

Porter transitioning into emeritus role
National search under way for new GTLN executive director

SPECIAL TO THE COURIER HERALD

The Georgia Trust for Local News was created to prevent news deserts and stimulate creative solutions to build sustainable journalism in Middle Georgia. Those aims have been met, with the Georgia Trust now boasting a portfolio of 20 community titles, ranging from some of the state's oldest newspapers to the start-up The Macon Melody.

The National Trust for Local News's successful launch of the Georgia Trust wouldn't have been possible without DuBose Porter, a 40-year veteran of newspaper publishing who has



PORTER

served as executive director since the National Trust for Local News established the state subsidiary in 2024. Having set the Georgia Trust on a path for enduring success, Porter will retire as executive director on Feb. 2 and take on a publisher

emeritus role focused on fundraising, partnerships and acquisitions.

With Porter's transition, the National Trust has launched a nationwide search for his successor. This new executive director will be charged with leading and advancing the Georgia Trust's general operations and business partnerships, while driving editorial, audience and advertising strategy; product innovation; and revenue growth. Danyale Starley, currently serving as controller for the Georgia Trust, will step into the role of interim executive director beginning Feb. 2 and until a new leader is selected.

"This transition reflects

the widening scope of both our statewide mission and our ambitions for transformational reach," said Tom Wiley, CEO of the National Trust for Local News. "Our next stage of growth at the Georgia Trust requires an energized operational leader paired with a dedicated statewide ambassador who can deepen philanthropic investment and cultivate new market opportunities. We're pleased DuBose Porter, a longtime leading force in the community, will remain with us as we transition the Georgia Trust to its new phase of development and innovation."

A longtime news publisher and public servant, Porter

serves on the board of directors for the Georgia Press Association, of which he's past president, and the Georgia First Amendment Foundation. He brought his deep knowledge of the strengths and challenges facing rural newspapers to his work with the Georgia Trust as he led the organization through its founding years.

Porter's history in community newspapers runs deep. He and Griffin Lovett first purchased The Courier Herald in his native Dublin in 1987.

Between 1998 and 2004, Porter and Lovett purchased several neighboring weeklies, making The Courier Herald the flagship

of their publishing company. Following another expansion between 2021 and 2023, the company grew to own 18 newspapers prior to its acquisition by the Georgia Trust in 2024.

Under Porter's tenure, the Georgia Trust for Local News publications earned 17 awards from the Georgia Press Association's Better Newspaper Contest, including the Newspaper of Excellence Award for The Courier Herald and The Albany Herald.

"We have a strong history of impactful, quality journalism here in the

PORTER

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Old Christmas trees sit in a rolloff bin in the Home Depot parking lot before they're put in the chipper/PAYTON TOWNS III

Bring One for the Chipper kicks off big year for KDLB

By PAYTON TOWNS III
Senior Reporter

The warm weather made for a nice day during the Bring One for the Chipper event last weekend. In fact, it felt more like a summer morning than the second week in January.

"The weather is always interesting," said Chip Wilson with Keep Dublin-Laurens Beautiful. "We can always count on people showing up out here. We can't always count on the weather to be good."

In fact, the weather

the previous Saturday was rainy, sometimes pouring down heavily on the old Christmas trees that had been left in a rolloff bin since the day after Christmas.

"There must have been at least 80 trees in that thing last week," Wilson said. "They all disappeared overnight."

Which meant people came by and took them out, most likely to take to their pond or a body of wa-



CHIPPER

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A member of Boy Scout Troup 56 takes an old Christmas tree to the pile to be shredded/PAYTON TOWNS III

DHS director says band in need of more equipment

By RODNEY MANLEY
Staff Reporter

Dublin High School's band director told City Board of Education members on Monday that the band program is in dire need of new instruments.

Marcus Rayner said the lack of decent and affordable instruments are the biggest detriment to recruiting new students and growing the program. The band does not have a set budget from the school board, and relies on student fees, fundraisers and sponsorships.

"Quality produces quality," said Rayner, who was accompanied by several band members. "It's very hard turning students away because we could not outfit them because we don't have adequate funding – and adequate instruments to put in their hands."

Rayner submitted a request for \$20,000 for next year's budget to help pay for instrument repairs, "consumable" items such as reeds and mouthpieces and updated music. He also noted the new budget should also include \$10,000 in federal grants to purchase new band equipment and to replace instruments that are no longer repairable.

In his presentation, Rayner said the program needs several costly large instrument purchases that could cost an estimated \$110,000.

The request might seem preposterous, considering the school system is broke and facing a projected \$13 million deficit. However, the system still receives millions in revenue from the one penny sales tax – EPLOST – which can only be spent on capital projects, such as buildings, infrastructure, technology and equipment.

The tax cannot be used for operating expenses, such as salaries.

Board member James Lanier noted that band equipment was included as a proposed expenditure when the ESPLOST referendum was approved by city voters last November.

"I want to erase excuses," Rayner said.

DUBLIN BAND

Continued on page 9

Bell uses laughter to get point across at Celebrate Recovery

By PAYTON TOWNS III
Senior Reporter

Christian comedian Mickey Bell stood in front of a group of people attending Celebrate Recovery and had them laughing about life. Then he hit them with the revelation that he is battling depression.

"I kind of know where you are coming from," Bell said. "I've been there and still fight it. We have to let people know, especially inside the church. There are some churches where you can't admit you have a problem. They will tell you that

you are not spiritual enough, Christian enough, you're not praying enough and you don't have enough faith and that's not the case. We have to start helping these people instead of beating them up and let them realize that this is something you have to deal with and you have to deal with it on a daily basis."

Bell was the guest speaker at the event held at Dudley Baptist Church on Jan. 12. Russ Falk and James Giddens have been leading Celebrate Recovery for 16 years, bouncing around to different churches and loca-

tions. The meetings are now being held at Dudley Baptist Church, 1425 Second St.

"The biggest problem we've had is having help," Falk said. "The staff at Dudley Baptist Church has bent over backwards and that makes it nice."

Falk said they received an email from Bell wanting to come speak to the local Celebrate Recovery group.

"We didn't go public with it because we are supposed to have anonymity in the CR," Falk said. "We are a 12-step program similar to AA and NA, but the higher



Christian comedian Mickey Bell speaks at a Celebrate Recovery meeting held at Dudley Baptist Church on Monday/PAYTON TOWNS III

power is Jesus Christ. We teach what Jesus taught to help you with hurts, habits and hangups. The answers are the same, but it's all about knowing Jesus, trusting Jesus and having faith in Jesus. People have not been exposed to this and people have such dysfunctional families when growing up. Their stories are horrendous. To offer an answer

and come along side of them is what we try to do."

Bell has spoken at more than 120 Celebrate Recovery meetings in 2025.

"CR covers all different types of people," Bell said. "Grief, overeating, abandonment issues and all sorts of stuff that they deal with. I've been dedicating my time to go in and do these Celebrate Recovery meetings. It's my

way of giving back. I go in, provide a little laughter and share my story with them and just leave them with some encouragement."

Bell knows that those in CR need encouragement.

"When you go to a Celebrate Recovery meeting, or any type of meeting where

CELEBRATE RECOVERY
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OBITUARIES



Hazel G. Smith Thompson

Mrs. Hazel G. Smith Thompson, 84, beloved wife of Billy Thompson of Adrian passed away peacefully on Tuesday morning, Jan. 6, 2026 at Fairview Park Hospital in Dublin.

A native and lifelong resident of the Scott Community, she was the youngest of three children born to the late Jim Smith and Velma Toler Smith. Being raised on a farm, at an early age she became accustomed to work; whether it was in the cotton field, tobacco field or any of the many other chores needing to be done. She attended the Scott School, and while there she caught the eye of Billy Thompson, whom would become her husband in 1959. Mrs. Thompson had worked at various textile and garment factories in the community before working as a Parapro at the Adrian School. She later accepted employment with the Laurens County School System, working in the cafeteria at East Laurens Primary School for 20 years until retiring in 2003. While there she became famous for her rolls and pimento cheese. While working other full time jobs she helped her husband at the family store in Scott, Billy's Superette and Grocery. While the store was open, the U. S. Post Office closed their then present location and moved into the Superette, making Mrs. Thompson the unofficial Post Mistress.

She enjoyed yardwork, tending her flowers and cutting grass.

Mrs. Thompson was quiet, genuine and possessed a godly spirit of concern for others. She and her husband have been lifelong members at the Mt. Olive Church of the Nazarene in Wrightsville.

In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by a brother, Carlos Smith and a son in law, Rev. Brent Danielson.

Mrs. Thompson leaves behind, her husband of 67 years, Billy Thompson, their children, Patricia Danielson, Dublin, Ga., Matthew Bill Thompson, Adrian, Ga., her only surviving sibling, Mildred Knight, two grandchildren, Jennifer Lambdin, Rebekah Danielson, four great grandchildren, Emma Danielson, Weston Malott, Owen Pucel, Ayden Beaudry and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were conducted at 2 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 10, 2026 at Mt. Olive Church of the Nazarene in Wrightsville with Pastor

Jimmy Wright officiating.

Mrs. Thompson was laid to rest in the Mt. Olive Church Cemetery.

Serving as pallbearers were: Tyler Stone, Kenny Wilcher, Chris Knight, Jim Smith, Russ Cherry and Dee Wilkerson.

Her family received friends on Friday, at the church, from 1:30 p.m. until the hour of service.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in her memory may be made, in her memory, to the Widows Oil Ministry Inc., c/o Pam Otts, 725 Manning Dr., Dublin, GA 31027 or VENMO @ widowsoilministry

Please share a memory, leave a condolence message and sign the online guest register at www.sammons-funeralhome.com.

Sammons Funeral Home, Family Owned and Operated Since 1917. 912-529-4411 or 478-455-0671

Rhonda Neal Harrell

Funeral services for Rhonda Neal Harrell, 74, will be held at 11 a.m. Monday, Jan. 19, 2026, in the Chan Stanley Memorial Chapel of Stanley Funeral Home and Crematory, with interment to follow at Dublin Memorial Gardens. Rev. Charlie Hodges will officiate.

Mrs. Harrell was born Nov. 17, 1951, in Alamo, Georgia. She was the daughter of the late Brooks Neal and Martha White Neal. She was of the Baptist Faith. She retired from Belk Department Store. Mrs. Harrell passed away Thursday, Jan.15, 2026, at her residence surrounded by family.

Mrs. Harrell is survived by her husband, Billy Gene Harrell of Alamo; daughter; Anna Viellele of Savannah; three stepsons, Wesley Harrell of Atlanta, Billy Harrell, Jr. of Eatonton, and Ben Harrell of Eatonton; a brother, Monty Neal of Macon; six grandchildren, Camille, Skylar, Ezabelle, Mia, Max, and Serenity; and two great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers will be Amos Vinson, Randy Campbell, Billy Harrell, Jr, Wesley Harrell, Tyler McClain, and Seth Morton.

The family will receive friends from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 18, 2026,

at the funeral home.

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



Myrtice "Myrt" Estelle Colley Young

Mrs. Myrtice "Myrt" Estelle Colley Young, age 97, beloved wife of the late Ellie J. Young, of the Rockledge Community, passed away on Wednesday morning, Jan. 14, 2026 at Scott Health and Rehabilitation Center in Scott, Ga.

Born in Blackshear, Georgia, she was the second oldest of four children born to the late Gordon Franklin Colley and Ora Lee Cornelius Colley. She grew up in Blackshear and was a graduate of Pierce County High School. After high school she married Edward Elliott Altman with whom she had three children. She had worked in the cafeteria within the Laurens County School System, the East Dublin Pharmacy and was a volunteer with Meals on Wheels. Her husband passed away in 1998. She later married Mr. Ellie J. Young, who passed away in 2012.

Mrs. Young had been a longtime member of Union Baptist Church and was presently the oldest living member.

In addition to her husbands, she is preceded in death by her daughter, Carol Altman Powell, a son, Paul Altman, daughter in

Kemp budget about affordability

By TY TAGAMI
Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA — Gov. Brian Kemp’s last budget proposal would stockpile billions for any rough economy one of his successors might encounter while also asking lawmakers to return over \$1 billion to taxpayers.

In his eighth and final state of the state address Thursday, Kemp said his budget proposal to the Georgia General Assembly will give average rebates of \$250 per individual taxpayer plus a fifth of a percentage point reduction to the state income tax rate, lowering it to 4.99%.

Like perhaps every other politician, Kemp nodded to what is shaping up to be a dominant issue in the upcoming elections: affordability.

“The reality is too many of our citizens are still struggling to make ends meet each and every day because costs are still too high,” he said, speaking

law, Margaret Altman and siblings, Lewis Colley and Frances McCullars.

She leaves behind, one son, Ronnie Altman, Magnolia, Texas, a sister, Shirley Fae Stalvey, Callahan, Fla., 10 grandchildren, many great-grandchildren, one great-great-grand-daughter and many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be conducted at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 18, 2026 at the Union Baptist Church in the Rockledge Community with Pastors Barron Powell and Jordy Barwick officiating.

Mrs. Young will be laid to rest beside her daughter in the Thigpen Cemetery, Rockledge.

Her family will receive friends on Sunday, from 1 p.m. – 2 p.m. at the church.

Please share a memory, leave a condolence message and sign the online guest register at www.sammons-funeralhome.com.

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from the well of the Georgia House. “Groceries, rent, insurance, clothes for the kids, it all adds up to more than it used to.”

He said if lawmakers approve his rebate his administration will have returned over \$7.5 billion in surplus funds over the past four years. Yet, the state would retain \$10 billion in reserves, enough to run government for three months.

Kemp’s budget proposal spends money, too, on roads, on pay supplements, on retirement benefits and, for the first time in state history, on needs-based scholarships for higher education.

But there were no big gestures about the rising cost of health care at a time when many in the state are poised to lose their insurance as federal premium tax credits expire for policies under the Affordable Care Act, or ACA.

“We have been talking about expanding Medicaid year after year. And we know that the ACA subsidies have expired,” Rep. Carolyn Hugley, D-Columbus, said after Kemp’s speech. “There are cuts to Medicaid coming down to us from the federal government. That’s a real challenge, and I’m surprised that it was not mentioned.”

Hugley, who is the House minority leader, also said Kemp’s rebates would do little to help struggling families.

“They’re thinking about child care. They’re thinking about paying rent,” she said. “But a one-time 250 or a one-time 500, what is that really going to do?”

But even she had praise for Kemp’s proposal to infuse a needs-based scholarship fund called Georgia DREAMS with a one-time \$325 million grant to serve as an endowment, something Democrats have been requesting for years.

On the House floor, after Kemp left, Rep. Al Williams, D-Midway, praised the governor for removing an abiding stigma around college funding for students from low-income families.

“This is the first governor since 1992 who has used the words ‘needs based,’” he said. “Thank you.”

The idea has also been floated in the Senate, where a bipartisan study committee recommended late last year that the state provide need based financial aid like 48 other states.

Kemp is proposing billions in other new spending, in addition to the nearly \$1.2 billion rebate and the ongoing annualized \$750 million cost of the income tax cut.

He didn’t mention it Thursday, but in a speech the day before at a state Chamber of Commerce event he revealed \$2 billion in his budget request to relieve congestion on I-75 south of Atlanta and on Georga 316 from Atlanta to Athens. His budget also includes \$350 million for local road and bridge improvements.

And Kemp would help state employees with their living costs by giving a \$2,000 pay supplement to all of them, including educators and state public safety officers.

The Courier Herald

LOCAL MATTERS

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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.

BIRTHDAYS

- Jan.17
Alphenia Foreman
- Jan.18
Franklin Mathis
- Jan.19
Patrick Edwards
Wade Floyd
Ronnie Freeland
Marlon Pooler

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NEWS DIGEST

The Laurens County Board of Commissioners meeting will be held at noon on Jan. 20. The agenda follows:

- Call to order
- Invocation
- Approval meeting minutes for Jan. 6
- Other business
- Citizen comments
- Adjourn

The Dublin-Laurens Land Bank board meeting will be held in the city hall international board room at noon on Tuesday, Jan. 20. The agenda follows:

- Meeting called to order
- Invocation
- Approval of Dec. 16, 2025 minutes and treasurer’s report
- Welcome of guests
- Welcome and acknowledgement of board members
- Presentation of GICH
- Old business
- New business
- Property updates
- Executive session

- Meeting adjourned

The Laurens County Board of Education will hold a called work session at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 20. The agenda follows:

- Call to order
- Invocation
- Pledge
- Approval of agenda
- Discussion: Construction Professional to perform CM at Rick Services for East Laurens Elementary School and East Laurens Middle School Athletic Complex
- Executive session
- Personnel
- FY 27 certified personnel - List A or List B
- Adjourn

The Laurens County Board of Education will hold a called meeting at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 22. The agenda follows:

- Call to order
- Invocation
- Pledge
- Approval of agenda
- Approval of the Con-

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struction Professional to perform CM at Rick Services for East Laurens Elementary School and East Laurens Middle School Athletic Complex

- Executive session
- Personnel
- FY 27 certified personnel

- Approval of personnel
- Approval of FY27 certified personnel
- List A
- List B
- Superintendent and board member comments
- Adjourn

27 men called to report after draft

Dublin Courier -Herald, Dispatch, and Press

Clerk Walter Daniells of Draft Board No. Two announced a list of 27 men today who are being ordered to report for physical examination next Monday.

The examination will take place at 7 p.m at the office of Dr. O.H. Cheek here.

Men called to take the examination are:

- John Francis Currie - Glenwood, Route 2
- Henry Nelms - Alamo, Route 1
- George Griffin Hogan - Dexter
- James Lamar Waldrep - Dublin, Route 5
- James Charley Kelly - Cadwell, Route 1
- O.C.Brown - Dudley, Route 1
- James Gordon - Chauncy, Route 1
- M.C. Kemp - Montrose, RFD
- Palmer Lee Rozier - Montrose, RFD
- J.D. Smith - Dudley
- Hester Edward Warren - Dublin, Route 5
- Larther Dupree - Montrose
- Murrell Dean Collins - Cadwell, Route 1
- Hudson Thomas Hall - Dublin, Route 2
- James Thomas - Montrose, Route 1
- Anthony Macee Rozar - Dublin, Route 4
- Carolyn James Smith - Dudley
- Willie Davis Burch - Cadwell
- Thomas Mark Scott - Dublin, Route 5
- James Oliver Vaughn - Dublin, Route 5
- Cleo Butler - Dublin, Route 3
- Norman Kellar- Rentz, Route 1
- Roy Carlton Ward - Dexter, Route 1
- U.A. (Jack) Morgan - Cadwell, Route 1
- Thomas Judson Windham - Glenwood, RFD

Dr. E.B. Claxton, medical examiner for Board 2, has requested Drs. William C. Thompson, C.A. Hodges, O.H. Cheek, and C.G. Moye to assist in these examinations.

CADWELL SUPT. LEAVING

Cadwell High School Superintendent Wilkins Smith has tendered his resignation to Laurens County School Superintendent Elbert Mullis, effective January 24 in order that he may accept a position offered to him by Jordon High School officials of Columbus.

Superintendent Smith has been at Cadwell for the past two years and has established a fine record since assuming the Superintendency.

The Cadwell school has

been on the State Accredited list for the past two year and has gained recognition throughout the Sixth District scholastically as well as athletically.

Superintendent Smith is one of the youngest men in administrative work in the state and has established records at the various institutions where he has worked, having previously taught at Blackshear and at Pavo.

In joining the Jordon faculty, he will join in one of the largest high schools in the state, a newly established school with growing recognition in the state.

He will be connected with the Science Department.

DEXTER HONOR PUPILS

Jane Jolley, reporter from Dexter High School, has submitted the following list of honor students:

- First Grade: Billy Garrett Nellie Mullis C.F. Green Katherline Horne Delano Butler LaVerne Kitchens Vivian Hobbs Faye Warren
- Second Grade: Helen Patisaul Russell Brown Carolyn Lord Imogene Lord Julian Davis Franklyn Fennell Lucille Woodard Prangle Garnto
- Third Grade: Mary Nell Garrett
- Fourth Grade: Faye Clark Mabeline Knight Virginia Patisaul Bobby Daniels Eugene McCant Cora Lee Warren Royce Lord Betty Jean Brown Joyce Witherington Dorothy Jolly Lynara Dylees
- Fifth Grade: Gerald Lord Muriel Dozier John Williams Warren White Lois White
- Sixth Grade: James Brown Jeanette Lord Jewel Patisaul
- Seventh Grade: Robbie Nell Graham Prentice Gilbert Nontine Gilbert Sara Kitchens Christine Ezell Lawrence Warren Earl Thomas Howard Warren Mildred Ward Laura Nell Dykes
- Eighth Grade: Edsel Silas Nell Brown Bessie Mullis
- Ninth Grade: J.B.Thomas Joyce Waites

- Tenth Grade: Grace Edwards James Reese Mary Lee Reese Emory Collins
- Eleventh Grade: Callie Mae Bass

COLORED NEWS WPA Program

The program at Mt. Moriah Baptist Church was a success on Monday night.

A full house with both white and colored present.

Following the recital of the adult students, many of the white people spoke words encouraging to both teacher and pupils. We had present some of the white WPA teachers who also spoke on the program. The white people were interested in the program; each one made a donation to help buy wood and fuel to carry on such wonderful work.

We don't find a pastor more interested in WPA program than Rev. J.G. Hogan and his good people who are very much pleased with the class in this section of the city - Christine Driskell, WPA teacher.

Jackson Street Chapel C.M.E.

To the members and friends of Jackson Chapel, you are cordially invited to be present to hear Rev. Wilson, the Presiding Elder of the Savannah District at 11:00 on Sunday morning and at 8:00 on Sunday night.

I am asking all leaders to be present with a round report. All boards have a written report.

- J.D. Hill, PC.
- Rev. J.W. Wilson, P.E.
- Personals

Mr. James Thomas, senior, and family left for Savannah o December 26th, where they will make their home for some time.

Mr. Thomas has been a well known farmer of Laurens County for the past 34 years and much success is wished for him in his new occupation.

IRISH WIN GAME

By Barney Price
Dublin High Irishmen drove home another victory last night in the Hargrove Gym when they downed the Sandersville cagers 43-20.

With Albert Clark taking the lead for the Irishmen, the Sandersville boys faded away in the first quarter, never to overcome the 12 points lead. With Clark cracking the basket in the first half for the locals, the Irishmen held an 18 point lead at the half.

In the second half the Sandersville cagers came back to make 14 points, but the Irish worked the ball under the basket for 21 points.

Clark was the big noise for the locals last night. He

sank 22 of the 43 points for the Irish. Thompson, who is playing first string basket ball this year, showed up very good last night against the visitors.

The game was more or less one-sided for the Dublin Irishmen.

- The Dublin line-up: Braddy Bryans Clark Thompson Smalley
- Subs: Mills, Kersey, Bradshaw, Hancock

DIXON HEADS MASONS

O.M. Dixon was elected Worshipful Master of the Thaggard Lodge No. 460 F.& A.M. of Rentz at a recent meeting for election of officers.

He is serving his third year as Master of the Lodge.

Other officers to serve with him this year are the following:

- L.H. Currie -Senior Warden

- Oscar Rowe - Junior Warden

- W.W. Register - Secretary

- Homer Faircloth - Senior Deacon

- A.B. Fountain - Junior Deacon

- Claxton Rowe - Senior Steward

- R.L. Collins - Treasurer

- G.W. Woodard - Tyler

This past year has meant very much to the lodge and members, one of the officers said today, and all members are looking forward to the new year for greater fellowship and happiness.

LAURENS 4-H BOY HONORED

James Lowery, Route 7, Dublin, was recently awarded a gold medal for winning the 4-H Club General Excellence Contest in Laurens County.

"Each year the outstanding Club boy in each county is determined by his previous records and activities," said Laurens County Agent H.A. Edge.

"He is judged on his demonstrated leadership and his farming and livestock abilities.

"The records of each of the county winners are compared in the State office of the Agricultural Extension. The boy with the outstanding record has the honor of being one of the two boys sent from Georgia to the National 4-H Club Camp in Washington, D.C., and the boys with next highest accomplishments are included among Georgia's representatives at the National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago, Illinois."



By HARRIETT CLAXTON

CADWELL TRUSTEES NAMED

At an organizational meeting in Cadwell, trustees for the Cadwell Consolidated School were named, as follows:

- Chairman - Walter Daniell

- Secretary and Treasurer - L.K. Smith

- Members - H.B. Graham, N.J. Stuckey, Freeman Mullis

Mr. Graham and Mr. Mullis are new members of the Board.

PROFESSOR ENTERTAINS BAND

By Barney Price
Dublin Senior High School Band members enjoyed a band dance given them last night in the senior high school cafeteria by Professor Jack Powell, who is the high school band director.

The dance started at 8:30 last night and lasted until 11:30. Refreshments were served all throughout the dance, and everybody had a swell time. Music was furnished by a nickelodian.

Those attending the dance were

- Billy Bryans Ruth Baggett Rowe Beacham Mazie Spivey Cliff Prince Floyd Horton George Powell Milo Smith Olan Kersey Robert Thompson Albert Clark Betty Page Lamar Hatcher Bett Pearson Charlotte Hodges Jack Tanner Maria Waldron Jane Chapman Gene Scarborough James Hutchinson Newton Morris Lester Porter Marilyn Miller Blanche Coleman Louise Rountree Trabue Daley Bob Dunham Margaret Hicks Billy Scarborough Caroline Brigham

Nobody was allowed to enter the dance unless they were students at Dublin High School.

Also present were Miss Joiner, Miss Stith, Miss Tennille, Burton Hancock, Clifford Etheridge, and Julian Rachels.

BETHSAIDA ITEMS

Kenneth Stalcupe of Anderson, Indiana, was the guest of Miss Catharine and Wilmer Brown during the Christmas holidays.

Misses Martha, Virginia, and Sue Cochran of Atlanta and Jimmie Hill of Tennessee were weekend guests of Misses Mary and Louis Ward.

Miss Bertha Rutland was among the visitors at Bethesda on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Mose Cannon were visitors at church on Sunday night.

Mrs. Hattie Register has returned from a visit in Macon with her son, Otto, and Mrs. Register.

Mrs. J.M. Wolfe, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Wolfe, Misses Esther and Martha Wolfe spent New Year's Day in Macon with relatives. They were accompanied home by Mrs. H.P. Hartley, mother of Mrs. J.S. Wolfe.

Miss Yvonne Perry has returned to her home in Jacksonville, Florida, after a holiday visit here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. White Perry and family.

NEW BETHEL NEWS

Velma B. Lee, Reporter
Friends of H.C. (Uncle Henry) Lee are glad to see that he is improving after a serious illness and hope he will soon be well and out again.

John Hatfield of Jeffersonville recently visited Mr. and Mrs. Joe Hatfield.

Mrs. Ruth C. Allgood and children attended a family dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H.C. Coleman in Cadwell.

Mr. and Mrs. J.F. Woodard of Rentz visited Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Achord recently.

Mrs. Margaret Wright was a recent visitor of Mr. and Mrs. J.F. Williams.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Davidson have returned from Glenville where they paid a short visit with relatives.

Betty Daniel was a recent guest of Sara Childers.

Job Opening: Maintenance Supervisor

Housing Authority of the City of Wrightsville

The Housing Authority of the City of Wrightsville is seeking a **Maintenance Supervisor** to lead and manage our maintenance operations. This position reports directly to the Executive Director and plays a key role in ensuring the upkeep and modernization of our properties.

Key Responsibilities:

- Supervise and schedule maintenance staff for work orders, routine and preventive maintenance, and vacancy preparation.
- Completion of daily work orders and unit turnovers.
- Oversee modernization projects and ensure compliance with HUD standards.
- Conduct inspections of units, grounds, and facilities.
- Manage inventory, procurement, and vendor relations.
- Train staff in safety procedures and regulatory compliance.
- Respond to emergency maintenance issues promptly (Will be required to be on call every other weekend for emergencies only)

Qualifications:

- High School diploma or GED required; college education preferred.
- Minimum two years of maintenance-related experience with knowledge of carpentry, plumbing, electrical, HVAC, and grounds maintenance.
- Valid Georgia driver's license and ability to pass background and drug screening.
- Certifications in HVAC, Plumbing, or Electrical are highly desirable.

Benefits:

- Competitive salary
- Paid leave
- Company-provided insurance
- Company-provided vehicle
- 4-day work week
- Retirement plan
- Opportunities for training and professional development
- Positive work environment serving the community

Resumes can be emailed to kevin@wrightsvillehousing.com or Mailed: Kevin Price C/O Wrightsville Housing Authority P.O. Box 190 Wrightsville, GA 31096.

Moment of Inspiration

Which Jesus Are You Following?

Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. Matthew 16:24

It is easy to say we follow Jesus, but an important question remains: are we following the Jesus revealed in Scripture, or a version shaped by modern culture? The Bible shows us a Jesus who speaks truth, calls for repentance, and invites us to follow Him with our whole lives.

The Jesus of Scripture loves deeply, but He also challenges us to deny ourselves and walk in obedience. He does not change His truth to fit the times—He changes hearts to fit His truth.

Today, take a moment to examine your walk. Let God's Word define who Jesus is, not opinions or trends. When we follow the real Jesus of the Bible, we find not only truth, but life.

Prayer: Lord, help me follow you as you truly are. Shape my heart by Your Word and lead me in your truth. Amen

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

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

Dublin

Roche
FARM & GARDEN
803 E. Jackson St.,
Dublin
478-272-3340

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

Grumpy dentists, tele-orthodontistry and excess floss

I have a dentist appointment coming up, and like most people, I’m not looking forward to it.

Don’t get me wrong, I have a meticulous dental hygiene routine. My days are bookended with vigorous brushing sessions, floss (one must always floss) and medicated mouthwash. Even so, the dentist is sure to find something wrong, one tiny spot of weak enamel or a tooth not getting as much attention as its neighbors, and they will let me know what a terrible job I’m doing taking care of myself, all for a nominal fee.

Dentists tend to be very grumpy, but if I had to spend my days wrist deep in other people’s mouths I’d be a little cranky too. Especially banking on the fact that most people lie about their flossing habits. But at least they drive home in nice cars.

I bet a lot of floss is sold in January. It has to rank up there with gym memberships. Good-intentioned folks make New Year’s resolutions to take better care of themselves, purchase a whole bunch of floss, typically in the form of some expensive gadget supposed to make the chore easier, and then give up after a couple of days of spitting blood into the bathroom sink. All that floss ends up in the landfill, trapping birds and other wildlife. Birds love floss apparently, but, sadly, they don’t have teeth or hands to use it with.

A new law in the great state of Georgia allows for

Open wide

THE NEW
SOUTHERN
DAD



By KYLE DOMINY

tele-dentistry. I’m not sure how that’s supposed to work. Turn the camera to selfie mode, open wide and put the lens in your mouth. Don’t forget to turn on the flashlight. I’m sure the doctor will still find something to fuss about. At

least you can hang up on him. I’ve invested a tidy sum of money in teeth over the past decade. Kids grow them and lose them at an alarming rate. I’m pretty sure my daughter is part shark. We gave up the tooth fairy charade in my house fairly early in her life because I was going broke.

Speaking of growing broke, all of my offspring needed orthodontist work, so I’m paying a lot of people to poke around their mouths. I wonder how long before that line of work goes remote? Just mail me a spool of wire and solder, poorly translated instructions and a good luck note.

I have a small chip in one of my front teeth. I got it playing a jaw harp, you know of those metal framed instruments you put in the mouth that makes that “boing, boing” sound? The box warns you that it could mess your teeth up, but I heeded not their warning.

You cannot trust someone with perfect teeth though. If you see someone with a complete set of pearly whites, perfectly aligned, they bought them. There again, too few teeth come across poorly, too. A normal person is expected to have some coffee stains, a gap here or there and at least one broken tooth.

Even so, I think I’ll go floss one more time before I head to the dentist’s office.

DIVA ON A DIME: A POT OF VEGETABLE SOUP

By PATTI DIAMOND
King Features

Does last week already feel like a month ago? We often begin the new year with the best of intentions, and the trick is making them sustainable. I’ve learned that real life rarely responds well to extremes, but it does respond to support.

The gentlest and most effective reset doesn’t come from cutting things out; it comes from putting the right things in. A pot of nourishing soup simmering on the stove is a simple, steady way to care for yourself and the people you love, one meal at a time.

A colorful, vegetable-rich soup offers more than comfort. Different colors provide different plant compounds that reduce inflammation, support immunity and overall well-being, which is why "eating the rainbow" matters. Plant-forward meals also give digestion a welcome break from heavier animal proteins, allowing the gut to settle after a season of indulgence.

My trick for deeply flavorful vegetable soup is building layers of flavor before adding any liquid. I start with a classic mirepoix of onion, carrot and celery, sauteed slowly until soft and lightly browned. That browning brings out the vegetables’ natural sweetness. Once the base is fragrant and sweet, I add the remaining vegetables and saute them too.

To help everything brown and boost flavor,

I toss the vegetables with seasoned vegetable soup base (Better Than Bouillon) loosened with a tablespoon of olive oil. This coats the vegetables, deepens the flavor and replaces the need for cartons of vegetable broth. It’s an ingredient that costs more upfront but saves money over time, making it a smart, frugal staple in my kitchen.

Seasonal Vegetables

This is a flexible, clean-out-the-crisper soup. Use whatever vegetables are in season, ripe in your garden or priced to move at the store. In spring, think peas, asparagus or leeks. Summer welcomes corn, tomatoes and bell peppers. Fall is perfect for squash and cabbage. In winter, use sturdy vegetables like potatoes, peppers and kale. The method stays the same. The vegetables change with the season and the sales.

GENTLE RESET VEGETABLE SOUP

Yield: 16 cups
Total Time: 1 hour

- 4 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil, divided
- 1 large, sweet or white onion, chopped
- 3 carrots, peeled and chopped
- 3 celery stalks, chopped
- 2 tablespoons vegetable soup base (like Better Than Bouillon)
- 4 cups seasonal vegetables, chopped
- 4 cloves garlic, pressed or minced
- 1/2 teaspoon dried thyme
- 1 large can (28 ounces)

- diced tomatoes
- 8 cups water
- 1 (15.5 ounce) can great northern beans, drained
- 2 cups leafy greens like kale, chopped (thick ribs removed)
- 1/2 teaspoon sea salt, more to taste
- 1 tablespoon red wine vinegar
- Freshly ground black pepper, to taste

Heat 3 tablespoons olive oil in a large soup pot over medium heat. Add the onion, carrot and celery and cook, stirring, until the onion is translucent, about 5 minutes. Meanwhile, mix the vegetable soup base with 1 tablespoon olive oil.

Add the seasonal vegetables to the pot, followed by the soup base mixture, stirring to coat. Add the garlic and thyme and saute until the vegetables are lightly browned and fragrant, 8 to 10 minutes.

Stir in the diced tomatoes with their juices and the water, scraping up any flavorful bits from the bottom of the pot. Bring to a boil, then partially cover, reduce heat and simmer gently for about 15 minutes.

Uncover and add the beans and chopped greens. Simmer until the greens are tender, about 10 minutes. Remove from heat, stir in the vinegar and season generously with black pepper and salt to taste. Serve hot with crusty bread.

Email Patti at divapati@divasonadime.com
(c) 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

Rosa Parks: ‘Faith, Courage, Dignity’

By JACK
BROWN

The modern civil rights movement in America was quietly launched by Rosa Parks of Montgomery, Alabama, on December 1, 1955. The spark that ignited this movement to end racial discrimination in America’s public life began that date on a public bus as this 42-year-old seamstress made her way home from work. All of the white seats on the bus were filled, and she was instructed by the driver to give up her seat for a white man. She refused and was then arrested, charged with violating the law, convicted and then fined. On the day she went to court some 42,000 black residents of Montgomery, "virtually the entire black ridership of Montgomery, Alabama," began a boycott of the bus system that lasted for 381 days! This protest over the injustice of such a segregated system of injustice was soon led by a young 26-year-old minister named Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Rosa Parks and her husband Raymond soon lost

courage, dignity and determination.

Rosa Parks has been honored in many ways, to include: in 1979, she received the Spingarn Award, the NAACP’s highest honor for civil rights; in 1996, she received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest U.S. civilian honor; and, in 1999, she received the Congressional Gold Medal. She also received more than 40 honorary degrees, and there are streets, parks, libraries and schools across the United States named for her.

Scripture states: ". . . in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength . . ." (Isaiah 30:15). Rosa Parks embodied this biblical truth in her long life of 92 years. She is remembered in honor. What a fine American citizen she was, one whose major contribution to mankind began with her quiet act of courage on a public bus in the city of Montgomery, Alabama. Thank you, Rosa Parks. Thank you!

The Courier Herald
cordially invites you to a
reception in honor of

Harriett Claxton

Thursday, January 29th
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
@ the Dublin Carnegie
311 Academy Ave.

Join us and celebrate her lifelong
contributions to the community and
the legacy of 50 Years Ago and
85 Years Ago.





WE ARE THE
CHAMPIONS

JANUARY 17, 2026
THEATRE DUBLIN 7:00 PM

A live concert featuring the music of
QUEEN and all their hits - Bohemian
Rhapsody, Fat Bottom Girls, We Will Rock
You, We Are the Champions & More!

For tickets, VIP - \$25 or General - \$20
scan QR code
or go to [purplepass.com.queen.](https://purplepass.com/queen)
Or - buy General tickets at the door.

Downtown Dublin: 478-272-2560



Classifieds

Yard/Estate Sales

Yard sale! 706 Country Club Rd Dublin, Fri, Jan 16th 9a-5p, Sat, Jan 17th 9a-2p

Yardsale: 2450 Saddler Drive Dexter. Jan 17th. 8am- Until. Home Decor/Household goods.

Legals

Legals

25-594
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF LAURENS
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained with that certain Security Deed dated October 2, 2002, from Iva Jean Lattimore and Marcia Lattimore to Mortgage Electronic Registrations Systems, Inc. as nominee for Taylor, Bear & Whitaker Mortgage Corp, recorded on October 8, 2002 in Deed Book 1339 at Page 98 Laurens County, Georgia records, having been last sold, assigned, transferred and conveyed to Nationstar Mortgage LLC by Assignment and said Security Deed having been given to secure a note dated October 2, 2002, in the amount of \$71,600.00 said note being modified by Loan Modification agreement and recorded on October 7, 2014 in OR Book 2567 OR Page 8 in the real property records of Laurens County, Georgia, and said Note being in default, the undersigned will sell at public outcry during the legal hours of sale before the door of the courthouse of Laurens County, Georgia, on February 3, 2026 the following described real property: (hereinafter referred to as the "Property");

ALL THAT TRACT OF LAND IN LAND LOT 48 OF THE SECOND LAND DISTRICT OF LAURENS COUNTY, GEORGIA, CONTAINING 1.11 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, AND BEING PART OF LOT 11 AND PART OF LOT 12 OF TOWNSHIP PLACE SUBDIVISION AND BEING SHOWN ON A PLAT OF SURVEY BY LARRY C. JONES, LAND SURVEYOR, DATED MARCH 18, 1998 AND RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 1032, PAGE 120, LAURENS COUNTY RECORDS, WHICH PLAT IS BY THIS REFERENCE INCORPORATED. SAID LOT FRONTS 100 FEET ON THE NORTHEASTERLY MARGIN OF TOWNSHIP DRIVE, THE ABOVE PROPERTY IS CONVEYED SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE COVENANTS FOR TOWNSHIP PLACE, DATED DECEMBER 1, 1995, AND RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 834, PAGE 274, LAURENS COUNTY RECORDS, WHICH COVENANTS ARE BY THIS REFERENCE INCORPORATED.

The debt secured by the Security Deed and evidenced by the Note and has been, and is hereby, declared due and payable because of, among other possible events of default, failure to make the payments as required by the terms of the Note. The debt remaining is in default and this sale will be made for the purposes of paying the Security Deed, accrued interest, and all expenses of the sale, including attorneys fees. Notice of intention to collect attorneys' fees has been given as provided by law. To the best of the undersigned's knowledge, the person(s) in possession of the property is/are Iva Jean Lattimore and Marcia Lattimore. The property, being commonly known as 1045 Townson Dr, Montrose, GA, 31065 in Laurens County, will be sold as the property of Iva Jean Lattimore and Marcia Lattimore, subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien and not yet due and payable), any matters affecting title to the property which would be disclosed by accurate survey and inspection thereof, and all assessments, liens, encumbrances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record to the Security Deed. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2, the name, address and telephone number of the individual or entity who shall have the full authority to negotiate, amend or modify all terms of the above described mortgage is as follows: Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper, 8950 Cypress Waters Blvd, Coppell, TX 75019, 888-480-2432. The foregoing notwithstanding, nothing in O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2 shall require the secured creditor to negotiate, amend or modify the terms of the mortgage instrument. The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under U.S. Bankruptcy code and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed.

Albertelli Law
Attorney for Nationstar Mortgage LLC as Attorney in Fact for Iva Jean Lattimore and Marcia Lattimore
100 Galleria Parkway, Suite 1000
Atlanta, GA 30339
Phone: (770) 373-4242
THIS FIRM IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
25-011799
December 27, 2025, January 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, 2026

26-022
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF
LAURENS COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
C&F FINANCE COMPANY VS.
Malik Linder
639 Ed Beckham Rd
East Dublin, GA 31027, DEFENDANT
CIVIL ACTION CASE NO. 25-CG-0404-JH
NOTICE OF PUBLICATION
TO: MALIK LINDER
Defendant Named Above:

You are hereby notified that the above-styled action was filed in said court on May 21, 2025, and that by reason of an order for service of summons by publication entered by the Court on January 6, 2026, you are hereby commanded and required to file with the clerk of said Court and serve upon Alexandria Capers, Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is Lefkoff, Rubin, Gleason, Russo & Smith, P.C., 5555 Glenridge Connector, Suite 900, Atlanta, Georgia 30342, an answer within sixty (60) days of the date of the order for service by publication and shall bear teste in the name of the Judge and shall be signed by the Clerk of Court.

Witness the Honorable Jon F. Helton, Superior Court Judge.

This the 6th day of January, 2026.

Rhonda Spires
CLERK OF COURT
SUPERIOR COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY

Prepared and presented by:
The Law Office of
LEFKOFF, RUBIN, GLEASON, RUSSO & SMITH, P.C.
Attorney for Plaintiff
By: Alexandria Capers
Georgia State Bar No. 808823
5555 Glenridge Connector, Suite 900
Atlanta, Georgia 30342
January 17, 24, 31, 2026, February 7, 2026

26-006
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
GEORGIA, LAURENS COUNTY

Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by Tommy Ricks III to Mortgage Electronic Registrations Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for Ameris Bank, its successors and assigns dated March 23, 2018, recorded in Deed Book 2859, Page 210, Laurens County, Georgia Records, as last transferred to Ameris Bank by assignment recorded in Deed Book 3557, Page 162, Laurens County, Georgia Records, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of FORTY-SEVEN THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED AND 0/100 DOLLARS (\$47,200.00), with interest thereon as set forth therein, there will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the courthouse door of Laurens County, Georgia, or at such place as may be lawfully designated as an alternative, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in February, 2026, the following described property:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

MR / GW February 3, 2026
Our file no. 25-16857GA-FT18
25-16857GA
January 10, 17, 24, 31, 2026

26-002
TANYA ROGERS, CLERK
LAURENS COUNTY
SUPERIOR COURT
TRADE NAME REGISTRATION
PERSONNALLY APPEARED
THE UNDERSIGNED WHO ON
OATH DEPOSES AND SAYS
THAT: Jennifer Foskey
460 Robert Plummer Road, East
Dublin, GA 31027
478-595-9837
IS/ARE DOING BUSINESS IN
LAURENS COUNTY, GA.,
UNDER THE NAME OF:
TRADE NAME: Jen's Blends
ADDRESS: 460 Robert
Plummer Road East Dublin, GA
31027
AND THAT THE NATURE OF
THE BUSINESS TO BE
CARRIED ON AT SUCH
ADDRESS IS: Making Soap.
SWORN TO AND
SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME
THIS 30 DAY OF Sept , 2025.
CYNTHIA STRANGE
NOTARY PUBLIC
January 10, 17, 2026

25-581
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF
LAURENS
COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF EVA L.
MAYWEATHER DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 23-49
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF
ADMINISTRATION
NOTICE

TO: Frank Mitchell, Delvonta Mitchell and to whom it may concern: MARGARET MITCHELL has petitioned for to be appointed administrator(s) of the estate of EVA L. MAYWEATHER deceased, of said county. [The petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, waiver of statements, and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. § 53-12-261.] All interested persons are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed with the Court on or before Feb. 2, 2026.

BE NOTIFIED FURTHER: All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.

Genola O. Jackson
Judge of the Probate Court
By: CWarren
Clerk of the Probate Court
PO BOX 2098
7393 Hodgson Memorial Dr. DUBLIN, GA 31040
Savannah, GA 31406
312-352-3999
January 3, 10, 17, 24, 2026

25-601
Notice of Sale Under Power. State of Georgia, County of LAURENS. Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Deed to Secure Debt given by GRACE SIMMONS to MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS GRANTEE, AS NOMINEE FOR MORRIS BANK, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS dated 10/31/2016, and Recorded on 11/01/2016 as Book No. 02735 and Page No. 00250, AS AFFECTED BY MODIFICATION AGREEMENTS BOOK 2955, PAGE 270, BOOK 3295, PAGE 194 AND BOOK 3425, PAGE 47 55, LAURENS County, Georgia records, as last assigned to PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC (the Secured Creditor), by assignment, conveying the after described property to secure a Note of even date in the original principal amount of \$195,252.00, with interest at the rate specified therein, there will be sold by the undersigned at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash at the LAURENS County Courthouse within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in February, 2026, the following described property: ALL THAT TRACT OF LAND, CONTAINING 1.28 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, BEING LOT 9 OF NORTHWOOD OF DUDLEY SUBDIVISION, PHASE II, SECTION I, AS SHOWN ON A PLAT OF SURVEY BY BILLY FLANDERS, LAND SURVEYOR, DATED OCTOBER 3, 2003, AND RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 8, PAGE 455, LAURENS COUNTY RECORDS, WHICH PLAT IS BY THIS REFERENCE INCORPORATED. SAID LOT LIES AT THE CORNER OF THE INTERSECTION OF THE NORTHWESTERLY MARGIN OF TURNER LANE IN THE SOUTHEASTERLY MARGIN OF NORTHWOOD TRAIL. THE ABOVE PROPERTY IS CONVEYED SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE COVENANTS WHICH ARE RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 954, PAGE 244, DEED BOOK 1380, PAGE 173, DEED BOOK 1383, PAGE 11, AND DEED BOOK 1385, PAGE 71, LAURENS COUNTY RECORDS.

THIS IS A PORTION OF THAT PROPERTY CONVEYED TO THOMAS M. VEAL IN A WARRANTY DEED FROM MILLOCK FARM, INC. AND RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 1691, PAGES 34, AFORESAID RECORDS. The debt secured by said Deed to Secure Debt has been and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of default, failure to pay the indebtedness as and when due and in the manner provided in the Note and Deed to Secure Debt. Because the debt remains in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, as provided in the Deed to Secure Debt and by law, including attorney's fees (noting of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given). PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC holds the duly endorsed Note and is the current assignee of the Security Deed to the property. PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC, acting on behalf of and, as necessary, in consultation with PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC (the current investor on the loan), is the entity with the full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the loan. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 44 14 162.2, PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC may be contacted at: PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC, 3043 TOWNSGATE ROAD, SUITE 200, WESTLAKE VILLAGE, CA 91361, 866 549 3583. Please note that, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 44 14 162.2, the secured creditor is not required to amend or modify the terms of the loan. To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party/parties in possession of the subject property known as 303 WEST END LANE, DUDLEY, GEORGIA 31022 is/are: GRACE SIMMONS or tenant/tenants. Said property will be sold subject to (a) any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), (b) any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, and (c) all matters of record superior to the Deed to Secure Debt first set out above, including, but not limited to, assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, easements, restrictions, covenants, etc.

The sale will be conducted subject to (1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code; and (2) final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the security deed. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 9 13 172.1, which allows for certain procedures regarding the rescission of judicial and nonjudicial sales in the State of Georgia, the Deed Under Power and other foreclosure documents may not be provided until final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan as provided in the preceding paragraph. PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC as Attorney in Fact for GRACE SIMMONS. THIS LAW FIRM IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. 00000010076073 BARRETT DAFIN FRAPPIER TURNER & ENGEL, LLP 4004 Belt Line Road, Suite 100 Addition, Texas 75001 Telephone: (972) 341 5398.
January 10, 17, 24, 31, 2026

26-003
TANYA ROGERS, CLERK
LAURENS COUNTY
SUPERIOR COURT
TRADE NAME REGISTRATION
PERSONNALLY APPEARED
THE UNDERSIGNED WHO ON
OATH DEPOSES AND SAYS
THAT: CKH ENTERPRISES
INC
715 S. LEWIS STREET.
METTER, GA 30439
IS/ARE DOING BUSINESS IN
LAURENS COUNTY, GA.,
UNDER THE NAME OF:
TRADE NAME: TOM'S PAWN
CENTRAL
ADDRESS: 915 HILLCREST
PARKWAY DUBLIN, GA 31021
AND THAT THE NATURE OF
THE BUSINESS TO BE
CARRIED ON AT SUCH
ADDRESS IS:
PAWNSHOP/RETAIL
SWORN TO AND
SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME
THIS 29 DAY OF DEC , 2025.
LISA D. THIGPEN
NOTARY PUBLIC
January 10, 17, 2026

26-005
This is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
GEORGIA, LAURENS COUNTY

Under and by virtue of Power of Sale contained in Security Deed from **Anitra Raquel Sabine a/k/a Anitra Sabine and Todd Steven Kapp, Jr. a/k/a Todd Kapp, Jr.**, to 21st Mortgage Corporation, dated September 8, 2020, filed for record September 10, 2020, recorded at Deed Book 3087, Page 125, Laurens County, Georgia Records, in the original principal amount of \$111,289.75 of the aforesaid records. Said Security Deed being given to secure the obligations of Grantor to Lender as set forth in a Promissory Note ("Note") of even date as amended, modified, or revised from time to time with interest at the rate specified therein, there will be sold, by the undersigned at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, before the Courthouse Door at **LAURENS** County, Georgia, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in February 2026, the following described property:

All that lot, tract or parcel of land situate, lying and being in Land Lot 293, 17th Land District, Laurens County, Georgia, consisting of 5.00 acres, more or less, being a portion of Lot D, as shown on a Plat of Survey, prepare by Ronny Barron, GRLS, dated June 11, 2020, recorded in Plat Book 11, Page 568, Laurens County Superior Court Clerk's Records, which said plat is incorporated herein and made a part hereof by reference.

This being a portion of that property conveyed unto Debora Brantley n/k/a Debora Brantley (Fanner) by Warranty Deed of Jim E. Brantley dated April 30, 1990 with a life estate reservation for Jim E. Brantley and Gladys D. Brantley, recorded in DB 580, PG 141, Laurens County Superior Court Clerk's records.

Said legal description is controlling however, the property is commonly known as 1041 Roy Bracewell Road, Dublin, Georgia 31021.

PARCEL # 183 .087C

The indebtedness secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of default under the terms of said Security Deed and Note, including, but not limited to, the nonpayment of the indebtedness as and when due. The indebtedness remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same, all expenses of the sale, including attorneys' fees and other payments provided for under the terms of the Security Deed and Note.

Said property will be sold subject to the following items which may affect the title to said property: all zoning ordinances; matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or by inspection of the property; any outstanding taxes, including but not limited to, ad valorem taxes, which constitute liens upon said property; special assessments; and all outstanding bills for public utilities which constitute liens upon said property. To the best of the knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party in possession of the property **Anitra Raquel Sabine a/k/a Anitra Sabine and Todd Steven Kapp, Jr. a/k/a Todd Kapp, Jr.**, and/or tenant(s).

The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the United States Bankruptcy Code and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed. **21ST MORTGAGE CORPORATION** and its counsel are acting as debt collectors. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

21ST MORTGAGE CORPORATION as Attorney-in-Fact for Anitra Raquel Sabine a/k/a Anitra Sabine and Todd Steven Kapp, Jr. a/k/a Todd Kapp, Jr.

Contact: Jason Godwin
Godwin Law Group
3985 Steve Reynolds Blvd, Bldg D Norcross, GA 30093
Phone: 470-427-2683
Email: jgodwin@godwinlawgroup.com
January 10, 17, 24, 31, 2026

26-026
NOTICE OF SALE

Pursuant to the Official Code of Georgia, Annotated Section 10-4-210, et seq., there will be a public sale at Little House Self Storage, 2420 US Highway 80 West in Dublin on Wednesday, February 4, 2026, beginning at 11:00 AM. The proceeds of said sale will be used first to satisfy the storage fee and other expenses of the auction. Any other proceeds will be used to satisfy such creditors as present their claims in advance of sale.

Occupant/Unit:
Kandi Curry #1006
Jamaica Garner #0901
Gavin Mallory #0205
Chyna Phillips #0526
Kim Tapley #0527
January 17, 24, 2026

26-020
State of Georgia
County of Laurens.

Notice to Debtors and Creditors

All creditors of the **Estate of Ora Christine Clark**, late of Laurens County, Georgia, deceased, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law; and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.

This 13th day of January, 2026.

Estate of Ora Christine Clark
Jody Thompson Baggett, Co-Executor
1627 Baggett Lane
Dublin, GA 31021
Candace Hansen, Co-Executor
4000 Hoodridge Lane
Charlotte, NC 28227

Margaret Greer Evans
Attorney at Law
State Bar No. 488189
(478) 272-2885
January 17, 24, 31, 2026, February 7, 2026

26-004
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY OF
LAURENS

By virtue of a Power of Sale contained in that certain Security Deed from Amber Gilbert to Mortgage Electronic Registrations Systems, Inc., as nominee for Ameris Bank, dated March 10, 2022 and recorded on March 10, 2022 in Deed Book 3266, Page 241, in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Laurens County, Georgia, said Security Deed having been given to secure a Note of even date, in the original principal amount of One Hundred Ten Thousand One Hundred One and 00/100 dollars (\$110,101.00) with interest thereon as provided therein, as last transferred to Planet Home Lending, LLC, recorded in Deed Book 3647, Page 116, aforesaid records, will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the courthouse door of Laurens County, Georgia, or at such place as has or may be lawfully designated as an alternative location, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in February, 2026, all property described in said Security Deed including but not limited to the following described property:

All that tract or parcel of land situate, lying and being in the City of Dublin, Laurens County, Georgia, in Land Lot 209 of the First Land District, containing 0.33 acres, more or less, and being known as Lot 12, Block C of Saxon Heights Subdivision Extension, as more particularly described on a plat of survey prepared by William E. Greenway, Land Surveyor, dated October 12, 1987 and recorded in Deed Book 497, Page 61, in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Laurens County, Georgia. Said plat and the record thereof are by reference incorporated herein and made a part hereof.

Subject to all easements, ordinances, covenants, conditions, restrictions, and rights-of-way of record, if any.

Said property may more commonly be known as **703 Bell Drive, Dublin, GA 31021**. The debt secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of, among

Case #: 25-016751-1

other possible events of default, non-payment of the monthly installments on said loan. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given).

The individual or entity that has full authority to negotiate, amend and modify all terms of the loan is Planet Home Lending, LLC, 321 Research Parkway, Suite 303, Meriden CT 06450, (203) 303-5283.

Said property will be sold on an "as-is" basis without any representation, warranty or recourse against the above-named or the undersigned. The sale will also be subject to the following items which may affect the title: a) zoning ordinances; b) matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or by an inspection of the property; c) any outstanding ad valorem taxes, including taxes, which constitute liens upon said property whether or not now due and payable; d) special assessments; e) the right of redemption of any taxing authority; f) all outstanding bills for public utilities which constitute liens upon said property; g) all restrictive covenants, easements, rights-of-way and any other matters of record superior to said Security Deed. To the best of the knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the owner and party in possession of the property is Amber Gilbert and/or tenant(s). The sale will be conducted subject to (1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy code and 2) final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed.

Planet Home Lending, LLC as Attorney-in-Fact for Amber Gilbert
Contact:
Padgett Law Group: 6267 Old Water Oak Road, Suite 203, Tallahassee, FL 32312; (850) 422-2520 Ad Run Dates: 01/10/2026 01/17/2026 01/24/2026 01/31/2026 ;
Case #: 25-016751-1
January 10, 17, 24, 31, 2026

26-004
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY OF
LAURENS

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in that certain Commercial Real Estate Deed to Secure Debt from Kenneth Hunter (the "Grantor") to AgGeorgia Farm Credit, (the "Lender"), dated May 11, 2022, a copy of which is of record in Deed Book 3298, Pages 133-140, Clerk's Office, Laurens County Superior Court (the "Security Deed"), said Security Deed having been given to secure that certain promissory note of even date therewith executed by Grantor in favor of Lender in the original principal amount of One Hundred Eighty Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$180,000.00), together with interest thereon as set forth therein and together with any and all amendments, modifications, renewals, extensions, reamortizations, or other substitutions thereof and all other indebtedness and obligations of said Grantor to Lender (collectively, the "Note"), there will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the Courthouse door of Laurens County, Georgia, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday of February, 2026, to-wit: February 3, 2026, the following described real property, together with all trees, timber, shrubbery, fixtures and improvements located thereon and all rights, members and appurtenances thereunto belonging or in anywise appertaining and otherwise as may be set forth in the Security Deed (collectively, the "Property"):

TRACT I:

All that tract or parcel of land situate, lying and being in Land Lot 314, of the 12th Land District of Laurens County, Georgia, containing 86.35 acres, more or less, and shown as Tract No. 1 on a plat of survey prepared by Marvin D. Clements, Registered Land Surveyor, dated June 29, 1991, and recorded in Plat Book 6, Page 245, records of the Clerk's Office of the Laurens County Superior Court. The angles, distances and dimensions as shown on said plat are by reference incorporated herein and made a part of this description.

LESS AND EXCEPT: 0.328 acres described in Right-of-Way Deed from Ruth Rowe Lowery to the Georgia Department of Transportation dated April 9, 2004, and recorded in Deed Book 1532, Pages 234 et seq., aforesaid records.

TRACT II:

All that tract or parcel of land situate, lying and being in Land Lots 288 and 313 of the 12th Land District of Laurens County, Georgia, containing 84.20 acres, more or less, and shown as Tract No. 2 on a plat of survey prepared by Marvin D. Clements, Registered Land Surveyor, dated June 29, 1991, and recorded in Plat Book 6, Page 245, records of the Clerk's Office of the Laurens County Superior Court. The angles, distances and dimensions as shown on said plat are by reference incorporated herein and made a part of this description.

LESS AND EXCEPT: 0.523 acres described in Right-of-Way Deed from Ruth Rowe Lowery to the Georgia Department of Transportation dated September 11, 2004, and recorded in Deed Book 1583, Pages 209 et seq., aforesaid records.

The debt secured by the Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of default, the failure to pay the indebtedness as and when due and in the manner provided in the Note. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, including attorney's fees.

The Property will be sold as the property of Kenneth Hunter, subject to all zoning ordinances; matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or by an inspection of the Property; any outstanding taxes, including but not limited to, ad valorem taxes, which constitute liens upon the Property; special assessments; all outstanding bills for public utilities which constitute liens upon the Property; and all matters of record superior to said Security Deed.

This sale will be conducted subject to (1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code, (2) the provisions of O.C.G.A. Section 9-13-172.1 which permits the rescission of judicial and nonjudicial sales in the State of Georgia in limited circumstances, and (3) final confirmation and audit of the status of the loans with the holder of the Security Deed.

Notice has been given of intention to collect attorney's fees in accordance with the terms of the Note secured by said Security Deed. Notice has also been given, in writing and by certified mail, return receipt requested, to Grantor, of the name, address, and telephone number of the individual or entity who shall have full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the Security Deed and the Note thereby secured in accordance with O.C.G.A. Section 44-14-162.2(a).

To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party in possession of the Property is Kenneth Hunter, or tenant or tenants, and the proceeds of said sale will be applied to the payment of said indebtedness and the expenses of said sale.

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT THIS LAW FIRM IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

AgGeorgia Farm Credit, ACA, as Attorney-in-Fact for Kenneth Hunter
Jonathan D. Moore, Esq.
Martin Snow, LLP
240 Third Street
P.O. Box 1606
Macon, Georgia 31202-1606
(478) 749-1700
File No: A0178.69486
January 10, 17, 24, 31, 2026

25-604
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF
LAURENS COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
Morgan D. Parrish, Plaintiff vs.
Joshua D. Parrish, Defendant
Civil Action file No.
25-CD-0991-JG
NOTICE OF SUMMONS -
SERVICE BY PUBLICATION
TO: Joshua D. Parrish,
Defendant Named Above: You
are hereby notified that the
above-styled action seeking
Complaint for Divorce was filed
against you in said court on Dec
11, 2025 and that by reason of
an order for service of summons
by publication entered by the
court on Dec 18, 2025 you are
hereby commanded and
required to file with the clerk of
said court and serve upon
Morgan D. Parrish, Plaintiff,
whose address is 310 Willa
Court, Dublin, GA 31021, an
answer to the complaint within
sixty (60) days of the date of the
order for service by publication.
If you fail to do so, judgment by
default will be taken against you
for the relief demanded in the
complaint.
Witness the Honorable Judge
Green, Judge of said Court.
This 18 day of December, 2025.
Georgia Jeffcoat
Deputy Clerk of Superior Court
Laurens, County.
January 10, 17, 24, 31, 2026

26-009
NOTICE OF SALE

Pursuant to the Official Code of Georgia, Annotated Section 10-4-210, et seq., there will be a public sale at the location listed below, the proceeds of said sale will be used first to satisfy the storage fee and other expenses of this auction. Any other proceeds will be used to satisfy such creditors as present their claims in advance of sale. The sale will be held as follows:

a32 Peggy Oneal
a49 Andrea Manning
b09 Erica Stamps
b18 Iris Warren
b41 Raven Whitfield
b45 Keshia Willis
c13 Leigh Hancock

Name and address of storage facility:
ORR SELF STORAGE 1705 CLAXTON DAIRY ROAD DUBLIN GA 31021

Time and date of sale: Tuesday, January 20th at 10:00 a.m.

Place of sale: ORR SELF STORAGE 1705 CLAXTON DAIRY ROAD DUBLIN GA 31021

Manner of sale: January 10, 17, 2026

26-008
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF LAURENS

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in that certain Commercial Real Estate Deed to Secure Debt from Kenneth Hunter (the "Grantor") to AgGeorgia Farm Credit, (the "Lender"), dated May 11, 2022, a copy of which is of record in Deed Book 3298, Pages 133-140, Clerk's Office, Laurens County Superior Court (the "Security Deed"), said Security Deed having been given to secure that certain promissory note of even date therewith executed by Grantor in favor of Lender in the original principal amount of One Hundred Eighty Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$180,000.00), together with interest thereon as set forth therein and together with any and all amendments, modifications, renewals, extensions, reamortizations, or other substitutions thereof and all other indebtedness and obligations of said Grantor to Lender (collectively, the "Note"), there will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the Courthouse door of Laurens County, Georgia, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday of February, 2026, to-wit: February 3, 2026, the following described real property, together with all trees, timber, shrubbery, fixtures and improvements located thereon and all rights, members and appurtenances thereunto belonging or in anywise appertaining and otherwise as may be set forth in the Security Deed (collectively, the "Property"):

TRACT I:

All that tract or parcel of land situate, lying and being in Land Lot 314, of the 12th Land District of Laurens County, Georgia, containing 86.35 acres, more or less, and shown as Tract No. 1 on a plat of survey prepared by Marvin D. Clements, Registered Land Surveyor, dated June 29, 1991, and recorded in Plat Book 6, Page 245, records of the Clerk's Office of the Laurens County Superior Court. The angles, distances and dimensions as shown on said plat are by reference incorporated herein and made a part of this description.

LESS AND EXCEPT: 0.328 acres described in Right-of-Way Deed from Ruth Rowe Lowery to the Georgia Department of Transportation dated April 9, 2004, and recorded in Deed Book 1532, Pages 234 et seq., aforesaid records.

TRACT II:

All that tract or parcel of land situate, lying and being in Land Lots 288 and 313 of the 12th Land District of Laurens County, Georgia, containing 84.20 acres, more or less, and shown as Tract No. 2 on a plat of survey prepared by Marvin D. Clements, Registered Land Surveyor, dated June 29, 1991, and recorded in Plat Book 6, Page 245, records of the Clerk's Office of the Laurens County Superior Court. The angles, distances and dimensions as shown on said plat are by reference incorporated herein and made a part of this description.

26-010
GEORGIA, LAURENS COUNTY.
WHEREAS, on August 1, 2017, KYUNG HOON CHUNG did execute and deliver to PRICE FAMILY PROPERTIES, LLLP, a certain Deed to Secure Debt to the hereinafter described land to secure the payment of a certain Note of even date of \$230,000.00 principal plus interest as specified in the Note, all as shown by the record of said Deed to Secure Debt in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Laurens County, Georgia, recorded in Deed Book 2804, Page 290; and
WHEREAS, default has been made in the payments provided for in said note held by said PRICE FAMILY PROPERTIES, LLLP, and said PRICE FAMILY PROPERTIES, LLLP, as the owner and holder of said Deed to Secure Debt and Note, has elected to declare the entire unpaid indebtedness described in and secured by said Deed to Secure Debt due and payable, and the same has not been paid; and
The debt secured by said Deed to Secure Debt has been and is hereby due because of, among other possible events of default, failure to pay the indebtedness as and when due and in the manner provided in the Note and Deed to Secure Debt. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, as provided in the Deed to Secure Debt and by law, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given) NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to and in exercise of the power of sale contained in said Deed to Secure Debt, and for the purpose of collecting the indebtedness due thereby, there will be sold at public outcry, before the Courthouse door in Dublin, Laurens County, Georgia, on the first Tuesday in February, 2026, to wit: February 3, 2026 within the legal hours of sale, to the highest and best bidder for cash, the following described property, to wit:

All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in the City of Dublin, Laurens County, Georgia, and containing 0.84 acres, designated as Parcel A on a plat of survey prepared by Billy Flanders, Surveyor, dated May 5, 1988 and recorded in Plat Book 6, page 73, Laurens County Records, he courses and distances of said plat are incorporated into and made a part of this description by reference.

To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party (or parties) in possession of the subject property are KYUNG HOON CHUNG, and is known as **902 HILLCREST DRIVE, DUBLIN, GEORGIA 31021**
Said property will be sold subject to (a) any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable); (b) any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property; and (c) all matters of record superior to the Deed to Secure Debt first set out above, including, but not limited to, assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, easements, restrictions, covenants, etc.
The sale will be conducted subject to (1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code; (2) O.C.G.A. Section 9-13-172-.1; and (3) final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the security deed. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 9-13-172-.1, which allows for certain procedures regarding the rescission of judicial and non-judicial sales in the State of Georgia, the Deed Under Power and other foreclosure documents may not be provided within 30 days of the date of sale. Final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan as provided in the preceding paragraph may not be rendered prior to the expiration of this 30-day period. A delivery of the Deed Under Power earlier than 30 days after the foreclosure sale date specified hereinabove shall be subject to the direct approval of the holder of the Security Deed.

Scott B. Thompson, Sr. P.C. PRICE FAMILY PROPERTIES, LLLP
P.O. Box 1586 , as attorney in fact for Dublin, Georgia 31040 KYUNG HOON CHUNG.

January 10, 17, 24, 31, 2026

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF LAURENS
IN RE: ESTATE OF PAUL DEWAYNE HOBBS, SR, DECEASED
All creditors of the Estate of PAUL DEWAYNE HOBBS, SR, deceased, late of Laurens County, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all person indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to me.
Paul D Hobbs, Jr, Administrator of Paul Dewayne Hobbs Sr, deceased
4579 Grady Smith Road, Loganville, GA 30052
O.C.G.A 53-7-41 states: " ...Every personal representative shall, within 60 days from the date of qualification, publish a notice directed generally to all creditors of the estate to render an account of their demands. The notice shall be published once a week for four weeks in the official newspaper of the county in which the personal representative qualified..."

26-025
NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS
GEORGIA, LAURENS COUNTY.
IN RE: ESTATE OF JEWEL R. HALL
TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:
All creditors of the Estate of JEWEL R. HALL, deceased, late of Laurens County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said Estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned.
JOHNNY HALL HALL
Executor of the Estate of JEWEL R. HALL
C/O Edward B. Claxton III
Attorney for Executor
P. O. Box 16459
Dublin, Georgia 31040
January 17, 24, 31, 2026, February 7, 2026

25-600
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF LAURENS
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF SAID STATE AND COUNTY
IN RE: ESTATE OF DELORES WHITTINGTON
NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS
All creditors of the estate of **DELORES WHITTINGTON** deceased, late of Laurens County, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to me.
This 23rd Day of December, 2025
Emily F. Kight
Attorney for the Estate of DELORES WHITTINGTON Kight Law, LLC
P.O. Box 2054
Dublin, Ga 31040
January 3, 10, 17, 24, 2026

26-007
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER CONTAINED IN SECURITY DEED STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY OF LAURENS Pursuant to a power of sale contained in a certain security deed executed by WILLIE M LOCKE AKA MAUDE LOCKE, hereinafter referred to as Grantor, to The United States of America acting through the Rural Housing Service or successor agency, United States Department of Agriculture, its successors and assigns, dated October 22, 1993, and recorded on October 22, 1993 in Deed Book 00726, beginning at page 0341, of the deed records of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Laurens County, Georgia, and by virtue of a default under the terms of said security deed, and the related note, the undersigned attorney-in-fact for the aforesaid Grantor (which attorney-in-fact is the present holder of said security deed and note secured thereby) will sell at public outcry before the door of the courthouse in Laurens County, Georgia, or at such place as has or may be lawfully designated as an alternative location, within the legal hours of sale, for cash, to the highest bidder on the first Tuesday in February, 2026, all property described in said security deed including but not limited to the following described property: ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOT 51 OF THE 17TH LAND DISTRICT OF LAURENS COUNTY, GEORGIA, CONTAINING 1.81 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY SHOWN ON A PLAT OF SURVEY PREPARED BY BILLY FLANDERS, SURVEYOR, DATED MARCH 5, 1993, AND RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 726 PAGE 334, LAURENS COUNTY RECORDS. THE COURSES AND DISTANCES OF SAID PLAT ARE INCORPORATED INTO AND MADE A PART OF THIS DESCRIPTION BY REFERENCE. SAID PROPERTY IS BOUNDED ON THE SOUTHWEST AND NORTHWEST BY LOCKE, NORTHEAST BY CAMERON AND SOUTHEAST AND SOUTH BY CONNER AND IS CONVEYED SUBJECT TO TWO EASEMENTS FOR RIGHT-OF-WAY PURPOSES AS SHOWN ON SAID PLAT OF SURVEY. Said property may more commonly be known as **2527 SNOW HILL CHURCH RD, CADWELL, GA 31009** Said property will be sold on an "as-is" basis without any representation, warranty or recourse against the above-named or the undersigned. The sale will be subject to the following items which may affect the title: any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien but not yet due and payable); any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property; any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, and all other matters of record superior to the said Security Deed. The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed. Dawson Management is the entity with full authority to negotiate, amend and modify the terms of the Note and Security Deed, and it may be contacted at: Address: 3775 Venture Drive, Duluth, GA 30096 Phone: 770-962-4981 To the best of the undersigned's knowledge and belief, the party in possession of the property is believed to be WILLIE M LOCKE AKA MAUDE LOCKE, or tenant(s). United States of America, acting through the Rural Housing Service, its successors and assigns, United States Department of Agriculture, as Transferee, Assignee, and Secured Creditor As attorney-in-fact for the aforesaid Grantor Please note that if any borrower or obligor has received a discharge in a bankruptcy case filed under Title 11 of the United States Code, no personal liability will arise from this foreclosure action against that individual. This foreclosure action is being pursued solely against the real property to enforce the lien created by the Security Instrument. Respectfully, Marinosci Law Group, P.C. 16415 Addison Road, Suite 725 Addison, TX 75001 (401) 234-9200 (401) 398-2594 THIS LAW FIRM MAY BE HELD TO BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR, UNDER FEDERAL LAW. IF SO, ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE A-4861763
January 10, 17, 24, 31, 2026

26-001
TANYA ROGERS, CLERK
LAURENS COUNTY
SUPERIOR COURT
TRADE NAME REGISTRATION PERSONNALLY APPEARED THE UNDERSIGNED WHO ON OATH DEPOSES AND SAYS THAT: Eternal Oaks Wood Floors CO, LLC
108 Vernon Street, Dublin, GA 31021
478-278-7654
IS/ARE DOING BUSINESS IN LAURENS COUNTY, GA., UNDER THE NAME OF:
TRADE NAME: ETERNAL EPOXY
ADDRESS: 108 VERNON STREET DUBLIN, GA 31021
AND THAT THE **NATURE OF THE BUSINESS** TO BE CARRIED ON AT SUCH ADDRESS IS: Concrete Preparation and Epoxy Coatings.
SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME THIS 30 DAY OF DEC. 2025.
CYNTHIA STRANGE
NOTARY PUBLIC
January 10, 17, 2026

26-024
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
Georgia, Laurens County
All Creditors of the Estate of Artis Frazier, deceased, late of Laurens County, are hereby notified to render in writing their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said Estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned.
This 8th day of January, 2026.
Omesha J. Frazier
Administratrix of the Estate of Artis Frazier, deceased
c/o J. Jackson Dixon
Smith Dixon Law Group, LLC
205 N. Franklin Street
Dublin, GA 31021
January 17, 24, 31, 2026, February 7, 2026

26-011
The Laurens County Board of Commissioners has received a new beer, wine, and distilled spirits application from John Crowley, owner of County Line Package Store LLC, for the sale of Alcohol at a business to be located at 3391 Highway 117 S Cadwell, GA 31009.
January 10, 17, 24, 3, 2026

25-596
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
Georgia, Laurens County
All creditors of the Estate of Thad Haynes, deceased, late of Laurens County, are hereby notified to render in writing their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said Estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned.
This 12th day of December, 2025.
Gloria Younger Larkins, Executrix of the Estate of Thad Haynes, deceased
c/o J. Jackson Dixon
Smith Dixon Law Group, LLC
205 N. Franklin Street
Dublin, GA 31021
December 27, 2025, January 3, 10, 17, 2026.

25-605
NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS
GEORGIA, LAURENS COUNTY.
IN RE: ESTATE OF HOWELL CANDLER WALKER, JR.
TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:
All creditors of the Estate of Howell Candler Walker, Jr. , deceased, late of Laurens County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said Estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned.
Joann Cook Walker
Executor of the Estate of Howell Candler Walker, Jr.
C/O Edward B. Claxton III
Attorney for Executors
P. O. Box 16459
Dublin, Georgia 31040
January 10, 17, 24, 31, 2026

26-023
To Whom It May Concern:
Notice is hereby given that Lishma Patel, Alcohol Agent has submitted an application to the City of Dublin for a 2026 license to sell Beer & Wine PACKAGED TO GO at 1011 Adshil, LLC dba Essentials Market, located at 1011 Martin Luther King Jr Dr. Further notice is given that the City Clerk will hear public comments on Wednesday, January 28, 2026 at 11:00am, in the City Clerk's office at City Hall regarding the issuing of said license.
This notice is given this 14th day of January, 2026.
January 17, 24, 2026

26-019
NOTICE OF SALE
Pursuant to the Official Code of Georgia, Annotated Section 10-4-210, et seq., there will be a public sale by Cardinal Stow-A-Way, 1048 Oak Street, Dudley, Ga. 31022 on Tuesday, January 27, 2026, starting at 10:00am. The proceeds of said sale will be used to first satisfy the storage fee and other expenses of the auction. Any other proceeds will be used to satisfy such creditors as present their claims in advance of sale.
Unit #22 Kaion Williams
Unit#98 Tasha Mimbs
Unit #105 Joey Millwood
January 17, 24, 2026

25-580
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF DAVID WILLIAMS DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 25-276
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION
NOTICE
TO: whom it may concern:
VICKI WILLIAMS has petitioned for to be appointed administrator(s) of the estate of DAVID WILLIAMS deceased, of said county. (The petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, waiver of statements, and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. § 53-12-261.) All interested persons are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed with the Court on or before Feb. 2, 2026.
BE NOTIFIED FURTHER: All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
Genola O. Jackson
Judge of the Probate Court
By: C:Warren
Clerk of the Probate Court
PO BOX 2098
DUBLIN, GA 31040
478-272-2566
January 3, 10, 17, 24, 2026

26-003
TANYA ROGERS, CLERK
LAURENS COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
TRADE NAME REGISTRATION
PERSONNALLY APPEARED THE UNDERSIGNED WHO ON OATH DEPOSES AND SAYS THAT: CKH ENTERPRISES INC
715 S. LEWIS STREET. METTER, GA 30439
IS/ARE DOING BUSINESS IN LAURENS COUNTY, GA., UNDER THE NAME OF: TRADE NAME: TOM'S PAWN CENTRAL
ADDRESS: 915 HILLCREST PARKWAY DUBLIN, GA 31021
AND THAT THE NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE CARRIED ON AT SUCH ADDRESS IS: PAWNSHOP/RETAIL
SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME THIS 29 DAY OF DEC , 2025.
LISA D. THIGPEN
NOTARY PUBLIC
January 10, 17, 2026

26-017
APPLICATION TO REGISTER A BUSINESS TO BE CONDUCTED UNDER A TRADE NAME
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF JOHNSON
The undersigned hereby certified that they are conducting business in the City of Adrian, County of Johnson, State of Georgia under the name: Richard's Handyman Services and the nature of the business is: handy man, repairs, drywall, paint and that said business is composed of the following person: Richard R. Record. This affidavit is made in compliance with O.C.G.A 10-1-490.
Sworn to and subscribed before me. This

FROM THE RECORD

Marriages: Michael David Young Jr. to Brooke Lynn Reich; Nolan Gage Harden to Catlyn Mae Smith; Jimmy Allen Powers Jr. to Heather Lee Waddell; Stevin Hall to Lani Aden Garrett; Caden Matthew Palmer to Morgan Tara Boney

Complaint for divorce: Lauren Linn v Joshua Linn; C'era Feagin v Messiah Feagin

Complaint - child support: Ga DHS Ex Rel Ember Rose v Thomas Rouse; Ga DHS Ex Rel Layla Alivia Smith v Glendrick Harris; Ga DHS Ex Rel Yahshua Dunham v Montarion Carswell

Liens: Franklin Mathis to First Federal Bank; Lisa Mona Hightower to The Cincinnati Insurance Company; Claxton Pointe Apartments to Proline Commercial Services Inc.; Bonita A. Issacs to Mariner Finance LLC; Deanna Ocelo Guzman to Professional Financial Services; Kentra-vious Kentrell Bell to Fairview Park Hospital; Take It To Paris Home Care, LLC to U.S. Auto Credit; Helen J. McDonald to I Think Financial Credit Union; Jaqueline Dudley to JP Morgan Chase Bank N.A.; Angelia Charleston to Plaza Services, LLC; Yolanda Watters to Aica Orthopedics P.C.; Matthew Thigpen to St. Josphe's Hospital; Louise Deborah Joyner to Fairview Park Hospital; Christian Mark Crispell to Fairview Hospital; Shar-dale Mary Munn to Fairview Park Hospital; Mercia Clovis Irvin to Fairview Park Hospital

Security deeds: James Jason Howell and Rhonda Lynn Howell to State Bank of Cochran; Rosalyn L. Starr to Mortgage Solutions of Colorado, LLC; Madison Shaye Lankford aka Madison S. Lankford to Bank of Dudley; Jason K. Wilkes to Farmers State Bank; Randy Williams to First Laurens Bank; Williams Waymon Giddens and Jan Giddens to Farmers State Bank; Logan Tyler Nicholson and Ashli Elizabeth Nicholson to Farmers State Bank; Eddie Hayward Floyd and Christina Dixon Floyd to Citizens Bank of Laurens County; James Ward and Gloria Ward to Bank of America; Sakilya Norris and Mytus Lanier to Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC; William Dennis Howell and Angela R. Howell to Rocket Mortgage, LLC; Grace Howard aka Nellie Grace Dominey Howard to Valon Mortgage, Inc.; Luke Price and Madeleine Price to Plaza Home Mortgage Inc.; Rocky Aaron Ryals and April Edwards Ryals to Farmers State Bank; Southern Infrastructure & Construction, LLC to Ralph Rinaldi; Tap Rentals, LLC to Farmers State Bank; Samuel Ussery and David Ussery to Farmers State Bank; Kenneth Daniel Knight to Georgia First Bank; Meridian Property, LLC to Farmers State Bank; Rebecca Pullen to Planet Hone Lending, LLC; Meridian Property, LLC to Farmers State Bank; Travis West to Mutual of Omaha mortgage, Inc.; Chiquita

Anderson and Earl Anderson to Rocket Mortgage, LLC; Julee Bailey to Georgia United Credit Union; Cochran Brothers Company LLC and Willow Divide Properties, LLC to First Laurens Bank; Edwards Family Holdings, LLC to Community Bank of Dublin-Laurens County (4); Tyrus Jahmal Irwin to Community Bank of Dublin-Laurens County; Old Pine Media LLC to Bank South; Wimberly Properties Holdings LLC to Synovus Bank; Angela Leigh Ivey to Planet Home Lending, LLC; Deanna S. Douglas to Bank of Dudley; Lester George Lombard and Mary Hogan Lombard to The Citizens Bank of Cochran; Northsouth Ventures LLC to Sunmark Community Bank; Benjamin L. Harrell to Freedom Mortgage Corporation; Edward Tyrone Turner and Cassandra White Turner to Capital City Home Loans, LLC; James T. Stinson and Allison R. Stinson to Colony Bank; George Russell Lane to Durden Banking Company, Inc.; Keith R. Walker to Mortgage Research Center, LLC dba Veterans United Home Loans; Albert Whitley to Cardinal Financial Co.; K&J Services LLC to First Laurens Bank; Brian Moten Jr. to Pennymac Loan LLC; Jemal John Adams, Antoinette M. Adams to Colony Bank; JWJ Investment Properties LLC to Bank of Dudley; Britnie Jane Pittman to South-west Stage Funding LLC dba Cascade Financial Services; Faith and Freedom, Sober Living LLC to Charlie Keith Hall; Amber Olsen to Pennymac Loans Service LLC; Joseph Mathews Jr. to Citizens Bank of Laurens County; Clique Properties LLC to Georgia First Bank; New Jasmine Lane Apartments of Ga. LLC to United States Agriculture, Rural Housing Service; New Jasmine Lane Apartments of Ga. LLC to Churchill Mortgage Investment LLC; Melvins E. Summer to Crosscountry Mortgage LLC; Jeremy Mobley to Georgia First Credit Union; Jennifer Lynn Graham to Rocket Mortgage LLC; John R. Jump to Rocket Mortgage LLC; Harley Lopez to Farmers State Bank; Kenton V. Eiland, Jennifer W. Eiland to Robins Financial Credit Union; William Cody Brune to 1st Signature Lending LLC

Warranty deeds: Jared James Olson to Kyle Roberts and Jennifer Roberts; Barbara Tamara Dame to James Jason Howell and Rhonda Lynn Howell; Dyes Properties, LLC to William T. McKinley; Orton Holdings, L.L.L.P. to Agree Stores, LLC; James B. Wood to James Trenton Wood; Kelly Purvis to Noble Land Partners, LLC; Dewayne Francis Knight and Kay Knight to Danielle Katelyn Knight; Williams W. Giddens to Williams Waymon Giddens and Jan Giddens; Teresa Lynne Gardner to The Land Barons, LLC; Faithful Generations Farms, LLC to Eddie Hayward Floyd and Christina Dixon Floyd; Faytrice Currie to Jonathan Wynne Smith; Perry Q. Rowland and Rhonda Lynn Rowland to Elizabeth Rowland

Wilkins and Jennifer Lynn Blackmon; Tyler Blake Hester to Kevin Hugh Baggett, trustee of the Kevin Hugh Baggett living trust; Daniel Eric Grimes and Danielle Shay Grimes to Luke Price and Madeline Price; Brenda Chain to Dublin Downtown Development Authority; Jacob Sconziano to DJ Garrett LLC; Ralph Rinaldi to Southern Infrastructure & Construction, LLC; Kenneth Daniel Knight to Jae Mac, LLC; Tristan Seale and Tiana Seale to Samuel Ussery and David Ussery; Deborah Turner aka Debbie Turner to Kenneth Daniel Kight; Bravo One, LLC to Meridian Property, LLC; Bravo One, LLC to Meridian Property, LLC; Joyce C. Kemp to Donald L. Gresham; Kelly Purvis and Donna Ann Purvis Schoeneck to Noble Land Partners, LLC; Noble Land Partners, LLC to Sandra K. Allen and Genevieve Jackson; Dublin Downtown Development Authority to Total Earth Services, LLC; Jamie L. McKnight aka Jaime McKnight; WJH LLC to Chiquita Anderson and Earl Anderson; Jackie McNeal Whittle to Hur Muhammad and Faiza Ghazanfar; J.D. Edwards Properties LLC to Edwards Family Holdings, LLC; Oconee Holding Company to Old pine Media LLC; Wayne Kemp to Kimberly Renee Subramany and Rudolph Subramany; Arrowhead Timberland & Lake Investments, LLC to Deanna S. Douglas; Joe Matthews Jr. to Lester George Lombard and Mary Hogan Lombard; D3 Properties, LLC to Northsouth Ventures, LLC; Advanced Business and Property Solutions, LLC to Edward Tyrone Turner and Cassandra White Turner; Yvonne Barnes to Felipe Aguilar; Redneck LLC to George Russell Lane; Berhat Investments, Inc. to Edward Gadson; KMCR Properties, LLC to Keith R. Walker; KMCR Properties, LLC to K&J Service, LLC; Offishal Logistics LLC to Masah Anthony Morris; Howell Framing LLC to Jemal John Adams, Antoinette M. Adams; Claude Lee Sutton to JWJ Investment Properties LLC; Christian Family Recovery Centers Inc. to Faith and Freedom, Sober Living LLC; Taneika Shekina Kurtz to E.C.S. Realty LLC; William Merrill Sorenson to David Faulkner, Denise Ann Faulkner; Lakeway Road Solar LLC to Natural Resources Conservancy Inc.; Chris Rawlins to Georgia Boyz Inc. of Eastman; Sheila Ann May, aka Shelia Ann May to Clique Properties LLC; Ann Edmond Garden Apartments LTD to New Jasmine Lane Apartments of Ga. LLC; D&W Development Inc. to Jennifer Lynn Graham; Thomas A. Ribal to Tracie Leigh White; Jerry L. Davidson, Shirleen O. Davidson to John R. Jump; Elizabeth Copeman to Paul Copeman, Elizabeth Copeman; Christopher Allen to Alicia Najera Ruiz; Benjamin Cole Bizzelle to Harley Lopez; Oconee Holding Co. to Robert Morris; Donald Hugh Garrett, Robert Keith Garrett to Robert Keith Garrett, William Cody Brune

RELIGION DIGEST

MLK Community Impact Awards will be held at 10 a.m., Sunday, Jan. 18 at St. Peter Baptist Church, 912 Martin Luther King Dr. Join us as the church honor local community leaders for their impact and service.

9th day of January in the year 2026.
Melissa Scott
Notary Public
January 20, 27, 2026

invited to come out.

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

Alligood hits 1K in Trinity split with CCA

Lady Falcons score 84 in rout, Makaya's miracle shot at buzzer keys OT win for EL boys on unforgettable night at Jefferson Co.

By **CLAY REYNOLDS**
Sports Editor

Everybody who'd been tasked with secrecy managed to keep an upcoming milestone for Trinity's Maddie Grace Alligood on the down-low, in accordance with a her team's recent tradition of withholding news of players' 1,000th career point as a surprise for the moment it happens.

The all-region forward had, for some time, been closing in on the achievement, though delays tied to scheduling and an injury drug out the wait from mid-December until the Lady Crusaders' return to the court for Monday's game against Citizens Christian, which she entered in need of five.

Alligood remained in the dark right up until moments before tipoff, when she was tipped off to the news by — of all people — a game official who didn't realize he was supposed to keep the piece of info under his hat, and made casual mention of the fact during the crew's customary pregame chat with players of both teams.

"When we were in the captain's speech, the ref actually said, 'Isn't somebody hitting 1,000 tonight?' And I was like, I guess so. I don't know," Alligood said. "He was the one that spilled the beans, but I would've had no clue."

The reaction of the Clyde Evans Fieldhouse crowd, which exploded with cheers as an impressive number of handmade congratulatory posters popped up throughout the seats with her third basket of the night to take the total to 1,001, made evident that she would have been the only one in the building outside the loop.

After sinking the point-blank jumper, Alligood stepped directly into the embrace of teammate Brinley Vinson, who'd reached this point herself earlier in the season, followed by the rest of Trinity's starting five.

She acknowledged the long ovation, and was presented the game ball as a keepsake of the moment, which highlighted another dominant performance for the Trinity girls on their way to a third-straight win, 74-48, in Monday's split with the Patriots.

The Crusaders' short-handed boys came up on the losing end, 82-46, in their re-start to the season marking a final tune-up before the start of region play Tuesday on the road.

To the surprise of no one...

This moment, and similar 1,000-point celebrations for Vinson along with classmate Maddy George that have come within the past year, seemed like only a matter of time when each of the three players first broke onto the scene as difference-making freshmen back in 2022.

The development and maturation of that core, which also includes an equally instrumental fourth senior in Addie Kendrick, has been the overarching theme of a four-year run for the Lady Crusaders (including more than 50 wins, two region titles, two Final Fours and one state championship game berth last year) as successful as any in the 15-year tenure of head coach Lacey Shepherd.

The "dynamic" group's accomplishments, individual and collective, now include an all-time first for the program, which has never had more than two in the same class of players to become 1,000-point scorers.

"I think it just shows how outstanding they really are," Shepherd said. "They've



MG 1K: Teammates Maddy George, Addie Kendrick, Brinley Vinson and Chloe Rozier move in for a group hug after Maddie Grace Alligood (24) scored her 1,000th career point Monday night/**CLAY REYNOLDS**

worked hard in the off-season, which has been able to get them where they are, and they continue to work hard. They, of course, are pushing for a state championship, and had a taste of it last year. I really think that they're just an incredible group of girls on and off the court. So it's so fun to watch them cheer on one another."

From their early playing days, the group has been marked by versatility, evident in box scores that never seem to have one player in the scoring lead of more than about two games in a row, as well as the distinct sense of chemistry underlying their fluid style of play on both ends of the court.

"We've been playing together since fifth grade, and we're all best friends on the outside," Vinson said. "I think just playing with your friends something really special. We're not selfish. We just want the best for each other, and I think that's just special."

Shepherd attributes their success to not only complimentary personalities, but the experience that's come as a product of the early baptism by fire into varsity competition they experienced in ninth grade. The lofty expectations that were placed on their shoulders way back in that first season, looking back, never turned out to be too big.

"They have played so long together, and we haven't had a lot of seniors ahead of them, so they've gotten a lot of playing time from an early age," Shepherd said. "It's been really neat to watch them develop over just the last four years. But they're not just basketball players. They're so special. Off the court, it's really like having four extra daughters for (assistant coach Jay Shepherd) and I. It's fun to be able to push them and make them better and then, you know, love them when you're on the court and off the court."

George, who coincidentally hit quadruple digits this same time a year ago as the Lady Crusaders returned from their extended January break, was first to get there midway through her junior year.

Vinson, finishing up last March in the high 900s, didn't need long into a first game back this season to do the same. As a matter of fact, the big moment came in the very first minute of the new campaign with her's and Trinity's first points of opening night at FPD, where a great turnout of Trinity fans made it just as special an occasion.

"It was awesome," Vinson said. "I loved every moment of it. I love being a part of this team, too. They always celebrate us. So it was fun."

Monday night carried a special sense of emotion for Alligood, whose completion of that 1,000-point mission was no guarantee going into a senior season clouded by the uncertainty of a torn ACL she suffered during the

summer.

But the moderate severity of the injury allowed her to play through it, and fortunately so for the Trinity softball team, which probably wouldn't have made it back to the state tournament without her pitching.

"I tore it in June, so I didn't really know if I was gonna be able to even play sports at all," Alligood said. "But thankfully I have. I got through softball with no problem. It was just fine. Basketball is a little bit more of a gamble, you know, because you've got to pivot."

A brief setback in December, which thankfully cleared up with some time off to rest, has been the only issue she's run into since shifting to hoops with the hope of finally reaching this moment.

Though there were far too many signs to read in a single glance, one of the dozens visible in the stands as Alligood soaked in the achievement had to stand out with its especially poignant message: "You only need on ACL to spell miracle."

Getting back to work...

The Trinity girls were, not surprisingly, a bit rusty in the first few minutes of Monday's re-start, on the heels of a 10-day layoff.

The gap in the schedule — a fixture for the past handful of seasons — coincides with a schoolwide service and missions emphasis that dedicates students' first week back from the holidays to various local projects and international trips.

A hot-shooting CCA put the ball in the basket several possessions in a row to jump out to a quick lead as the Lady Crusaders tried to get back in their rhythm. But they'd rediscover that groove by early in the second quarter, at which point both Alligood and Vinson had more than carved out a foothold inside.

"After service week, normally you would think you would come back and have to work out a few kinks, but tonight, I feel like we came back pretty strong and didn't have much of a problem," Alligood said.

She had 22 points, and Vinson 19, to power an interior machine that CCA couldn't defend, or rival with a 27-point night from its frontcourt leader Arabelle Roberts.

The Lady Crusaders' mixture of defenses, and full-court pressure picking on some younger guards tasked with getting her the ball, seemed to wear the Lady Patriots down as the night went on.

Their 17-14 lead after the first quarter grew by eight in the second and nine in the third as George delivered an additional 15 points, and Chloe Rozier eight, to the balanced effort.

George was responsible for half of the team's six 3-pointers on a somewhat modest night from outside.

The success rate, for a

lot of teams, would be nothing to sneeze at. But it was still a bit off the pace Trinity has set in recent games, and for much of this season.

"I think we struggled a little bit shooting tonight, coming off of that many days of no in-game practice," Shepherd said, emphasizing that being just as tough to defend in both areas of the floor on a consistent basis is what will make the Lady Crusaders a team to be reckoned with when the postseason rolls around late next month.

"We've all got to be hitting on our best. We've got to have our post game, solid, strong, stay out of foul trouble, and then we've got to have our shooters," she said. "We have, you know, those five that start, and all shoot 3s. And so, I think, on a night when they try to stop us inside and they can hit those 3s, they're gonna be unstoppable."

The absence of center Jamarion Ricks down front put Trinity's boys at a major disadvantage in the rematch with a well-rounded CCA team they lost to by 22 earlier in the season.

That void inside, rather than the simple growing pains of a young lineup still gaining its confidence back in November, was the source of the Crusaders' struggles on the offensive end, where 6-foot-5 center Blake Bryant (the Pats' flamethrowing Clemson baseball commit) was once again a defensive obstacle that made attacking the middle impractical, and rebounds tough to get at around either basket.

A tag team of Carter Lee and Alston Bryan did its best to keep him out of the paint, off the boards and to only five first-half points.

But cooling off the Patriots' outside shooters was a much different story.

CCA hit 13 as a team, and Landon Tanner three out of its six before the half, to put Trinity under some constant pressure to stay on the brisk pace.

Nine points by Jagger George and two 3s in a row, by Hayden Bowles kept the Crusaders within three after the first eight minutes, but a dearth of answers in their five-point second period created a double-digit gap as the Patriots put up 14 on their way into the break.

Trinity's own long-range game, which produced more 3-point field goals (10) than 2s (only six) on the night, would be its only real offense as things picked back up in the second half... but for both teams.

CCA's Bryant, throwing down a second rafter-rattling dunk of the night while knocking down three triples in a 14-point third quarter, and Gray McLean, who hit a second and third 3-pointer on his way to eight in the fourth, kept the RPMs up to outscore the Crusaders by 12 in both stanzas.

Bowles canned four 3s in the last to finish with seven, good for all of his team-leading 21. George added two



SUPER BOWLES: Hayden Bowles knocked down seven 3-pointers (this one his second of back-to-back in the first quarter) to score the equivalent of seven touchdowns as the Crusader points leader in Monday's big game/**CLAY REYNOLDS**

from deep, and all but one of Trinity's 2s (Bryan was credited with the lone other on a third-quarter putback) to finish with 17.

Bryant (with 25) Tanner (sinking four 3s to reach 18), McLean (15) and Miller Hutchinson (a fourth in double figures with 12) combined to lead the Patriots.

East Laurens girls 84, Jefferson Co. 7

Deanna Lowther (16 points, 12 rebounds, six steals and three blocks), Garyunna Mitchell (15 points, 13 boards and seven steals), Amari Kellam (13 points) and Zahmaria Robinson (11 points, five steals) accumulated some impressive numbers, though there were plenty of stats left in all columns to account for some other strong performances on the part of D'Nya Rozier, Jameria Bing, Layla Tanner, Quean Washington and Mi-yah Smith, who each offered an additional 4-7 points to a scoring total that appears to be the Lady Falcons' highest in a game since Nov. 20, 2018 (when they dropped 85 on Harlem in a first of that season's three 80-plus point efforts).

East Laurens (11-3, 5-1) gave up Jefferson County's lone field goal of the first half in between its early runs of 16 and 14 unanswered points, before scattering another 17 around a couple of isolated free throws over the rest of the 47-4 first half.

East Laurens boys 62, Jefferson Co. 60

A desperate 3-point-er that Braylon Makaya released — off of one foot from over 26 feet out — with no more than half a second remaining on the clock swished at the horn to force overtime, and the Falcons made the most of the miracle finish by outscoring Jefferson County 10-8 from there to pull off their sixth-straight win Tuesday night in Louisville.

East trailed by six with 1:43 to go in regulation of the back-and-forth game, and was still down to its last hopes as the deficit lingered at four with about 13 remaining. But Jeremiah Rozier saved one from out of bounds for a Bryson Hazley basket that made it a two-point game, and the Warriors broke their streak of seven-straight missed free throws with the second of a pair to lead by three as the Falcons geared up for their last chance.

Hazley got the inbound, and narrowly avoided a mishap as he double-clutched a pass and gave up control of his dribble. Rozier had to come to his rescue in the backcourt, but got the ball to Makaya deep on the right wing with just enough time left for the catch-and-shoot that found bullseye.

Jefferson County, after a stop denied Keyshaun Lee's go-ahead attempt and Rozier stretched the Falcons' lead to the final two at the foul line, was called for a

PREP SCHEDULE

BASKETBALL
Friday Trinity at Brentwood Howard at West Laurens Washington Co. at Dublin /6 p.m. Dodge Co. at East Laurens /7 p.m.
Saturday EL at Treutlen/5 p.m. Dublin at Johnson Co. /6 p.m.
Tuesday Central Fellowship at Trinity Dublin at Dodge Co. EL at Brentwood WL at Aquinas/6 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 23 Dublin at EL Gatewood at Trinity Hephzibah at WL/6 p.m.

backbreaking double dribble as it tried to advance the ball for one more opportunity as East ran out the clock at the end of OT.

Zion Dixon and Major Floyd had 10 each for the Eastside scoring lead. Makaya finished with eight.

West Laurens girls 71, Westside Augusta 46

Brooklyn Jackson (26 points) and Maddie Ridgway (23) stayed hot, and Ja'Halee Snead put up an additional 12, as the Lady Raiders pulled away late to claim their second-straight win.

Westside, amazingly, managed to tie the score back up at 17s early in the second quarter after West Laurens raced out to a 13-1 lead from the tip. The cycle repeated as the Lady Raiders rattled off 12 unanswered, for a 30-22 lead at the half, but hit another lull midway through the third quarter.

They'd finally put the Patriots away as the lead swelled back to double digits (13) by the end of the period, scoring 24 against their 11 in the fourth to ride off into the sunset.

Westside 79, West Laurens boys 74

The Raiders (3-14, 1-9 region 4-AAA) were well within striking distance of a second region win as they made their move, after playing from an average of 2-4 points back since halftime, to tie and take the lead at the end of the third quarter.

Westside, though, would surge back in front with a run to start the fourth, and led by too big a number as West Laurens made a few late stabs — narrowing the gap to five on a Brandon Stephens 3-pointer with 2:40 to go, and to four later at the foul line — but never got back within one possession.

Dublin girls 64, Toombs Co. 59

A 17-9 third quarter gave the Lady Irish (6-7, 2-3 region 2-High A) an upper hand late, and Khalil Maddox scored the final six points (with a 3, a 2 and a free throw) to preserve their four-point lead.

Toombs Co. 56, Dublin boys 47

A combined 10-point shortfall for the Irish (3-9, 0-5 region 2-High A) in quarters 2 and 3 was their undoing as the Bulldogs stayed just out of reach, and hung on to split Tuesday's non-region set in Lyons.

Jaydon McRae went off for 22 points, and Jakarian Jones had seven rebounds and three steals. But Toombs, led by Parker Stanley's 19 points, eight rebounds and four blocked shots, relied on a narrow defensive edge to overcome its negative disparity in turnovers, field goal and free throw percentage.



DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEAR ABBY: To help out his parents, I pick up my grandson from day care two days a week. I recently started taking him to a local park for about 45 minutes before I take him home. I'm physically active and climb the slides, chase him around and play with him. He loves our time together.

Over the last two weeks, there has been a little 6-year-old girl at the park who seems to be on her own. Her parents, I assume, are in the parking lot. They are not in the park play area.

The time we are there is the same time school gets out, so I'm sure she goes there every day after school. She has attached herself to us and wants me to go down the slide with her, push her on the swings and chase her constantly, and she asks me to watch her do this or that. Whatever we are doing, she is right there.

She is cute and sweet, but she is taking my time away from my grandson. Also, my grandson is annoyed at someone else demanding my time which also distracts me from keeping a close eye on him. There isn't another park we can go to that is nearby, and he loves this particular one. The girl is always there when we go. At first, I tried to include her in our play but that made it worse because she wanted more attention.

I am a retired teacher, so I understand she is craving attention from an adult, but she's really impeding on our play time together. How do I politely ask her to leave us alone? -- DISTRACTED GRANDMA IN FLORIDA

DEAR GRANDMA: You are assuming that the little girl HAS a parent in the parking lot. The next time you see her, ask her who is there with her -- mom, dad, aunt, caregiver? If you do, you can either meet the person and explain the problem or realize that no responsible adult is looking after her. If this is the case, for heaven's sake, report it to the school or CPS because leaving her all alone is child endangerment.

DEAR ABBY: I am a 66-year-old woman who has worked full time for 47 years, in addition to raising two children and maintaining a home. I will be retiring in three months because, honestly, I'm tired of the rat race.

I'm single and don't have a boyfriend. I have plenty of friends and family, but I'm increasingly nervous about what I'll do with my spare time. I know I should feel happy and grateful that I'm able to retire, but at the same time, I'm having anxiety over this freedom. Have you any suggestions to offer? -- STOPPING SOON IN TEXAS

DEAR STOPPING: Start making a list of what your interests are. Your retirement years could offer you the chance to travel and see the wonders this country has to offer. You could take adult education classes at a nearby college or university. You might like to volunteer some time on projects or charities in your community. Or you could just hang out with friends. How you choose to spend your free time is entirely up to you and limited only by your imagination.

SUDOKU

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			6	8				
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				4	9			
8	3							

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!

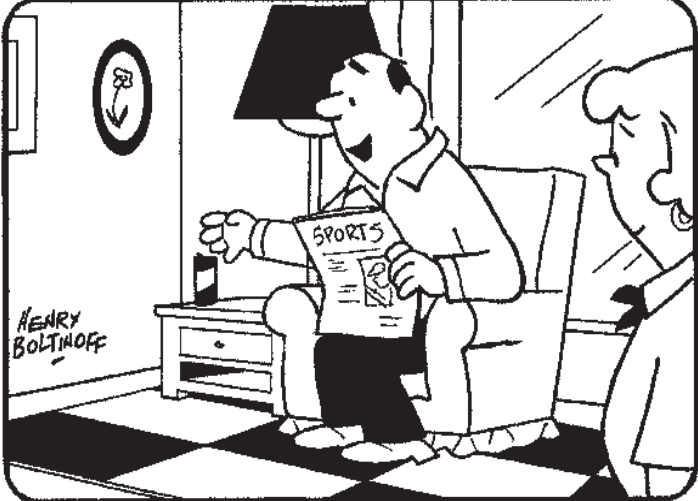
Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear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

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

ANSWER:

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTHOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Arm is shorter. 2. Windshield is higher. 3. Bow is larger. 4. Paper is longer. 5. Lampshade is different. 6. Sleeve is different.

THE Daily Commuter Puzzle by Stella Zawistowski

- ACROSS**
1 Actor Richard
5 Navigator's map
10 "What's the big
?"
14 Former lovers
15 Eagle's nest
16 In the area
17 Opposite of west
18 Defunct airline:
2 wds.
19 "I double-dog
you!"
20 Florida NFL
team: 2 wds.
23 Bit of data
24 Pull with effort
25 Former military
member
28 Snarky replies
32 Egg cells
33 Least speedy
35 Part of a timeline
36 Criminal, for
short
37 "___ Boot" (1981
film)
38 Peach center
39 Dog lovers'
society: Abbr.
40 Gift
44 University of
Utah athlete
45 Classic VWs
47 Browned, as
bread
49 "You've Got Mail"
brand: Abbr.
50 Sweet Sixteen
group: Abbr.
51 Football and
rugby: 2 wds.
57 Temperament
58 Leafy shelter
59 Lean
61 Make woozy
62 ___ Lodge
63 Lion's sound
64 Bouquet part
65 Endures
66 Jealous feeling

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14									15			16
17									18			19
	20			21					22			
25	26					27		28		29	30	31
32				33			34				35	
36							37				38	
39				40	41			42	43		44	
45			46					47		48		
			49					50				
	51	52				53	54	55				56
57						58				59		60
61						62				63		
64						65				66		

Created by Stella Zawistowski

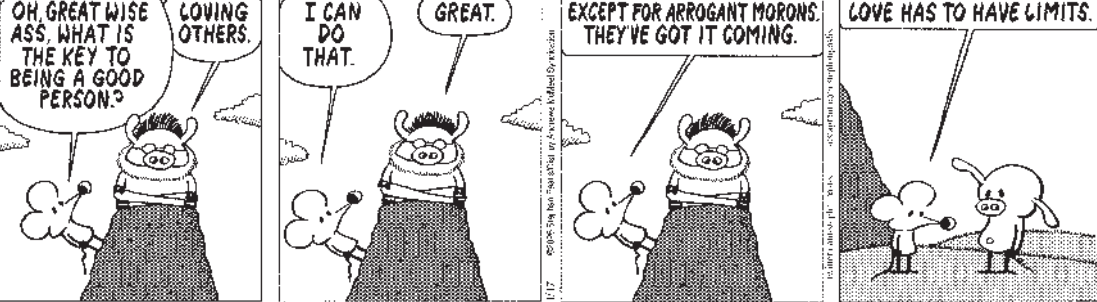
- 3 Active opposition
4 Fancy home
5 Paris, London, or
Berlin
6 ___ of the class
7 Tuscany river
8 Omani currency
9 Religious
buildings
10 The "I" in ROY
G. BIV
11 Actor James
12 Elephant's
prominent
features
13 "___ you okay?"
21 The Red Planet
22 Jabba the ___
25 SAT prep
subject, for short
26 Call to mind
27 Masses of tissue
28 Put back to zero
29 Good name
30 Overused
31 Fully filled
34 "That ___ the best
day ever!"

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

- 40 Novel's storyline
41 Put a new tag
on
42 Amateurs
43 Folded food
46 Bike for a couple
48 Author Jean-
Paul
51 Layer of paint
52 Seep
53 ___-Cola
54 Deuces in a
deck
55 Shipped
56 Serb or Croat
57 Healthcare
degrees: Abbr.
60 Attempt

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

BY STEVE PASTIS



GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS



OVERBOARD

BY CHIP DUNHAM



DEFLOCKED

BY JEFF CORRIVEAU



The importance of snow

As snowflakes form in the clouds and fall to the earth, they collect nitrogen and other particulates like sulfur from the atmosphere. These nutrients will serve as natural fertilizers later on. As these flakes collect on the ground and form thick, mounded heaps of snow, this provides excellent insulation and shelter for the vulnerable garden beds beneath. The soil, the organisms in the soil and root systems are now protected from severe temperature fluctuations and icy winds. As the months become warmer, the melting snow gently releases moisture and nutrients into the soil. – Brenda Weaver

Sources: nsidc.org, www.almanac.com, mothernatureapprentice.com

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Saturday, January 17, 2026

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH BOB JONES

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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q 1 - Neither vulnerable, as South, you hold: Q 4 - Both vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ A K 10 ♥ J 8 6 5 ♦ A Q 7 ♣ A 7 6 ♠ Q J 10 9 7 4 ♥ Void ♦ K J 7 6 5 ♣ K 7

Right-hand opponent opens 1D. What call would you make? As dealer, what call would you make?

Q 2 - North-South vulnerable, as South, you hold: Q 5 - North-South vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ K 10 9 4 ♥ A K Q 6 4 ♦ Void ♣ J 7 6 4 ♠ 7 ♥ 10 7 6 ♦ K Q 10 5 ♣ A K 6 5 4

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST 1♥ Pass 2NT* Pass As dealer, what call would you make?

*Game-forcing heart raise, at least four trumps Q 6 - East-West vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ A 10 8 5 4 ♥ 8 ♦ A 10 6 5 3 ♣ 10 8

What call would you make? NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST 1♣ Pass 1♠ Pass

Q 3 - East-West vulnerable, as South, you hold: What call would you make?

♠ K Q 10 7 5 ♥ K J 7 ♦ 3 ♣ A K Q 9

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST 1♠ 2♥ Pass Pass Look for answers on Monday.

What call would you make? (Bob Jones welcomes readers' responses sent in care of this paper.)

PORTER
Continued from page 1

heart of Georgia,” said Porter. “Expanding the essential work of these newspapers strengthens communities and fosters local engagement. I believe strongly in the power of independent, community news and

I’m looking forward to continuing to build investment and support for the vibrancy of our publications in Georgia’s rural communities.”
Interested candidates for the executive director position can learn more and apply at <https://www.nationaltrustforlocalnews.org/careers>.

DUBLIN BAND
Continued from page 1

The board also was asked to consider a contract with O’Malley Music, and former West Laurens band director Michael Dukes, to continue as educational rep, providing repairs and rental instruments. The contract was not the lowest bid, but as a local resident Dukes can provide repairs and replacement instruments much quicker than an out-of-town rep.
“Over five years, he’s probably given us \$10,000 to \$15,000,” Rayner said of Dukes. “We’ve got to give back to the people who have been giving and floating us for years.”
Lanier asked Rayner to provide the oth-

er bids for comparison.
“That’s information that the board needs to see,” he said.
Rayner’s pitch seemed to strike a chord with the board. Member JoAnna Glover thanked students for attending in support of the band and encouraged them to continue pursuing their passion.
“Showing up now shows they are concerned about what is going on at the school,” Glover said. “Performing is an art. It shows your talent. It shows who you are.”
“What you put out when you breathe into your instrument ... that’s a part of you that you’re putting out there to the world, saying, ‘Listen.’ And we hear you.”



FIRE FROM ON HIGH

Last week, the Dublin Fire Department provided some spectacular aerial photos of a blaze that destroyed a building off East Jackson Street. Here’s another shot from the man at the drone’s controls, Nicholas Lassiter, showing firefighters working to control the blaze/**NICHOLAS LASSITER, Special Photo**

CELEBRATE RECOVERY
Continued from page 1

you are having to work on yourself or you are having to overcome some bad decisions and downfalls in your life, you need somebody to come along and pick you up.”
He said those who usually attend the meetings already have their heads down because they are embarrassed and some do not know about hope. Bell comes in the room and kicks everything off with laughter.
“I want them to realize they are OK,” Bell said. “I’m hoping to change the atmosphere of their recovery. I want them to stop beating themselves up and start picking themselves up. We’re not trying to guilt people into coming clean or getting healed. There is a way you can do that with a smile on your face. We want to show people that they can get the healing and not be in the dumps all the time.”
And laughter is a good way to do that.
“Laughter tears down walls,” Bell said. “Whenever

you start laughing, you start tearing down a wall, and we are then able to put encouragement in purpose inside of you. We are using what God created in the form of laughter and we’re using it to help people who need it the most. Coming in to a meeting like this gives us an opportunity to love on them and give them hope. It’s a night where they are not getting beat up or trampled on. It’s just a new way of looking at recovery and a new way of looking at healing.”
Bell wants to continue to go to Celebrate Recovery meetings between his comedy tours. Bell was no stranger to Laurens County, performing with Jason Crabb at Theatre Dublin in 2021. He can be found on social media.
“We have started seeing a definite increase in followers and views,” Bell said. “People start recognizing you when you go out from the videos. We can use social media to encourage people we may never see.”
Bell’s shows are clean. He said he had to choose which way he wanted to go. But because he is a Christian, he de-

cided to keep his act clean.
“That, and also, my mother is still alive,” Bell said. “I didn’t want to die before I was supposed to. But when you do clean comedy, that allows you to be able to entertain the entire family and not just the older segment of the family. It is always a good thing when the whole family can come out and enjoy a clean comedy show.”
Bell has written several books and starred in three films last year, all in the editing process.
“They will hopefully be coming out later this year,” Bell said.
One of those films is called “The Holy One,” from JCFilms, which stars Kevin Sorbo. Bell said it is about a golfer who gets involved with the Las Vegas mob.
Celebrate Recovery meets every Monday at DBC, starting at 6:45 p.m.
“We have testimonies every other week,” Falk said. “People who have been through it and they are called by Jesus Christ. When they start talking, those testimonies are really powerful.”

CHIPPER
Continued from page 1
ter for a fishing habitat.
“I had told folks to do that,” Wilson said. “And they did.”
Bring One for the Chipper, held in the Home Depot shopping center, was the first event in 2026. It will not be the last.
“This is going to be a big year for Keep America Beautiful, Keep Georgia Beautiful, and by proxy, Keep Dublin-Laurens Beautiful,” Wilson said. “We’ve got the 250th anniversary of our country coming up.”
Boy Scout Troup No. 65 and Asplundh, who is contractor for Georgia Power, was on site to chip up the trees. Besides the trees, KDLB was also taking up old electronics.
“We want everybody to know that electronics can be taken over to 505 Broad Street in East Dublin any time, Monday through Thursday from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.,” Wilson said. “They’ll accept your cardboard, they’ll accept your single stream recycling and your electronics. That’s a great resource. I just wish people would use it more. Some people are surprised about it. It is a well-kept secret we wish was not well-kept.”
Wilson knows and understands that people get in a hurry and do not notice the trash on the sides of the

roads in the city and county.
“When you take the time to look, instead of thinking about the time getting to your destination, it will almost make you sick to see the trash on the side of the road,” he said. “It is terrible.”
There is a section of Antioch Church Road where trash is picked up every quarter.
“Within five weeks, it looks like we haven’t even been there,” Wilson said. “Trash is everywhere. I don’t understand. There just seems to be certain roads in our counties that seem to just draw litter. I’ve said it before that litter begets litter. What we want to do is clean our country up. We have a beautiful country here, and I don’t think we really give it the respect it deserves.”
Wilson said they have started the Great American Cleanup and it will run through July 4.
“I’d like to encourage everybody to get out and clean up,” he said. “People, churches or civic organizations can give me a call and we will bring out all of the tools they will need to do the cleanup. Maybe we’ll bring a little bit of muscle along, too. We’d like to do as many cleanups as we can between now and our country’s birthday. Perhaps, it’ll be something that will stick.”
For more information, call Wilson at (478) 279-1911.

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Honoring the life and legacy of Martin Luther King Jr.

SPECIAL TO THE COURIER HERALD

The first month of the year is special for a number of reasons, including the opportunity for a fresh start, as millions of people make New Year's resolutions in an effort to turn the page on the previous year.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is nestled in the middle of January and is another day of contemplation and celebration. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was an American Baptist minister, activist, Nobel Peace Prize winner, and one of the most prominent leaders of the civil rights movement. His leadership was fundamental throughout the mid-1950s until his assassination in 1968. King promoted non-

violent tactics that included the March on Washington in 1963.

The third Monday of January is widely celebrated as Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (or MLK Day), and is a federal holiday to honor the life and legacy of this great man. The day presents an opportunity to celebrate and honor Dr. King in notable ways. Here are some of the many ways to celebrate Dr. King and serve in his name.

- Give what you can. Donate money or goods to a nearby charitable organization. This can include donating to a food pantry or dropping off clothing at a homeless shelter.
- Donate time. Dr. King's legacy is a testament to cooperation. When people

work together and support one another, the world becomes a better place for future generations. Volunteering time at a local non-profit organization is a start.

- Watch the "I Have a Dream" speech. Dr. King was a skilled orator, and this speech is about 17 minutes long. Many people know of this speech but may not have listened to it in its entirety, nor have fully absorbed its message. MLK Day is an ideal time to listen to the speech from start to finish.
- Promote equality initiatives. Racism, segregation and inequality remain a problem even today. Use MLK Day as a catalyst for change aimed at promoting equality among all people.
- Spearhead mixers and

other friendly socials. Dr. King espoused a message of kindness and respect for others. By bringing people together from different backgrounds, individuals can learn that they likely have more in common than they realize. Host special social gatherings that can take place on or around MLK Day.

- Plant a tree or another enduring symbol. A Greek proverb says, "A society grows great when old men plant trees in whose shade they know they shall never sit." It means that planting trees represents actions that will benefit future generations, even if the person planting them will not live long enough to reap the benefits. Dr. King facilitated greater racial harmony and peace even though he was not able to enjoy it more fully. Planting a tree in his name will benefit future generations.
- Learn more about Dr.

King. Visit a cultural center that is offering a special MLK Day exhibit; otherwise, read biographies or watch a movie about Dr. King's life and work.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is a celebration of a man who did great things that continue to benefit generations of people who came after him.



“I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word in reality.

This is why right, temporarily defeated, is stronger than evil triumphant.”

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Martin Luther King Jr. Day 2026

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Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

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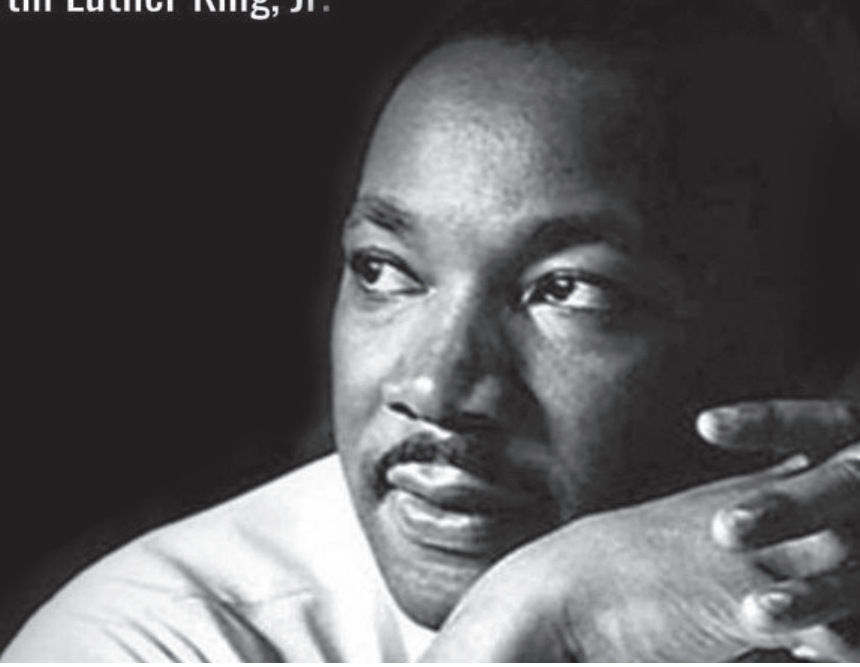
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"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only Love can do that."

~ Martin Luther King, Jr.



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MLK Jr.’s impact around the globe

SPECIAL TO THE COURIER HERALD

Americans pay homage to Martin Luther King, Jr. every January. While King was a renowned leader for his role in the American civil rights movement, his legacy extends beyond American borders. King began to speak about global issues after receiving the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964, visiting countries in west Africa and toured South America. King also spent a month

in India, where he was inspired by Mahatma Gandhi’s use of nonviolence when protesting British rule. King spoke out against apartheid in South Africa and condemned the use of nuclear weapons against Japan during World War II. He also was a critic of the Vietnam War. As a Christian minister, King’s first priority was to promote the teachings of Jesus Christ, and King felt an obligation to do God’s work around the world.

“I have decided to stick to love ... hate is too great a burden to bear.”

- The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

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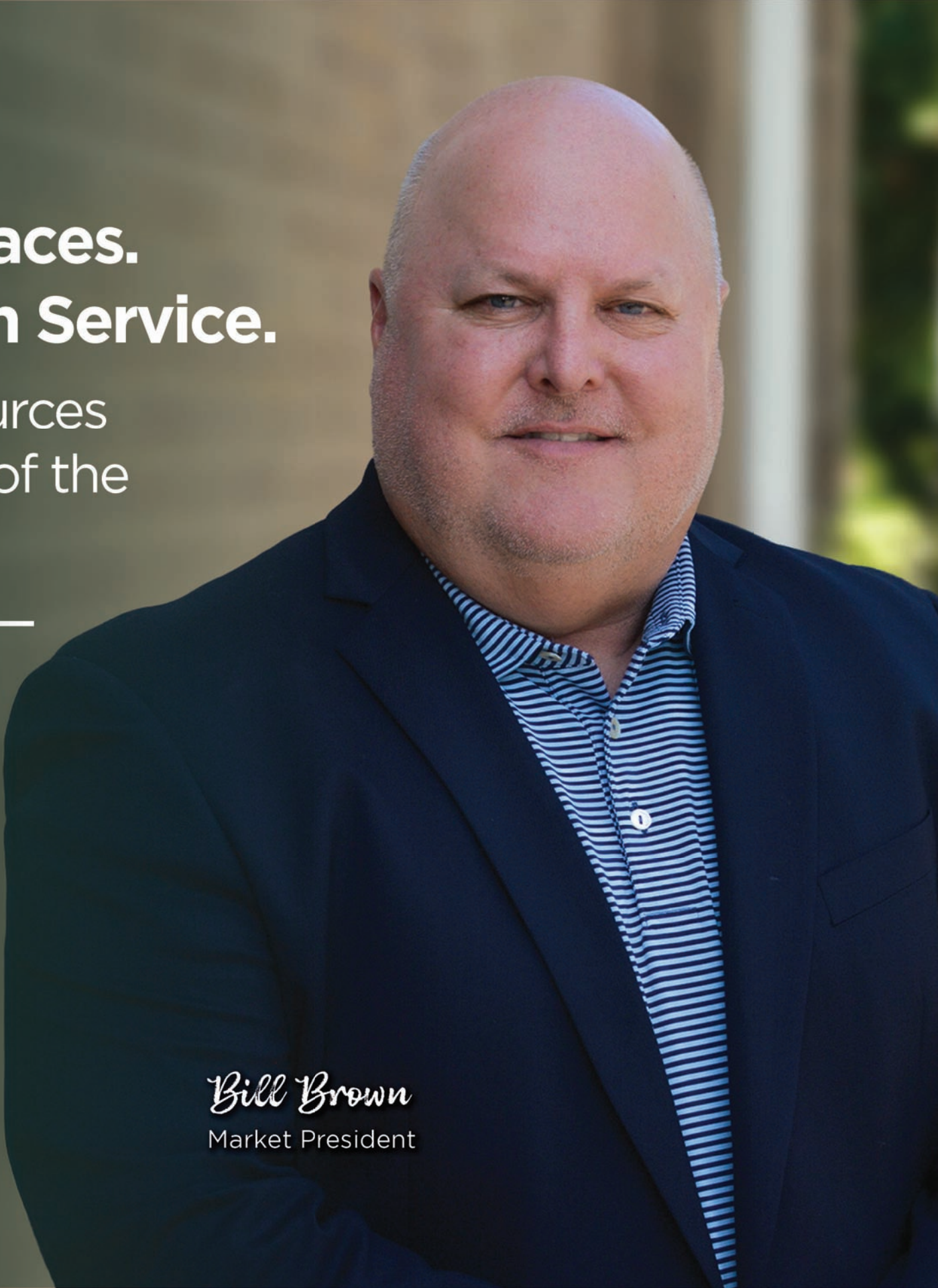


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