

Up the creek: Dudley seeks solution to sewage issues

By KYLE DOMINY and RODNEY MANLEY
Staff Reporters

Two years ago, Jesse Everett and his brother, Jimmy, parked at a nearby bridge and slogged down Turkey Creek to where the city of Dudley's wastewater pond feeds into the stream. Everett had long suspected that following heavy rains, untreated runoff had been spilling over the pond's bank and into the creek. After noticing a septic tank truck pumping from the Dudley pond, the brothers decided to collect a water sample. "I'd see his truck pumping it off. They would call him when they got in the 'red.' I figured that stuff is going in the creek," Everett said. He was right. They took the two-gallon sample to the city of Dublin, which provides paid testing service to the public, and copies of the results show unacceptable levels of e-coli present. "It was bad," Everett said.

During a 2021 expansion project at the Gilman plant, Dublin and Laurens County worked together to extend sewer service to the plant. Officials intentionally installed larger pipe so that the city of Dudley could connect to it later, but that has yet to happen. "The school's dumping in it. What if they want to expand?" Everett asked. "They're building houses up there like crazy, but they have to have septic tanks. Why would they not want (sewer) at the interstate? It's Dudley. It would be a plus for them. I don't know if Dudley's broke or what." Dudley's municipal sewer system is about 60 years old. A series of water mains and service lines move wastewater to the city's near 545,000-cubic-foot treatment pond on Ga. 338, just outside city limits. Water is treated by aeration and chlorination, before being dechlorinated and released back into the natural water system via Turkey Creek. Area growth and aging infrastructure have strained



The city of Dudley has outgrown its wastewater treatment pond and is exploring options through the Universtiy of Georgia Archway Partnership/RODNEY MANLEY

the system. Old pipes allow stormwater to overflow the treatment pond, causing tainted water to spill into the creek. After heavy rainfall, some reports show upwards to 1 million gallons or more of wastewater breaching the pond. The city has issued a moratorium on new sewer connections while seeking a solution it its sewage problems. Officials have appealed to the University of Georgia Archway Partnership for help planning repairs or improvements. In 2025, environmental and civil engineering students visited the treatment pond site. "While Dudley has his-



Dudley has a state permit to release treated wastewater into Turkey Creek, but spillovers after heavy rains have been an issue/SPECIAL PHOTO

DUDLEY POND
Continued on page 10

Why Dublin, Laurens tax bills were really late this year

By RODNEY MANLEY
Staff Reports

Shaun Kahrman began his new job at the Laurens County Tax Commissioner's Office in mid-December, when property tax season typically is winding down. This year, however, it was just getting started. Kahrman's first assignment: answering a "never-ending" flood of phone calls. "Every phone call was, 'Where are the tax bills and when is the due date going to be?' All day long," he said. Laurens County tax bills were mailed on Dec. 23. A few days later, people began showing up to pay. "I've never seen anything like it," recalled Kahrman. "The first couple of days the line was out the door, all day long." No one else has seen anything like it, either. That's because tax bills had never been that late before – and many wanted to pay before year's end for tax return purposes. Georgia counties are required to submit a tax digest to the state Department of Revenue by Sept. 1 of each year, though it is not uncommon to ask for and receive extensions for various reasons. Laurens County requested and was granted four 30-day extensions this year. Without a digest filed and approved by the Department of Revenue, no governmental entity in Laurens County can bill taxes. "That's never happened here

PAY ONLINE: Laurens County taxpayers can look up, print, and pay their property taxes online. For more information, visit tax.laurenscountygapay.com.

before, that fourth extension," said Laurens County Tax Commissioner Darla Brown, who is finishing up her first year in office. "I filed my first extension on Aug. 22, the day that Tom Williamson, chief appraiser, walked in my office and reported to me that the Tax Assessors Office had realized it had sent out property assessment notices on real property, such as homes and land – but had failed to mail out notices on personal property." Personal property includes things like cars, boats and mobile homes, but it also includes business machinery and furniture. In 2024, Laurens County's largest taxpayer, West Fraser, paid \$1 million in personal property taxes alone. Records show a perfect storm of missteps and events leading to the delay in finalizing this year's tax digest, beginning with personal property assessment notices being mailed late on Aug. 22. The tax digest is a compilation of records and data that determine the total taxable value of property in the county, as well as official millage rate certifications by all districts –Laurens County, Laurens County Board of



A sign in the Laurens County Tax Commissioner's Office explains the department's role in the taxing process/RODNEY MANLEY

Education, Dexter, Cadwell, Dudley, Montrose, East Dublin, Rentz, Dublin and Dublin City Schools. All of these submissions must be approved by the state Department of Revenue as part of the completed digest. After that initial delay, the tax commissioner was forced to file for three more extensions on behalf of the county. • On Sept. 25, an extension request was made to finish out the 45-day appeals period, ending on Oct. 6, required by law, to allow for owners to appeal those late personal property notices to the county Board of Assessors. • Another extension was requested Oct. 30 as the tax commissioner's office, which files the final-

ized tax digest with the state before taxes can be collected, was waiting on the school boards and municipalities to set their millage rates. • A tax increase by Dublin City Board of Education contributed to the fourth extension request, filed Nov. 26. The city of Dublin had to wait until the morning after the school board set its millage rate, which could not be approved until three public tax increase hearings were held. Dublin City Council held a special called meeting on Nov. 25 to certify its PT38, which includes DCBOE's millage rate. All documentation was uploaded to Department of Revenue on Nov. 25 by the

LATE TAXES
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Fairview Park named a top medium-sized hospital by Georgia Trend

SPECIAL TO THE COURIER HERALD

Fairview Park Hospital was recently named a top medium-sized hospital in Georgia by Georgia Trend magazine. Each year, Georgia Trend evaluates Georgia hospitals that participate in the Centers for Medicare and Medical Services Hospital Value-Based Purchasing program. Hospitals are placed in different categories based on their size and mission and are ranked by performance in four areas based on data reported by the American Hospital Directory and CMS: clinical outcomes, person and community engagement, safety and efficiency, and cost reduction. Fairview is categorized as a Medium-Sized Hospital in the 100-249 patient bed range. The Georgia Trend ranking release included a short list of 26 hospitals with

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Midstate keeping watch on another round of wintry weather

By PAYTON TOWNS III
Staff Reporter

The wintry weather forecasted for this weekend is predicted to stay north of Dublin and Laurens County. Laurens County Emergency Management Agency Chief Bill Laird said the winter storm is expected to stay above this area, coming as far south as Milledgeville. "The best thing for us to do is to keep our eyes on the weather predictions and keep watching the forecast," Laird said. "Right now we have a low risk of freezing

rain. They don't say no risk, just low risk, because there is always a chance. Folks just need to watch reputable new sources and forecast outlets. They need to be prepared just in case we do see something." Laird has been on webinars with the National Weather Service in Peachtree City for the last couple of days. He did advise for people to rethink their plans if they call for traveling to the north part of the state. "They will be hit the hardest and have the high-

est impact," Laird said. "If you have any travel plans for that area, you may want to postpone them." When it comes to being prepared, Laird said people should always be ready for all weather events throughout the year. "You need to be prepared just in case there are power outages," he said. "You need to have some can foods and things like that that are non-perishable, rather it is boxed foods and a couple of days supplies of water. We may be OK this time, but it could shift south and

we could experience some moderate impacts from it. This is weather. Mother Nature goes where she wants to and where she chooses. "Folks just need to prepare and go ahead and get everything done that you need to have done," Laird added. "It'd be nice if we could sit home Saturday afternoon and Sunday afternoon and just watch it." Laird admitted that weather forecast has improved during the years. "The technology and the different models they use the last several years have

gotten fairly accurate," he said. "The news media, national weather service and local newspaper are the ones to depend on." Gov. Brian Kemp announced a state of emergency for all Georgia counties Thursday ahead of a winter storm expected to dump snow and sleet onto the northern third of the state starting Saturday. The governor said he had called up 500 National Guardsmen for deployment, if necessary. State agriculture and forestry crews are prepared with chainsaws to clear the way for power crews.

OBITUARIES



Keagon Seth Mullis

Graveside funeral services for Keagon Seth Mullis, 23 will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 24, 2026, at Oakdale Baptist Church Cemetery. Rev. Scott Davidson will officiate.

Keagon was born Sept. 6, 2002, in Macon, Georgia. He was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, Olin Wallace "Buddy" Mullis and Susie Dixon Mullis (N.A. "Pa") Attaway, and maternal grandparents, Tommie Faye Kea Foskey and Larry Allen Foskey. He was self-employed as a handyman. He was a member of Mt. Zion Baptist Church. Mr. Mullis passed away Saturday, January 17, 2026.

Keagon is survived by his parents, Scottie and Denise Mullis of Dublin; a daughter, Stella Grace Mullis of Dublin; two brothers, Devin Tyler Mullis (Morgan) of Dublin and Sheldon Scott Mullis of Dublin; and two nieces, Ramsey Mullis and Albee Mullis.

Pallbearers will be Kelton Mullis, C.J. Mullis, Matt McDaniel, Josh Hutchinson, Quinton Tanner, Jeremy Fordham and Ethan Gibbs.

The family will receive friends from 12:30 until 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 24, 2026 at Stanley Funeral Home and Crematory

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



Lawmakers wrestle with removing ballot QR codes as required by law

By MARK NIESSE
Capitol News Service

ATLANTA — Georgia legislators and the state's elections chief lacked a plan Wednesday to stop using computer QR codes for counting ballots before a July 1 deadline.

Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger told a budget committee that the General Assembly hasn't provided any money to upgrade Georgia's voting system, which displays candidates on touchscreens and then prints paper ballots with QR codes containing voters' choices. But a state law passed two years ago mandates that QR codes can't be used to count ballots in elections after July 1, 2026. Critics of Georgia's election system say voters can't verify their votes from unreadable QR codes, which are used for the official vote count. Lawmakers haven't yet introduced a bill that would spend money or outline an alternative to the state's current election technology. Sen. Blake Tillery, R-Vidalia, suggested that every vote could be counted by hand this November — usually over 4 million ballots in midterm elections.

"If we were able to count

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Everett Wallace "Wally" Ellis Jr.

Everett Wallace "Wally" Ellis Jr., 68, of Lake City, passed away peacefully Tuesday morning, Jan. 20, 2026 at his residence with his family by his side after a brief illness. He was born in Dublin, Georgia, on Oct. 30, 1957, to the Late Everett Wallace Ellis Sr. and Evie Jean Rachels Ellis. He made Lake City his home for over the last 40 years and worked as a procurement forester and was a member of Christ Central in Lake City. God was first in Wally's life, and out of God's Love, he loved his family! He was an elder as well as a teacher at Christ Central and he was currently serving as the president of His Heart Worldwide Ministries. In his spare time, Wally enjoyed fishing, hunting, especially turkey hunting, working in the yard with his wife, spending time with his granddaughter and grilling and smoking meat.

He is survived by his loving wife of over 39 years, Sandra "Sandy" Ellis of Lake City; son, Joshua Ellis of Lake City; sister, Susan Ellis Lindsay (Steve) of St. Petersburg; and his granddaughter, Karaline Avri Ellis of Lake City.

A celebration of life service for Mr. Ellis will be conducted on Friday, Jan. 30, 2026, at 3 p.m. in Christ Central with Pastor Lonnie Johns officiating. Interment will follow at a later date in Dublin, Georgia. The family will receive friends for a time of visitation beginning at 2 p.m. at the church prior to the service. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations please be considered to the Renewed Outreach Center of Christ Central in Lake City or to the His Heart Worldwide Ministries in Lake City.

all of them, would you not just be able to certify the hand count there and that suffice to meet the Senate bill's request of not counting the QR code?" Tillery asked Raffensperger.

Raffensperger responded that each ballot can include 16 or 20 races, making it expensive and time-consuming to count each of them by hand. He said he would look into the taxpayer cost of that kind of hand count.

Gov. Brian Kemp's proposed budget includes \$5 million for a statewide hand recount of two races in November, but his spending plan didn't include money to remove QR codes. Raffensperger supported verifying ballots by using text-recognition software to check the results read from QR codes, a method first used after the 2024 election.

Governor declares state of emergency for Georgia, readying state crews, National Guard for snow and ice

By TY TAGAMI
Capitol Beat Service

ATLANTA — Gov. Brian Kemp announced a state of emergency for all Georgia counties Thursday ahead of a winter storm expected to dump snow and sleet onto the northern third of the state starting Saturday, potentially encasing the land in a layer of ice.

In an online briefing from Belgium Thursday, where he was traveling to promote trade, Kemp outlined state preparations for a wintry mix that could slicken roads and pull down power lines, darkening homes for days if temperatures remain as cold as predicted.

The governor said he had called up 500 National Guardsmen for deployment, if necessary. State agriculture and forestry crews are prepared with chainsaws to clear the way for power crews.

His main message: hunker down for the weekend.

"If you can just stay off the roads, that would be a big favor to us," he said, noting that state police, utility crews and salt trucks need open roads to do their work.

The latter will begin brining roadways late Friday night or early Saturday morning. The governor placed the danger zone north of Interstate 20.

The National Weather

Service has a winter storm watch in place in an east-west line just north of the Atlanta suburbs, dipping south as it moves to the east side of Georgia to take in Athens. The forecast calls for "heavy" mixed precipitation of up to two inches of snow and sleet, with ice accumulations of a quarter to three quarters of an inch.

Major potential impacts include travel disruptions and power outages as ice weighs down power lines and tree limbs that can break and fall on them.

Kemp said a drop in expected temperature of just a degree or two could push the danger line southward.

Josh Lamb, director of the state emergency man-

agement agency, advised filling cars with gas and emergency supplies, including snacks and blankets, and to drive cautiously on bridges and overpasses, which tend to ice up faster. But he also encouraged people to stay off the roads.

Lamb said Georgians should prepare their homes by covering pipes, cleaning gutters and stocking a three-day supply of food and water.

Prepare a way to keep cellphones charged while devising a communications backup plan for family members, he said. "Take precautions, don't panic, and please stay informed and stay off the roads."

Senators side with DOJ in fight for Georgia voter list with personal information

By MARK NIESSE
Capitol News Service

ATLANTA — A Georgia Senate panel approved a resolution Thursday calling on Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger to turn over the state's unredacted voter list to the U.S. Department of Justice — including voters' Social Security and driver's license numbers.

The Senate Ethics Committee voted along party lines, with Republicans in support and Democrats opposed, to advance the resolution to a vote by the full Senate.

The resolution doesn't carry the force of law, but it's a symbolic effort to support the Trump administration's nationwide effort to collect voters' data — and

to take aim at Raffensperger, a fellow Republican who is running for governor against Lt. Gov. Burt Jones and Attorney General Chris Carr. Democrats objected to Senate Resolution 563, saying it could result in identity theft if the federal government shares voters' private information with outside organizations in an effort to find noncitizens or double-voters.

"I'm deeply concerned that we are going to spend taxpayer dollars, a lot of them, millions of dollars, if we were to send this data information over and then also compromise the privacy data of our Georgia citizens," said state Sen. Kim Jackson, D-Stone Mountain.

Republicans on the

committee criticized Raffensperger for failing to show up at the hearing and for only providing a public version of Georgia's voter list to the DOJ. Senate Majority Whip Randy Robertson, R-Cataula, said Raffensperger is the one wasting taxpayer money by fighting with the federal government.

The DOJ recently sued Georgia for the full voter list, and a hearing is scheduled in federal court later this month.

"While we like to talk about this information being the most hyper-sensitive information in the world, it's really not, which is why most credit card companies and others use different information now to prevent ID theft," Robertson said.

Raffensperger's office has said in court documents that state law prevents disclosure of voters' Social Security numbers, driver's license numbers, full birth dates and email addresses.

The Courier Herald

LOCAL MATTERS



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

NEWS DIGEST

THE DUBLIN CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION will meet at 6 p.m. Monday in the board office at 207 Shamrock Drive. The agenda includes:

- Call to order
- Invocation/pledge to flag
- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes (June 9, 2025; Dec. 15, 2025; Dec. 16, 2025 (5 p.m. & 6 pm.); Dec.

18, 2025 (5 p.m. 6 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.); Dec. 29, 2025

- DCS board norm/protocol
- Board code of ethics
- Public comments
- Superintendent comments/announcements
- General administration
- Approval for band instruments
- Superintendent search
- Financials
- Monthly financials
- FY23 audit update
- Board member comments
- Executive Session
- Discussion of Personnel
- Discussion of Real Estate
- Discussion of Litigation
- Return to Regular Session
- Approval of Personnel

BIRTHDAYS

Jan. 24
Anna J. Moore
Murray Edward Ward Sr.
Angelise Wynn

Jan. 25
Jaliyah Kelina Evans
Tiffany Holmes

Jan. 26
Cynthia Jenkins
Matlene Pitts
David Stuckey

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Moment of Inspiration
Which Path Am I Walking?

Everyday we make choices that reveal which path we are on. Proverbs reminds us, "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death" (Proverbs 14:12) What feels right to us is not always what is right in God's eyes.

Walking God's path requires trust and surrender. When we lean on our own understanding, we often wander. But when we acknowledge God in all our ways, He promises to direct our steps. His path may not always be easy, but it always leads to life.

Today, pause and ask: Am I following my own plans, or am I trusting God to lead me? When we choose His way, we walk in His peace and purpose.

Prayer: Lord, guide my steps today. Help me trust Your direction over my own and walk faithfully in Your path. 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

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Newspaper locates missing man

Dublin Courier-Herald, Dispatch, And Press

Newspaper publicity met the test again.

This week a Laurens County selective service registrant whose whereabouts was sought by Draft Board No. 1 was located.

John Henry Robinson, colored, reported to the Board today after reading in the Courier-Herald that he had been sent a draft questionnaire and it had been returned because the postman could not locate him.

He explained that he had moved from the address on his registration card and had simply failed to notify his postman or the Board of the change.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE COMMITTEES

Committees of the newly formed Dublin and Laurens County Chamber of Commerce for 1941 were announced today by W.W. Brinson, President, following a meeting f the Board of Directors.

The committees, comprising nearly 60 members, are as follows:

Finance - L.D. Woods, Chairman; George Evans, Brigham White

Membership - Wilbur S. Jones, Chairman; Vincent Simmons, Stanley Reese

Budget - Earl Hilburn, Chairman; F.N. Watkins, Blakeley Parrott

Auditing - C.U. Smith, Chairman; H.C. Waldron, J.M. Couric

Legislative - W.S. Reese, Chairman; Judge R. Earl Camp, E.R. Orr

Publicity - E.W. Vaughn, Chairman; W.M. Harrison, Rev. R.W. Eubanks

Retail Trade - J.F. Pierce, Chairman; E.W. Oatts, E.W. Vaughn, B.H. Samples, D.W. Lovelace

Public Affairs - J.H. Mahoney, Chairman; A.T. Stevens, Jr., R.T. Peacock, George W. Evans, C.F. Ludwig

Civic - R.H. Hightower,Chairman; W.H. Proctor, M.H. Blackshear, Sr., Linton Malone

Agricultural - Cecil E. Carroll, Chairman; W.H. Holmes, Jr., J.B. Bedingfield, W.S. Reese, J.R. Broadhurst

Industrial - L.P. Keen, Chairman; Mayor Dee Sessions, W.H. Lovett, Milo Smith

Program of Work - M. A. Chapman, Chairman; M.W. Jordan, P.M. Watson, A.J. Hargrove

Projects - Dr. C.H. Kittrell,Chairman; Guy V. Cochran, Freeman O'Neal

Transportation - B.H. Lord, Chairman; George T. Morris, W.R. Werden, H.C. Tharpe, E.B. Mackey

Monday of next week will find the Secretary-Manager H.M. Simmons installed in offices in the Citizens and Southern Bank building, Suite 509.

3 VOLUNTEERS LEFT

Two days ago, three more volunteers went from Laurens County for army training.

From Board No.1, Frank Ladson and Leo Hue Hester were ordered to report, and from Board No.2, Henry Coley went.

They were sent to Fort Benning, Columbus.

McKinley Owens and Herschel Ellington were listed by Board No.1 for replacements, if found necessary.

COUNCIL ASKS TAX RAISE

An increase in the city tax limit from 15 to 17 mills will be asked when the legislature meets later this month, according to a resolution adopted by the Dublin City Council.

The need for additional revenue caused a drop in property valuations and homestead exemptions and a demand at the same time for continued public improvements and services are given as the reason for

asking the raise.

The resolutions request Laurens County's two representatives in the assembly, W.H Lovett and Dawson Kea, to introduce the necessary legislation to provide for the increase.

Under Council's plan, revenue from the additional two-mill levy would be earmarked for the city's sinking fund, and net water department revenues, now set aside for that purpose, would be diverted into the treasury for general operating expenses. The higher rate would remain in effect for only six years.

The resolution was introduced by Alderman W.P. Tindol and was unanimously approved by other members of the Council.

In a discussion preceding its adoption, figures were introduced to show the comparative tax rates of Dublin and other cities of similar size in Georgia.

Without exception, the cities listed had a rate of 17 mills or more, the majority of them showing 20 mills and one as high as 22 mills. Cities listed included Carrollton, Cordele, Douglas, Quitman, Bainbridge, Griffin, LaGrange, Moultrie, Tifton, and others.

According to a report filed by council's finance committee, expenditures last year totaled \$8,746.62 more than receipts.

A total of \$115,960.32 was taken in and \$122,696.95 was paid out.

POST OFFICE RECEIPTS

Receipts for the last quarter of 1940, which included the largest volume of Christmas mailings ever handled here, were up ten per cent over the corresponding quarter of 1939. Totals were \$10, 539.31 for the 1940 three-months period as compared with\$9,068.63 for the 1939 period.

The nearest approach to last year's high of total postal sales was the figure for 1929, which fell just short of \$34,000.00, Mr. Guyton added.

United States savings bond sales for 1940 totaled \$46,218.75 a slight decrease over 1939. This amount was net sales or purchase price totals, rather than maturity figures.

Postal receipts at the Dublin Post Office for 1940 were up five per cent over 1939 and set an all-time high here, Postmaster M.J. Guyton announced today.

Total for the year was \$34,152.14. For the year before it was \$32,450.24. This was a gain of \$1,701.90.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Laurens County Board of Education at its first meeting of the new year named Dr. C.J. Bedingfield of Cadwell as the Chairman to succeed W.D. Parkerson, whose term on the Board had expired.

W.M. Herndon continues as Vice Chairman.

Other members of the Board are F.A. Josey, J.M. Blankenship, and Dr. C.G. Moye.

PATROL STATION

Laurens County, City of Dublin, Georgia State Highway officials and members of the Dublin Exchange Club took part in officially turning over the new Highway Patrol Station here upon its completion.

The public is invited to visit the new building, located just off Bellevue Road, which is the new home of the Highway Patrol.

Among those present at the ceremony were Laurens County Commissioner J.F. Graham, State Patrol R.H. Mayo, Mayor Dee Sessions, Dublin City Alderman M.Z. Claxton, County Attorney Carl Nelson, Alderman W.P. Tindol, Stanley Reese, representing the Dublin Exchange Club which sponsored the erection of the building, Patrol Troop-

er Morris, County Commissioners Lamar Thigpen, J.L. Allen, L.O. Beacham, and Walter Daniell.

DISTRICT AAA COMMITTEEMEN

Z.E. Narville, Laurens AAA administrative assistant, today announced the names of the community AAA committeemen and said that the attention of farmers is called to them so that farmers can contact them if they have any matter to take up with the committee.

The community committeemen by districts are these:

S.J. Garnto -Bailey
Dennis Rawls - Buckeye
M.I. Amerson - Burgamy
H.C. Coleman - Cadwell
S.A. Lewis - Carter
C.G. Johnson - Dudley
W.J. McGowan - Dublin
H.D. Joiner - Harvard
Calhoun Hogan - Hampton Mills

R.E. Currie - Lowery
L.B. Blankenship - Jackson

L.Wynn - Oconee
J.L. Brown - Pinetucky
R.S. Collins - Reedy Springs

J.B. Thigpen - Rockledge

H. Morris Hester - Smith
Commenting on the committee, Mr. Narville pointed out that Laurens producers elected the county committee on December 26. "These producers were selected because of their leadership in their respective communities"

"Laurens County is fortunate in having the largest business, farming, in the hands of these men.

"It is requested that each producer contact his or her community committeeman regarding any matter that they wish to be helped on."

DUBLIN ROUTE 6

By Etta Mae Johnson
Friends regret that Mrs. J.E. Graham is ill and wish for her an early recovery.

Nelson Pullen and Felton Senn were recent visitors in Winsboro, South Carolina.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Chafin and daughters, Ras Chafin and Gailord Chafin, were recent visitors in this section.

Mr. and Mrs. Foster Clements, Misses Etta Mae, Roberta, and Opaline Johnson were recent visitors in this section.

Mr. and Mrs. Prentice Graham were visitors in Rockledge last Sunday.

Friends are glad that Mrs. C.S. Pope and Miss Louise Pullen are improving after a recent illness.

Mrs. C.B. Glenn visited Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Ely and children on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Roger Brown and daughter were Sunday visitors with Mr. and Mrs. George Pullen.

Miss Elia Tolar spent last weekend with Misses Etta Maae, Roberta, and Opaline Johnson.

LIBRARY BOARD REPORT

At the regular meeting of

the Carnegie Library Board last night, officers for the year were named, as well as the librarian, assistant librarian, and substitutes.

Mrs. L.L. Porter was again elected President of the Board. Vice President is Mrs. H.R. Laney, and Mrs. H.C. Waldron is Secretary with Mrs. C.I. Hilburn as Treasurer.

The other Board members are Mrs. J.M. Peacock, Mrs. W.M. Harrison, and Mrs. M.A. Shewmake.

After this election, the Board named Miss Roberta Smith, Librarian; Mrs. E.R Freeman, Assistant Librarian; and Mrs. J.F. Hart and Misses Virginia Graves and Elizabeth Lanier as substitutes.

Mrs. E.B. Freeman gave the last 1940 quarterly report, telling of her work while Miss Smith was taking a scholarship library course at Emory University.

She also told of the success of "book week" when the Lovett doll collection was used, carrying out the theme of "Children of Other Lands." She stated that this display was nationally recognized and was one of four in the nation to have such recognition.

During the quarter she had assisted in compiling early Laurens County records and family histories. These were placed in the history section.

Miss Smith made her annual report, stating that 1940 was a most successful year with a recorded circulation of 80,381 books read, not counting the books read in the 21 county schools and by rural readers through the country traveling library. This circulation figure was up 20,000 over 1939

She mentioned that almost 200 books have been donated to the library during the past year with plates to mark some of them as memorials.

She described the highly successful vacation reading club and spoke of the splendid work done by assistants provided through WPA.

She also told of her work at Emory University where she was on a scholarship to study.

She had been awarded the Mary McCant Memorial Scholarship for her outstanding library work. She was grateful for the opportunity to have had this experience.

Her courses there included reference, bibliography, book selection, classification, and cataloging as well as library administration.

DEXTER OES NAMES OFFICERS

At the annual meeting for the election of officers held in Dexter by the Dexter Chapter 20, Order of the Eastern Star, Mrs. W.G. Smith was elected Worthy Matron.

The other officers elected were these:

Herbert Faircloth - Wor-

LOOKING BACK...

85 YEARS AGO

JANUARY 24, 1941



By HARRIETT CLAXTON

thy Patron

Mrs. Candler Shepherd - Associate Matron

Mrs. H.W. Doster - Associate Matron

H.W. Dosier - Associate Patron

Mrs. R.C. Hogan - Secretary

Mrs. D.W. Knight - Treasurer

Mrs. Herbert Faircloth - Conductress

Mrs. George Witherington - Associate Conductress.

The officers were installed on the evening of January 18.

LOWERY SCHOOL PROGRAM

A musical program, with various entertainment features, was held at the Lowery High School on January 10 and was well attended and enjoyed.

The "Happy Valley Ramblers" was a part of the program.

Cakes were "presented," and other interesting and entertaining features were enjoyed.

The public was invited to attend.

COLORED NEWS

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. E.J. Darden on their 20th wedding anniversary on January 2. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Levine of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, were their guests on December 31. Other guests were Mr. and Mrs. George McCloud and Mrs. Annie L. Wright of Glenwood, Route 2, as well as Mrs. Fannie Lanier of Detroit, Michigan.

The Progressive Club of Jackson Chapel CME Church met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dixon on JacksonStreet. The meeting began at 8:30, and all members are asked to be faithful

RELIGION DIGEST

Pastors appreciation night will be held at Free Vision Deliverance Outreach Ministry, 540 Charles W. Manning Sr. Way at 7 p.m. on Jan. 30. The guest speaker will be Prophetess Robin Griffin of Greater Victory in Vidalia. The climax service will be held on Sunday, Feb. 1 at 11:30 a.m. Guest speaker will be Chief Apostle Shirley Parker. Everyone is invited to come out.

The First Rehoboth Baptist Association of Montrose, Ga. will be celebrating its Black History Program

in attendance this year and be on time and bring their dues of ten cents.

Miss Isabelle Moseby, Mrs. Evelyn Smith, Mrs. Everlee Williams, Miss Lottie Phillips, and Willie Franklin motored recently to Wadley to visit Bennie Franklin, who is recovering from an automobile accident.

The teachers and students of various schools and colleges have returned to their courses of study after spending the Christmas Holidays with relatives and friends. Among these are the following:

Dorothy West
Gladys Horne
Vivian Walker
Acquilla Jones
Melba Bates
Odessa Moore
Marie Anderson
Elixer Burden
Dorothy Tompkin
Gwendolyn Mason
Daniel B. Perry
Thomas Roswell
William Goler
Lucy L. Perry
Graham B.Hughes
James Tolbert
Ulysess Kalspm
Lillian Johnson
Mrs. Ruth Powell
Mrs. Cleo Hollingsworth

NEWS DIGEST

The Town of Cadwell is holding a council meeting at 7 p.m. at Cadwell Town Hall. The agenda follows:

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

on the First Sunday, Feb. 1 at 3 p.m. Theme: Honoring Our Past, Empowering Our Future. This Youth-Led program featuring youth from our Association Churches will feature spoken word, music, and historical reflections celebrating African American Legacy, Faith, and progress. Julie Driger, interim mayor of Dublin, Ga., will be honored. Association churches having the largest in attendance will receive the attendance trophy for 2026. Everyone is invited.

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Can I get a hand, please? I've lost something important

I lost my wedding ring several years ago. I blame the pandemic.

Back in the days of shutdowns and social distancing, I was sitting in the driver's seat of my beautiful car when, having just interacted with someone outside my family circle, I reached for the heavily recommended hand sanitizer. At the time a bottle of this clear, often scented goop was like money in the bank. Everyone desired it, but only a few could find it on store shelves.

To properly clean my hands, I removed my wedding band and set it aside. After rubbing alcohol into my skin, I reached for the symbol of wedding vows. My still damp fingers failed to grasp the tungsten carbide; thus it slipped and fell into the recesses between the seats.

And there it remains to this day.

I'm beginning to think there is a black hole to the darkest depths of the universe on my Honda's floorboards, because several things have been lost down there over the years, and no expedition or treasure hunt has ever been able to recover anything of value. I have found half-eaten crackers and broken crayons aplenty, but never my lost jewelry. A bounty still stands on the lost item. I told my children that whoever recovers and returns the ring will be entitled to a \$20 bill.

Still nothing.

Lost in translation

THE NEW SOUTHERN DAD



By KYLE DOMINY

The problem is that there are so many dark crevices along the seats that no amount of light can shine in every corner, and even if it could, the human hand is not dexterous enough to reach in every hole. My ring, most likely, will

go to whomever I sell my car to whenever I decide to finally upgrade. We can just keep that between us. I have started wearing cheap rubber wedding bands, so it's no big deal if I make a habit of dropping things.

The solution to my problem, though, is currently being developed by a team of scientists in Sweden. Researchers are developing a robotic hand that will surpass the functionality of a biological one. What's the problem with hands? A real one can only pick up one or two things at a time. This machine one, however, can maneuver and grasp multiple items at one time, with each finger operating semi-independently of others and bending in all kinds of ways our meat-and-bone phalanges cannot.

Furthermore, the hand is detachable from the host and can crawl around, much like the Thing in the Addams Family franchise. The implications of such a device are phenomenal. Besides benefitting the injured or handicapped, the robot hand could be the perfect tool for working in tight and/or dangerous spaces. From retrieving a dropped screw in ductwork to repairing industrial machines, this thing could make life easier for a whole lot of people.

All I want to know is, can I borrow one for a little while? I want it to root around under the seats of my car and see if it can find my wedding ring.

There's \$20 in it if it can.

DIVA ON A DIME: A SMARTER MUFFIN FOR JANUARY

By PATTI DIAMOND
King Features

By week three of the new year, my willpower has usually packed a bag and left a note on the counter. The holidays feel long over, my good intentions are still technically alive, and yet my afternoon coffee continues to demand a sweet treat.

At this point in life, I know that white-knuckling my way through cravings has never worked for long. If I don't plan a healthier treat I actually look forward to, I will default to whatever not-so-great option is closest. Judging by the chorus of agreement from friends and family lately, this isn't a personal flaw so much as a shared human experience.

So instead of giving up on goodies altogether, I decided to outsmart human nature and create something that feels indulgent, nourishes the body and keeps our best intentions from wandering off.

What makes these muffins work is the combination of sweet potato and applesauce, creating a muffin that's naturally sweet, deeply moist and satisfying. Instead of relying on flour, this recipe uses oats, which helps slow digestion and keeps blood sugar on an even keel. The result is a treat that feels steady and sustaining, not spiky.

There's flexibility built right into the recipe so you can use what you have handy. Any orange-fleshed cooked vegetable works here, including sweet potato, butternut squash or

pumpkin. I recommend roasting it to cook off excess moisture and concentrate the flavor.

There's just a half cup of sweetener in the entire batch. You can reduce it to 1/4 cup if you prefer a less-sweet muffin. It'll still be delicious.

The fat is modest, just 1/3 cup, since the batter already has plenty of moisture. A little flax meal adds fiber, omega-3s and antioxidants.

The add-ins are optional but encouraged. Pecans are lovely, but walnuts, almonds or pepitas bring texture. And the streusel topping? Optional, yes, but it's what gives these muffins that "fancy-pants bakery" feel. A small flourish that makes an everyday muffin feel special.

SNEAKY LITTLE SWEET POTATO MUFFINS

Yield: 12 muffins

Total Time: 35 minutes

1 1/2 cups quick oats

1/2 cup all-purpose or whole wheat flour

1/4 cup ground flaxseed

1 teaspoon baking soda

2 teaspoons cinnamon or pumpkin pie spice

1/2 teaspoon salt

1 cup cooked, mashed sweet potato (pumpkin or butternut squash)

1/2 cup unsweetened applesauce

2 eggs

1/3 cup coconut oil, or butter, melted, or neutral oil

1/2 cup brown sugar, maple syrup or honey

1 teaspoon vanilla

Optional add-ins: up to 1 cup of pecans, dried cranberries, raisins and/or finely chopped dates

CINNAMON PECAN STREUSEL

1/4 cup white or whole wheat flour

3 tablespoons brown sugar

1/2 teaspoon cinnamon

2 tablespoons coconut oil or softened butter

3 tablespoons chopped pecans

Heat oven to 350 F. Line or grease a muffin tin.

In a mixing bowl stir together oats, flour, flax, baking soda, cinnamon and salt.

In another large bowl, whisk together the sweet potato, applesauce, eggs, oil, sugar and vanilla until smooth. Add the dry ingredients gradually until all are incorporated. Fold in add-ins if using. Divide batter evenly into muffin cups. They'll be pretty full, that's alright.

Make the Streusel: Combine flour, sugar, cinnamon, chopped pecans and coconut oil or butter in a medium-size bowl. Top each muffin with a big pinch of streusel.

Bake 18-22 minutes, until set and lightly golden. Cool completely.

Good treats should do more than satisfy cravings. They should nourish the body, comfort the spirit and fit into real life without negotiation or guilt. These muffins manage all three, and that's no small thing.

Edwin Wallin: A Christian brother

A good friend and chaplain buddy went to Jesus on Dec. 6, 2019. We served together in the U.S. Army Chaplaincy during the war in Vietnam.

Ed Wallin (1928-2019) a and I were chaplains with the 101st Airborne Division and deployed together to Vietnam on Thanksgiving evening 1967. Wallin was a Roman Catholic priest and I a Baptist minister, and we were Christian brothers in ministry to our troops.



By JACK BROWN

Wallin and I went on patrols with our men; walked through rice paddies; slept on the ground; were taken under enemy fire; and, when able, conducted both Catholic and Protestant services with our men.

Yes, Wallin and I were brothers in Christian ministry.

Many of our men were wounded and killed in action. Those memories have continued through the

served veterans there for 33 years. After returning from Vietnam, Wallin married Shirley Bienvenu, and they were together for those 33 years until she died of brain cancer in 2005.

In 2007, Wallin met and married Janice Vanderharr, who served with him in Christian service to others for the next 12 years. They were active together in the International Catholic Peace Movement, and Wallin was a lifetime member of the Vietnam Veterans of America.

Finally, in tribute to Wallin, he was vice-president of the West Tennessee Veterans' Home. Wallin is missed by his Baptist buddy, for we were friends and kept in touch for 52 years until God called him home.

"You, Ed, were a great friend, and I am a better person for knowing and serving with you."

Peace!

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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.

Dublin Police Department

- Markese Jaquan Walker, 33, was charged with driving while license suspended or revoked and giving false name, address or birthdate to law around 9:39 p.m. on Jan. 6.

An officer responded to the parking lot of Tidal Waves in reference to a wreck between two vehicles. The office talked with the driver of a silver Toyota who saw that a man who was driving the blue Toyota, which was involved in the wreck, switch from the driver's seat to the passenger seat. He said a woman got into the driver's seat. The driver of the silver Toyota said he was traveling west on Veterans Boulevard near Mall Road when the car in front of him slammed on brakes, causing him to hit the back of that vehicle.

When the officer talked with the occupants of the blue Toyota, a woman said she was driving. The officer

told her that he was told the man was driving, but the man denied driving and then admitted that he was the driver. The man, later identified as Walker, said he did not have his license on him. He gave the officer a name of Tevin Lanier, with a birth date of Oct. 30, 1990. The officer ran the information, but the picture did not match Walker, who was then detained.

Walker told the officer his real name. Walker's license was suspended and he had a warrant out of Johnson County. Walker said he was stopped at the red light and was attempting to make a right turn onto Mall Road when the silver Toyota hit them. The driver of the silver vehicle was determined to be at fault.

Walker was transported to the sheriff's office and released to jail staff.

- On Jan. 5, around 10:16 p.m., an officer was stationary on Hillcrest Parkway

POLICE BEAT...

near Woodlawn Drive operating a Lidar device. He was able to clock a car traveling 55 mph in a 35 zone.

The officer made a traffic stop on the Jeep Cherokee, pulling it over in the parking lot of Circle K on North Jefferson Street. The officer met and identified the driver as Lamartiz Renard Dixon, 30, who stated that his license was suspended.

Dixon was arrested and transported to the police department where he was released on a citation for driving while license suspended or revoked and speeding in excess of maximum limits.

- Sandra Coney, 58, was charged with battery and cruelty to children in the

belt and improper right turn.

- A deputy talked with a man around 11:30 a.m. on Jan. 3 in reference to stolen firearms on Country Club Road.

- Austin Lee Trivett, 33, was charged with false imprisonment, on Walke Dairy Road around 2:34 a.m. on Jan. 6. A deputy responded to that location in reference to a domestic disturbance.

- Property was damaged on Old Savannah Road around 5 p.m. on Jan. 3.

- Delvecchio King, 20, was charged with driving under the influence of drugs at the intersection of Oakwood and Soperton Avenue. On Jan. 7, around 1:23 a.m., a deputy made a traffic stop on a gold Mercedes Benz sedan due to the vehicle not having functioning tag lights.

- A theft occurred on Cadwell Lane on Jan. 6.

- On Jan. 1, around 5:22 p.m., a deputy conduct-

ed a traffic stop on I-16 around mile most 39 on a silver Chevrolet Impala for speeding. Graylyn Hysheen Simmons, 29, and Tilexia Jameeria Hooper, 23, were both charged with theft by receiving stolen property.

- A report was made by a deputy about an incident that happened on Highway 19 around 5:40 p.m. on Jan. 1.

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

BUSINESS NEWS

Bowles named market president for SunMark Community Bank

SPECIAL TO THE COURIER HERALD

SunMark Community Bank is pleased to announce the appointment of Brian Bowles as Laurens County Market President, further strengthening the bank's leadership team during a period of strategic growth and regional expansion.

In his new role, Bowles will lead SunMark's Laurens County market with a focus on loan growth, customer relationships, and community engagement. He will oversee commercial and retail lending efforts, support customers' financial needs, and work closely with local teams to strengthen SunMark's presence and service throughout the community.

Bowles brings extensive experience in community banking and a strong connection to the Laurens County area. His deep understanding of the local market positions him as a key leader as SunMark moves forward with its merger with Atlantic South



BOWLES

Bank / Wheeler County State Bank.

In this role, Bowles will help ensure a smooth integration process while supporting customers, employees, and the long-term success of the combined organization.

"Brian is a proven community banking leader with a strong understanding of the Laurens County market and a deep commitment to relationship-based banking," said Zach Giddens, EVP/Senior Lender of SunMark Community Bank. "His leadership experience

and local insight will be invaluable as we continue our growth and work through the integration of our merger. We are excited to have Brian on board and confident he will make an immediate positive impact for our customers, employees, and communities."

"I am honored to join SunMark Community Bank and look forward to serving the Laurens County community," said Bowles. "SunMark's commitment to local leadership and relationship-driven banking aligns closely with my values, and I am excited to work with the team to support our customers and contribute to the bank's continued growth."

The addition of Bowles reinforces SunMark's commitment to strategic growth by enhancing local leadership as the bank continues to expand its footprint across the region while driving performance, scalability, and long-term value for members and communities.

Georgia First Bank named to 'best' list

SPECIAL TO THE COURIER HERALD

Georgia First Bank has been named one of Newsweek's America's Best Regional Banks of 2026, an honor recognizing the bank's impact and commitment to financial strength, community investment, and reliable access to everyday banking services.

Georgia First Bank is a locally owned community bank serving Middle Georgia, committed to strong capital, responsible lending, and long-term relationships with the individuals, families, and businesses in the communities it has served for generations.

The recognition, presented by Newsweek in partnership with Plant-A Insights Group, highlights financial institutions that

are powering local economies by supporting small businesses, financing community projects, and providing dependable banking services.

"This recognition reflects the strength of our foundation and the consistency of our commitment to the communities we serve," said Maury Beasley, President and CEO of Georgia First Bank. "We believe responsible banking, healthy capital, and local decision-making are essential to long-term success for our customers and for the communities that depend on us."

"We hope this list helps people find the most trusted financial institutions in their area—whether they're planning their next business venture or taking the next step toward financial security," said Jennifer H. Cunningham, editor-in-chief of Newsweek.



TELL IT!

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

Congratulations, Visit Dublin, for acknowledging Martin Luther King Jr. celebrations (parade and breakfast). If only all citizens inclusive of the council would participate in the unity.

The churches should audit the Martin Luther King Jr. Committee's finances. They buy over 60 tables for their congregations who cannot see or hear the speaker and key participants. Furthermore, they are packed in the venue (free of charge) like sardines in a can. The MLK Birthday Celebration is a low-budget, once-a-year event that takes in a pretty penny.

Obviously, the Martin Luther King Jr. Committee does not have the wherewithal to give this event the grandeur it is due.

Now that there is finally an investigation into the mismanagement of the DCS monies, it will be interesting to see if any of the involved lawyer-up or just simply leave town and cannot be located. With all these board members and other people saying they didn't know and denying things, the old saying of "the guilty dog barks the loudest" just might apply here.

So are these Dublin City school leaders going to abandon ship and try to jump on the Laurens County bandwagon? No thank

you! We are good.

Anybody know if Fred is still in town? Probably on a beach somewhere laughing about how he played us all!

The board should have to give an explanation for Fred's salary. It doesn't line up no matter how you look at it.

It is quite interesting that the majority of citizens writing about the Dublin City School never mention a concern for the students or education, only the money. It is my prayer that the students' education is not compromised.

With the current board of education for the Dublin City Schools, the Dublin City taxpayers can never have confidence with them again.

How soon will it be before the Dublin city taxpayers will hear from the GBI and their report on the Dublin City Schools? It might help people to pay their taxes earlier if we knew there was a legal investigation.

There could be a line where you pay your city taxes on the due date. But I plan to stand in line to protest the way that the city taxes for the schools have been thrown away.

Can't believe Dr. Williams has the nerve to show up at things like the

football banquet. You sir are who got us in this mess. Sit down and be little humble and sorry.

Verizon must have struck again, or I am going blind. No, Tell It! in the Saturday paper.

We agree with stopping all sports in the Dublin City Schools and saving all that money they would otherwise spend. This includes things like maintaining the sports fields where they would spend a lot of money on keeping them up. All money needs to go towards salaries and other necessities. Sports and maintenance are not necessities. When the school is solvent again, they can resume them.

Maybe the anonymous person that gave the money for football could do the same for the band!

If the Dublin City Schools owes the state millions in back payment for health care for the employees, does that mean the employees have no health care? If DCS has not paid, how are their bills being covered?

Why don't the Dublin High School band director asks whoever is holding the money from the income of the football games for band instruments instead of asking the taxpayers?

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
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- 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.



Fairfield®

BY MARRIOTT

Tuesday fast-break: WL sweeps Aquinas, EL gets back at Brentwood

From STAFF REPORTS

An up-tempo glance at Tuesday night's local basketball results...

West Laurens girls 43, Aquinas 25

Brooklyn Jackson came to the verge of a personal milestone with 16 points (to run her career total to 999), joining Maddie Ridgway (12) and Ja'Halee Snead (10) in double digits as the Lady Raiders (9-8, 7-5 region 4-AAA) brought their fourth-straight win home from Augusta.

West Laurens led by five at the half, then re-started on a 13-0 run while holding Aquinas to just a free throw as its lead exploded in the third quarter.

West Laurens boys 43, Aquinas 39

The Raiders held a steady lead from the second quarter on, but had to fight off a late surge by the Fightin' Irish, who crept within two with about three minutes left, then tied the game on the front end of an and-one opportunity by Aiden Newman with 1:29 to go.

But he missed the go-ahead free throw, and West Laurens answered immediately as Ezekiel Floyd hit a mid-range jumper, then a handful of stops and free throws in the final minute closed it out.

Dublin girls 66, Dodge Co. 52

Khalil Maddox led scorers with 21 points, and Keasia Jackson posted a 13-point, 15-rebound double-double to help the Lady Irish (8-8, 3-4 region 2-High A) make it back-to-back road wins, in the continuation of their strong play from Saturday's 59-28 win at Johnson County.

They impressively overpowered a strong Dodge County front court with four blocked shots and 34 rebounds, turning the tide of the game after a slow start to outscore the Squaws in every quarter.

Jordan Renfroe and Rainna Wyatt added 15 and 10 points respectively.

Dodge Co. 67, Dublin boys 52

The Irish (3-12, 0-7 region) overcame a tough first half to outscore Dodge 17-11 in the third quarter, making up a solid chunk of their 12-point halftime gap.

But the Indians, led by the 26-point effort of Tyler Johnson and three others (Galvin Hilburn, Jerimiah Burns and Jayden Stephens with between 10-11 each) who added double digits, outran them 25-16 in the fourth to put the game away.

East Laurens girls 46, Brentwood 45

The Lady Falcons (14-3, 6-1 region 2-High A) scored four points in the game's last 16 seconds to snatch their fifth-straight victory from the jaws of defeat.

Brentwood's Cadence English sunk a pair of free throws, then knocked down a contested bank shot to put the Lady Eagles up 45-42 early in the final minute. Zahmaria Robinson drew a foul on a made basket to cut the deficit to one, but missed her tying free throw, only for Deanna Lowther to swoop in down the left lane line for an offensive rebound and go-ahead putback.

Brentwood lost control of possession before a chance to get up a shot on its return possession as time expired.

East Laurens boys 85, Brentwood 59

The Falcons (14-3, 6-1 region) also returned the favor from December's loss to the Eagles, but this time to hand them their first loss in 17 games this season.

A series of massive runs in the second quarter to take a single-digit lead to 22 at the half, and more than double Brentwood's point total in a 43-21 count at the break, put gave East a commanding upper hand that it wouldn't yield at any point from there.

Next...

This weekend's action will feature two cross-county matchups, Dublin visits East Laurens in a region runback Friday, then East and West play their first Saturday. The Raiders will host Hephzibah Friday night. Dublin welcomes Toombs County on Saturday afternoon.



SEALING THEIR FATE: CFCA's Samiyah Woolfolk gets trapped by Trinity defenders Brinley Vinson, Addie Kendrick and Chloe Rozier, who combined to force a jump ball with a few minutes left in Tuesday's game. The Lady Crusaders' opposite-baseline pressure, which was as stifling here as it was at any point, held the visitors to just 13 points in the fourth quarter/CLAY REYNOLDS

Trinity girls get upper hand in first (of many) with CFCA Crusader boys lanced in second-straight 6-AA loss after both teams run into Brentwood buzzsaw

By JEREMY PAYNE
Correspondent

The Trinity Crusaders continued region action over the past week with matchups Friday at Brentwood and then Central Fellowship Tuesday back at home.

The girls fell to the top-ranked Lady Eagles 65-43, but rebounded to defeat CFCA 64-56. The boys did not fare as well, as they fell 64-33 to the then-unbeaten Eagles (East Laurens would hand them their first loss the following Tuesday) and lost to the Lancers, 74-57.

The Lady Crusaders (13-7 overall) fell behind early Friday and could never make up the deficit as they dug a 17-6 hole after a quarter. The margin remained 11 at the half, 31-20.

Brentwood pulled away even further in the third by outscoring Trinity 20-13 for a 51-33 lead, and rolled to the win.

Bailey Barron led three Lady Eagles in double digits with 25. Cadence English had 15 and Callie Jones added 10. Brinley Vinson led Trinity with 22.

The Lady Crusaders made 18 field goals in the contest, while Brentwood made only 17. But the Lady Eagles made a living at the foul line, especially in the first half, going 16 of 24 in the contest while Trinity was just 4-for-4.

The game against Central Fellowship (likely the first of at least three and potentially four possible meetings this year) was a rematch of last season's state championship game, which the Lady Lancers won in a close battle. This one was much of the same.

CFCA broke a 12-12 tie to outscore Trinity 11-7 in the second, and take a slight halftime lead.

The offense for both teams improved after intermission as the Lady Crusaders scored 18 in the third to nearly match their first-half total. But CFCA had 20 in the quarter to extend its lead to 43-37 going to the fourth.



TALL ORDER: Alston Bryan leaps to contest the running shot of CFCA guard Deshonvaris Lundy, whose comparative size to multiple other 6-footers in a high-rise opposing lineup made him one of the least problematic defensive matchups for Trinity in Tuesday's game. The Crusaders' shorthanded front court couldn't do enough to keep the others – like Sirron Chambers, Shaheem Barbosa and Abram Austin – at bay around the basket/CLAY REYNOLDS

Trinity exploded for 27 in the final eight minutes, and tightened down their full-court pressure to hold the Lady Lancers to 13.

A Central Fellowship 3-pointer with about three minutes to go tied the score back at 53-53, after the Lady Crusaders had completed a run to pull in front by five.

But Trinity continued to cash in on the offensive end as Chloe Rozier, Addie Kendrick, Vinson and Maddie Grace Allgood combined for the baskets that put the game away.

Maddy George led Trinity with 22 points. Vinson added 14, and Rozier ended with 12.

Morgan Riley led all scorers with 25 for CFCA.

The Crusader boys were dealt a severe blow in the days leading up to the Brentwood game when they learned that second leading scorer Jamarion Ricks would no longer be with the team.

The shorthanded squad – with reserve guard Jude Evans also out indefinitely with an injury – was no match for the top-ranked and undefeated Eagles. Brentwood jumped out to a 23-11 first quarter lead and never looked back.

Trinity trailed 39-18 at the half and the deficit ballooned to 60-29 after three periods. The fourth quarter was just six minutes due to the mercy rule, and both teams scored four points each.

Jagger George led Trinity with 12.

The trio of Tristan Robinson, Zion Andrews and Baylor Cobb combined to score for 60 for Brentwood with 23, 20 and 17 respectively.

The Crusaders (8-11 overall) had a much better performance early on Friday, trailing only 15-11 after one quarter as their defense initially kept the Lancers' skyscraping front line from imposing its will inside.

A Hayden Bowles 3 had Trinity behind only 15-11 late in the first quarter, and triples from Kolbi Grooms and Carter Lee kept it a competitive game early in the second.

But eventually the size, speed and depth of CFCA took control of the game. The Lancers outscored Trinity 20-15 in the second and 22-14 in the third to take a solid 57-40 lead.

The Crusaders were able to match the Lancers' pace in the fourth with 17, but could never get closer.

George led the way again with 23, and Will Foskey added 13. Shaheem Barbosa led four CFCA scorers in double digits with 21. Josh Sanders finished with 18, while Sirron Chambers and Abram Austin added 12 each.

Trinity was set to wrap up its homestand against Gatewood Friday, before visiting Robert Toombs in a non-region matchup on Saturday.

SCOREBOARD

GIRLS HOOPS
Tuesday
Corrected: Dublin 66,
Dodge Co. 52

PREP SCHEDULE

BASKETBALL
Friday
Hephzibah at West Laurens /5 p.m.
Dublin at East Laurens Gatewood at Trinity/6 p.m.

Saturday
Toombs Co. at Dublin /1 p.m.
EL at WL
Trinity at Robert Toombs /4 p.m.

Tuesday
Harlem at WL/5 p.m.
Dublin at Jefferson Co.
EL at Washington Co.
Windsor at Trinity/6 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 30
Dublin at Wheeler Co.
Jefferson Co. at EL
Trinity at
Central Fellowship/6 p.m.

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



D.U.N.C. SHOTS: Tuesday night marked the first performance of the year for elementary school students involved in Trinity's D.U.N.C. (Developing Upcoming New Crusaders) program. The coach- and player-led initiative seeks to instill basics of ball handling, passing and dribbling to some of the school's aspiring hoopers, which get to show off their skills, with an upbeat basketball-themed soundtrack in the background, during these halftime showcases at multiple home games each season/CLAY REYNOLDS

Classifieds

Employment

26-038 COLLECTOR

The City of Dublin is currently accepting applications for a Collector in our Sanitation Department. The Collector performs routine, unskilled heavy manual labor in the collection of refuse. Work involves the collection of trash, rubbish and debris and loading it into the collection vehicles. The tasks are usually arduous and normally are of a routine and repetitive nature, requiring the employee on occasion to operate the packer truck. Work is performed under the direct supervision of the Sanitation Supervisor and the Public Works Department. Applicants must have a high school diploma or General Equivalency Diploma (GED), and a valid Georgia Driver's license. The successful applicant must pass a drug screen. Salary is \$33,238.40 annually. An extensive fringe benefit package including health, dental and life insurance is also offered. Applicants may apply online through our www.cityofdublin.org website until position is filled. The City of Dublin is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

January 24, 27, 29, 31, 2026

Real Estate

For Rent/Lease

Apt. for Rent - 808A S. Washington St., 2 BR, kitchen, LR & shower, inpest control. \$600 dep., \$600 mo. City gas heat & window ac, stove & refrigerator. Call 478-697-6817. Located in Southside in Dublin.

Legals

Legals

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 MILLROCK 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 (notice 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

Legals

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 DAFFIN FRAPPIER TURNER & ENGEL, LLP 4004 Belt Line Road, Suite 100 Addison, Texas 75001 Telephone: (972) 341 5398.

January 10, 17, 24, 31, 2026

26-037

To Whom It May Concern:

Notice is hereby given that Dipali Patel, alcohol agent has submitted an application to the City of Dublin for a 2026, license to sell BEER, retail, packaged to go at Jayabe Motel LLC, dba Clarion Pointe located at 2108 Hwy 441, South Dublin, GA 31021.

Further notice is given that the City Clerk will hear public comments on Wednesday, February 4, 2026 at 11:00am, in the City Clerk's office at City Hall regarding the issuing of said license.

This notice is given this 20th day of January 2026.

January 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

26-040

To Whom It May Concern:

Notice is hereby given that Aman Marwaha, alcohol agent has submitted an application to the City of Dublin for a 2026, license to sell BEER, WINE, retail, packaged to go at Ramaduta Inc, located at 813 N Jefferson Street, Dublin, GA 31021.

Further notice is given that the City Clerk will hear public comments on Wednesday, February 4, 2026 at 11:00am, in the City Clerk's office at City Hall regarding the issuing of said license.

This notice is given this 13th day of January 2026.

January 24, 31, 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

25-597

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF LAURENS STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY

IN RE: ESTATE OF Marsha A. McCurley Buhrmaster DECEASED

ESTATE NO. 22-3022

NOTICE

IN RE: Petition to Reopen and for Letters of Administration with Will Annexed TO: Robert Christopher Buhrmaster and Jonathan Paul Buhrmaster

This is to notify you to file objection, if there is any, to the above-referenced petition, in this 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

CWarren
Clerk of the Probate Court

P.O. Box 2098
Dublin, GA 31040

478-272-2566

January 3,10, 17, 24, 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

26-025

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 HAL 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

26-039

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

Legals

Estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned.

JOHNNY HAL HALL
Executor of the Estate of JEWEL R. HALL

C/O Edward B. Claxton III
Attorney for the Executor

P.O Box 16459
Dublin, Georgia 31040

January 24, 31, 2026, February 7, 14, 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 Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for Ameris Bank, its successors and assigns dated March 23, 2018, recorded in Deed Book 2859, Page 210, Laurens County, Georgia Records, as last transferred to Ameris Bank by assignment recorded in Deed Book 3557, Page 162, Laurens County, Georgia Records, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of FORTY-SEVEN THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED AND 0/100 DOLLARS (\$47,200.00), with interest thereon as set forth therein, there will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the courthouse door of Laurens County, Georgia, or at such place as may be lawfully designated as an alternative, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in 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 (notice pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 13-1-11 having been given).

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

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

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

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

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

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

Ameris Bank
as Attorney in Fact for Tommy Ricks III

McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLP
1544 Old Alabama Rd
Roswell, GA 30076
www.foreclosur hotline.net

EXHIBIT "A"

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

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

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

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

MR / GW February 3, 2026

Our file no. 25-16857GA-FT18

25-16857GA

January 10, 17, 24, 31, 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

Legals

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
DUBLIN, GA 31040

478-272-2566

January 3, 10, 17, 24, 2026

26-021

State of Georgia
County of Laurens

Notice is hereby given that the property of each and all persons listed below will be sold at public auction, separately and individually, on Monday, February 9, 2026 starting at 10 AM. In case of inclement weather, sale will be held on **February 10, 2026 at 10 AM.**

1. Brent Bryan, Unit S-18,
2. Erica Burton, Unit Y-08,
3. Gwen Davis, Unit E-05,
4. Kerin Hardaway, Unit X-04,
5. Kenneth Lewis, Unit Y-22,
6. Kendra Love, Unit L-13,
7. Reginald Mitchell, Unit W-23,
8. Carolyn Pheil, Unit S-16,
9. Darrell Platt, Unit Y-21,
10. Aubrey Prosser, Unit Z-30,
11. Randy Simmons, Unit X-23,
12. Dolphus Wells, Unit W-09,
13. Angelica Whipple, Unit P-04.

Property is located at Garner's U Store, Incorporated, 1321 North Jefferson Street, and 1687 Highway 441 North, Dublin, Georgia, 31021. Each unit, starting first at 1321 N Jefferson Street, will be sold at public auction to the highest and best bidder for cash at 10AM on above date at the above premises. All contents of each and every person and every unit will be sold as a unit. The contents are personal items such as, but not necessarily limited to household items, personal items, furniture, and other items. You may call 478-272-3724 for more detailed information.

January 24, 31, 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

26-034

TRADE NAME REGISTRATION OFFICE OF

TANYA L. ROGERS,

CLERK SUPERIOR COURT

LAURENS COUNTY, GEORGIA

PERSONALLY APPEARED THE UNDERSIGNED WHO ON OATH DEPOSES AND SAYS THAT: Courtney Arthur Stewart
2158 Antioch Church Road, Dexter, GA 31019
AND
Austin Chase Stewart
2158 ANtioch Church Road, Dexter, GA 31019
IS/ARE DOING BUSINESS IN LAURENS COUNTY, GA., UNDER THE NAME OF: TRADE NAME: Stewart Lane Designs
ADDRESS: 2158 Antioch Church Road, Dexter, GA 31019
AND THAT THE NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE CARRIED ON AT SUCH ADDRESS IS: Online retail and custom design services specializing in handmade and printed goods.
SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME THIS 16 DAY OF Jan , 2026.

CALLIE WARREN
NOTARY PUBLIC

January 24, 31, 2026

26-027

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

STATE OF GEORGIA

COUNTY OF LAURENS

IN RE: ESTATE OF Sherryll Anita Herndon, DECEASED

All creditors of the Estate of Sherryll Anita Herndon, 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.

Shane Lanier Herndon, Executor of Sherryll Anita Herndon, deceased
182 Smith Road, Haddock, GA 31033
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 of the 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..."

January 24, 31, 2026, February 7, 14, 2026

26-018

Notice of Sale Under Power

State of Georgia, County of Laurens

Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by Donald G. Hett and Susan M. Hett to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Mortgage Research Center, LLC dba Veterans United Home Loans, a Missouri Limited Liability Company (the Secured Creditor), dated December 30, 2024, and Recorded on January 16, 2025 as Book No. 3544 and Page No. 38, Laurens County, Georgia records, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note of even date in the original principal amount of \$291,000.00, with interest at the rate specified therein, as last assigned to Mortgage Research Center, LLC d/b/a

Legals

Veterans United Home Loans by assignment that is or to be recorded in the Laurens County, Georgia Records, 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 March, 2026, the following described property:

All that property situate in the County Laurens, State of Georgia, more property described as follows: All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in the First Land District in the City of Dublin, Laurens County, Georgia, being known as Lot 68 and Part of Lot 67 in Rollingwood Estates Subdivision, and being more particularly shown and described according to a plat of survey prepared by Marvin D. Clements, Surveyor, dated August 22, 1980, and recorded in Deed Book 380, Page 519, Laurens County Records. The courses and distances of said plat are incorporated into and made a part of this description by reference.

Subject to all easements, ordinances, covenants, conditions, restrictions, and rights-of-way of record, if any. Being the same property conveyed to Donald G. Hett and Susan M. Hett, as joint tenants with survivorship by Jerry Davis and Delois Davis, in deed dated 05/31/2022 recorded 06/01/2022 in Book 3298 Page 299, in the County of Laurens, State of Georgia.

Tax ID: D14E 123

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. 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 Security Deed and by law, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given). Mortgage Research Center, LLC d/b/a Veterans United Home Loans holds the duly endorsed Note and is the current assignee of the Security Deed to the property. Nationstar Mortgage, LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper 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, Nationstar Mortgage, LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper may be contacted at: (833) 685-2565 or by writing to 350 Highland Drive, Lewisville, TX 75067.

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 **504 DUNWOODY DRIVE, DUBLIN, GA 31021** is/are: Donald G. Hett and Susan M. Hett 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 Security Deed 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. §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.

Funds used at sale shall be in certified funds and payable to "Bell Carrington Price & Gregg, LLC".

Mortgage Research Center, LLC d/b/a Veterans United Home Loans as Attorney in Fact for Donald G. Hett and Susan M. Hett.

Any information obtained on this matter may be used by the debt collector to collect the debt. Bell Carrington Price & Gregg, LLC, 339 Heyward Street, 2nd Floor, Columbia, SC 29201 (803)-509-5078. File: 25-46014.

January 24, 31, 2026, February 7, 14, 21, 28, 2026

26-034

TRADE NAME REGISTRATION OFFICE OF

TANYA L. ROGERS,

CLERK SUPERIOR COURT

LAURENS COUNTY, GEORGIA

PERSONALLY APPEARED THE UNDERSIGNED WHO ON OATH DEPOSES AND SAYS THAT: Courtney Arthur Stewart
2158 Antioch Church Road, Dexter, GA 31019
AND
Austin Chase Stewart
2158 ANtioch Church Road, Dexter, GA 31019
IS/ARE DOING BUSINESS IN LAURENS COUNTY, GA., UNDER THE NAME OF: TRADE NAME: Stewart Lane Designs
ADDRESS: 2158 Antioch Church Road, Dexter, GA 31019
AND THAT THE NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE CARRIED ON AT SUCH ADDRESS IS: Online retail and custom design services specializing in handmade and printed goods.
SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME THIS 16 DAY OF Jan , 2026.

CALLIE WARREN
NOTARY PUBLIC

January 24, 31, 2026

26-027

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

STATE OF GEORGIA

COUNTY OF LAURENS

IN RE: ESTATE OF Sherryll Anita Herndon, DECEASED

All creditors of the Estate of Sherryll Anita Herndon, 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.

Shane Lanier Herndon, Executor of Sherryll Anita Herndon, deceased
182 Smith Road, Haddock, GA 31033
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 of the 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..."

January 24, 31, 2026, February 7, 14, 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,

Legals

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

26-036

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

In Re: Amanda Elizabeth Lindsey Howell
Civil Action File No: 26-CD-0041-JH

NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

GEORGIA, LAURENS County

Notice is hereby given that Amanda Elizabeth Lindsey Howell, the undersigned, filed petition to the Superior Court of LAURENS County, Georgia on the 16 day of Jan, 2026, praying for a change in the name of petitioner from Amanda Elizabeth Lindsey Howell to Elizabeth Lindsey Howell. Notice is hereby given pursuant to law to any interested or affected party to appear in said Court and to file objections to such name change. Objections must be filed with said Court within 30 days of the filing of said petition. This 23 day of December, 2026.

Amanda Elizabeth Lindsey Howell
Petitioner

January 24, 31, 2026, February 7, 14, 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..."

26-030

STATE OF GEORGIA

COUNTY OF LAURENS

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF SAID STATE AND COUNTY

IN RE: ESTATE OF GREGORY HULTQUIST

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS

All creditors of the estate of **GREGORY HULTQUIST** 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 16th Day of January, 2026

Emily F. Kight
Attorney for the Estate of **GREGORY HULTQUIST**
Kight Law, LLC
P.O. Box 2056
Dublin, Ga. 31040

January 24, 31, 2026, February 7, 14, 2026

26-029

STATE OF GEORGIA

COUNTY OF LAURENS

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF SAID STATE AND COUNTY

IN RE: ESTATE OF JUSTIN LAWRENCE JONES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS

All creditors of the estate of **JUSTIN LAWRENCE JONES** deceased, late of Laurens County, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to

Legals

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

26-026

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

26-008

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, ACA (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, rearmortizations, 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 1:
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 1:
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

Legals

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: A10178.69486

January 10, 17, 24, 31, 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 Registration 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

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, Bean & 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 TOWSON 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 TOWSON DRIVE. THE ABOVE PROPERTY IS CONVEYED SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE COVENANTS FOR TOWSON 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

Legals

possession of the property is/are Iva Jean Lattimore and Marcia Lattimore . The property, being commonly known as 1045 Towson 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

26-019

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 Mims
Unit #105 Joey Millwood

January 17, 24, 2026

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

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,

Legals

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

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 Suite 202 Savannah, GA 31406 912-352-3999

January 3, 10, 17, 24, 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

26-031

State of Georgia County of Laurens. Notice to Debtors and Creditors All creditors of the Estate of **Carol L. Evans** AKA Carol Lord Evans, late of Laurens County, Georgia, deceased, 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. This 16th day of January, 2026. Estate of Carol L. Evans AKA Carol Lord Evans Robert E. Evans, Jr., Executor

FROM THE RECORD

Complaint for divorce: C'Era Feagin v. Messiah Feagin; Jennifer Ray Waldrep v. Benjamin Wallace Waldrep; Amanda Painter v. Robert Houston; Bobby Padgett v. Margaret Padgett

Paternity/legitimation: Bradley Howell v. Madison Shirley

Motion to add Child(ren) to existing order: Ga. DHS ex rel Willow Goodwin v. Christopher George Goodwin

Complaint child support: Ga. DHS ex rel Isaiah Leavelle to Quintin Jermaine Richardson

Support IV-D: The Georgia Department of Human Services, ex rel, et al v. Franco Cabadas

Warranty deed: Jennifer & Associates Inc. to Larry W. Wade and Patricia J. Wade; WJH LLC to George Wesley McEarchern Jr.; Archie Branch to Arlie Thigpen and Lauren Thigpen; Dennis Ray Yoder and Elizabeth Joy Yoder to Dallas Lavern Yoder and Jordan Alexis Barnett; WJH LLC to Logan Chandler Evans and Michaela Marie Moore; Cary Hardee to Danielle Daniel and Timothy Daniel; Susan L. Edge, Nancy L. Thomas and Jay M. Lord to Knightmare Holding LLC; Millrock Farm Inc. to Knightmare Holdings LLC; WJH LLC to Mark Perez Jeanette Perez; Millrock Farm Inc to Paul Slater; Millrock Farm Inc. to Austin Dakota Page and Ashleigh Blake Page; Bravo One LLC to Meridian Property LLC x2; WJH LLC to IGI LLC; Treadwell Investments LLC to Arrowhead Timberland & Lake Investments LLC; WJH LLC to Blair Gibson; Vicky M. Martin to Vicky M. Martin as trustee of Vicky M. Martin revocable living trust; Carlington Mortgage Services LLC to Secretary of Housing and Urban Development; Archie Branch to Vilma F. Menoza; Archie Branch to Joseph Lang; Clayton Lee Soucie to Clayton Lee Soucie and Vilma Francisca Menoza; Omesha J. Frazier and Mario Frazier to Omesha J. Frazier, Mario Frazier and Tre'Quan Frazier; Joel G. Rowley and Lisa M. Rowley to Kimberly Jones and Jason Lopez; Sonya Jones to Renate Cawthern; Nest Egg Acquisitions LLC to

Legals

112 Ridge Circle
Dublin, GA 31021

Margaret Greer Evans Attorney at Law State Bar No. 488189 (478) 272-2885 January 24, 31, 2026, February 7, 14, 2026

26-035

State of Georgia County of Laurens. **Notice to Debtors and Creditors** All creditors of the Estate of John Edward Buckins, 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 16th day of January, 2026. Estate of John Edward Buckins Steve Edward Buckins, Executor 427 Blackshear Ferry Spur Dublin, GA 31021

Margaret Greer Evans Attorney at Law State Bar No. 488189 (478) 272-2885 January 24, 31, 2026, February 7, 14, 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

Steptoe Investments LLC; Tolainik Enterprises LLC to Timmery Warren; 21st Mortgage Corporation to Jenna Harvey; David Craig Lasting and Jennifer Lasting to Robert S. Miller III; Margaret E. Coleman to Keith E. McNeal; Marcella Johnson to Monica Neshell Dixon and Malcolm Jamari Troupe; Lamar Smithson to Gary Fowler; Falk Forest Properties LLC to Robert A Sterling as trustee of the Robert A. Sterling revocable trust; Falk Forest Properties LLC to Stephen E. Sims; Charles Stephen Warnock to Charles Stephen Warnock and Kathy Canady Warnock; Corbett Mobile Homes of Dublin Inc. to Cap Ponderosa LLC; Miscile Corbett Jorgensen to Cap Ponderosa LLC; Rockdale Center LLC to 4282 LLC; CWJ Investments LLC to Mary Elizabeth Schlenz; Charles Heath Brown to Chandley Investments LLC; Nathan Edward Hutto to Keith Mullis; Ann K. Brown to Chandley Investments LLC; JHPL LLC to Kris Siran Mickelson; American Tractor & Farm LLC to Erica Lamb

Security deed: Larry W. Wade and Patricia J. Wade to Cadence Ban; George Wesley McEarchern Jr. to Inspire Home Loans Inc.; Arlie Thigpen and Lauren Thigpen to Morris Bank; Logan Chandler Evans and Michaela Marie Moore to Inspire Home Loans Inc.; Danielle Lee Daniel and Timothy Daniel to USAA Federal Savings Bank; Knightmare Holdings LLC to Citizens Bank of Laurens County; Mark Perez and Jeanette Perez to Inspire Home Loans Inc.; Meridian Property LLC to Farmers State Bank x2; Arrowhead Timberland & Lake Investments LLC to Bank of Wrightsville; Blair Gibson to New American Funding LLC x2; Renate Cawthern to Mortgage Research Center LLC dba Veterans United Home Loans; Steptoe Investments LLC to Community Bank of Dublin-Laurens County; Siddhi Vinayak 2023 LLC to Georgia First Bank; Timmery Warren to Bank of America; Timmery Warren to Neighborhood Assistance Corporation of America; Pink Key Properties LLC to Citizens Bank of Laurens County; Jenna Harvey to Everett Financial Inc dba Supreme Lending; Robert S. Miller III to Ameris Bank; Jackson Reese Payne to 21st Mortgage Corporation; Gene Crafton and Teresa Crafton to Community Bank of Dublin-Laurens County; Joel Wyatt and Connie S. Wyatt to Rocket Mortgage; Albert Stephen Mercer Sr. aka Albert S. Mercer Sr. aka AlbertSteve Mercer/ Patricia D. Mercer aka Patricia Pattillo Mercer and Patricia Lynn Mercer aka Lynn Mercer May to AgGeorgia Farm Credit; Monica Neshell Dixon and Malcolm Jamari Troupe to 21st Mortgage Corporation; Gregory Smith to Milend Inc.; Robert A. Sterling as trustee of the Robert A. Sterling revocable trust to The Geo D. Warthen Bank; Charles Stephen Warnock and Kathy Canady Warnock to Bank of Dudley; Mark F. Keen to Rocket Mortgage LLC; Cap Ponderosa LLC to Miscile Jorgensen; 4282 Holdings LLC to Cadence Bank; Mary Elizabeth Schlenz to Ameris Bank; Bruce Gardner and Angel Gardner to United Wholesale Mortgage LLC; Chandley Investments LLC to Citizens Bank of Laurens County x2; Kris Siran Mickelson to Credit Union of Georgia.



DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEAR ABBY: A few years back, my brother gave me a substantial amount of cryptocurrency. A couple of years after that, he did something that hurt me and my husband deeply and destroyed any trust I had in him. As a result, I have greatly reduced contact with him as well as my entire family.

When I explained how what he did made me feel and how it affected my life, my brother "sort of" apologized, but it wasn't genuine -- and during this fake apology, he mentioned he wanted his crypto back.

Because I had had some financial difficulties, I couldn't give back the money. The cryptocurrency had been a GIFT. When he gave it to me, there was no agreement about paying him back or what to do with it. (He confessed that he had made a huge mistake by giving it to me.) When I told him I couldn't give it back, he sort of let it go. But now we are barely on speaking terms, and I feel awkward because I can feel his resentment.

I no longer trust him, and I'm not sure how to proceed. I'm not angry; I'm just cautious because of his previous careless actions and because he lacks a verbal filter, especially toward my husband, who is sensitive. How do I deal with the fallout? -- ONCE BITTEN, TWICE SHY

DEAR O.B.T.S.: I wish you had gone into more detail in the second sentence of your letter. If I have read it correctly, your problems with your brother have less to do with the cryptocurrency debacle and far more about how he treats your husband. As I see it, you have every right to proceed with caution where your brother is concerned. If he can't watch his mouth around your husband, some distance may be better for all of you.

DEAR ABBY: I'm retired and have discovered a love for making bags, totes and purses with my sewing machine. A few years ago, I started doing local craft shows -- not because I've turned this into a business, but because it helps clear out the growing inventory. Financially, we're fine. I'm not risking money we don't have.

My husband, who still works, strongly disapproves of this. He says I've made a job out of a hobby, and he thinks it's silly since I don't really make money. He has even suggested I'd be better off throwing my creations away. In truth, after a lifetime of working and raising kids, I finally have time to do something that makes ME happy.

I feel torn. Must I stop doing something I love to keep peace at home, or continue and risk his ongoing resentment? It's heart-breaking to feel that every time I try something new, I'm met with resistance. -- STILL STITCHING IN THE SOUTH

DEAR STILL STITCHING: Your husband appears to be more than a little controlling by attempting to tell you how to spend your free time. Your hobby is what it is. It's a source of pleasure -- and it's not meant to be another income stream. Continue doing what you enjoy and please do not buckle under the pressure.

SUDOKU

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

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!

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

Level: Advanced

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Man is looking the other way. 2. Mouth is open. 3. Necktie is missing. 4. Tie is different. 5. Nose is smaller. 6. Armrest is different.

THE Daily Commuter Puzzle by Stella Zawistowski

ACROSS

- 1 Garden area
5 TV sports awards
10 Happy
14 ___ and learn
15 Very expensive
16 Pasta sauce brand
17 Sign of the future
18 Rainforest mammal
19 Individuals
20 "Be quiet!": 2 wds.
22 Least refined
24 Shoe bottom
25 Native people of Arizona
26 Actress Green
29 Pelosi of Congress
31 Type in
35 Morsel
37 Insurance option: Abbr.
39 River near Phoenix
40 Alumni weekend honoree: 2 wds.
43 Actress Shawkat
44 Operate
45 Making a fool of
46 "Yes, of course!"
48 San ___, California
50 No vote
51 Embraces
53 Aardvark's food
55 Nimble and supple
58 Painting, music, etc.: 2 wds.
62 Most populous continent
63 Sports venue
65 Horn sound
66 Exchange for cash
67 Many rescue dogs
68 Notion
69 "Go ___ it on the Mountain"
70 Big hit
71 Container for eggs

DOWN

- 1 Walk heavily

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15				16			
17					18				19			
20				21				22	23			
			24				25					
26	27	28		29		30		31	32	33	34	
35			36			37		38	39			
40						41			42			
43				44				45				
46				47		48		49		50		
			51		52		53		54			
55	56	57				58			59	60	61	
62					63	64			65			
66					67				68			
69					70				71			

Created by Stella Zawistowski

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

- 38 "Candy is dandy" poet: 2 wds.
41 British mothers
42 Name a price
47 Color gradation
49 Contaminates
52 Small weight units
54 Shiny fabric
55 Final
56 "___ your point": 2 wds.
57 Steel factory
58 Greek cheese
59 Used a bike
60 Parts of socks
61 Right away, in the OR
64 ___ and Coke

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

BY STEVE PASTIS



GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS



OVERBOARD

BY CHIP DUNHAM



DEFLOCKED

BY JEFF CORRIVEAU



The Garden Bug

Resolutions for gardeners

- Resolve to incorporate more sustainable methods in your gardening habits, such as improved water conservation and more organic practices in your soil preparation.
- Resolve to reach out to the community more using your gardening skills. Perhaps you could donate your own flower arrangements to local senior activity centers, or donate your canned produce to a food pantry.

Source: www.almanac.com

- Brenda Weaver

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Saturday, January 24, 2026

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH BOB JONES

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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

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

♠ K J 7 6 ♥ A 10 9 3 ♦ A Q J 5 ♣ 7

Right-hand opponent opens 2H, weak. What call would you make?

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

♠ J 7 5 ♥ 6 5 ♦ K 7 5 ♣ A K Q 5 3

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
1♠ 2♥ Pass ?
What call would you make?

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

♠ A Q 10 6 5 ♥ 7 6 4 ♦ 8 6 4 ♣ K 8

EAST SOUTH WEST NORTH
1♦ Pass 1♥ 1♠
2♥ ?
What call would you make?

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

♠ K 10 9 7 5 2 ♥ 6 ♦ Q ♣ A 7 6 4 2

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
1♠ Pass 2NT* Pass
3♥* Pass 4♥ Pass
? *Game-forcing spade raise

**Shortness
What call would you make?

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

♠ Q 8 7 4 ♥ Q J 10 7 ♦ 8 ♣ A 10 9 4

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST
1NT Pass 2♣ Pass
2♦ Pass ?
What call would you make?

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

♠ A J 8 3 ♥ A K ♦ Q 8 7 2 ♣ Q 10 6

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
1♦ Pass 1♥ ?
What call would you make?

Look for answers on Monday.

(Bob Jones welcomes readers' responses sent in care of this paper.)

DUDLEY POND

Continued from page 1

torically managed to support its population and modest growth, the aging infrastructure is now at a critical point," noted their report, released in December. "The strain on the system has raised concerns not only for existing residents but also for future growth tied to subdivision and potential commercial or industrial development. The background of Dudley's sewer challenges lies at the intersection of its history, geography and recent growth. The community's location, institutions and steady rise in population have contributed to its vitality, but the aging infrastructure has not kept pace with these changes."

In the report the stu-

dents, identified as Rylee Bender, Joshua Hamilton and William Hawthorne, drafted three possible solutions for the city, none of which included tying in to the lines installed along U.S. 80 by the City of Dublin and Laurens County.

The three options, presented to the Dudley City Council last month, were to construct a secondary storage pond to catch the overflow caused by stormwater; for the city to build a new wastewater treatment plant; or repair the existing treatment pond.

The cheapest option, costing an estimated \$115,200, is optimizing the existing pond. The existing pond can be repaired in stages, the report concludes, giving the city flexibility in planning repairs and the

least chance of environmental impact during construction. However, simply fixing the problem does not account for future growth.

"While upgrades can significantly improve treatment performance, the existing pond has limited capacity ..." the report lays out. "Without further future expansion, it may not be sufficient to accommodate long-term population growth."

The plan that would best prepare city infrastructure for growth, but with the heftiest price tag, is the construction of a new wastewater treatment plant, which comes with an estimated cost of over \$3 million.

This plan includes a new, larger wastewater pond and enhanced treatment capabilities. The new pond could

be built on the city's existing 9.2-acre property. New, higher-capacity equipment could treat a higher volume of water and prevent overflow caused by storms.

"This design offers a sustainable long-term solution by directly addressing the community's two most pressing issues: the sewer ban and the lack of infrastructure needed for future growth," the report concludes.

The cost, however, is a major setback. Dudley, a town of less 600 residents according to 2020 Census data, has a limited tax base.

The city was also presented with a plan to construct a second storage pond, a 2.28-acre reservoir downhill from the current pond to act as "a temporary storage area from excess

wastewater that exceeds the current pond's capacity."

This plan would not increase the treatment capacity for the city, but would effectively prevent more waste spills into Turkey Creek. It comes with a feasible projected \$765,500 price tag.

"We're meeting again with [the students] to finalize the proposals," said Dudley Mayor Jason Locke. "But we're leaning toward that option."

The report notes that the City of Dudley has been awarded a loan-grant package from the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority totaling more than \$796,000 to offset the cost of their infrastructure upgrades.

Locke said the city has asked the students to com-

bine two of the proposals, construction of the second pond and optimization of the existing pond, and present a plan to the city council. Once a proposal is accepted by the city, student will have until May to present a finished plan.

Tying into the sewer lines installed by Laurens County and the City of Dublin remains an option for Dudley.

"It's not out of the question," Locke said. "It's still being explored and could be a great solution."

However, he said the city's priority was stopping the storm water from infiltrating the sewer system.

"That's a big animal to tackle," he said. "We have to deal with the ground water coming into the system through the aging pipes."

LATE TAXES

Continued from page 1

tax commissioner's office, but the extension was to allow vendors for the board of assessors and tax commissioner to generate finalized reports and consolidation sheets, which included the new millage rates, for review.

Once all the millage rates were approved and all tax digest information reviewed, the board of assessors and tax commissioner's vendor was able to upload the final files to the Department of Revenue on Dec. 10. The very next day the tax commissioner's office received the collection order from the state revenue commissioner that finally allowed everyone to send out their bills.

The end result: Rather than due dates in mid-December, the deadlines were pushed back to Feb. 20 for county taxpayers and Feb. 23 for Dublin.

Impacted most by the delay has been the school boards, particularly the cash-strapped Dublin dis-

trict. School systems basically get revenue from three sources – property taxes, state funding and grants.

Just to make payroll, the Dublin district has borrowed advances on its state funding allotments for the past four months. The district usually collects substantial property tax revenue each December, but instead had to rely on another advance to make ends meet, essentially exhausting its entire \$16 million state QBE allotment for the school year.

The somewhat complicated property tax process starts with the County Board of Assessors, which through the Tax Assessors Office identifies, lists and appraises all taxable real and personal property in the county.

The assessor's office also maintains ownership records, manages homestead and other exemptions and compiles all data for the annual tax digest.

Once the property values are assigned, assessment notices are mailed to taxpayers. Residents have

45 days to appeal their new property values, either formally or informally, to the tax assessor's office. If unhappy with that result, they can appeal to the county Board of Equalization, a neutral board appointed by the grand jury, and then to Superior Court.

Before a proposed tax digest can be finalized for the county commission or school board to set its millage rate, the amount of properties still under appeal must be less than 3 percent of the digest's value. value. Millage rates are set by a mathematical equation: The governing body's budget, divided by net assessed value equals the upcoming year's millage rate.

The five-member Board of Assessors in charge of overseeing the tax assessor's office is appointed by the County Commissioners to serve as an independent body. Its current members include Matt Lake, Hilton Culpepper, Terry Autry, David Turner and Jerry Hatcher. The board is currently

without a chief appraiser after Williamson left for health concerns.

Once the digest is done, a governing body or school board must roll back its millage rate enough to offset growth in the digest – which in Laurens County last year topped \$2 billion for the first time ever – or it is considered a tax increase. State law requires that any county, city or school raising property taxes must advertise the tax increase and hold three public hearings before voting to approve.

School boards can set their own millage rates, but do not levy taxes, so school millage rates and taxes are rolled into the final rates approved, or certified – in this case, by the County Commissioners and Dublin City Council. State law allows for a 2.5 percent fee to be assessed to the school boards by the county or city collecting taxes on the schools behalf.

Beginning last July, school boards cannot lower their millage rates below

10 mills and still qualify for state equalization funding. That threshold had been 14 mills until the law was changed.

Once the county and each municipality compile all their taxing information, that info is gathered by the tax commissioner and electronically uploaded to the state Department of Revenue. Once the state revenue commissioner signs off, the tax commissioner receives the collection order, a sort of green light for the cities and counties to begin collections.

This year collection order was received back from the state on Dec. 11, the day after the state started its review..

"That's the fastest we've ever got a collection," said Michelle Wood, who's worked at tax commissioner's office for more than 17 years.

Once bills got out, county property owners showed up, even in those first days after Christmas, paying in more than \$2 million in just the first two days of collections.

FAIRVIEW PARK

Continued from page 1

Fairview ranking in the top two hospitals in the state. To earn this badge of excellence, Fairview Park Hospital earned high marks across several metrics measuring quality of care received at the facility, which elevates the dedication and persistence of the staff and medical staff serving the Dublin-Laurens County community and surrounding counties.

"We are honored to receive this recognition from Georgia Trend Magazine", commented Fairview Park Hospital President and CEO Brad Griffin. "It truly reflects the hard work our clinical teams, medical providers, and ancillary staff put into the care received at Fairview each day. We are extremely proud to serve Dublin-Laurens County and the surrounding communities."

Fairview was one of two HCA hospitals in Georgia to be recognized.

FEBRUARY 7, 2026
10AM-4PM



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