturday 11/15 HIGH/LOW 77/50 Sunny and nice. Sunrise: 7:01 a.m. Sunset: 5:30 p.m.	Sunday 11/16 HIGH/LOW 73/46 Plenty of sunshine. Sunrise: 7:02 a.m. Sunset: 5:29 p.m.	Monday 11/17 HIGH/LOW 66/42 A thunderstorm or two in the morning; otherwise decreasing clouds. Sunrise: 7:03 a.m. Sunset: 5:29 p.m.

River levels...
Oconee (at Dublin) 3.20'
Ocmulgee (at Macon) 7.02'

Teachers are going to leave with all the crap they have to put up with. Parents aren't parenting and holding their kid responsible.

COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIR
A HARVEST of Healthy Living
Saturday, November 15, 2025
11 am to 2pm
Howard Chapel UMC Church
Rev. John L. Bratcher, Pastor

HEALTH SCREENINGS:

- Blood Pressure & Blood Glucose
- Family Health
- Private HIV Testing
- Exercise Demonstration

DOOR PRIZES

- SOUP & SANDWICH

Presented by:
Howard Chapel UMC Health Care Ministry
IMPACT Ministries,
Bobbie Lowther, MSN, RN

508 S. Washington St., Dublin

Notice of Public Hearing

The Dublin Housing Authority has prepared an Amendment to its 5 Year Public Housing Plan 2025-2029 as a result of the successful application in the Rental Assistance Demonstration Program (RAD) for the redevelopment of Asset Management Property 1 consisting of 150 units (500 Vinson Village, 600 Vinson Village and Claxton Homes). As a result, DHA will be converting to Project Base Rental Assistance (PBRA) under the guidelines of Notice H 2019-09/ PIH 2019-23, REV-4 and any other Implementation successor Notices. The schedule for Plan availability is Mondays through Thursdays from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm. The administrative offices are closed daily from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm. The Amendment to this Plan will be located at 50 West Mary Street, Dublin, Georgia 31021.

The Public Hearing for RAD-Specific Amendment will be held on Thursday, November 13, 2025 at the Verline P. Copenny Center, 2B(C) West Mary Street, Dublin, Georgia beginning at 5:00pm.

All citizens are invited to attend this hearing to discuss the plan. Should special requirements for foreign language interpretation be necessary, please contact Brenda B. Smith, Executive Director, before 4:30 pm on Thursday, November 6, 2025, so arrangements can be made.

NEWS DIGEST

The Laurens County Board of Education will meet for their monthly work session at 5 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 11 in the Laurens County Board of Education board room. The agenda follows:

- Call to order
- Invocation
- Pledge
- Approval of agenda
- Discussion
- FY26 budget amendment I
- Resolution for revising FY 27 capital outlay funds
- Executive session - personnel
- Adjourn

The Laurens County Board of Education will meet for their third public hearing on Thursday, Nov. 13 at 5 p.m., followed immediately by their regular monthly board meeting at 5:30 p.m. also in the board room.

Classifieds

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.



SKILLED MACHINIST NEEDED!

OPEN POSITION: CNC OPERATOR/MACHINIST

JOB DESCRIPTIONS

- MUST BE RELIABLE
- Read blueprints, sketches, specifications, or CAD and CAM files for making parts.
- Compute and verify dimensions, sizes, shapes, and tolerances of workpieces.
- Set up, run, and disassemble conventional, manual, and CNC machine tools.
- File, grind, and adjust parts so that they fit together properly.
- Test completed tools and materials to ensure that they meet specifications.
- Smooth and polish the surfaces of tools and materials.
- Monday - Friday
- \$15.00 - \$31.00 PER HOUR
- Drug free environment

WHY WORK WITH US?

- Competitive pay
- Growth and Career Development
- Flexible hours, Supportive work environment, etc.

SEND RESUME TO OR CONTACT

Shave@obsessionbows.com

478-945-3340

IT'S TIME TO SEND IN YOUR SANTA LETTERS!
tchsanta@gmail.com

Deadline to submit Santa Letters: Dec 8th, by 5 pm.
ALL SANTA LETTERS MUST BE EMAILED TO tchsanta@gmail.com
Letters will print in the Christmas Eve edition.

GIAA STATE PLAYOFFS: BRIARWOOD 51, TRINITY 9

Fleming, Bucs sink Crusaders in quarterfinals

By JEREMY PAYNE
Correspondent

The Trinity Crusaders opened the 2025 football season with a 5-1 record, and climbed as high as second in the GIAA polls.

Unfortunately, injuries derailed their once-promising season, and they almost literally limped into the playoffs on a four-game losing streak that forced them to travel to Warrenton Friday to face Briarwood Academy.

Trinity had no answer for quarterback Cutler Fleming and the high-powered Bucs attack as it fell

51-9, and saw its season come to an end.

The Crusaders tried to get tricky with the opening kickoff as they attempted an onside kick. The Bucs were not fooled, recovered and wasted no time scoring. Fleming found Aiden Adler for a 12-yard touchdown pass on the second play of the game to put the home team up 6-0.

Trinity looked like it might be up to the task, as it needed just two plays of its own to answer. Tayt Evans took a handoff from Griffin Lane and raced 55 yards to paydirt to put the Crusaders up

7-6 with just over a minute gone off the game clock.

Unfortunately that would be about all the offense Trinity would muster, and the Bucs were just getting started.

They would snatch 80 yards on 12 plays with their next drive. Fleming scored from five yards out to make it 13-7.

Following a Trinity punt, Briarwood went on another long, time-consuming drive, needing 11 plays to go 81 yards for another score. Fleming found Adler again, this time from nine yards out, to make it 20-7 midway through the

second quarter.

The Crusaders would be forced to punt again, and this one would pin the home team inside its 10. But it didn't matter, as Fleming connected with Adler again on the third play of the drive for an 83-yard catch and run to put the Bucs up 27-7 at the half.

Trinity got a safety early in the second half to make it 27-9, but it was too little too late.

Fleming broke free for a 72-yard scoring run midway through the third to make it 34-9.

Briarwood would add more points in the fourth quarter on a

field goal, a 27-yard touchdown run by Jay Edwards and a fumble return TD.

Evans led the Crusaders with 77 yards on 17 carries.

Fleming was brilliant all night for the Bucs. The junior signal caller finished 12-of-18 for 185 yards and three scores. He also had 21 carries for 196 yards. Adler had four catches for 105 yards and three touchdowns.

Trinity's season ends at 5-6 overall, while the Bucs move to 9-2, and advance to face top-seeded region rival Brentwood in the semifinal round Friday.



A GREAT DAY FOR THE RAIDERS: The West Laurens girls (left) placed ninth overall, and the Raider boys (right) an all-time best sixth, at Saturday's GHSA AAA cross country championships in Carrollton/SPECIAL PHOTOS

Dailey takes bronze, Raider runners finish strong at state cross country championships

From STAFF REPORTS

A third-overall finish by senior Levi Dailey, as well as top-20 times for sophomores Ronan Pangie and Landry Hall, headlined a fine performance by West Laurens runners Saturday as they laced 'em up for the final time this fall at the GHSA state cross country championships in Carrollton.

The Raider boys notched their best-ever finish of sixth overall, and the West-side girls ninth, in the AAA team standings.

Dailey's time of 17:21.17

was the race's third fastest, behind Oconee County's Aaron Brodrick, who ran a blazing 16:04.23, and Lumpkin County's Witt Windham, roughly half a minute back.

His performance, time-wise, went down as the fourth best at the event in school history, though Dailey is the first West Laurens runner to ever finish in the top three, according to head coach Danny Johnson.

Pangie also clocked in at 14th overall, with a time of 17:59.86 to lead the rest of the West Laurens boys pack, which also included Fisher

Smith, Paul Moyer, Dalton Oxford, Bennett Smith and Nathan Larson.

Hall, No. 17 with a time of 21:40.12, paced the Blue and White representation in the AAA girls final. Raidyn Joiner, Rylee Howard, Adelle Saussy, Sophie Kavuri, Ashtyn Norton and Ashley Williams also competed.

Oconee County's boys and North Hall's girls were crowned AAA team champions.

Earlier Saturday, Bleckley County pulled off another Royal Flush, capturing every available state crown at the High-A level to continue its teams' extensive winning streaks at the event.

Purple and Gold filled up the boys podium as Jack Harrell, at 16:50.42, led a threesome of Royals who were first across the line. Ryder Garrett and Brody Gibbs were second and

third, and Harrison Rogers sixth, to help them easily capture a fourth state title in program history, and second in a row.

Bleckley's girls made it a 4-peat as Lily Farrell broke the tape with a time of 17:38.92 to take individual gold. Ella Gibbs, Anna Lynch, Natalie Kitchens and Clair Lynch each followed in the top seven to put the Lady Royals on top for the eighth time ever.



RUNNING INTO THE RECORD BOOKS: Levi Dailey descends the final hill on his way to Saturday's third-place individual finish, the highest ever by a West Laurens runner at state /SPECIAL PHOTO, courtesy Clark Dailey

SCOREBOARD

FOOTBALL
Friday
Briarwood 51, Trinity 9
Brentwood 49, Windsor 21

PREP SCHEDULE

FOOTBALL
Friday
GHSA Playoffs, Round 1
Jenkins Co. at Wilkinson Co.
McIntosh Co. Academy at Johnson Co./7 p.m.
Beach at West Laurens
East Laurens at Heard Co.
Washington Co. at Dublin
Dodge Co. at Rabun Co.
Jeff Davis at Bleckley Co.
Manchester at Wheeler Co.
Treutlen at Mt. Zion
(Carrollton)/7:30 p.m.

GIAA Semifinals
Briarwood at Brentwood
/7:30 p.m.

BASKETBALL
Tuesday
Trinity (girls) vs. St. George
(at FPD)/7 p.m.

Thursday
Trinity (girls) at FPD/7 p.m.

CONTACT US:
Email sports information to
tchsports77@gmail.com, or
call (478) 272-5522, ext. 403

NOTICE OF PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

The **Dublin City Schools Board of Education** has tentatively adopted a millage rate which will require an increase in property taxes by 3.54%.

All concerned citizens are invited to the public hearing on this tax increase to be held at the Board of Education Office located at 207 Shamrock Drive, Dublin, Georgia on Friday, November 14, 2025 **at 12:00 noon.**

Times and places of additional public hearings on this tax increase are to be held at the Dublin High School Auditorium, 1127 Hillcrest Parkway, Dublin, Georgia on Monday, November 24, 2025 **at 12:00 noon and 6:00 PM.**

This tentative increase will result in a millage rate of 18.564 mills, an increase of 0.634mills. Without this tentative tax increase, the millage rate will be no more than **17.90** mills. The proposed tax increase for a home with a fair market value of **\$150,000** is **\$38.04** and the proposed tax increase for non-homestead property with a fair market value of **\$100,000** is **\$63.40.**

Flights trimmed at Atlanta, other major airports amid government shutdown

By TY TAGAMI
Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA — Airlines flying to and from Atlanta have begun trimming flights in reaction to a federal mandate that stems from the government shutdown.

The order from the Federal Aviation Administration, which applies only to domestic flights, was triggered by "increased reports of strain" among air traffic controllers and the pilots they serve.

Federal workers, including air traffic controllers, have had to work without pay for more than five weeks.

"We are seeing signs of

stress in the system, so we are proactively reducing the number of flights to make sure the American people continue to fly safely," Federal Aviation Administrator Bryan Bedford said. "The FAA will continue to closely monitor operations, and we will not hesitate to take further action to make sure air travel remains safe."

A 4% reduction in operations at 40 of the busiest U.S. airports, including at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, started Friday and will increase gradually to 10% by Tuesday.

Airlines must issue full refunds for cancellations.

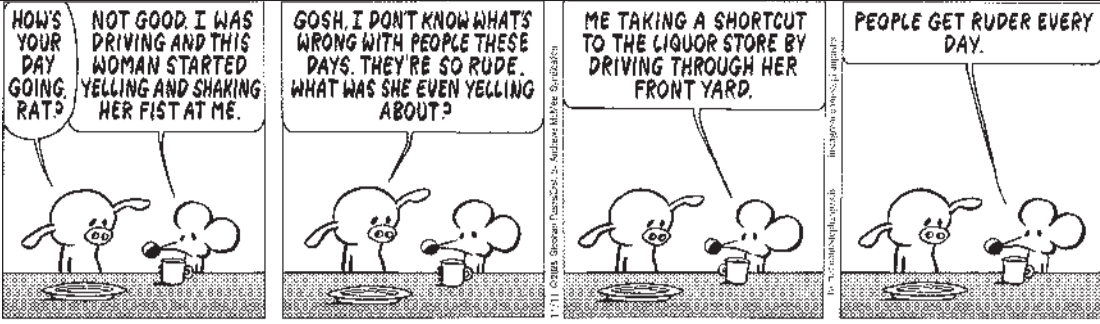
NOTICE

The Dublin City School Board does hereby announce that the millage rate will be set at a meeting to be held at the Dublin High School Auditorium, 1127 Hillcrest Parkway, Dublin, Georgia on Monday, November 24, 2025 at 6:30 PM., and pursuant to the requirements of O.C.G.A. Section 48-5-32 does hereby publish the following presentation of the current year's tax digest and levy, along with the history of the tax digest and levy for the past five years.

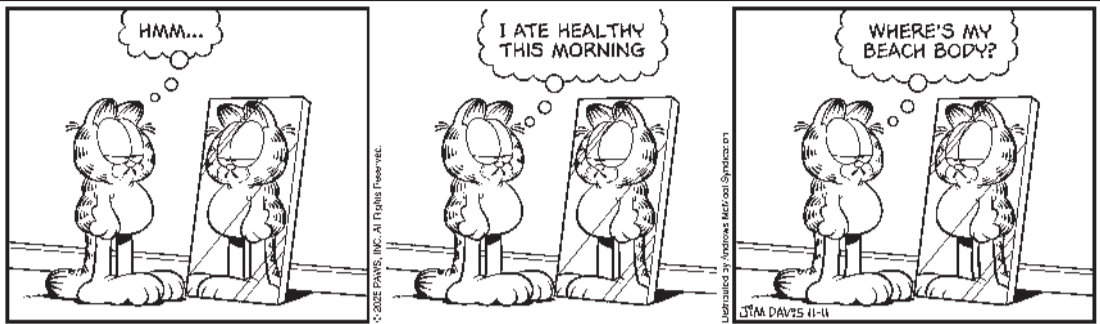
CURRENT 2025 TAX DIGEST AND 5 YEAR HISTORY OF LEVY

CITY SCHOOL	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Real & Personal	624,693,367	616,972,559	682,117,656	718,535,007	887,148,445	918,150,500
Motor Vehicles	6,108,880	4,873,380	4,301,940	4,198,830	4,065,710	3,486,160
Mobile Homes	1,068,403	1,230,962	1,678,254	1,915,230	2,139,710	2,105,990
Timber - 100%	0	0	0	0	0	0
Heavy Duty Equipment	458,062	700,133	35,200	1,976,116	148,792	59,920
Gross Digest	632,328,712	623,777,034	688,133,050	726,625,183	893,502,657	923,802,570
Less M&O Exemptions	102,049,897	114,948,828	139,965,708	155,651,382	123,696,559	123,936,593
Net M&O Digest	530,278,815	508,828,206	548,167,342	570,973,801	769,806,098	799,865,977
State Forest Land Assistance Grant Value						
Adjusted Net M&O Digest	530,278,815	508,828,206	548,167,342	570,973,801	769,806,098	799,865,977
Gross M&O Millage	19.705	19.705	19.250	19.250	18.564	18.564
Net M&O Millage	19.705	19.705	19.250	19.250	18.564	18.564
Total School Taxes Levied	\$10,449,144	\$10,026,460	\$10,552,221	\$10,991,246	\$14,290,680	\$14,848,712
Net Taxes \$ Increase	\$676,260	-\$422,684	\$525,762	\$439,024	\$3,299,435	\$558,032
Net Taxes % Increase	5.40%	-4.05%	5.24%	4.16%	30.02%	3.90%

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



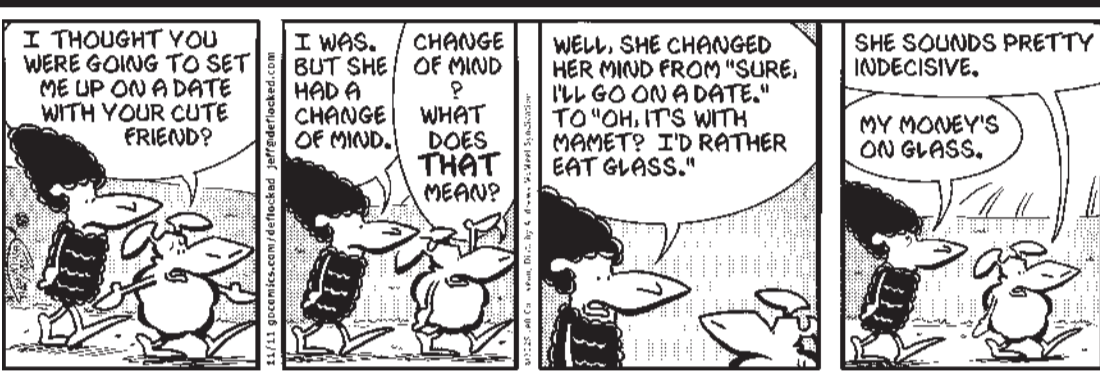
GARFIELD



OVERBOARD



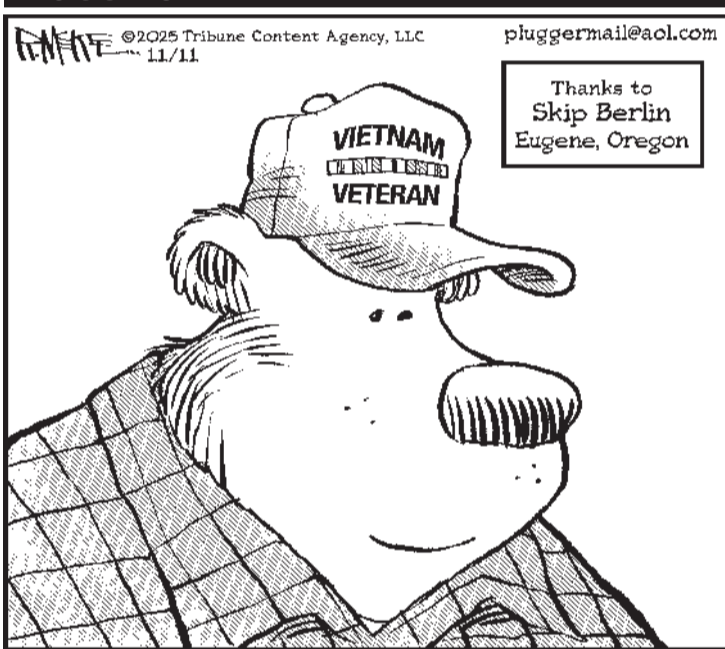
DEFLOCKED



ZIGGY



PLUGGERS



Proud pluggers always display their colors on the front of their ball hats.

Falling out with Best friend burns the last bridge!

DEAR ABBY: After my father died by suicide, my mother moved the family across the country. I was 13, and I never discussed my father's death with anyone.

Now, 50 years later, my best friend from high school has terminated our friendship because I don't support her politics. Her parting comment to me: "I was only nice to you because your mom told me how your dad died." Abby, I had plenty of friends in high school. I was senior class president, and I have gone on to have a successful life.

I was always there for my friend when she had marital and other difficulties. I am struggling with processing such profound cruelty from a life-long friend, and I would welcome your guidance. -- GRAPPLING IN SAN FRANCISCO

DEAR GRAPPLING: The statement from your "lifelong friend" was mean, cruel and unnecessary. It was intended to hurt you.

I don't know if you realize what a strong woman you are. Although your family experienced a severe trauma that necessitated geographic relocation, you managed to thrive in your new environment. You were popular with peers and have gone on to build a successful life. Count your blessings.

The person you describe may have been a friend at one time, but she has used the current political climate as an ex-



DEAR ABBY

BY ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

cuse to distance herself. Step back and be glad she showed her true colors. You are well rid of her.

DEAR ABBY: Although my wife and I (we are both women) have stuck it out for nearly 40 years, there has been some dysfunction. Her brother was snuck in 10 years ago, and he's very mouthy. He has always been whiny and entitled, but now he likes to yell, expecting silence in return.

We live in a small house. What if I flipped out every time he disturbed my sleep? It's half my house! I'm disabled and retired and living on Social Security benefits. My wife refuses to back me up and tell her brother he doesn't get to disrespect me. I don't want to spend the end of my life like this. It would be my hell. Things are not looking great. I love her, and she has stepped up in so many ways, but not in this. Please advise. --

CROWDED IN CALIFORNIA
DEAR CROWDED: What do you mean your wife "snuck her brother in" 10 years ago? (Did a two-week visit magically turn into 10 years?) As half owner of that house, you are entitled to live in it without being berated by a deadbeat.

Talk to an attorney. Learn your rights as a spouse in California. If the house were sold and you received your half of its value, your life might be brighter than it is now. Of course, the alternative is that you and your wife tell your brother-in-law to find another roost to rule.

DEAR VETERANS: For your service to our nation, I salute you. My thanks to each of you on this Veterans Day. You personify patriotism, self-sacrifice and dedication to our country. I would also like to recognize your families for the sacrifices they, too, have made while you were serving your country. -- LOVE, ABBY

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH BOB JONES
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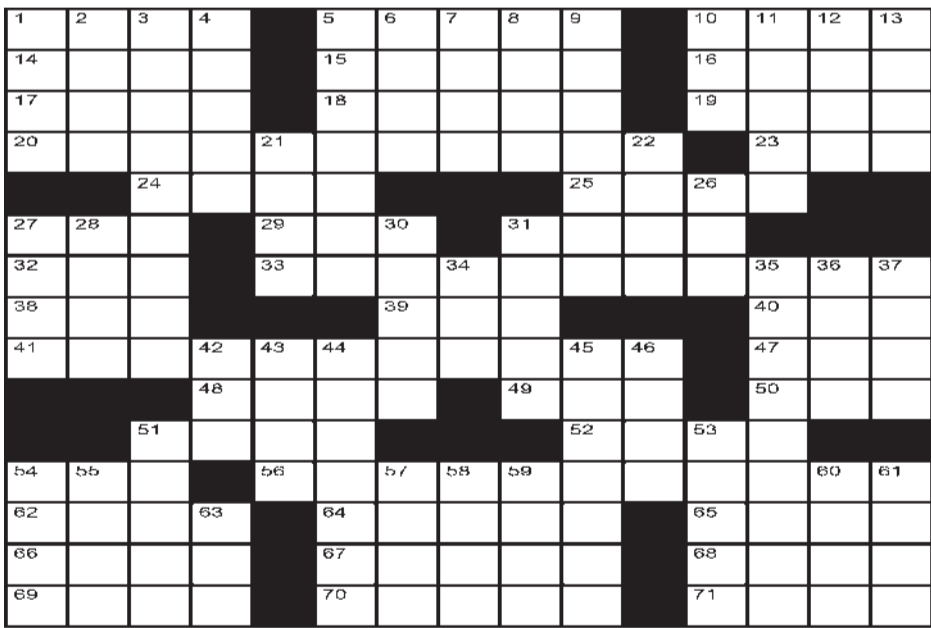
WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ ANSWERS

- Q 1 - Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ 8 7 6 4 3 ♣ J 5 ♦ A 7 6 2 ♣ 10 7
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST
INT Pass 2nd Pass
3rd Pass ?
*Transfer to spades
**4-card spade support, doubleton diamond
What call would you make?
A - This looks like a perfect fit, but are you willing to bid this skinny game? We are. Bid 4S.
- Q 2 - North-South vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ K 8 ♡ 7 3 2 ♢ K 10 9 ♣ A Q J 7 4
SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
1♠ Pass 1st Pass
? What call would you make?
A - With a big honor in our doubleton and three low hearts, we prefer INT to 2H. Bid INT.
- Q 3 - East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ 9 6 5 ♡ A 9 8 4 ♢ Q 9 6 ♣ Q 5 2
Partner opens INT, 15-17, and right-hand opponents passes. What call would you make?
A - We think you should have a 5-card suit before inviting with only 8 points. Pass.
- Q 4 - Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ K Q 7 4 ♡ A J 10 3 ♢ Q 6 4 ♣ A 7
- SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
INT Pass 2nd Pass
? *Transfer to spades
What call would you make?
A - It would be nice to have an agreement like the player in Q1, but most people don't have that agreement. Bid 3S.
- Q 5 - North-South vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ J 10 3 ♣ K 7 4 ♢ K 9 ♣ K J 7 5 4
Partner opens 1S and right-hand opponent passes. What call would you make?
A - Charles Goren would have bid 2C to show 10 points and supported spades later. The modern 2-over-1 style is to bid INT, forcing, and 3S next to show an invitational hand with exactly 3-card support. Neither answer is wrong, but we like INT.
- Q 6 - East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ J 8 ♡ Q 10 9 7 4 ♢ K J 10 6 2 ♣ 3
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST
1♠ Pass 1st Pass
1♠ Pass ?
What call would you make?
A - You can't bid 2D. That would be fourth suit forcing. It would create a game force and it would not show diamonds. Bid INT.

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

THE Daily Commuter Puzzle by Stella Zawistowski

- ACROSS**
- "Read my ___!"
 - Clicked-on images
 - Starter courses, for short
 - Actress Fisher
 - Work of written fiction
 - Lose hold of
 - "I ___ lucky today"
 - Frighten
 - Medicinal amount
 - Poker variety: 3 wds.
 - Middle size: Abbr.
 - Notion
 - Presidential privilege
 - Hook for hanging things
 - Group with pollution standards: Abbr.
 - Grocery section
 - "___ be glad to!"
 - Stick-to-it-iveness
 - Airport agency: Abbr.
 - Altoids holder
 - Ancient
 - Bits on hamburger buns: 2 wds.
 - Our star
 - Like crayons and candles
 - Lion's home
 - Brewed drink
 - Maryland athlete
 - Bubbly drink
 - Supportive undergarment
 - Fitness items for swinging
 - Wealthy
 - Cringe in fear
 - Water, in Spanish
 - China's continent
 - Special surprise
 - Taste of a lollipop
 - Brooklyn's NBA team
 - Looks for
 - Seize



Created by Stella Zawistowski 8/14/25

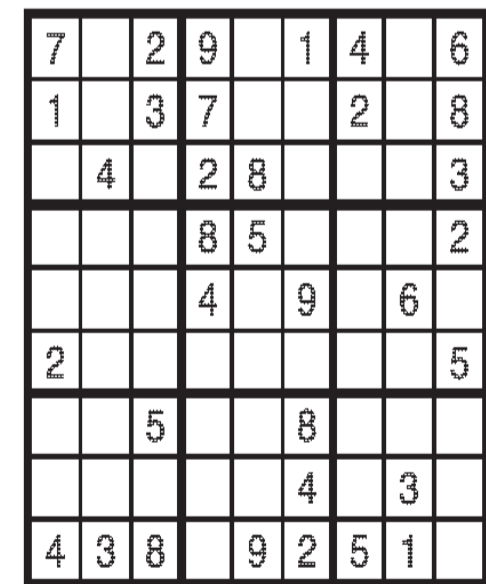
- DOWN**
- Squat or bench press
 - "Got it": 2 wds.
 - Shatter-resistant material
 - Cobb or Caesar
 - Physically fit: 2 wds.
 - 2017 Pixar film
 - The ___ Office
 - Geek
 - Arms of a shirt
 - Contribute
 - TV ad, e.g.
 - Yoga stance
 - Raced
 - Flow slowly (through)
 - Unfreeze
 - Even score
 - Cherry centers
 - "Need anything ___?"
 - Bohemian
 - Had a fancy meal
 - "Sprechen ___ Deutsch?"
 - Longing for the past



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- Hint
- Author Ferber
- Astonishment
- Test grade
- Looks forward to
- Abandons
- Snooty person
- Unspoken
- Handed cards out
- Muffin ingredient
- Stand up
- Ripped
- Overly cute
- Plumbing problem
- Good fortune
- "For Pete's ___!"
- Possesses

SUDOKU

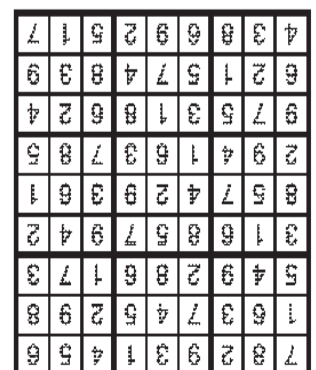


Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

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!



ANSWER:



Dublin-Laurens Circuit Drug Court holds graduation

The Dublin-Laurens Circuit Drug Court Program held its quarterly graduation ceremony in the First African Baptist Church Life Center on Nov. 6. From left: Judge Trey Taylor, Jace Green, Ronald Todd, Quinton Johnson and coordinator Mark Bowers/SPECIAL PHOTO



Proclamation held for Red Ribbon Week

SPECIAL TO THE COURIER HERALD

Mayor Joshua Kight and representatives of the Dublin Housing Authority gathered during a recent proclamation signing declaring October 23-31, 2025 as "Red Ribbon Week," at our newly renovated reopening of the Oconee Gymnasium.

Substance abuse is particularly damaging to one of our most valuable resources, our children, and a contributing factor in the three leading causes of death for teenagers – accidents, homicides and suicides it is the goal of Red Ribbon Week Committee and Mayor Joshua Kight to involve families, schools, businesses, churches, law enforcement agencies and service organizations in all aspects of this

campaign and establish an atmosphere that supports awareness, education and on-going initiatives to prevent illegal drug use.

The Red Ribbon Week Campaign theme promotes family and individual responsibilities for living

healthy, drug-free lifestyles, without illegal drugs or the illegal use of legal drugs. Mayor Joshua Kight would like to encourage citizens of the City of Dublin and Laurens County to recognize the Red Ribbon Week Campaign and its activities.

Thank a Veteran
for Serving on your Behalf.
Bubba's Tire Center
1318 Bellevue Ave. • 478-275-2964



Community officials come out to wish Deputy Bracewell a happy retirement

A retirement celebration for Captain Chris Bracewell was held last Thursday in the Laurens County Commissioner's Board Room for his 38 years of service with the Laurens County Sheriff's Office /PAYTON TOWNS III

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Thank you for your service!

Matt Hatchett
State Representative
District 155

VETERANS DAY

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Thank you for protecting our freedom, our nation, and the values we hold dear.

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Carl Vinson VA holds Trunk or Treat

The Carl Vinson VA Medical Center held its annual Trunk or Treat on its campus Tuesday evening. Candy was given out as participants decorated their trunks and had fun/LYNDIA PRYMULA



Cardinal Stow-A-Way MINI STORAGE

Remembering our Veterans.

478-676-2030

1048 Oak St., Dudley, GA 31022



FCCLA officers attend training

SPECIAL TO THE COURIER HERALD

On Thursday, August 28, 2025, four FCCLA officers of East Laurens High School attended a one-day officer workshop.

There were several break-out sessions in which the officers could attend to gain knowledge of their elected office. In addition, there were sessions on membership growth, competitive events and community service projects. Also, there was focus on group

training and leadership development. The workshop was held at Camp John Hope located in Fort Valley. The workshop was titled DISCOVER Training which focused on "developing individual school chapter officers with vision, energy, and responsibilities". There were over 300 middle and high school FCCLA members attending along with local FCCLA advisers and adult FCCLA officials. FCCLA is the only in-school Career Technical Student Organization (CTSO) which

focuses on the family.

Officers in attendance included: Xio'Naijia Devoe, president; Amira Afflick, Vice-president; Lilliana Graves, treasurer; and Abigail Contreras, secretary. The local adviser is Ms. Angela Brazeal.

Gratitude, Respect & Best Wishes to America's Veterans

To our men and women in uniform, both past and present, thank you for your service to this country. We salute your patriotism, courage, hard work, loyalty and dedication, and we appreciate all of the sacrifices you have made to protect the freedoms we cherish.

Farmers State Bank

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VETERANS DAY

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Please join us in showing appreciation on Saturday,
November 11th, 2025 for the veterans and troops
whose service and sacrifice continue to protect our
freedom and the American way of life.

1-877-275-2660

UGA ARCHWAY

Continued from page 1

to see a 5 percent increase in population by the year 2040, while all neighboring counties will see a decline in the number of residents. Laurens is the only county in the area to experience more births than deaths in 2024, but only by a thin margin. There were 631 recorded deaths last year and 637 births.

Other data points include graduation rates, with Laurens County at 89.3 percent and Dublin City at 94 percent. Neighboring Bleckley County was the only other school with an above

90 percent graduation rate, and the only school system to see an increase in the K-12 student enrollment from 2014 to 2024.

Laurens County has a 19.2 percent poverty rate with a median household income of about \$56,000.

"This is a fantastic updated compilation, in a single document, that will help us market the site," Griggs said.

The second study, the "Economic Development Scenarios for Laurens County," aims to help local leaders plan for which kind of project would be the best fit for the site and

the area. The study suggests traditional employers like automotive and healthcare manufacturing facilities and other projects, including power generation and data centers. Each potential project could generate jobs and boost the local tax digest.

In the end, Griggs said, it's about finding the right business that a good fit for the community and will ignite additional investment in the Mega Site.

"A good example is the Hwashin plant," Griggs said. "We invested in that site (the Ga. 257 site) to attract a project. Then it opens the door to other funding."

CHURCH GUNMAN

Continued from page 1

support from our community. Please continue to keep our church family, local law enforcement and community in your prayers as we move forward together in faith and gratitude."

Sheriff's Capt. Sid Harrison trains church security teams, as well as the security teams for Laurens County Schools. He talked with a church official involved in the threat at Brewton Baptist and was told a church member alerted them about a suspicious man who was on the back part of the church's property. Two men from the church approached the man to see what was going on and discovered he

had a loaded handgun on him.

"They had to draw down on him and call 911 to get some help there," Harrison said. "They did exactly what they needed to do to secure the situation. ... Praise God that nobody got hurt."

Law enforcement arrived about five minutes later, Harrison said. Church security teams go to the shooting range where Harrison trains them on how to secure and protect their congregation.

"They all do well," he said. "Those who come are very serious about this. We have a host of churches in the area who plan for this. I got a call last night about a church setting up a time soon to get (their team)

more organized."

To reach out to Harrison about church security teams, call the sheriff's office at (478) 272-1522, ask for Jackie Foster and she will relay it to Harrison.

"I'll come out and do a threat assessment and see what the facility looks like," Harrison said. "We'll talk very informally about what their goals are. Simple is best. We don't need SWAT at church. We just need decent common-sense folks to be alert and tell somebody when they see something." That's what happened at Brewton. Somebody saw something that wasn't exactly right and they made a comment and went to check on it."

CITY COUNCIL

Continued from page 1

Moore, Hillside, Sherwood, Rutland, Burch, Highland and Hudson.

"We rely on our engineering department to survey the streets in town and objectively tell us which ones are in the worst condition," Kight said. "They have their 50 worst streets list and we just go down the list. It's great that we are at least getting to 18 of them."

At the start of the meeting, Kight congratulated Tess Godfrey and Sara Kolbie for being re-elected and Brandon Chain for being elected to an at-large city council seat in the Nov. 4 election.

"I want to also thank the candidates who qualified and ran a good race and didn't get elected but put their names out there," Kight said. "It requires people to take that leap of faith. You can feel very exposed and vulnerable because you are basically putting yourself out there and seeing what the community is going to say."

Kight encouraged those candidates to stay involved in city issues.

"If you are interested in doing something for the city, come and talk with us," the mayor said. "There are plenty of boards and plenty of other ways to serve."

Kight met with Chain earlier Thursday.

"He already has some ideas that he is talking about," Kight said. "I think we have a good town. We are facing a lot of difficulties right now. Everybody knows some of the issues going on. We're a community. We're

friends and neighbors, and we're going to pull through this and everything is going to be fine. We just need to keep focusing on the things that are important.

"For us as a city, that is safe neighborhoods and good jobs. If we keep those basic things in mind, we'll be just fine as a town and just fine as a community."

In other meeting news, the council:

- Approved purchasing the services of cemetery mapping with Omega Mapping Services for a total cost of \$95,952. This will provide digital mapping and ground-penetrating radar of the city's three cemeteries: Northview Cemetery, Cross the Creek Cemetery and Old Dublin Cemetery.

"We have a very antiquated system right now of tracking our cemeteries," Powell said. "We are hoping to get this digitized and in good shape."

- Approved purchasing two Massey Furgeson 4710 four-wheel drive cab tractors from Atlantic & Southern Equipment for the city's Public Work Department in the amount of \$71,232.52 each for a total of \$142,465.04.

"We have a substantial amount of right-of-way that we use these tractors for to maintain and keep cut," Powell said. "Unfortunately, we have two that are down and they need to be replaced. The public knows very quickly and we get phone calls about how grown up the right-of-way is."

- Postponed the second reading of an ordinance to provide comprehensive reg-

ulations for the safe and orderly development of recreational vehicles parks.

- Approved an ordinance to rezone four parcels of South Church Street that was zoned for manufacturing to single family residential following a second reading following a public hearing.

- Approved regulations for fences, including height limits, materials and location after a second reading and public hearing. This will allow modification for the landscape buffer requirements, strengthening the city's ability to require sufficient buffers between incompatible uses. It also reduces the parking requirements for public housing projects, subject to approval by the city manager.

- Approved a resolution to acknowledge a memorandum of understanding for a capital investment that YKK AP America Inc. is going to make at their facility. The tax abatement scheduled is an estimated \$50,000 during a period of five years.

- Approved a resolution to encourage state legislators to make adjustments to keep the Georgia's Historic Tax Credit program functional. The city joins with the Downtown Development Authority and others around the state to take action.

- Approved vehicles, equipment and other items as a declaration of surplus.

FRANCE TRIP

Continued from page 1

of patriotic songs and presentations honoring each branch of the military sought not only to pay homage to those who served but also instill patriotism in students.

"I've always loved the WWII guys, and he was one of my favorites. We were so close," Herring said. "He would talk about [his experiences] and tell me about France. He became like a grandfather to me."

After a 32-year career in education, Herring retired in 2012. She began traveling the world with a group of area retired teachers, visiting places in Italy and Greece. Recently the group traveled to France, and Herring made sure the group made the journey to Normandy, where Allied troops landed on June 6, 1944 to begin the fight to save Europe from the Nazi regime.

Tucked away in her luggage was a photograph of a young soldier in his uniform - an image of her departed friend Lester Porter.

"I didn't know how I was going to do it, but that picture was going to stay there because he never got to go," Herring said.

As the group made its way to the beaches of Normandy, where many young soldiers met their fate, Herring told her traveling companions about her plan, along with a few of Porter's war tales. There was much to see in Normandy, from the craters left by shell blasts and bullet-marked cathedrals, which forever illustrate the chaos of battle, to the serene cemeteries and monuments



Herring points out a bullet hole in column in a French cathedral. The former teacher travels the world with a group of area retired educators. The group recently traveled to France where it visited several World War II sites and memorials/SPECIAL PHOTO

eternally recognizing the sacrifices made that day. The schedule was tight, but while visiting the Normandy American Cemetery the tour guide gave the group 15 minutes to explore and walk around.

Inside the cemetery is a bronze statue by American artist Donald De Lue. The 22-foot-tall monument, named "The Spirit of American Youth Rising from the Waves," was placed in the 1950s, watching over the American dead and honoring those who fought in Europe. It was a fitting spot to leave the framed photo of the young soldier from

Dublin, Georgia, along with an American flag and a bouquet of flowers.

"It was really emotional for me," Herring said. "I couldn't have planned it any better."

Behind the photo in the frame were clippings and notes, detailing Porter's identity and adventures for whoever collected the photo. Afterwards, the group headed to the City of Light to take in the more luxurious side of France. But the highlight of the trip, Herring said, will forever be honoring her friend.

"This outdoes Paris," she said.

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