

The Courier Herald

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SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2026

COURIERHERALDTODAY.COM

Dublin schools in danger of losing accreditation

By **RODNEY MANLEY**
Staff Reporter

A monitoring review has placed the Dublin City school district in danger of losing its accreditation, while also triggering a process that could lead to the governor suspending and replacing local school board members.

The Cognia Global Commission voted last week to downgrade Dublin City from "accredited" to "accredited with conditions" — the agency's lowest status and a required first step toward dropping a district's accreditation. The school system has 60 days to file a written response why its accreditation should not be dropped.

In the meantime, Georgia law requires that whenever a district is placed on that lowest level of accreditation, the state Board of Education hold a formal hearing on whether to recommend that the local board members be suspended and replaced.

A Cognia review team spent Feb. 23-25 in Dublin and interviewed 135 school system stakeholders — from the interim superintendent and all seven board members to 40 students and more than 30 parents and community members. The team also reviewed financial documents, audits and a

special report from the state Department of Audits and Accounts, requested by state lawmakers.

Losing accreditation is "the death knell for a school system," said state Sen. Larry Walker, whose district includes Laurens County.

"If you lose accreditation, you have trouble transferring credits. Colleges and universities won't recognize your diploma and transcripts. It will have very dire consequences for the students," Walker said.

Interim Dublin School Superintendent Marcee Pool said Friday that seven of 31 Cognia standards were identified as priorities, dealing primarily with the district's recent financial crisis, personnel matters and transparency with stakeholders.

"Dublin City Schools is confronting challenges openly and taking steps to improve transparency and communication," Pool said in a statement. "Many of the issues identified are tied to past practices, and current leadership has already

begun implementing solutions.

"Let us be clear: The district is still accredited. The designation of 'Accredited Under Conditions' indicates that areas of concern were identified and are actively being addressed."

The Cognia review team's findings were detailed in a report sent to the district earlier this week.

In the report, parents, teachers, even board mem-

DUBLIN SCHOOLS
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DUBLIN FARMERS MARKET

EVERY SATURDAY, APR 4 TO OCT 11
7:30 AM TO 12:30 PM

MARKET ON MADISON

314 West Madison Street
Dublin, GA 31021

Annie

The cast of Annie will be singing this Saturday, and we're giving away free Rosie's ice cream vouchers. Be one of the first 100 people to visit the staff table and say "the sun will come out tomorrow!"

VENDORS FOR SATURDAY
April 18, 2026 (7:30 AM to 12:30 PM)

- Farmhouse Bread Co.**
baked goods
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cheesestraws
- Riverbend Meadow Market**
produce
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fresh produce
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produce
- Hot Rod's Ohoopie Grilling Sauce**
barbeque sauce
- Kaleigh Jordan**
fresh produce
- Beasley Farms**
veggies and eggs
- Jos'Pee Berry Farm**
blueberries, chicken salad
- Infused & Rooted**
infused olive oils
- Walker's Homemade Gifts & Goodies**
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- Sonrise Farms**
fresh berries
- Eden Organics**
produce
- Elevated Eatery**
cupcakes and juices
- Shemeka Smith**
hair & body care, juices
- The Blossom Barn**
flowers & baked goods
- Tasty Paws Pets**
dog treats & bandanas
- Simply Magnolia**
candles and room sprays
- Parker Dairy Flower Farm**
flowers
- Off the Farm Produce**
produce
- Boyd's Knives**
handmade knives
- Heavenly Harvest Pecans**
pecans
- Jewelry by Keen**
handmade jewelry
- C & I Bookish**
jewelry and pens
- Making Magic Daily**
signs & wall art
- Fields of Dewy Flowers**
flowers and plants
- Holi Crop Micro Farm**
microgreens
- The Mustard Seed Farm**
baked goods
- Natural Americana**
herbal teas & skincare
- Beth Wood Natural Guru**
essential oils
- Colby Asbell**
baked goods and iced coffee
- Peachtree Oven**
baked goods
- Bev's Sewing Room**
handmade accessories
- Jessa B's**
baked goods & lemonade
- Donna Todd "The Flower Lady"**
plants & flowers
- Frost Bites**
freeze dried candy



Mr. Warbucks' staff welcomes Annie, played by Gracen Gayle Bates. From left: Becky Wilson, Bates, Jacob Berry, Kyle Dominy, Breona Jenkins and Jodi Jarvis/PAYTON TOWNS III

Having fun on Easy Street: 'Annie' cast preparing for the sun to come up

By **PAYTON TOWNS III**
Senior Reporter

The sun will come up at Theatre Dublin for an optimistic story filled with music and dancing.

The Dublin Community Theatre will present "Annie" at 7 p.m. on April 23, 24 and 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. on April 25. Tickets can be purchased at purplepass.com/Annie26 or by calling Theatre Dublin at (478) 272-2560.

"I think it's going to be an outstanding show," show director Glenda Berry said. "I love the story. When people think about 'Annie' it is popular and familiar to almost everyone. Annie is the eternal optimist."

Elaine Avery is the assistant director, John Morgan is serving as music director and Gilda Loyd is helping as the choreographer.

"Ticket sales have been the best they have ever been for our Dublin Community Theatre productions," said Berry. "We will have a live orchestra with professional musicians. We will have professional backdrops and professional costumes that we have become known for. Even though we are a community theater, we really try to put on the most professional production that we can."

There are a lot of parallels between the period the show is set, the early 1930s, and today.



Annie is introduced to Mr. Warbucks, played by Cannon Warnock/PAYTON TOWNS III

"There were some concerns about prices and how people would take care of themselves," Berry said about the similarities. "What is happening in the story has an amazing reflection on some of the things that are happening today. I think that makes it more relatable for people."

As for the lead character, Gracen Gayle Bates has put in a lot of time and dedication into becoming Annie.

"She epitomizes everything you want in an Annie," Berry said. "She is spirited, professional and is always upbeat. She never complains. She is a genuine joy and a pleasure to work with."

Bates was excited to land the lead role.

"I have listened to my lines about every other

night," Bates said. "I've put in a lot of hard work. All the members of the cast are really nice. It has been good to be able to meet new people."

Bates' favorite song in the show is "Tomorrow."

"It is a very optimistic song about what is going to happen the next day," she said.

During a Dublin Rotary Club meeting, Berry heard Cannon Warnock sing a song. She encouraged him to audition for a future DCT show.

"When he auditioned, he actually sang one of the songs from the show," Berry said. "I think everyone who was at auditions knew we had our Daddy Warbucks when he performed."

This will be Warnock's

ANNIE

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Coca-Cola United to move operations to 10-acre plot in Dublin

By **KYLE DOMINY**
Staff Reporter

Coca-Cola Bottling Company United has announced plans to move its area operations to Laurens County.

The company, an independent corporation that serves as the bottler and distributor for Atlanta-based beverage giant Coca-Cola, intends to build a new sales center and warehouse to serve a 10-county area. The move comes after United's McRae center was damaged by Hurricane Helene.

"Following the significant damage to our McRae facility caused by Hurricane Helene, we had to evaluate options for how we can best serve our associates, customers and communities moving forward," said Jack Sherman, a United vice-president, in a statement announcing the move. "The new Dublin facility will optimize our distribution network

in the region and strengthen our long-term operations."

Coca-Cola United purchased a roughly 10-acre plot in the Dublin-Laurens County Development Authority's Entrepreneur and Small Business Industrial Park in March. The site is near the U.S. 411 Bypass off Honeysuckle Road. The Dublin facility will employ about 60 workers, many of which will be transferred from the McRae operation.

Details on the size of the new building and United's full investment in Laurens County were still being finalized and will be announced later, a United representative said.

Development Authority President Mitch Griggs said the company reached out to local officials earlier this year interested in purchasing industrial property. He said about half United's McRae workforce

COCA-COLA
Continued on page 11



Arthur P. Ayotte took first place for the upper high school grades 11 and 12/HORACE AUSTIN

Nine place in MLK Jr. Oratorical Speech Contest

By **PAYTON TOWNS III**
Senior Reporter

Nine students placed in their grade divisions during the 2026 MLK Jr. Oratorical Speech Contest that was held at the historic First African Baptist Church on April 12.

Arthur P. Ayotte (first place), Memajae D. Davis (second place) and Kemonte A. Davis (third place) won in the upper high school grades 11th and 12th.

Zachary B. Brazeal (first place), Malcolm K. Rayner (second place) and Sydney E. Howard (third place) won in the lower high school grades 9th and 10th.

Christian A. Lee (first place), Aisha Saxena (second place) and Sahara Aliece Brown (third place) won in the middle school grades 6th through 8th.

The following were the prizes for each division - \$500 for first place, \$300

for second place, \$100 for third place and \$10 for participation.

"I feel the contestants were outstanding like the previous oratorical speech contest we've had," said Jerry Davis, who is the chairperson of the MLK Jr. Oratorical Speech Contest committee. "We have been amazed at the presentations that the young people were making and this year was the same as well."

Davis believed that all of the participants were from Georgia. He said they promote the event through Visit Dublin GA through Miriam Lewis.

"This is open to everyone who wants to participate," Davis said. "We have a great committee."

The sponsors for the event were Oconee High School National Alumni Association (OHSNAA,

MLK

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Officials urge caution through dry conditions

By **PAYTON TOWNS III**
Senior Reporter

The dry conditions outside have local officials asking the community to be careful when it comes to burning or working with flames.

Since it has not rained since April 3, the situation outside is "extremely dry," said Laurens County EMA Director Bill Laird.

"Once the wind picks up, that increases the danger for fire to spread," he said. "At this time of year it tends to be a little breezy. We have been getting red flags a couple of times a week for high fire danger."

A Red Flag Warning is the highest alert from the National Weather Service. This is issued when there are critical weather conditions including low humidity and strong winds that can help spread a fire.

"If they don't have to burn, don't burn," said Laurens County Fire Chief Josh McCard. "If they do, they need to have precautions in place. Have a water hose or a good break around it. Take all of the necessary precautions. The main thing would be to limit their outdoor burning."

Though Laurens County is currently not in an out-

door burn ban, it would be beneficial to not do that during these conditions.

"If they do burn outside, make sure it is completely out before they leave it," McCard said.

This includes cigarettes "If the conditions are right, with humidity and everything, bad things can happen so people need to be mindful where they discard their cigarettes," McCard said.

Cigarettes have been known to start grass fires.

"Those are not fun to deal

CAUTION

Continued on page 11

OBITUARIES



Sylvester Fielding

Funeral services for Mr. Sylvester Fielding will be held Tuesday, April 21, 2026 at 1 p.m. in the Howard Chapel United Methodist Church, 508 S. Washington St, Dublin, Ga. The Rev. Patricia Johnson will officiate. Mr. Sylvester Fielding was born on Sept. 13, 1939 in Gordon, Georgia as the oldest of two children to the late Lester and Versell Fielding. Mr. Sylvester was a man of God and devoted member at Howard Chapel United Methodist Church. As a child, Sylvester was educated in the Wilkinson County School System. Upon his high school graduation, he attended Paine College, where he met the love of his life, Della Thomas. After one year at Paine College, he transferred to Albany State College, where he obtained his Bachelor of Science degree. Upon completion of college, he started his teaching career with the Wilkinson County School System and was soon after drafted into the United States Army where he served for two years. After being honorably discharged, he started teaching and coaching with the Laurens County School System. During that time, he obtained his Master of Education from Georgia Southwestern College. He later became an assistant principal at Southwest Laurens Elementary School. After 33 years of teaching, he retired and became a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. Sylvester continued his career as an official of high school basketball where he was later acknowledged for 30 years of service with the Georgia High School Association. Mr. Sylvester Fielding passed away on April 14, 2026 and was preceded in death by his parents, his sister and brother-in-law: Doris (Bill) Garner and his brothers-in-law: Robert Thomas and Harry Hoston. He leaves to miss, love and cherish his memories to his wife of 61 years: Mrs. Della

Fielding; his only child: Darryl (Toinette) Fielding; four grandchildren: Corey Fielding, Kelsea Fordham, Raina Fielding and Taylor Norris; his great-grandson: Kyland Dixon, his nieces: Rachel (Isaac) Crockett and Leslie Garner, his sister-in-laws: Bonnese Thomas, Winafer (Frank) McKie, Sharon Hoston, Shirley Thomas and a host of other extended family members. The family will receive visitors at 907 Henderson St. Dublin, GA 31021 from Thursday, April 16, 2026 until Saturday, April 18, 2026 starting at 4 p.m. each day. Arrangements entrusted to Wyche's Funeral Home Inc. (www.wychesfuneral-homeinc.com)

Justin Bart Jones

Justin Bart Jones, 44, of Eastman, Ga., died on Wednesday, April 15, 2026. A celebration of life service will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday, April 19, at Southland Funeral Home. He is survived by his father and mother – John W. "Johnny" Jones and Patricia Whiggum Jones; brother – Chan Jones; nieces – Marli Blayr Jones and Henli Clayr Jones; several aunts and uncles. The family will receive friends in Southland Funeral Chapel from 2 p.m. - 3 p.m. Sunday, April 19. Stokes-Southerland Funeral Home of Eastman has charge of arrangements.

Doshia L. Smith

Doshia L. Smith, 90 of Soperton, passed away in the early morning hours on Wednesday, April 15, 2026 at Pruitt Health in Swainsboro, Georgia. Funeral services will be conducted at 3 p.m. on Saturday, April 18, 2026 in the Billy Williams Chapel of Sammons Funeral Home with Pastor John Young Jr. officiating. Mrs. Smith will be laid to rest in the Red Bluff Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions are requested in her memory, c/o Sammons Funeral Home, P.O. Box 48, Soperton, GA 30457

Sammons Funeral Home, Since 1917
912-529-4411 or 478-455 0671

Sage Lee'ane Mercer

Sage Lee'ane Mercer, infant daughter and fourth child of Robert Darnell Mercer and Asia Nicole Travis, of Lyons, Georgia gained her angel wings on Tuesday, April 14, 2026. **Sammons Funeral Home, Since 1917**

Georgia General Assembly adopted a bill to expose members to scrutiny for alleged improprieties

By TY TAGAMI
Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA — A little amendment to the last bill to pass the Georgia General Assembly this year could cause quite a stir if Gov. Brian Kemp signs it into law.

Or the Senate's tweak to House Bill 1409 could do nothing, except give lawmakers pause about pursuing sex with a staffer.

The measure, which passed the Senate unanimously during the lunch hour on April 2, technically the last day of the legislative session, went on to pass the House 12 hours later, at 12:53 am, with broad bipartisan support.

The underlying bill updates a Georgia law that requires adults who interact with children to report suspected child abuse.

The amendment connects Georgia to recent events in Washington, D.C., where California Democrat Eric Swalwell and Texas Republican Tony Gonzales each resigned from the U.S. House on Tuesday.

Swalwell stepped down and suspended his campaign for California governor after he was accused of sexually assaulting a former staffer. Gonzales admitted in a radio interview to having an affair with an aide who later took her own life by lighting herself on fire.

Georgia state Sen. Randy Robertson, R-Cataula, said he was moved to introduce what lawmakers began to referring to as "the Epstein amendment" after he read about her death.

"I'm going to encourage our congressional delegation to look at what we did here and go up and take the same stand," Robertson said this week after Swalwell and Gonzales resigned. "They represent us, so I think they have an obligation, the same as state senators and state representatives, to be transparent with the people who put them in office"

Calling it the Epstein amendment is a misnomer since he was a financier rather than a lawmaker, but the connotation of sexual abuse is what led to the nickname for Robertson's

transparency mandate.

HB 1409, should the governor sign it, will require that the leaders of the House and Senate treat any settled claim of "sexual harassment, discriminatory harassment, discrimination, or retaliation" as an open record, subject only to the scrubbing of the complainant's identity. Refusal to release such records after a request would be treated as a misdemeanor punishable with a fine of up to \$1,000, or \$2,500 for each additional violation within a year.

Robertson, who got another bill approved that would make it illegal for clergy to have sexual contact with people taking their counsel, said he felt lawmakers should hold themselves to the same standard.

He had been trying to get his transparency amendment approved since March 6, the deadline to "cross" bills from the Senate to the House, when he stuck it onto another bill about public access to mugshots and police videos. That bill did not pass. Nor did another he tried to attach it to.

The version of the amendment that ultimately passed was tacked onto HB 1409 by Sen. Blake Tillery, R-Vidalia, who is running for lieutenant governor.

NEWS DIGEST

Development Authority meeting

The Dublin-Laurens County Development Authority will hold its next board meeting on April 21 at 8 a.m., in the McGrath Keen Conference Center. The agenda: -Welcome and call to order -Invocation -Recognition of special guests -Approval of agenda -Approval of minutes: Development Authority board meeting, March 17, 2026 -Treasurer's report -Administrative items: a. DLCCA website & GIS recommendation b. DLCCA/chamber facility update -President's report a. Economic development update b. Hwashin update -Chairman's report -Other business:

-Executive session — if necessary -Adjourn

County commission meeting

The Laurens County Board of Commissioners will meet April 21 at 12 p.m. The agenda: -Call to order -Invocation -Approval of meeting minutes from April 7, 2026 -Discussion/approval of the bids for the burn building training facility -Administrative/approval of the FY2025 audit along with budget amendments -Discussion/approval to quit claim Brewton Property -Presentation by Ryan Dixon on bond for School Board -Other business -Citizen business -Executive session for litigation -Adjourn

The Courier Herald

LOCAL MATTERS



Judged a newspaper of General Excellence 2024

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

ANNIVERSARIES

April 19
Robert & Shirley Perry

BIRTHDAYS

April 17
Willie Clover Jr.

April 18
Dorethea Billue
Maurice Jordan
Frank Latimore

April 19
Josh Phillips

April 20
Monique Jones
Rose May
Roman Williams



POSTING DATE APRIL 17, 2026

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT AN APPLICATION HAS BEEN SUBMITTED BY DINESH PATEL FOR A BUILDING HEIGHT VARIANCE FROM 35' TO 52' 6". PROPERTY IS LOCATED AT PARCEL 129 020E, DUBLIN, GEORGIA.

A PUBLIC MEETING WILL BE HELD MAY 4, 2026 AT 5:30 P. M. IN THE HENRY "BUD" HICKS JR MEMORIAL CHAMBERS, LOCATED IN CITY HALL AT 100 S. CHURCH STREET IN DUBLIN GEORGIA AT WHICH TIME YOU MAY APPEAR IN PERSON, OR AND IN WRITING, BY AN AGENT OR BY AN ATTORNEY AND PRESENT ANY REASONS WHICH YOU MAY HAVE IN GRANTING OR DENYING THIS PETITION.

If you should have any questions, please call (478) 277-5070.



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Madeleine Price, PA-C



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NSD Theater: The call is coming from inside the house

I was brushing my teeth when I heard a chirping noise come from the next room. My brain did not register the sound at first. It had been a typical Thursday morning and I was getting ready for another day at the office, and I assumed the bird-like noise was a notification on one of the too-many cellphones in my house.

But then I heard it again, louder, and more lifelike than before. "Is there a bird in the house?" I thought to myself as I peered around the corner, toothbrush still at work.

Sure enough, perched on the ceiling fan, was a bird. I'm no ornithologist, but I think it was a mockingbird. That explains why it sounded like it was making fun of me. "You let a bird in the house," I hollered at no one in particular, though with a mouthful of toothpaste it sounded more like "Youph mlet um buhrd ihn da huse."

As it turns out, my wife had just let the dog out, and the bird must have let itself in during the process. I reopened the door and began a hasty pursuit of the invader. There was no way I could catch it, and my only hope was for it to leave the way it came. My scheme worked, and the bird's visit came to an end as quickly as it began.

I never even put down my toothbrush. Proper oral hygiene should be a part of everyone's daily routine.

This time it's personal

THE NEW SOUTHERN DAD



By **KYLE DOMINY**

And thankfully so, because my wife was no help at all. It is worth noting that my spouse is terrified of birds. When she discovered a flying creature had breached the walls, she

backed into the corner, frozen in fear.

The call was coming from inside the house.

The call of old horror movies will get the reference. It goes back to an urban legend that started circulating in the 1960s. A babysitter in an unassuming subdivision gets repeated, threatening phone calls from a stranger who knows her every move. No matter what she does, the psychopath sees everything and can even predict her next move.

She contacts the authorities who work to trace the source of the phone calls, and, spoiler alert, the calls were coming from inside the house. That myth grew into the plot of a dozen or more films.

No, a bird isn't a maniacal killer bent on terrorizing others, but try explaining that to my better half. I don't even keep bird feeders around the house because I don't want to encourage these critters, as important as they are to any ecosystem, from hanging around longer than they have to.

The National Audubon Society claims that bird watching is good for mental health. Apparently there is research to suggest that regularly observing a bird on the wing brings a sense of calm and rejuvenation, helping improve brain function.

That may be so, but let's keep it outside next time.

Abigail Adams: Devoted woman of faith

When John Adams, America's second President, married Abigail Smith in 1764, he married a good and godly woman, the daughter of a Congregational minister in Massachusetts. She was born in Weymouth, Mass. in 1744, and like other women of the time, she lacked a formal education but loved to read books ... many books. Abigail was mother to three sons and two daughters, and their marriage lasted over 50 years.

"Long separations kept Abigail from her husband while he served the country they loved, as delegate to the Continental Congress, envoy abroad, and elected officer under the Constitution," She wrote many letters to John, to family and friends, while she looked after the



By **JACK BROWN**

children and home, and those many letters revealed her heart and her soul. She struggled "with wartime (the Revolutionary War) shortages and inflation; to run the farm with a minimum of help; and, to teach four children (one daughter was stillborn) when formal education was interrupted."

In 1784, she joined John at his diplomatic post in

ington. Abigail and Martha Washington became best friends. And when her husband was elected president in 1797, Abigail continued to gracefully stand by her man and best friend and to exhibit the characteristics of faith in God, love for her family, and devotion to her country.

Paris, and after 1785, "she filled the difficult role of wife to the first United States Minister to Great Britain, and did so with dignity and tact." She complemented the life and service of her husband in so many ways.

It was back to Quincy, Mass. in 1788, until her husband became young America's first Vice-President under George Wash-

ington. Abigail and Martha Washington became best friends. And when her husband was elected president in 1797, Abigail continued to gracefully stand by her man and best friend and to exhibit the characteristics of faith in God, love for her family, and devotion to her country.

In 1801, Abigail and John retired to Quincy to resume their active role in both church and community. She preceded her husband in death before seeing her eldest son, John Quincy, elected as America's sixth President. She and John are buried side-by-side at the United First Parish Church in Quincy, Mass.

In closing this tribute to Abigail Adams, it is well

known by American historians that Abigail gave strength and counsel to John all through their marriage. She was his wife and confidant and jointly responsible for many of his accomplishments for the United States of America. She was wife, mother, patriot and godly example for the women of her day ... and for the women of today.

Peace!

MOMENTS IN TIME

* On April 27, 1521, Portuguese navigator Ferdinand Magellan was killed during a tribal skirmish on Mactan Island in the Philippines. Earlier in the month, he had met with the local chief on the Philippine island of Cebu, who, after converting to Christianity, had persuaded the Europeans to assist him in conquering a rival tribe on a neighboring island. During the ensuing conflict, Magellan was hit by a poisoned arrow and left to die by his retreating fellow fighters.

* On April 28, 1953, inventor Howard Ross received a patent for a useful, if rather curious, garment called a "double coat," with an outer layer that could be extended to cover two people at a time in athletic stadiums when it rained.

* On April 29, 1991, paroled felon Rodney King

led police on a high-speed chase through the streets of Los Angeles County before eventually surrendering. Drunk and uncooperative, he resisted arrest and was beaten by three police officers who didn't know they were being filmed by a nearby citizen. Upon release to the press, the video triggered outrage around the country and started a national debate on police brutality.

* On April 30, 1977, more than 2,000 protesters carrying signs saying, "Split Wood, Not Atoms" and "Go Fishing, Not Fission" occupied the Seabrook Nuclear Power Plant construction site in New Hampshire. More than half were taken into custody in what became one of the largest mass arrests in U.S. history.

* On May 1, 1958, the United States celebrated its

first Law Day after President Eisenhower announced the observance to honor the role of law in the country's creation. Three years later, Congress followed suit by passing a joint resolution establishing May 1 as Law Day.

* On May 2, 1972, after serving nearly five decades as FBI director, J. Edgar Hoover died, leaving the agency without the administrator who'd turned it into an efficient crime-fighting machine.

* On May 3, 2007, shortly before her fourth birthday, Madeleine McCann of Rothley, England, disappeared during a family vacation at a resort in southern Portugal. Despite an international search, she remains missing.

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NOTICE OF THE OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION AIR PROTECTION BRANCH

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF WILKINSON
NOTICE OF DRAFT TITLE V OPERATING PERMIT

To All Interested Parties:

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division announces its intent to issue a Title V Air Quality Operating Permit to CARBO Ceramics Inc. – Toomsboro Plant. The facility is located at 1880 Dent Road, Toomsboro, Georgia. The primary purpose of this permit is to identify and consolidate existing State and Federal air requirements applicable to CARBO Ceramics Inc. – Toomsboro Plant and to provide practical methods for determining compliance with these requirements. The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) is preparing Title V Operating Permits in accordance with Title V of the Clean Air Act. This permit will be enforceable by the Georgia EPD, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and other persons as otherwise authorized by law.

The facility is a ceramic pellet manufacturing plant with associated air pollution equipment

The draft permit and all information used to develop the draft permit are available for review. This includes the application and all other relevant materials available to the permitting authority. This information is available for review at the office of the Air Protection Branch, 4244 International Parkway, Atlanta Tradeport - Suite 120, Atlanta, Georgia 30354. All visits to EPD's offices are by appointment only. To set an appointment, email askepd@dnr.ga.gov with your name, email and phone number and an associate will reach out to you. Copies of the draft permit, explanatory narrative, and associated permit application may also be requested by contacting Steve Allison, steve.allison2@dnr.ga.gov.

Copies of the draft permit, narrative, and permit application will be available through our internet site <https://epd.georgia.gov/draft-title-v-permitsamendments>. (Please note that the Internet is generally accessible from most public libraries in Georgia.)

You are hereby notified of the opportunity to submit written public comments concerning the draft Title V Air Quality Operating Permit. Persons wishing to comment on the draft Title V Operating Permit are required to submit their comments, in writing, to EPD at the above Atlanta Air Protection Branch address, or via email [preferred] to air-permits.comments@dnr.ga.gov (email comments must include the facility name and "Air Permit" in subject line). Comments must be received by the EPD no later than 30 days after the date on which this notice is published in the newspaper before close of business at 4:30 p.m. (Should the comment period end on a weekend or holiday, comments will be accepted up until the next working day.) The Division, in making its final decision to issue the Title V permit, will consider all comments received on or prior to that date.

Any request for a public hearing must be made within the 30-day public comment period. A request for a hearing should be in writing and should specify, in as much detail as possible, the air quality-related issues that constitute the basis for the request. Where possible, the individual making the request should also identify the portion(s) of the Georgia Rules for Air Quality Control and/or the Federal Rules that the individual making the request is concerned may not have been adequately incorporated into the draft permit. If a public hearing on the draft Title V Operating Permit is to be held, the date, time, and location of the hearing will be provided in a subsequent, separate public notice. At that hearing, anyone may present data, make a statement or comment, or offer a viewpoint or argument either orally or in writing concerning the draft Title V permit. During the Division's decision-making procedures to issue the Title V permit, any information received during a public hearing will be considered together with information received during the comment period. The Division conducts public hearings in "virtual" format using Zoom meeting applications.

Following this 30-day public comment period, the draft permit will undergo a 45 day review by U.S. EPA in accordance with 40 CFR 70.8. Information pertaining to U.S. EPA's review period can be found on their website at <http://www.epa.gov/caa-permitting/georgia-proposed-title-v-permits>.

After the comment period has expired, the EPD will consider all comments, make any necessary changes, and issue the Title V Operating Permit. Copies of the final Title V Operating Permit, comments received, EPD's responses to comments, and any other relevant information will then be made available for public review at the office of the Air Protection Branch by appointment only. A summary of comments and any changes made to the final permit will be found in an addendum to the narrative. A copy of this narrative and the final Title V permit will be added to the information already available at the internet address given above.

For additional information, contact the manager of the Stationary Source Permitting Program, at the Atlanta address, or by phone at 404/363-7000. Please refer to this notice when requesting information. You can sign up to receive weekly emails regarding Air Public Notices at <https://epd.georgia.gov/subscribe-air-protection-branch-updates>.

BIBLE TRIVIA

By **WILSON CASEY**
King Features

1. Is the book of Obadiah (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From Matthew 9, after Jesus healed a paralyzed man, what did the man pick up and carry home? Brother, Bed, Mother, Cart
3. Which book begins, "And the Lord spake unto Moses in the wilderness of Sinai"? Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy
4. What is the largest number phrase specifically mentioned in the Bible? 7 x 70, Ten hundred, Hundred thousand, Thousands of ten thousands
5. According to Acts 25, what title belonged to Agrippa? Priest, Apostle, King, General

ANSWERS: (1) Old, (2) Bed, (3) Numbers, (4) Ten thousands, (5) King.

Brothers and Sisters, we greet you in the Name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

The Green Grove Missionary Baptist Church Family cordially invites you to join us in celebrating the 7th Pastoral Anniversary of our Pastor, Rev. Dr. Carl Anthony Wardlaw and First Family on Sunday, April 26, 2026.



Our Anniversary Theme is "Laboring Together In Love; 7 Years Of Growth Rooted In Christ" 1st Corinthians 3:9.

Our morning speaker, beginning at 11:00 AM is Rev Dr. Robert L. Fullwood, Pastor, and the McLeod Covenant Missionary Baptist Church Family, Swainsboro, GA. At 2:00 PM, our guest is Rev. Jonathan King, Pastor, and the First Baptist Church Family, Soperton, GA. Dinner will be served following the afternoon worship.

You may join us in-person, FB @Green Grove MB Church / @Tony Wardlaw, YouTube @Green Grove MBC-Dublin, or on our phone line, 470-480-9498.

We look forward to you joining us as we celebrate our faithful servants. To God Be The Glory!

FROM THE RECORD

Petition for custody by equitable caregiver: Alexandria Vann v. Marissa Bragg and Marcus McClinton

Divorce: Kelley Ayres v. William Ayres; Jerry Luecke v. Marsha Luecke; Ashley Miller v. Jonathan C. Miller; Paige Mentz v. Caleb Steven Mentz

Complaint for divorce: Jared Reagin v. Brandi Reagin; Deborah Couey v. Dustin Couey

Complaint for change of custody: Diann Hinson v. Suzanne King; Aveonia Downing v. Detrenell Downing (deceased)

Modification: Hannah Gault v. Dakota Swafford & Judy Black

Contract: Wells Fargo Bank v. Mario Webb; HS Financial Group v. Tarah Raulerson; Bank of America v. Marion Orange; SMB

Private Education Loan v. Quintashia and King Jackson; Credit Acceptance Corporation v. Shaneka Wright and Nancy Moore; Credit Corp Solution Inc. v. Erica Thomas; Wells Fargo Bank v. Mitchel Porter

Petition for review: Juli Lewis v. Dublin Housing Authority

Real Property: Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation v. Arthur Hudson and Brandy Bassett

Automobile tort: Virginia Lawrence v. Dana and Kelton Mullis; Shamequa Ervin and Orlando Dixon v. Rachel Marion

Injunction/mandamus/other writ: Charles Anthony Armstrong v. Joe Maus Dublin CDJR LLC

Contempt - child support: Ga DHS ex rel Patrick Allen Wells v. Rolan Hawkins; Ga DHS ex rel Kanon Upshaw et al v.

Joshua Upshaw; Ga DHS ex rel Amauri Daniels et al v. Alvinskie Roberson; Ga DHS ex rel Zacrey Todd v. Amelia Warren; Ga DHS ex rel Kalis Deese v. Tyrus Deese; Ga DHS ex rel Taylor Cackowski v. Regina Cackowski; Ga DHS ex rel Jonathan Eck v. Kyle Eck; Ga DHS ex rel Skyla Williams v. Travis Butler; Ga DHS ex rel Ambreia Brown v. Michael A. Denson; Ga DHS ex rel Conor Lenahan v. John Lenahan; Ga DHS ex rel Charli Weeks et al v. Jack Weeks

Complaint - child support: Ga DHS ex rel Kaisyn Mitchell v. Contrevion George; Ga DHS ex rel Tom Wyatt Garrett v. Dalton Garrett

Leins: Willie Stanley to Fairview Park Hospital; Takeisha Stanley to Fairview Park Hospital; Neketa Shawanna Adkins to Fairview Park Hospital; Myrtle Santiago to Security Credit Services LLC; Adam Stewart to LVNV Funding LLC; Serena Fluker to Discover Bank; Darren Edmond to

LVNV Funding LLC; Demetri Wright et al to Tony Jones; Pauline H. Reid to Jefferson Capital Systems LLC; Juanita Durham to Jefferson Capital Systems LLC; Joaquin Lemon to Credit Acceptance Corp; Diane Roberson to Jefferson Capital Systems LLC; Lakeshia White to Internal Revenue Service; Middle Georgia Civil Engineering to Internal Revenue Service; Ryland Environmental Inc. to Internal Revenue Service; Tori Parker to Wells Fargo Bank N.A.; Janaya Burch to Capital One NA; E'Tajia Lee to Curry Management Corp; Rashaun Axson to Curry Management

Security deed: Sandra Faye Paul and Danny Ray Paul to Bank of Dudley; Universal Maintenance Supply LLC to Georgia Fist Bank; Clinton Duggan to Farmers State Bank; Thomas McKay and Darlene McKay to Pennymac Loan Services LLC; Ashley Niciole Briggs and Jack Elliott Briggs to Planet Home Lending LLC; James C. Fordham and

Jennifer Marie Fordham to Union Home Mortgage Corp.; Odaat Holdings LLC to Farmers State Bank; Jason A. Sullivan and Christian G. Sullivan to Mortgage Research Center LLC dba Veterans United Home Loans; Jacob Allen Headrick to First Colony Mortgage Corporation; Jeffrey Baggett and Judith Baggett to Figure Lending LLC and Dart Collateral Manager LLC; James Eric Scarborough to Exchange Bank; DGM of Laurens County LLC to Bank of Dudley; Tonia Marrapode Slater to Georgia United Credit Union; Shalyric Moyer to Guild Mortgage Company LLC x2; Algernon Denham to Tina Hutcheson; Christopher Scrivner and Loren Woods Scrivner to Emporium TPO LLC; Amelia Gay Chambers to Gayland Inc.; Garbutt Historic Properties LLC to Georgia First Bank; Dustin Andrew Miller and Kensy Leigh Miller to Geneva Financial LLC; VB-S1 Assets LLC to Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas

Warranty deed: T.S. Morris Inc., Timothy Morris and Suzanne Morris to Universal Maintenance Supply LLC; Hillcrest LTD LP to DGM of Laurens County LLC; Donald Russell and Lou Ann Russell to Zadaann Bozzi; Mathew Eapen to Clinton Duggan; Jason Whittington to Dublin First Church of the Nazarene Inc.; James Clifton Fordham to James C. Fordham and Jennifer Marie Fordham; N.W. Chism Jr. to Odaat Holdings LLC; Hallies Coleman and Rosemary Coleman to Jason A. Sullivan and Christian G. Sullivan; Jeanette Dinkheller to Jacob Allen Headrick; Cyprus Dublin LLC to Shalyric Moyer; Samantha Denham to Algernon Denham; Ervin Williams to DRL56 Holdings LLC; Gay Land Inc. to Amelia Gay Chambers; Raydient LLC to Dyes Home Builders Inc.; Dustin Andrew Miller to Dustin Andrew Miller and kensy Leigh Miller; MSV Holdings LLC to Sadananda Redy

POLICE BEAT

Dublin Police Department

- On Thursday, April 9, around 5:21 p.m., an officer was stationary on East Jackson Street at North Union Street monitoring traffic when he saw a gray Ford Fusion traveling at a high rate of speed.

The officer activated his ProLaser 4 and obtained a speed reading of 55 mph in a 40 mph zone. The officer pulled behind the vehicle and initiated a traffic stop. The driver, later identified as Natisha Walls, 34, pulled into the BP parking lot located at the corner of East Jackson and South Washington Street.

The driver initially identified herself as Delica Profit, and January 1991 birthdate. The officer ran the provided information through GCIC, which returned a suspended license status due to failure to appear. The officer told

the woman that she would need to be transported to the police department for fingerprinting and released afterwards.

While being placed into the patrol vehicle, Walls said, "I'm sorry, I gave you my sister's name." At that time, the officer advised Walls she would be transported to the Laurens County Detention Center for providing a false name and date of birth. Walls said she was unaware her sister's license was suspended and that she admitted her identity because she knew the officer would discover her real name during fingerprinting.

Walls received citations for speeding, driving while unlicensed and giving false name and date of birth.

- Trinity Downing, 18, was charged with theft by shoplifting at Walmart on Highway 80 West around

12:03 p.m. on April 8.

An officer responded to the store and met with a loss prevention employee who pulled up surveillance video showing Downing repeatedly "skip scan" in an attempt to shoplift an assortment of items valued at \$313. The officer arrested Downing and transported her to the police department. She received a trespass notice and a citation. She was fingerprinted and released from the police department.

- On April 7, an officer was dispatched to Kroger on Hillcrest Parkway in response to a report of theft. An officer talked with a man who reported that an employee, Teresa Catoe, 63, had been caught on camera stealing large sums of money, dating back to late February or early March.

The man believed that the thefts may have started before that time period, estimating that around \$200,000 was missing from the store. He also mentioned

that he interviewed Catoe, and while she admitted to taking money, she did not specify the amount. However, she indicated that she had \$10,400 in cash inside her wallet in her vehicle.

Catoe was arrested and transported to the police department. Later, she was escorted to the Laurens County Jail.

Laurens County Sheriff's Office

- A deputy responded to suspicious activity on Woods Way on April 4

around 2:41 a.m.

- A Playstation was stolen on Kaitlyn Court around 5 p.m. on April 4.

- On April 3, around 5:08 p.m., a deputy was dispatched to Second Street in reference to a fraud.

- A deputy was dispatched to Claxton Dairy Road for someone trespassing around 8:09 p.m. on April 3.

- On April 1, around 9:30 p.m., a deputy responded to Highway 199 South for a burglary report.

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.

Welcome to the Sales Team



Brett Poulton
Finance Manager

Brett invites all of his family and friends to stop by and he'll be glad to help you with all of their automotive needs.

bpoulton@dublinauto.com

Dublin 

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Welcome to the Sales Team



Justin Adkins
Sales Manager

Justin invites all of his family and friends to stop by and he'll be glad to help you with all of their automotive needs.

jadkins@dublinauto.com

Dublin 

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Moment of Inspiration
Faith Over Fear

"For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind." 2 Timothy 1:7

Fear often tries to take hold of our hearts when life feels uncertain. We worry about the future, our struggles, and things we cannot control. But God reminds us that fear is not what He has given us.

Instead, He gives us power, love, and a sound mind. When we trust in Him, our faith becomes stronger than our fears. Faith does not mean problems disappear, but it means we believe God is greater than anything we face.

Whatever you are going through today, choose faith over fear. Trust that God is with you and that He will guide you through every challenge.

Prayer: Lord, help me to trust You when fear tries to overwhelm me. Strengthen my faith and remind me that You are always with me. 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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These merchants and The Courier Herald take pride in presenting this message and encourage you to attend the church of your choice.



A CHAMPION'S SALUTE: LADY FALCONS CUT DOWN THE NETS IN CELEBRATION OF STATE TITLE

The East Laurens Lady Falcons enjoyed a community-wide ovation on Friday, April 3 during a special pep rally and cookout celebrating their recent state basketball title. The program, which included reflections from school and district administrators, featured a traditional rite of champions as players and coaches (Garyunna Mitchell shown, at left), wearing their medals and commemorative shirts from last month's finals victory over Elbert County at the Macon Coliseum, climbed a stepladder and cut down the nets from the basket in front of their home bench/SPECIAL PHOTOS, courtesy of Laurens County School District

REGION TENNIS ROUNDUP...



AND ANOTHER ONE: In a scene that's become familiar year after year, West Laurens' tennis teams were posing with two more trophies at the end of their region tournament Tuesday. The Lady Raiders have now won 17 in a row, and the boys 17 in 19 seasons/SPECIAL PHOTO, courtesy Trent McAdams

WL extends streak of region titles; Trinity's Cranford 6-AA singles champ

From STAFF REPORTS

There are few streaks in area high school sports with the longevity to rival the decade and a half-plus run of region championships for West Laurens tennis teams.

The Raiders reeled off a couple more Thursday as they conquered the 4-AAA tournament competition at Augusta's Newman Tennis Center to claim region title No. 17 in a row for their girls, and the boys' 17th in 19 seasons.

The girls (15-8, 10-0 region) won by 4-0 scores in both their semifinal against Harlem, and championship match vs. Aquinas, dropping just one set out of the 18 they completed on the day.

Brooke Collins, Elynn Alligood and Augusta Rodgers, and the doubles team of Neeva Dave and Carolyn Smith, swept sets for the semifinal decision, and Anna O'Neal and Hannah Wells — who were still in progress toward another straight-set win when time was called in the semis — joined Alligood, Rodgers and Dave/Smith in securing one of the four victories in the finale.

The West Laurens boys finished four of their five matches vs. Harlem in the semis, with Landon Gentry, Garrison Lastinger and doubles teams of Aiden/Bryce Payne and Cam Spires/Tripp NeSmith all winning in straight sets.

Kenneth Reyes and Charlie Barfield joined Gentry in the singles lineup for the finals against the Fightin' Irish, who won 16 games to make all three matches



REGION CHAP: Trinity's Chap Cranford (left) won the boys singles title at Tuesday's 6-AA championships in Milledgeville. Crusaders made both halves of the final, with Hein Schaaf (right, with Cranford and head coach Tanner Evans) finishing as runner-up/SPECIAL PHOTOS

much tougher to put away. But the Raiders (15-8, 10-0 region) still won all six sets there, and swept in more one-sided fashion on the doubles courts with teams of Aiden Payne/Cullen Christian and Matthew Gibbs/Jax Crawford rounding out the 5-0 win.

Both Raider teams will be top-8 seeds, and at home for the first two rounds, in the state playoffs.

Dublin, East Laurens and Trinity tennis teams traveled to compete in their region events on Tuesday. Multiple Crusaders made the medal podium at the GIAA's 6-AA tournament (under an individual rather

than team-based format), with Chap Cranford capturing gold in boys singles as he prevailed over teammate Hein Schaaf in two competitive sets of the finals, 6-3 and 6-4.

The duo of Deakon Doolley and Knox Hawkins also finished runner-up in boys doubles, while the team of Ansley Kilpatrick and Austyn Miller finished third in girls doubles.

The GIAA individual state tournament will take place April 20-21. Its team championships will follow on April 28-29, both events being held in Macon.

Both Eastside teams and Dublin's boys reached

the semifinals of the region 2-High A tournament to clinch automatic spots in the state playoffs.

The two would go head-to-head at two different points in the day, the girls teams in the opening round, where a 4-1 victory by the Lady Falcons prevented the Dublin girls (5-10 overall) from advancing. Both boys squads would collide later in the consolation match, where East Laurens was a 3-0 winner to take third.

The Irish boys (9-8 overall) picked up a 4-1 opening win over Washington County before being knocked from the winners' half of the draw in a 3-0 loss to Bleck-

ley County.

Third singles player Owen Williams kept his season-long unbeaten streak in region matches going as the Falcon boys opened with a win, then loss leading into the third-place match. The East girls reached the same point, but fell in their match for third.

Each of the three qualifiers above now await word on their playoff seeding, while the Lady Irish — whose only shot will be an at-large selection — await word of their fate when brackets are finalized this weekend.

First-round state playoff matches will be played next week.

SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL Wednesday East Laurens 13, Montgomery Co. 3 Pinewood 3, West Laurens 1
Thursday Dublin 9, GMC 2 Trinity 11, CGAA 1 WL 22, Baldwin 0
SLOWPITCH SOFTBALL GHSAA Sectionals Wednesday WL 21, Savannah 0 EL 20, Groves 0 WL 18, EL 0 WL 6, Richmond Hill 0 EL 18, New Hampstead 4
GIRLS SOCCER Thursday Aquinas 2, WL 0 ACE Charter 9, Dublin 0 Vidalia 2, EL 0
BOYS SOCCER Thursday Aquinas 3, WL 2 (OT) ACE Charter 2, Dublin 1 Vidalia 8, EL 0

PREP SCHEDULE

BASEBALL Friday Dublin at Dodge Co. /5:30 p.m. Northeast Macon at East Laurens/6 p.m.
Tuesday Trinity at Vidalia Heritage /4:30 p.m.
Thursday Vidalia Heritage at Trinity /6 p.m.
SOCCER Friday Trinity at Central Fellowship/5 p.m.
Tuesday Vidalia Heritage at Trinity /5 p.m.
Thursday FPD at Trinity/5 p.m.
SLOWPITCH SOFTBALL GHSAA State Championship (Woodstock) Wednesday Cherokee vs. EL WL vs. Jefferson/9 a.m. Losers' games/11 a.m. Winners' games/1 p.m.
GOLF Monday Dodge Co. at WL (Green Acres)/3:45 p.m.
Tuesday WL at Southeast Bulloch /3 p.m.

CONTACT US: Email sports information to tchsports77@gmail.com, or call (478) 272-5522, ext. 110

RACING THIS WEEK...

O'REILLY RECAP

• Saturday's SUBURBAN PROPANE 300, Bristol Motor Speedway



WINNER: CONNOR ZILISCH

Connor Zilisch rediscovered his identity on Saturday — as a winner.

Thanks to a bold call from crew chief Rodney Childers, Zilisch stayed out on older tires with 28 laps left in the Suburban Propane 300 at Bristol Motor Speedway and took the checkered flag.

With track position at the front of the field, Zilisch was able to hold off the dominant Kyle Larson, who had to settle for second place after leading 230 of 300 laps and sweeping the first two stages in the ninth O'Reilly Auto Parts Series race of the 2026 season.

For Zilisch, his first victory on a short track was a welcome respite from the struggles he had faced as a rookie in the Cup Series.

Zilisch picked up his first win of the season, his first at Bristol and the 12th of his career. He was one of four JRM drivers in the top five, a group that included Larson, Justin Allgaier (fourth) and Carson Kvapil (fifth). Joe Gibbs Racing driver Brent Crews crashed that party with a third-place finish.

For the eighth time in his career, Allgaier collected a \$100,000 bonus in the O'Reilly Auto Parts Dash 4 Cash program as the highest finisher among four eligible drivers (the top four in last Saturday's race at Rockingham).

A three-time winner this year, Allgaier retained his series lead by 130 points over second-place Sheldon Creed, who ran sixth at Bristol.

TRUCKS RECAP

• Friday's TENNESSEE ARMY NATIONAL GUARD 250, Bristol



WINNER: CHRISTOPHER BELL

Full-time Cup Series driver Christopher Bell was thrilled to have an opportunity to drive the No. 62 Halmar Friesen Toyota in Friday night's Tennessee Army National Guard 250 at Bristol Motor Speedway.

After crossing the finish line first, he had reason to be positively elated.

Corey Heim, on the other hand, had 350,000 reasons to be disappointed, after his dream of completing the Triple Truck Challenge — and earning a \$350,000 bonus — ended prematurely against the Turn 1 wall.

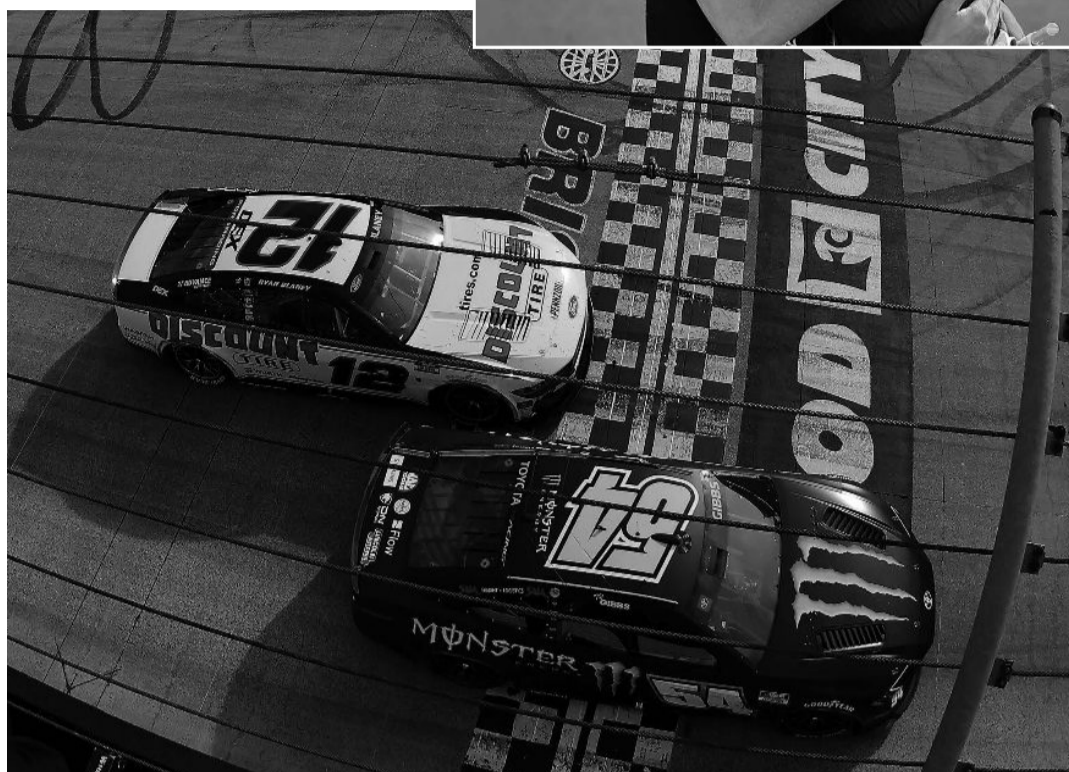
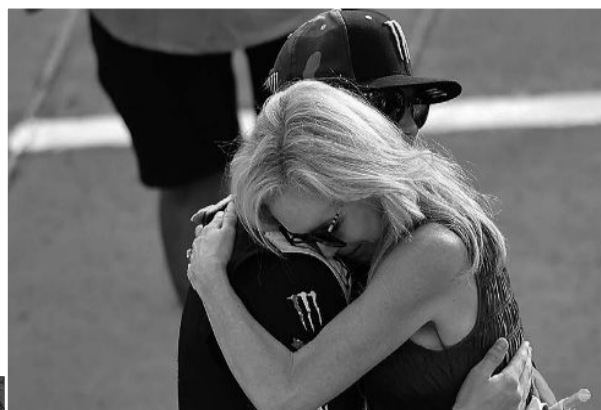
Bell grabbed the lead from Christian Eckes on Lap 188 of 250 and held it the rest of the way, with Chandler Smith moving into second after a subsequent restart on Lap 224 and chasing Bell to the checkered flag.

Finishing 0.330 seconds ahead of Smith's No. 38 Front Row Motorsports Ford, Bell scored his first Trucks victory since 2017, his first on the 0.533-mile short track and the eighth of his career.

After losing ground on the final restart, Christin Eckes finished fifth behind Bell, Smith, Gio Ruggiero and Cup driver Ross Chastain. Jake Garcia, Dawson Sutton, Kyle Busch, Carson Hocevar and rookie Brenden Queen completed the top 10.

FOOD CITY 500

Ty Gibbs beat Ryan Blaney to the finish line by 0.055 seconds to claim his first career Cup Series victory. The margin of victory was the closest at Bristol since Rusty Wallace beat Ernie Irvan by one foot in April of 1991.



Above: Ty Gibbs, driver of the #54 Monster Energy Toyota, crosses the finish line ahead of Ryan Blaney, driver of the #12 Discount Tire Ford, to win the Cup Series Food City 500 at Bristol Motor Speedway on Sunday. Top: Gibbs celebrates the win with his mom, Heather Gibbs. (Jonathan Bachman/Getty)

Gibbs grabs first Cup win in OT thriller at Bristol

BRISTOL, Tenn. — When Chase Elliott spun to cause the eighth caution in Sunday's Food City 500 at Bristol Motor Speedway, driver Ty Gibbs had an emphatic message for crew chief Tyler Allen.

"I don't want to give up track position — at all," Gibbs asserted over the team radio.

Allen acquiesced, and Gibbs restarted in the lead on Lap 486. He held that track position through a ninth caution that sent the race to overtime and beat Ryan Blaney to the finish line by 0.055 seconds to claim his first career Cup Series victory.

The margin of victory was the closest at Bristol since Rusty Wallace beat Ernie Irvan by one foot in April of 1991.

One of four leaders in the eighth race of the season, Gibbs was out front for only the final 25 laps, as reigning series champion Kyle Larson and Ryan Blaney combined to dominate the proceedings before the decisive caution.

But it was Gibbs' No. 54 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota that found its way to Victory Lane at the 0.533-mile short track — the first Cup victory for a car numbered 54 since Lennie Pond won the only race of his career in 1979 at Talladega.

After he climbed from the car, Gibbs' immediate thoughts turned to his father, Coy Gibbs, who passed away the night after Ty won the O'Reilly Auto Parts Series (then Xfinity Series) championship in 2022.

"Yeah, it's awesome," Gibbs said. "It's awesome to be with great people. To be in this position is great. I'd love for my father to have seen this. I knew he knew it was going to happen and expected it as well."

"Yeah, it was great day for us. My boys didn't give up. Pit crew is just amazing. This is our family. It's been great. So it's just such great deal. Very honored to be in this situation."

Under the caution that proved decisive, Gibbs, Carson Hocevar, Chase Briscoe, Denny Hamlin and Tyler Reddick stayed out on old tires — an option Allen said he had discussed with Gibbs as they considered possible scenarios during the final stage.

Larson restarted sixth after a two-tire call and Blaney took the green flag in seventh on four new tires.

With the benefit of fresh rubber, Blaney and Larson charged into second and third, with Gibbs holding the lead from the top lane. Gibbs was still in front on Lap 497 of a scheduled 500 when Kyle Busch spun Riley Herbst in payback for an earlier incident to cause the final caution.

Gibbs held his own on the two-lap overtime shootout and narrowly beat Blaney to the finish line, with Larson just 0.229 seconds behind in third.

"Gave it my best shot the last restart," said Blaney, who started from the pole position, led 190 laps and posted his best career finish in Thunder Valley. "Got a good restart. Was close, but just couldn't get it done. Proud of the effort by all the (No.) 12 (Team Penske) folks. Gave me a real fast car, fast car in qualifying. Got it better through the race, honestly. Halfway through the race, I thought we got to be the best car, which is really good."

"Gosh, I really wanted to win at Bristol here. I came close. But congrats to Ty. He's been really close. Nothing is more special than your first Cup win. It's pretty cool to win at this place."

Larson led 284 laps and swept the first two stages at Bristol for the third time in his career, but saw his winless streak grow to 32 races, dating to May 11, 2025, at Kansas Speedway.

"Blaney had by far the best car," Larson acknowledged. "His pit crew just kept putting him behind all day."

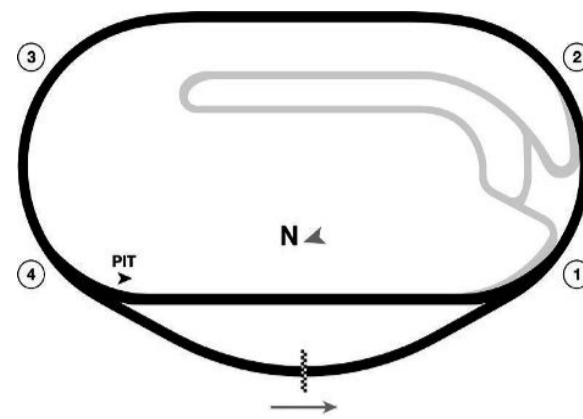
Reddick finished fourth but saw his series lead over Blaney shrink to 62 points. Chase Briscoe was fifth, followed by Todd Gilliland, who parlayed a two-tire call into his sixth-place finish.

Joey Logano ran seventh, followed by Ryan Preece, Hamlin and Hocevar.

Alex Bowman's return from a four-race absence because of a vertigo diagnosis came to an early end when Shane van Gisbergen spun in Turn 4 and collected the cars of John Hunter Nemechek and Bowman. Bowman exited the race in 37th place after completing 163 laps.

Christopher Bell, who ranked among the pre-race favorites after his Bristol win last fall, finished 27th after a pair of issues in the race's first half.

NEXT: ADVENT HEALTH 400



Kansas Speedway

2 p.m. ET Sunday, FS1

• Location: 400 Speedway Boulevard, Kansas City, Kansas

• Capacity: 48,000

• Owner: NASCAR (2019–present)

• Inaugural Cup race winner: Jeff Gordon, September 30, 2001

• Course: Tri-oval

• Surface: Asphalt

• Length: 1.5 miles

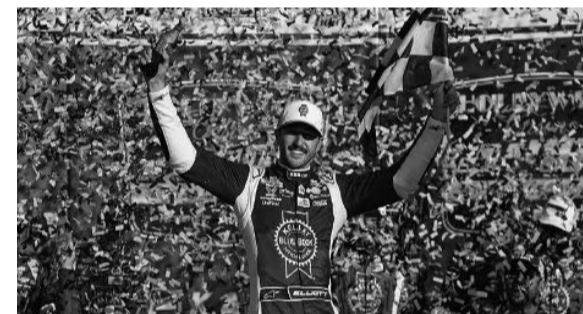
• Turns: 4

• Banking: Turns, 17-20 degree variable banking; Frontstretch, 9-11 degrees variable banking; Backstretch, 5 degrees

• Fastest Cup lap: 0:28.857 Kyle Larson, SpongeBob SquarePants 400, 2015



Kyle Larson won last year's Spring race at Kansas in dominating fashion. GETTY



Chase Elliott won last September's Playoff race at Kansas in come-from-behind fashion.

2026 CUP SERIES STANDINGS

Top 30 as of April 12

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Tyler Reddick 23XI	386	16 Sv Gisbergen Track.	177
2 Ryan Blaney Penske	324	17 Chase Briscoe JGR	176
3 Denny Hamlin JGR	300	18 Austin Cindric Penske	172
4 Ty Gibbs JGR	281	19 Mike McDowell Spire	171
5 Chase Elliott Hendrick	264	20 AJ Allmendinger Kaulig	156
6 Kyle Larson Hendrick	260	21 Ross Chastain Track.	153
7 William Byron Hendrick	245	22 Zane Smith Front Row	144
8 Bubba Wallace 23XI	236	23 Erik Jones Legacy	133
9 Christopher Bell JGR	231	24 Kyle Busch RCR	131
10 Chris Buescher RFK	230	25 Josh Berry Wood	128
11 Brad Keselowski RFK	229	26 Todd Gilliland Fr. Row	127
12 Joey Logano Penske	218	27 Austin Dillon RCR	124
13 Carson Hocevar Spire	209	28 J. H. Nemechek Legacy	111
14 Ryan Preece RFK	209	29 Riley Herbst 23XI	109
15 Daniel Suárez Spire	192	30 R. Stenhouse Hyak	107

2026 O'REILLY AUTO PARTS STANDINGS

Top 20 as of April 11

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Justin Allgaier #7	470	11 Rajah Caruth #88	238
2 Sheldon Creed #00	340	12 Taylor Gray #54	230
3 Jesse Love #2	324	13 Ryan Sieg #39	202
4 Corey Day #17	304	14 Sam Mayer #41	195
5 Carson Kvapil #9	300	15 Brennan Poole #44	181
6 Austin Hill #21	293	16 Jeb Burton #27	163
7 Sammy Smith #8	284	17 Anthony Alfredo #96	158
8 Brandon Jones #20	275	18 Brent Crews #19	155
9 Parker Retzlaff #99	257	19 Blaine Perkins #31	137
10 William Sawalich #18	254	20 Patrick Staropoli #48	129

NEXT RACE: KANSAS LOTTERY 300, Kansas Speedway, 7 p.m. ET Saturday, CW

2026 CRAFTSMAN TRUCK STANDINGS

Top 20 as of April 10

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Chandler Smith #38	208	11 Stewart Friesen #52	140
2 Kaden Honeycutt #11	207	12 Tyler Ankrum #18	137
3 Corey Heim #1	204	13 Tanner Gray #15	123
4 Layne Riggs #34	204	14 Brenden Queen #12	120
5 Christian Eckes #91	191	15 Grant Enfinger #9	119
6 Giovanni Ruggiero #17	187	16 Daniel Hemric #19	116
7 Ty Majeski #88	182	17 A. Perez De Lara #44	115
8 Ben Rhodes #99	181	18 Cole Butcher #13	104
9 Jake Garcia #98	146	19 Dawson Sutton #26	89
10 Justin Haley #16	144	20 Kris Wright #81	83

NEXT RACE: SPEEDYCASH.COM 250, Texas Motor Speedway, 8 p.m. ET Friday, May 1, FS1

BRISTOL WINNER QUOTE

"Yeah, it was great day for us. My boys didn't give up. Pit crew is just amazing. This is our family. It's been great. So it's just such great deal. Very honored to be in this situation."

— Ty Gibbs, who got past Ryan Blaney in overtime to win Sunday's Food City 500



Ty Gibbs and Hall of Famer and JGR team owner Joe Gibbs share a laugh during an interview in Victory Lane Sunday at Bristol.

CHRIS GRAYTHEN/GETTY

Classifieds

Employment

WATER CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT OPERATOR

The City of Dublin is accepting applications for an Equipment Operator in the Water Construction Department. This Team Member must have a positive attitude and initiative. The successful applicant duties will include performing skilled work in the operation of moderate to heavy equipment. Work involves the responsibility for the safe and efficient operation of moderately heavy or specialized equipment. This employee must be able to operate a diverse range of equipment which includes a variety of trucks and construction equipment. The operation of this equipment requires considerable manipulative skill and the ability to perform specialized tasks to which the equipment is assigned. Performs semi-skilled and some manual labor tasks in construction repair and maintenance of City water and sewer facilities. Work involves the performance of a variety of tasks in constructing, maintaining, and repairing water and sewer lines. This employee may supervise or act as a lead worker with a crew. Supervision is received from the Water Construction Superintendent who makes oral or written assignments and inspects work while in progress and upon completion.

Applicant must pass a drug screen, have a high school diploma or GED and possess a minimum of a Georgia Class A Commercial Driver's License.

Salary range for this position is \$38,705.37 – 59,993.33 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.

Yard/Estate Sales

Yard Sale: April 18th 7a -12p. 411 McKinley Street. (Corner of Decatur & McKinley) Tools, Tillers, Furniture, Household Goods.

Legals

Bids

26-168 ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF SEWERAGE SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE CITY OF DUDLEY, GEORGIA

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Dudley, Georgia at the City of Dudley City Hall, 1108 Main Street, Dudley, Georgia 31022 until 2:00 P.M. local time, Thursday, May 7, 2026 at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read. No submitted bid may be withdrawn after the scheduled closing time for receipt of bids for a period of sixty (60) days. All Bidders must have a State of Georgia Utility Contractors License and must employ a state "Utility Manager" certificate holder who will have oversight of all the work.

The work to be done consists of furnishing all materials, equipment and labor for the construction of:
 Rehabilitation of 3,700 L.F. of 8-inch sanitary sewer using trenchless pipe replacement, including cleaning, pre and post video, rehabilitating 15 existing manholes, dig and replace 33 service connections, by-pass pumping, and appurtenances. Time allotted for construction is 270 consecutive calendar days.

Proposals for the complete work in one general contract shall be made on the proposal form provided and shall contain prices in words and figures for the work bid on.

The City of Dudley, Georgia is committed to providing all persons with equal access to its services, programs, activities, education, and employment regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, disability or age.

All proposals shall be accompanied by a Bid Bond drawn in favor of City of Dudley, Georgia, in the amount of at least 5% of the lump sum bid for the complete work; such Bid Bond representing that the Bidder, if awarded the contract, will promptly enter into a contract and furnish Performance Bond and Payment Bond as provided by law and approved by the Attorney for City of Warrenton, Georgia. Each bond shall be equal to one hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount. The Bid Bond shall be forfeited to City of Dudley, Georgia as liquidated damages if the Bidder fails to execute the contract and provide Performance and Payment Bonds within ten (10) days after being notified that he has been awarded the contract.

Drawings and Specifications are open to public inspection at the office of the City of Dudley; at the office of Turnipseed Engineers, in Augusta and Atlanta, Georgia and the Atlanta Builders Exchange in Atlanta, Georgia.

Plans and specifications must be obtained at <https://turnipseed.com/current-projects/out-for-bid/>. One (1) digital copy of the plans and specifications and one (1) printed copy of the specifications (bid book) will be provided upon receipt of \$250.00. Upon request, one (1) printed full or reduced size set of drawings is available at no additional charge.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive informalities. CITY OF DUDLEY, GEORGIA
 By: Jason Locke, Mayor

April 11, 18, 2026

Legals

26-127 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 August 11, 2022, from Arthur Davis to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for United Wholesale Mortgage, LLC, recorded on August 23, 2022 in Deed Book 3322 at Page 1 Laurens County, Georgia records, having been last sold, assigned, transferred and conveyed to Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC by Assignment and said Security Deed having been given to secure a note dated August 11, 2022, in the amount of \$85,000.00, 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 May 5, 2026 the following described real property (hereinafter referred to as the "Property"):

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN THE CITY OF DUBLIN, LAURENS COUNTY, GEORGIA, BEING LOT 10 OF BLOCK "B" OF BELLEVUE HEIGHTS, A PLAT OF SAID BELLEVUE HEIGHTS BEING RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 295, IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF LAURENS SUPERIOR COURT. SAID PROPERTY IS IMPROVED BY A ONE-STORY RESIDENCE KNOWN AS 208 COMER DRIVE AND IS SHOWN ON A PLAT PREPARED BY JACK C. BRANTLEY, SURVEYOR, DATED JUNE 2, 1952.

The debt secured by the Security Deed and evidenced by the Note has been, and is hereby, declared due and payable because of, among other possible events of default, failure to make the payments as required by the terms of the Note. The debt remaining is in default and this sale will be made for the purposes of paying the Security Deed, accrued interest, and all expenses of the sale, including attorneys' fees. Notice of intention to collect attorneys' fees has been given as provided by law. To the best of the undersigned's knowledge, the person(s) in possession of the property is/are Arthur Davis.

The property, being commonly known as **208 Comer Dr, Dublin, GA, 31021** in Laurens County, will be sold as the property of Arthur Davis, 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 Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC as Attorney in Fact for Arthur Davis 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. -25-017410 March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 25, May 2, 2026

26-167 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 ESTATE OF DOROTHY C PIERCE and ESTATE OF EDWARD R PIERCE, hereinafter referred to as Grantor, to Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., dated June 19, 2009, and recorded on August 10, 2009 in Deed Book 2124, beginning at page 126, 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 May, 2026, all property described in said security deed including but not limited to the following described property: THE LAND DESCRIBED HEREIN IS SITUATED IN THE STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY OF LAURENS, CITY OF DUBLIN, AND IS DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: ALL THAT TRACT, LOT OR PARCEL OF LAND, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOT 264, FIRST LAND DISTRICT OF LAURENS COUNTY, GEORGIA, BEING KNOWN AS LOT TWO (2) OF RAWL'S SUBDIVISION, AS PER PLAT OF SAME MADE BY JACK C. BRANTLEY, LAND SURVEYOR, DATED MAY 22, 1956, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE 79 CLERK'S OFFICE, LAURENS COUNTY, GEORGIA, AND MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT AN IRON PIN ON THE NORTHWESTERN MARGIN OF THE COUNTRY CLUB ROAD A DISTANCE OF 131.8 FEET SOUTHWESTERLY FROM AN OLD FENCE AND PROPERTY LINE OF SAID SUBDIVISION; THENCE RUNNING IN A NORTHWESTERLY DIRECTION A DISTANCE OF 252 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; THENCE RUNNING IN A SOUTHWESTERLY DIRECTION A DISTANCE OF 158.9 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; THENCE RUNNING IN A SOUTH-EASTERLY DIRECTION A DISTANCE OF 265 FEET TO AN IRON PIN LOCATED ON THE NORTHWESTERN MARGIN OF THE COUNTRY CLUB ROAD; THENCE RUNNING IN A NORTHEASTERLY DIRECTION ALONG THE NORTHWESTERN MARGIN OF SAID COUNTRY CLUB ROAD, A DISTANCE OF 134.7 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; THE POINT OF BEGINNING. Said property may more commonly be known as 498 COUNTRY CLUB RD, DUBLIN, GA 31021 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.&#amp;#p; BSI Financial Services 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: 7500 Old Georgetown Road, Suite 1350, Bethesda, MD 20814 Phone: 866-581-4498 To the best of the undersigned's knowledge and belief, the party in possession of the property is believed to be ESTATE OF DOROTHY C PIERCE and ESTATE OF EDWARD R PIERCE, or tenant(s). TIKVA 2024 LLC, 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-4869716 April 11, 18, 25, May 2, 2026

26-123 NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE UNDER POWER

LAURENS COUNTY, GEORGIA Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by James Smith Jr and Penny Smith, husband and wife, as joint tenants with right of survivorship, grantors, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems Inc., as grantee, as nominee for Top Flite Financial, Inc., its successors and assigns, grantee, dated April 25, 2024, and recorded on May 3, 2024 in Book 03475, Page 00009, Laurens County, Georgia Records, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of \$138,380.00 dollars, 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, within the legal hours of sale on May 5, 2026 the following described property: REAL PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF MONTROSE, COUNTY OF LAURENS, STATE OF GEORGIA, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

BEING IN LAND LOT 293, IN THE 22ND LAND DISTRICT OF SAID COUNTY, BEING IMPROVED WITH A DWELLING HOUSE FORMERLY OCCUPIED BY T. G. WADE, DECEASED, AND SHOWN ON A PLAT OF SURVEY MADE BY DANIEL R. RIGGS, SURVEYOR, DATED OCTOBER 10, 1981. SAID PLAT DESCRIBES THE PROPERTY HEREIN CONVEYED, TRACTS "A" AND "C", CONTAINING 0.77 ACRES AND 4.03 ACRES, RESPECTIVELY, MORE OR LESS. SAID REAL ESTATE FRONTS ON THE NORTHEASTERLY MARGIN OF U. S. HIGHWAY 80. REFERENCE TO SAID PLAT OF SURVEY IS HEREBY MADE FOR A MORE ACCURATE DESCRIPTION OF THE LAND HEREIN CONVEYED. LESS AND EXCEPT: 1.79 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, SHOWN ON A PLAT RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 9, PAGE 126B, AND A DEED RECORDED IN DEED BOOK-1856, PAGE 45, LAURENS COUNTY RECORDS COMMONLY KNOWN AS: **4249 US HIGHWAY 80 W, MONTROSE, GA 31065**

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 Security Deed and by law, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given).

The entity having full authority to negotiate, amend or modify all terms of the loan (although not required by law to do so) is: ESSEX MORTGAGE can be contacted at 1-888-892-0881 for Loss Mitigation Dept, or by writing to 1417 N. Magnolia Ave, Ocala, FL 34475, to discuss possible alternatives to avoid foreclosure.

Said property will be sold subject to 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, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above.

To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party in possession of the property is Penny Smith and James Smith Jr or tenant(s); and said property is more commonly known as: **4249 US Highway 80 W, Montrose, GA 31065-3232**. The sale will be conducted subject to: (1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code; (2) final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the security deed; and, (3) any right of redemption or other lien not extinguished by foreclosure. DATA MORTGAGE INC., DBA ESSEX MORTGAGE as Attorney in Fact for James Smith Jr and Penny Smith, husband and wife, as joint tenants with right of survivorship. Bonial & Associates, P.C. 12400 Olive Blvd Suite 555 St. Louis, MO 63141 314-991-0255 Ref: SMIJAESS March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 25, May 2, 2026

26-155 IN THE PROBATE COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: ESTATE OF CARNELL CURRY, DECEASED ESTATE NO. 25-71 PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE
 TO: BRENDA ASHLEY CURRY and CARNELL AGNEW and to whom it may concern: Stella Adhisurya, Esq. has petitioned for a county administrator for the sole purpose of a lawsuit to be appointed administrator of the estate of Carnell Curry 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-9.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 May 4, 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 101 N. Jefferson Street Dublin, GA 31021 478/272-2566 April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

26-149 NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

GEORGIA, LAURENS COUNTY.

All creditors of the Estate of George Evans, deceased, late of Laurens County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the Executrix of his Estate according to law, and all persons indebted to the Estate of George Evans are required to make immediate payment to the Executrix.

This 30th day of March, 2026. Clarissa Patricia Evans Executrix of the Estate of George Evans Francis M. Lewis Attorney for the Estate 1808 Bellevue Road Dublin, GA 31021 April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

26-169 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 Jacqueline Bettie Stallworth, unmarried woman to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for American Nationwide Mortgage Company, Inc., dated August 22, 2024 and recorded on August 23, 2024 in Deed Book 3505, Page 51, 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 Thirty-Five Thousand Four Hundred One and 00/100 dollars (\$135,401.00) with interest thereon as provided therein, as last transferred to PennyMac Loan Services, LLC, its successors and assigns, recorded in Deed Book 3656, Page 82, 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 May, 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 in the County of Laurens, State of Georgia, to wit;

All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in the 52nd Land District, G.M., of Laurens County, Georgia, as shown upon that certain plat of same prepared by Daniel R. Riggs, Registered Land Surveyor, dated April 10, 1971, and being more particularly described as follows: starting at a concrete right of way marker on the westerly right of way of the Old River Road (State Route #199), which concrete marker is 100 feet directly opposite a concrete right of way marker on the easterly right of way of state route #199, said right of way marker on the easterly right of way of said road being located a distance of 2016 feet from the intersection of the easterly right of way of state route #199 and the Dublin and Savannah Railroad Track, as measured in a northwesterly direction along the easterly right of way of state route #199; thence, from said starting point running in a north-westerly direction along the westerly right of way of state route #199 a distance of 70 feet to an iron pin and the point of beginning; thence, from said point of beginning running south 53 degrees 53 minutes west distance of 370 feet to an iron pin, thence, running north 22 degrees 14 minutes west a distance of 120 feet to an iron pin; thence, running north 53 degrees 53 minutes east along a farm lane a distance of 370 feet to an iron pin on the westerly right of way of State Highway #199; thence, running south 22 degrees 14 minutes east along the westerly right of way of said right of way a distance of 120 feet to an iron pin and the point of beginning.

Said property may more commonly be known as **1121 GA Highway 199 S, East Dublin, GA 31027**.

The debt secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of, among 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 PennyMac Loan Services, LLC, 3043 Townsgate Rd., Westlake Village, CA 91361 818-224-7442.

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 owners and party in possession of the property are Jacqueline Bettie Stallworth 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, 2) final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed, and 3) any legal impediments to the undertaking and completion of sale.

The Financial Crimes Enforcement Network ("FinCEN"), a bureau of the U.S. Department of Treasury, now requires the collection, certification and reporting of certain information relating to non-financed transfers of real property to legal entities and/or trusts, which such information the successful bidder(s) shall be expected to provide to the auctioneer at the time of the subject sale. Interested bidders with questions regarding the necessary information to be provided are hereby directed, generally, to FinCEN's website and, more specifically, to the FinCEN Real Estate Report located in the forms bank thereof.

PennyMac Loan Services, LLC as Attorney-in-Fact for Jacqueline Bettie Stallworth, unmarried woman Contact: Padgett Law Group: 6267 Old Water Oak Road, Suite 203, Tallahassee, FL 32312; (850) 422-2520 26-003927 Ad Run Dates: 04/11/2026 ,04/18/2026 ,04/25/2026 ,05/02/2026 April 11, 18, 25, May 2, 2026

26-141 IN THE PROBATE COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: ESTATE OF Joseph Monroe, DECEASED ESTATE NO. 25-45 NOTICE

The petition of Temporary Administrator for leave to sell property in the above-referenced estate having been duly filed, TO: Joseph B Monroe, Chayla Monroe, Joshua Monroe, Andre Chatman, Chiyoka Nicole Herman, Joshua Thomas This is to notify you to file an objection, if there is any, to the above-referenced petition, in this Court on or before May 4, 2026. **BE NOTIFIED FURTHER:** All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections must 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 P.O. Box 2098 Dublin, GA 31040 478-272-2566 April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

26-173 NOTICE OF SALE

Pursuant to the official Code of Georgia Annotated Section 10-4-210 there will be a public sale at Little House Self Storage, 1854 Marion Street Dublin, on Wednesday, May 6, 2026 beginning at 10:00 A.M. The proceeds of said sale will be used first to satisfy the storage fee and expenses of the auction. Any other proceeds will be used to satisfy such creditors as present their claims in advance of sale.

- #213 Roderick Thomas
- #259 Chayla Monroe
- #248 Cora Lee Sims
- #220 Kenny Waters
- #270 Tasha Mimbs
- #120 Tasha Mimbs
- #267 Tequilla Ellington
- #312 Daris Moore
- #C8 Jeannie Miller
- #238 James Searcy

April 18, 2026

26-136 NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF LAURENS IN RE: ESTATE OF Carlton C. Dollar Jr, DECEASED
 All creditors of the Estate of Carlton C. Dollar Jr, 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. Carla Dollar Higgs Administrator of Carlton C. Dollar Jr, deceased 803 Curl Rd. East Dublin, GA 31027. 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 week ins in the official newspaper of the county in which the personal representative qualified..." March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 2026

26-142 STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF LAURENS IN THE PROBATE COURT OF SAID STATE AND COUNTY IN RE: ESTATE OF REMUS EARL MORGAN, Estate No. 26-39 NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS

All creditors of the estate of **REMUS EARL MORGAN**, 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 me. This 23 Day of March, 2026 Jordan Bracewell Attorney for the Estate of Remus Earl Morgan Kight Law, LLC P.O. Box 816 Dublin, Ga. 31040 March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 2026

26-175 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: Custom Bath & Glass Inc 704Industrial Blvd Dublin, GA 31021 IS/ARE DOING BUSINESS IN LAURENS COUNTY, GA., UNDER THE NAME OF: Lifetime Kitchen & Bath 704 Industrial Blvd Dublin, GA 31021 AND THAT THE NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE CARRIED ON AT SUCH ADDRESS IS: Residential Kitchen Cabinet Refacing & Bath Remodeling SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME THIS 13th DAY OF April, 2026. Shannon Brooks NOTARY PUBLIC April 18, 25, 2026

26-129 NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER

GEORGIA, LAURENS COUNTY Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by Thurlan Wright to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for Central Pacific Mortgage Company, A California Corporation., its successors and assigns dated July 18, 2022, recorded in Deed Book 1310, Page 2022, Laurens County, Georgia Records, as last transferred to NewRez LLC by assignment recorded in Deed Book 3685, Page 214, Laurens County, Georgia Records, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of SIXTY-TWO THOUSAND AND 0/100 DOLLARS (\$62,000.00), 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 May, 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. Prospective bidders must perform their own due diligence.

NewRez LLC is the holder of the Security Deed to the property in accordance with OCCGA § 44-14-162.2.

The entity that has full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the mortgage with the debtor is: NewRez, LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing, 75 Beattie Place, Suite 300, Greenville, SC 29601, (800) 365-7107.

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

Upon information and belief, said property is more commonly known as **428 Shannon Drive, East Dublin, GA 31027**. Should a conflict arise between the property address and the legal description, the legal description shall control.

ATTENTION ALL PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS: On March 1, 2026, the data collection and reporting requirements under the U.S. Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) new Anti-Money Laundering Rule (the "Rule"), found at 89 FR 70258, will go into effect. The Rule applies to certain residential real estate sale transactions (including nonjudicial foreclosures) where the transfer is to a legal entity or trust, and which includes cash purchases, private financing or financing provided by an institution not subject to a federal Anti-Money Laundering or Suspicious Activity Report requirement. As part of this Rule, purchasers and sellers are required to provide additional information and documentation about themselves, their legal entities, and/or the source of funds used in the reportable transaction. The collection of this information and documentation is required to comply with the Rule's federal reporting requirements. This notice is provided for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. You are encouraged to consult with your own independent legal counsel if you have questions about how the FinCEN Anti-Money Laundering Rule affects your transaction and whether your transaction is reportable.

The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code, (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed, and (3) to confirmation that the successful bidder has timely provided all information required for reporting under the Rule, 89 FR 70258. NewRez LLC as Attorney in Fact for Thurlan Wright McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLP 1544 Old Alabama Rd Roswell, GA 30076 www.foreclosurehotline.net EXHIBIT "A" All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in the 86th G.M. District of Laurens County, Georgia, containing 2.0 acres, more or less, and being more particularly shown and described as Lot A-4 of Big Creek Estates as shown on a plat of survey prepared by Billy Flanders, Surveyor, dated July 2, 1993, and recorded in Deed Book 7, Page 111, Laurens County Records. The courses and distances of said plat are incorporated into and made a part of this description by this reference.

This is that same property conveyed to Thurlan Wright by Warranty Deed of Don Thompson and James O. Garrett dated February 24, 1994 and recorded in said Clerk's Office in Deed Book 746, Page 38. SUBJECT TO: 1) All easements of record; and 2) Building set-back lines, general utility easements and other matters as may be disclosed on plats of record. There is or will be located on the property hereinabove described and conveyed a manufactured home more particularly described as a 2002 Horton Homes, 27 x 66, Serial Number H177154GL&R, and by agreement of the parties hereto, is affixed to the above described land in such a manner as to constitute a fixture pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 44-1-6(a), as amended, and has as of the date hereof become a part of the real property herein described. Accordingly, said home is to be treated and taxed as an improvement to real property for ad valorem tax purposes and the owner thereof agrees to apply for homestead exemption or take other applicable steps to ensure taxation of said home as real property at the earliest possible date under the laws of the State of Georgia. It being the unconditional and absolute intention that the manufactured housing as last described shall remain permanently attached in its place on the realty as hereinabove described. MR / MA May 5, 2026 Our file no. 26-21688GA-FT18 26-21688GA March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 25, May 2, 2026

26-160 LAURENS COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT TRADE NAME REGISTRATION

PERSONALLY APPEARED THE UNDERSIGNED WHO ON OATH DEPOSES AND SAYS THAT: **Lentile Construction Company**, 2115 Academy Ave. Extension, Dublin, GA 31021, IS/ARE DOING BUSINESS IN LAURENS COUNTY, GA., UNDER THE NAME OF: TRADE NAME: **Lentile Garbutt**, P.O. Box 758, Dublin, GA 31040, AND THAT THE NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE CARRIED ON AT SUCH ADDRESS IS: Construction SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME THIS 2nd DAY OF April, 2026 Joanna Alligood NOTARY PUBLIC OR DEPUTY CLERK April 11, 18, 2026

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

Genola O. Jackson
Judge of the Probate Court
By: C. Warren
Clerk of the Probate Court
PO Box 2142
Dublin, GA 31040
478 272-2566

Administrator of the Estate of David Williams
Francis M. Lewis
Attorney for the Estate
1808 Bellevue Road
Dublin, GA 31021

March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 2026

26-161
NOTICE OF INCORPORATION
Notice is hereby given that articles of incorporation which incorporate Gayco North Holdings, Inc., have been delivered to the Secretary of State for filing in accordance with the Georgia Corporation Code § 14-2-202. The initial registered office of the corporation is located at 507 Industrial Blvd., Dublin, Laurens County, Georgia, 31021, and its initial registered agent at such address is Jerry Bent Gay, Jr.

April 11, 18, 2026

26-157
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
GEORGIA, LAURENS COUNTY
Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by Benjamin Rice to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for Mortgage Solutions of Colorado, LLC., its successors and assigns dated May 5, 2025, recorded in Deed Book 3579, Page 102, Laurens County, Georgia Records, as last transferred to MORTGAGE SOLUTIONS OF COLORADO, LLC D/B/A MORTGAGE SOLUTIONS FINANCIAL by assignment recorded in Deed Book 3679, Page 178, Laurens County, Georgia Records, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of TWO HUNDRED THIRTY-EIGHT THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED NINETY-SEVEN AND 0/100 DOLLARS (\$238,797.00), 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 May, 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 and payable because of default having been made of the terms of the Note and Security Deed. The terms remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the total debt, including all expenses of this sale, as provided in the Security Deed and by law which includes, but is not limited to, 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. Prospective bidders must perform their own due diligence.

MORTGAGE SOLUTIONS OF COLORADO, LLC D/B/A MORTGAGE SOLUTIONS FINANCIAL 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: Mortgage Solutions Financial Servicing, a division of Mortgage Solutions of Colorado, LLC, 7450 Campus Dr, Suite 200, Colorado Springs, CO 80920, 1-866-552-6118.

Note, however, that such entity is not required by law to negotiate, amend or modify the terms of the loan.
Upon information and belief, said property is more commonly known as **112 Camelot Dr, Dublin, GA 31021**. Should a conflict arise between the property address and the legal description, the legal description shall control.
ATTENTION ALL PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS: On March 1, 2026, the data collection and reporting requirements under the U.S. Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) new Anti-Money Laundering Rule (the "Rule"), found at 89 FR 70258, went into effect. The Rule applies to certain residential real estate sale transactions (including some that go beyond the typical one-to-four family residence) where the transfer is to a legal entity or trust, and which includes cash purchases, private financing or financing provided by an institution not subject to a federal Anti-Money Laundering or Suspicion Activity Report requirement. If applicable, as part of this Rule, buyers and sellers are required to provide additional information and documentation about themselves, their legal entities, and/or the source of funds used in the reportable transaction. The collection of this information and documentation is required to comply with the Rule's federal reporting requirements, if applicable.* This notice is provided for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. You are encouraged to consult with your own independent legal counsel if you have questions about how the FinCEN Anti-Money Laundering Rule affects your transaction and whether your transaction is reportable.

*The Rule is the subject of ongoing litigation in several jurisdictions. We suggest that you seek your own legal counsel if you have questions about the status of the Rule and its applicability to your sale, if any.
The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code, (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed, and (3) to confirmation that the successful bidder has timely provided all information required for reporting under the Rule, 89 FR 70258, if applicable.
MORTGAGE SOLUTIONS OF COLORADO, LLC D/B/A MORTGAGE SOLUTIONS FINANCIAL as Attorney in Fact for Benjamin Rice
McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLP
1544 Old Alabama Rd
Roswell, GA 30076
www.foreclosurehotline.net
EXHIBIT "A"

THE LAND REFERRED TO HEREIN BELOW IS SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF LAURENS, STATE OF GEORGIA, AND IS DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND CONTAINING 0.41 ACRES AND LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOT 242 OF THE 1ST LAND DISTRICT OF LAURENS COUNTY, GEORGIA, AND IN THE CITY OF DUBLIN, AND KNOWN AS LOT 15 OF THE KINGSWOOD SUBDIVISION, AS SHOWN ON PLAT OF SURVEY PREPARED BY BILLY FLANDERS & ASSOCIATES SURVEYOR, DATED APRIL 10, 1992 AND RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 656, PAGE 20, LAURENS COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE, SAID PLAT AND THE RECORD THEREOF BEING INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE HEREIN IN AID OF THIS DESCRIPTION. SAID TRACT IS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: FROM THE INTERSECTION OF THE NORTHWEST-ERLY MARGIN OF KINGS ROAD WITH THE SOUTHWESTERLY MARGIN OF CAMELOT DRIVE AS SHOWN ON SAID PLAT, RUN THENCE NORTHWESTERLY ALONG THE SOUTHWESTERLY RIGHT OF WAY OF CAMELOT DRIVE A DISTANCE OF 240 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. FROM SAID POINT OF BEGINNING THUS ESTABLISHED, RUN THENCE SOUTH 42 DEGREES 16 MINUTES 36 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 149.97 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; THENCE RUN NORTH 46 DEGREES 43 MINUTES 24 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 119.94 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; THENCE RUN NORTH 42 DEGREES 16 MINUTES 36 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 150 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; THENCE RUN SOUTH 46 DEGREES 43 MINUTES 24 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 120.01 FEET TO AN IRON PIN AND THE POINT OF BEGINNING. THERE IS A ONE-STORY FRAME RESIDENCE LOCATED ON THE DESCRIBED TRACT.

TITLE TO THE ABOVE REFERENCED PROPERTY CONVEYED TO BENJAMIN RICE FROM VICTORIA HORNICK NOW KNOWN AS VICTORIA BAUSCH AND MATT BAUSCH AND RECORDED ON OCTOBER 3, 2024 IN BOOK: 03514 AND PAGE: 00262.
Parcel ID: D08F-037
Property Commonly Known as: 112 CAMELOT Drive, Dublin, GA 31021
MR / JD May 5, 2026
Our file no. 26-21293GA-FT17
26-21293GA

April 11, 18, 25, May 2, 2026

26-148
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
GEORGIA, LAURENS COUNTY.
All creditors of the Estate of Linda Joyce McCullars, deceased, late of Laurens County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the Executor of her Estate according to law, and all persons indebted to the Estate of Linda Joyce McCullars are required to make immediate payment to the Executor. This 30th day of March, 2026.
Charles McCullars
Executor of the Estate of Linda McCullars
Francis M. Lewis
Attorney for the Estate
1808 Bellevue Road
Dublin, GA 31021

April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

26-144
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF ELLA MAE HOLLIMAN, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 26-37
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO: Danny Holliman, Tamiyah Devoe, Taylor Devoe and whom it may concern: ANGELA CASSANDRA PITTS has petitioned to be appointed administrator(s) of the estate of ELLA MAE HOLLIMAN, 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 May 4, 2026.

BE NOTIFIED FURTHER: All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
Genola O. Jackson
Judge of the Probate Court
By: C. Warren
Clerk of the Probate Court
PO Box 2098
Dublin, GA 31040
478 272-2566

April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

26-137
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF EDWIN L. HIGGS JR., DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 26-41
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO: whom it may concern: CARLA DOLLAR HIGGS has petitioned to be appointed administrator(s) of the estate of EDWIN L. HIGGS JR. 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 May 4, 2026.

BE NOTIFIED FURTHER: All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
Genola O. Jackson
Judge of the Probate Court
By: C. Warren
Clerk of the Probate Court
PO Box 2142
Dublin, GA 31040
478 272-2566

April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

26-143
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF LAURENS
IN RE: ESTATE OF Lillian R. Jones, DECEASED

All creditors of the Estate of Lillian R. Jones, 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.
Melanie Newman and Sue Ellen Flury
Executor of Lillian R. Jones, deceased
453 GA Hwy 338 Dublin, GA 31021
542 Blawshear Ferry Road West Dublin, GA 31021.

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 week ins in the official newspaper of the county in which the personal representative qualified..."

March 28, April 4, 11, 18 2026

26-176
To Whom It May Concern:
Notice is hereby given that My Ngoc Lam, Alcohol Agent has submitted an application to the City of Dublin for a 2026 license to sell Beer, Wine retail, Consumption on Premises at Jack Nail Salon, LLC, located at 2103 Veterans Blvd. Ste 415 Dublin, GA 31021.

Further notice is given that the City Clerk will hear public comments on Wednesday, April 29, 2026 at 11:00am, in the City Clerk's office at City Hall regarding the issuing of said license.
This notice is given this 15th day of April, 2026.

April 18, 25, 2026

26-170
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
GEORGIA, LAURENS COUNTY
All creditors of the estate of Fay Price, deceased, late of Laurens County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned, according to law, and all persons indebted to said Estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned.
Laurens County Probate Court PO Box 2098, Dublin, Georgia, 31040
This the 8th day of April, 2026.
Ralph N. Jackson, Attorney

April 18, 25, May 2, 9, 2026

26-178
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, May 6th, 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:
Kyle Eck #0707

April 18, 2026

26-159
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
STATE OF GEORGIA
LAURENS COUNTY
UNDER AND BY VIRTUE OF the power of sale contained in that certain security deed dated July 29, 2025, executed and delivered by **MARCI THARPE MULKEY** to **BANK OF WRIGHTSVILLE**, and recorded July 30, 2025 in Book 03605, Pages 0069-0073 in the Office of the Superior Court of Laurens County, Georgia records (the "Deed to Secure Debt"), conveying the after-described property to secure that certain promissory note (as amended, modified, extended, and/or renewed, the "Note") from **MARCI THARPE MULKEY** to **BANK OF WRIGHTSVILLE** dated July 29, 2025, in the original principal amount of One Hundred Seventeen Thousand One Hundred Fifty and 75/100ths Dollars (\$17,150.75). **CENTURY BANK AND TRUST, successor by merger to BANK OF WRIGHTSVILLE**, being the current owner and holder of the Note, with interest thereon as set forth therein, there will be a sale at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the courthouse door of Laurens County, Georgia, within the legal hours of sale on **May 5, 2026** (being the first Tuesday of said month), the following described property commonly known as **618 North Peachtree Road, East Dublin, GA 31027** (the "Property"):

All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in the 1309th G.M. District of Laurens County, Georgia, containing 1.0 acres, more or less, as more particularly shown and described on a plat of survey prepared on Oct. 10, 2006, by Larry C. Ones, RLS, and recorded in Plat Book 9, Page 101A, Laurens County Records. The courses and distances of said plat are incorporated into and made a part of this description by reference.

Said tract is designated as **Map/Parcel No.: 222A 048 A**, by the Laurens County Tax Assessor's office.
Together with all buildings, structures, and improvements now or hereafter situated on the Property and all air conditioning units, heating, plumbing (including heaters and tanks), lighting fixtures, and appliances, now or hereafter attached to or used in connection with improvement on said Property, and all rights, easements, appurtenances, and rents that may now, or at any time in the future, be part of the Property, as more fully described in the Deed to Secure Debt. 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, Deed to Secure Debt, and related loan documents. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying same and, additionally, all expenses of this sale, as provided in the Deed to Secure Debt and by law, including without limitation attorney fees (the statutory notice of intent to collect attorney fees having been served).

The Property will be sold subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes that are a lien, but not yet due and payable); any matters that might be disclosed by an accurate survey and/or inspection of the Property; any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, and covenants; and matters of record superior to the Deed to Secure Debt. Additionally, this 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 Deed to Secure Debt.
Notice to the debtor as required by O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2 has been given. **CENTURY BANK AND TRUST**, located at the business address of 141 S Wayne St, Milledgeville, Georgia 31061, is the entity that has the full authority to negotiate, amend or modify the terms of the Deed to Secure Debt and related loan documents and may be contacted through the following representative:
Brian Robinson
Century Bank and Trust
141 S Wayne Street
Milledgeville, GA 31061
Tel: (478) 453-3571

CENTURY BANK AND TRUST, successor by merger to BANK OF WRIGHTSVILLE, as Attorney-in-Fact for **MARCI THARPE MULKEY**
Erin S. Woodside, Esq.
James-Bates-Brannan-Groover-LLP
1 Press Place
Suite 200
Athens, Georgia 30601
(706) 215-8325

April 11, 18, 25, May 2, 2026

26-177
State of Georgia
County of Laurens.
Notice to Debtors and Creditors
All creditors of the Estate of Barbara Jean Smith Coleman, 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 15th day of April, 2026.
Estate of Barbara Jean Smith Coleman
Melinda Coleman Wright, Executor
1043 Snow Hill Road
Cadwell, GA 31009

Margaret Greer Evans
Attorney at Law
Suite BarNo.488189
(478) 272-2885
April 18, 25, May 2, 9, 2026

26-158
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF Jerry B. Daniel Jr, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 26-48
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO: whom it may concern: SHAKRISTIN ANYIAH WILLIAMS has petitioned to be administrator of the estate of Jerry B. Daniel Jr 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 9-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 May 4, 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
101 N. Jefferson Street
Dublin, GA 31021
478/272-2566

April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

26-122
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, April 20, 2026 starting at 10 AM. In case of inclement weather, sale will be held on Tuesday, April 21, 2026 at 10 AM.

1. Josh Brown, Unit X-13;
2. Darrell Mitchell, Unit Z-31;
3. Dolphus Wells, Unit W-09.

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.

April 11, 18, 2026

26-174
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF Laurens COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA
IN Re: Nicamerah Jheremiah Johnson
Civil Action File No. 26-CF-0213-WT
NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

GEORGIA, Laurens County
Notice is hereby given that Nicamerah Johnson, the undersigned, filed his petition to the Superior Court of Laurens County, Georgia on the 26 day of February, 2026, praying for a change in the name of petitioner from Nicamerah Jheremiah Johnson to Cam Jheremiah Stanley. 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 11th day of March, 2026.
Nicamerah Johnson
Petitioner

April 18, 25, May 2, 9, 2026

26-156
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
GEORGIA, LAURENS COUNTY
Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by Joel Zamora, Abbi Gail Zamora to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for Mortgage Research Center, LLC dba Veterans United Home Loans, its successors and assigns dated April 29, 2024, recorded in Deed Book 3483, Page 1, Laurens County, Georgia Records, as last transferred to Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC by assignment recorded in Deed Book 3671, Page 56, Laurens County, Georgia Records, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of THREE HUNDRED EIGHTY-NINE THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED SEVENTY-FIVE AND 0/100 DOLLARS (\$389,475.00), 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 May, 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 and payable because of default having been made of the terms of the Note and Security Deed. The terms remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the total debt, including all expenses of this sale, as provided in the Security Deed and by law which includes, but is not limited to, 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. Prospective bidders must perform their own due diligence.

Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC 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: Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC, 500 N. State College Blvd., Suites 1030, 1300 and 1400, Orange, CA 92868, 800-561-4567.

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

Upon information and belief, said property is more commonly known as **745 GA Highway 338, Dudley, GA 31022**. Should a conflict arise between the property address and the legal description, the legal description shall control.

ATTENTION ALL PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS: On March 1, 2026, the data collection and reporting requirements under the U.S. Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) new Anti-Money Laundering Rule (the "Rule"), found at 89 FR 70258, went into effect. The Rule applies to certain residential real estate sale transactions (including some that go beyond the typical one-to-four family residence) where the transfer is to a legal entity or trust, and which includes cash purchases, private financing or financing provided by an institution not subject to a federal Anti-Money Laundering or Suspicion Activity Report requirement. If applicable, as part of this Rule, buyers and sellers are required to provide additional information and documentation about themselves, their legal entities, and/or the source of funds used in the reportable transaction. The collection of this information and documentation is required to comply with the Rule's federal reporting requirements, if applicable.* This notice is provided for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. You are encouraged to consult with your own independent legal counsel if you have questions about how the FinCEN Anti-Money Laundering Rule affects your transaction and whether your transaction is reportable.

*The Rule is the subject of ongoing litigation in several jurisdictions. We suggest that you seek your own legal counsel if you have questions about the status of the Rule and its applicability to your sale, if any.

The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code, (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed, and (3) to confirmation that the successful bidder has timely provided all information required for reporting under the Rule, 89 FR 70258, if applicable.
Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC as Attorney in Fact for Joel Zamora, Abbi Gail Zamora
McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLP
1544 Old Alabama Rd
Roswell, GA 30076
www.foreclosurehotline.net
EXHIBIT "A"

All that tract, lot or parcel of land, in Land Lot 57 of the 2nd Land District and 341st G.M. District of Laurens County, Georgia, described as Lot 3 containing 1.00 acre, more or less, and more particularly identified as Lot 3, as shown on a plat of survey prepared by Brent E. Tanner, Georgia Registered Land Surveyor No. 3250, dated May 30, 2019 and recorded in Plat Book 11, Page 280, in the Office of the Clerk of Laurens County Superior Court. Grantor does hereby grant and convey to grantee, its heirs and assigns a nonexclusive perpetual easement for ingress and egress to use that certain access easement as shown on the plat recorded in Plat Book 11, Page 280, Laurens County Records for access to grantee's property.

Being the same property as conveyed from Joel Zamora to Joel Zamora and Abbi Gail Zamora as Joint Tenants with Rights of Survivorship as set forth in Deed Book 3414 Page 155 dated 08/25/2023, recorded 08/28/2023, LAURENS COUNTY, GEORGIA. MR / CA May 5, 2026
Our file no. 25-18826GA-FT17
25-18826GA

April 4, 11, 18, 25, May 2, 2026

April 11, 18, 2026


April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

April 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

April 11, 18, 2026

April 11, 18, 2026


Sheriff Larry Dean reports the notice of sex offender moving into Laurens County:



Name: Shawn Patterson
Address: 418 Central Drive
East Dublin, Georgia
Date of Birth: 01/23/2006
Time of Arrest: Unknown
Place of Arrest: Johnson County

Crime: Rape
Disposition: Unknown
Date Placed on State Registry: 4/14/2026
For additional information regarding the Georgia Sex Offender Registry - www.ganet.org/gbi Or contact Laurens County Sheriff's Department 478-272-1522

Sheriff Larry Dean reports the notice of sex offender moving into Laurens County:



Name: Rudolph Barton
Address: 1826 Veterans Blvd
Dublin, Georgia
Date of Birth: 12/10/1956
Time of Arrest: Unknown
Place of Arrest: Tombs County

Crime: Child Molestation
Disposition: Unknown
Date Placed on State Registry: 3/2/2017
For additional information regarding the Georgia Sex Offender Registry - www.ganet.org/gbi Or contact Laurens County Sheriff's Department 478-272-1522



DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

In-Laws Make Themselves at Home Long Before Dinner

DEAR ABBY: How should I handle in-laws who show up three or more hours early for dinner and just sit at the kitchen counter? I have things to do; I don't have time to entertain them, and I can't persuade them to leave the kitchen. It really puts a damper on my final prep and last-minute cleaning. I don't want to be rude. They are nice people, but I can't handle this anymore. -- ON DISPLAY IN ILLINOIS

DEAR ON DISPLAY: Not everyone likes to have company in their kitchen while they are getting ready to entertain. Does your husband know you feel so strongly about this? If he doesn't, let him know, because you may need his help to get the message across to his folks and siblings that you (BOTH) prefer they don't show up early. Of course, the alternative would be for him to entertain them while you prep.

There is a poem on this subject in my "Keepers" booklet. It was written years ago by a woman named Susan Sawyer and has appeared in my column. It is aptly titled "Stay Out of My Kitchen."

Please stay away from my kitchen

From my dishwashing, cooking and such;

You were kind to have offered to pitch in

But thanks, no, thank you so much!

Please don't think me ungracious

When I ask that you leave me alone;

For my kitchen's not any too spacious

And my routine is strictly my own.

Tell you what: You stay out of my kitchen

With its sodden, hot, lack-luster lures --

When you're here, stay out of my kitchen

And I promise to stay out of yours!

DEAR ABBY: I am a sales associate at a business that sells sewing machines, vacuums and quilting fabric. I was hired to sell machines. Another employee, "Natasha," was hired to manage the fabric department. In crunch times, our duties overlap. We are paid hourly as well as a commission on the sewing machines.

Yesterday, I had an outstanding sales day. The store was packed with customers, and Natasha spent the entire day in the fabric department. This allowed me to focus on the sales floor. At the end of the day, we were both exhausted, and I remarked that I'd had a great sales day, briefly listing the items that I sold.

Today, the boss mentioned that I should not have bragged about my sales because Natasha was upset that she was stuck in the fabric department and unable to sell or demo any machines. It caught me by surprise. Did I do something wrong? -- SALESPERSON IN TEXAS

DEAR SALESPERSON: Yes, you did. Your boss told you so. It's no wonder hearing you crow about your good fortune upset Natasha after a long, hard day. In the future, keep your lip zipped (or someone may sew it shut for you).

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

SUDOKU

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

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!

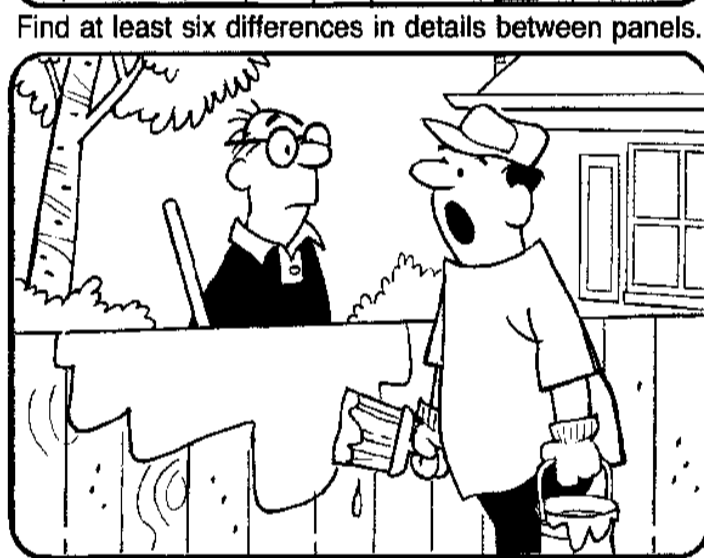
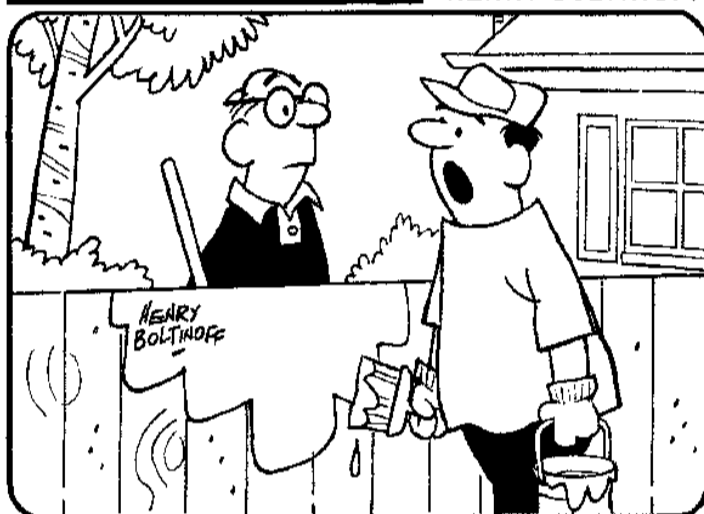
8	7	6	7	2	6	9	3	1
5	6	7	8	8	1	2	9	7
1	2	3	6	8	7	7	4	4
6	6	9	8	3	7	4	5	2
8	4	7	8	8	1	6	8	4
7	2	5	7	1	6	8	9	3
4	3	1	3	2	2	1	3	4
6	1	7	3	4	5	6	9	8
2	2	8	2	1	7	5	4	6
2	5	4	6	8	7	1	3	8

Level: Advanced

ANSWER:

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

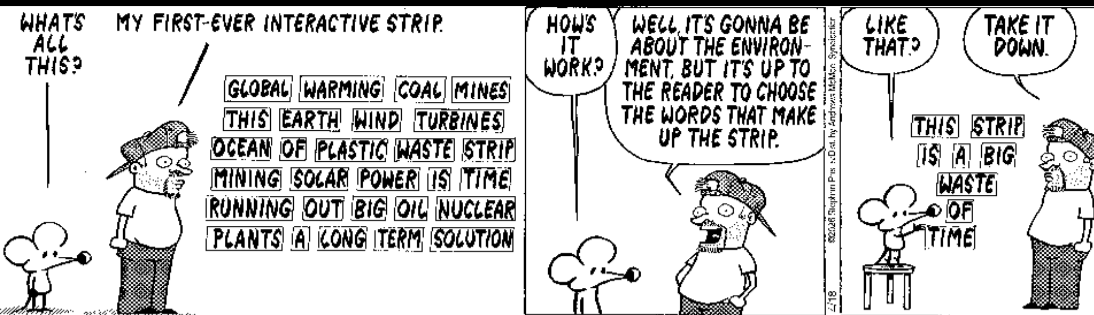


Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Brush is larger. 2. Painted area on fence is larger. 3. Shirt is longer. 4. Man has more hair. 5. Window is larger. 6. Ear is smaller.

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

BY STEVE PASTIS



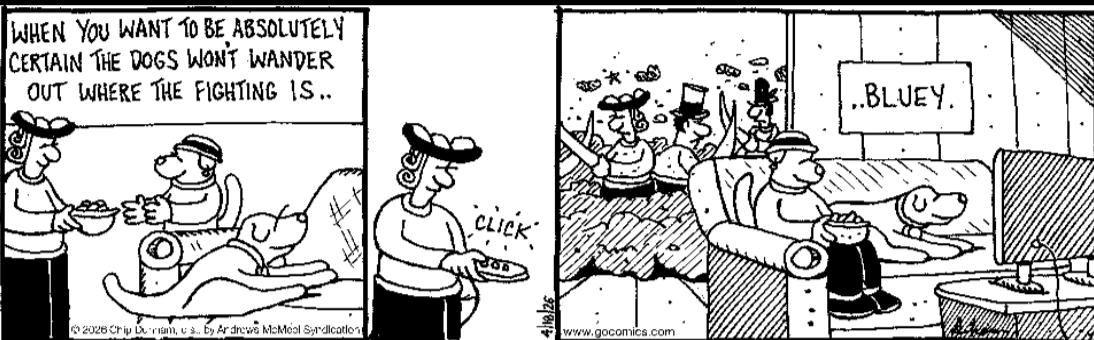
GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS



OVERBOARD

BY CHIP DUNHAM



DEFLOCKED

BY JEFF CORRIVEAU



The Garden Bug

Light needs for plants

Low light	Medium light	High light
Peace lily	Asparagus fern	Cactus
Snake plant	Boston fern	Hibiscus
Philodendron	Spider plant	Ti plant
English ivy	Jade plant	Gardenia
Diffenbachia	African violet	Geraniums

Spider plant

Source: extension.umn.edu

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THE Daily Commuter Puzzle by Stella Zawistowski

ACROSS

- 1 Mother's nickname
- 5 12-inch measurement
- 9 Great time
- 14 Former Yankee superstar, for short
- 15 German car brand
- 16 Wood-shaping tool
- 17 Seattle-based retailer
- 19 Wind instruments
- 20 Outlook function
- 21 Reconfigure
- 23 Western Ohio city
- 25 Tug-of-war equipment
- 26 Apple tablets
- 29 Magazine customer
- 33 Natural Black hairstyle
- 36 The Grim
- 38 Prefix meaning "outer"

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15					16			17
17			18						19			
20						21		22				
23						24		25				
26						27	28	29		30	31	32
33	34	35				36		37			38	
39						40						
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	

Created by Stella Zawistowski

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

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DOWN

- 1 Having hair like a horse's
- 2 Pleasant scent

- 3 Kind of eel
- 4 Building wing
- 5 Butter or oil
- 6 "What are ___ chances?"
- 7 Unpleasant scent
- 8 Stopwatch, e.g.
- 9 Gaffe
- 10 Tar Pits: 2 wds.
- 11 Molecule part
- 12 Former NYC stadium
- 13 Analyze
- 18 Pig food
- 22 Crime investigation-related
- 24 Storyteller
- 27 "No good goes unpunished"
- 28 Wise people
- 30 Sandwich shop
- 31 Medical checkup
- 32 Fishing poles
- 33 Behaves
- 34 Apartment, to Brits
- 35 Pasta sauce brand

- 37 Way to walk
- 41 Parts of geodes
- 43 Folds
- 46 Small computer program
- 48 Condé (media company)
- 50 Birds' homes
- 52 Mexican snacks
- 53 Knitwear fiber
- 54 Smells terrible
- 55 Bosc fruit
- 56 Mania
- 57 Screws up
- 58 Saliva
- 62 New Year's
- 63 Bull's mate

Saturday, April 18, 2026

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH BOB JONES

©2026 Tribune Content Agency, LLC

WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q 1 - Neither vulnerable, as South, Right-hand opponent opens 2S. What you hold: call would you make?

♠ K Q 5 ♥ K J 4 ♦ 7 2 ♣ A J 10 9 5

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

♠ A 9 ♥ A K Q 8 4 ♦ 7 4 ♣ K 9 7 3

As dealer, what call would you make?

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

♠ A 10 5 ♥ A 9 5 4 ♦ 8 ♣ K Q J 8 6

As dealer, would you open 1H or 1NT?

Right-hand opponent opens 1D. What call would you make?

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

♠ 10 ♥ K 8 6 3 ♦ K Q J 8 5 ♣ Q J 8

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

♠ A K ♥ Q 4 3 ♦ 9 7 5 4 ♣ A K Q 9

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

10 Pass 1♥ Pass

2♥ Pass 2NT Pass

? What call would you make?


As dealer, what call would you make?

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

♠ A 8 ♥ K Q 10 5 4 ♦ 5 4 3 2 ♣ A Q

Look for answers on Monday.

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



Congratulations *on Your* Retirement

Congratulations, Tom Dominy!
Thank you for 44 years of outstanding service with Dublin Winnelson. You have accomplished so much and have touched many lives throughout your career. Good luck on this new chapter in your life!



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TELL IT!

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

The Dublin City board refuses to do the right things. I hope they realize they are hurting this community. They are the most selfish and bullheaded group. They lack character.

If you watched the board meeting you would see the community is screaming to the board and they refuse to listen. Still want to pass blame and call things "miscommunication."

Mrs. Poole and the board continue a culture of cover up, muddy numbers and refusal to treat all things equal. They all need to go. Someone needs to come in and clean house.

Call a spade a spade. They won't close the gifted academy because that's where the elite kids can go for free and not be in the other Dublin schools. Everyone sees it for what it is.

Dublin teachers - your contracts (if you even get one anytime soon) aren't worth the paper they are printed on. There is still no completed budget so who knows if they can pay you. No more loans.

I am hugely disappointed in Mrs. Poole and the DC board. You had a chance to follow the state and get things on track. Dublin City schools are now being laughed at. So very sad!

It is time for us to demand more from public education in Laurens County. Taxpayers fund schools yet both system are making decisions that are questionable. Let's look at other options.

What is happening at East Laurens High school? It has changed. I have tried three times to meet with the principal but he is never there. My child said kids do whatever they want.

I graduated from Dublin City Schools. I was proud of it when I was there. But people all over that state now know the mess it is and that changes still aren't being made.


I'm curious about how teens are selected to work tournaments at Southern Pines. Is there a process to ensure everyone has an equal opportunity, or is it based on who you know?

Just curious, besides speeding tickets, is there any law enforcement in Dublin? Gangs shooting up neighborhoods, \$13 million stolen, no cops, no mayor, no police chief... come to Dublin, shoot 'em up, steal us blind, you'll never get caught or go to jail. Just don't do 45 on Hillcrest and you'll be just fine.

Jesus is coming soon. The condition of this world is no accident. On this side of life, he is your savior. On the other side, he'll be your judge. Repent and accept him.

About these homeless people, don't they choose that life they have? Is it our responsibility to take care of them when they can get out and get a job if they want to? I'd be homeless, too, if I hadn't of worked. I just don't feel sorry for those people. They chose that life.

I would like to say "Congratulations" to all the teachers nominated for Laurens County Teacher of the Year. Also, "Thank You" to the community supporters, school administrators and LCBOE. Great job teachers!



WRPD STRONG:


NIGHT OF BLUE LIGHTS



FOOD TRUCK ROUNDUP

LIVE MUSIC | KIDS ZONE | FOOD TRUCKS

Thursday, May 14 | 6:00pm - 9:00pm

Perkins Field, 105 Mulberry St.



THE WARNER ROBINS POLICE DEPARTMENT, ALONGSIDE NEIGHBORING PUBLIC SAFETY AGENCIES, WILL BE ON SITE WITH VEHICLES, OFFICERS, AND OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT WITH THE COMMUNITY.

DUBLIN SCHOOLS

Continued from page 1

bers and high-ranking staff told interviewers they were left in the dark as the district burned through \$4 million in federal COVID funds to cover payroll and other bills from 2021 to 2025 — when it employed more than twice as many staff members whose salaries were funded through local and federal funds as peer systems. Staffing decisions “lacked sufficient transparency,” with pay levels and positions often decided at the top with no input.

“We had directors that we didn’t even know about,” one board member, who was unnamed in Cognia’s report, told the review team.

To read the full report, visit courierheraldtoday.com.

Pool, who was appointed after Fred Williams took an early retirement in the middle of the financial crisis last fall, told Cognia interviewers that the district has tried to be more transparent but admitted that, in the past, officials had “tried to hide anything that was negative.”

Pool also said “previous administrations were in the habit of hiring coaches who

happened to be teachers, not teachers who could coach.”

Stakeholders complained that some programs, particularly athletics and the Irish Gifted Academy, were favored unfairly with more funding and higher-qualified staff.

The report also gives insight into how the mid-year job cuts last fall negatively impacted morale and operations at the city schools.

“Teachers explicitly framed themselves as collateral damage, with one educator stating bluntly, ‘We are casualties of war.’ Parents and community members also expressed frustration. Many questioned why cuts targeted classroom positions and custodial roles rather than central office positions.”

Students, the report said, described the sudden loss of teachers as “heartbreaking” and reported that neither they nor their families received formal notification from the system or schools. Staffers described taking on duties, but the result was “some tasks going unmet and staff operating in a constant state of daily survival.” One parent described a principal as “teaching math and he is the janitor.”

The review found “recurring patterns suggesting a need for closer alignment with applicable legal and regulatory requirements” across multiple areas — such as the conduct and documentation of meetings, financial decision-making processes, personnel management practices and the fulfillment of charter system responsibilities.

The report documented eight meetings — in addition to six budget and tax increase hearings — that were held last year which the school board failed to post notice of on its website. Reviewers cited “recurring deficiencies” in recording and publishing minutes from board meetings.

“When such errors recur, they raise broader concerns about the reliability and integrity of governance documentation.”

The report also noted that minutes and other records from local school governance teams were lacking and “indicates inconsistent compliance with statutory requirements governing open meetings, documentation and shared decision making.”

“Evidence from fiscal year 2021 through fiscal

year 2025 revealed the system used temporary federal COVID-19 pandemic funds to sustain ongoing salaries while maintaining high administrative staffing levels “that did not align with system needs.”

The reviewers noted that audits found almost no internal controls related to employee compensation, and that the system was unable to demonstrate the use of performance data to guide staffing decisions or financial allocations. Stakeholders reported perceptions that staffing decisions lacked sufficient transparency, administrative staffing levels expanded without consistent oversight and that some hiring and placement decisions, including compensation levels and role assignments, were inconsistent with comparable positions.

“During interviews, one board member acknowledged that positions and supplemental pay historically were not consistently monitored,” the report said. “The board member further acknowledged their failure to monitor financial supplements, noting that there were ‘people that did get supplements that we did

not even know about’ and emphasizing that they now carefully review the supplements that coaches receive.”

The system spent more on salaries than comparable systems and provided disproportionately high coaching and extended-day supplements. According to the report, Dublin City Schools paid more than three times what similar school systems paid for extended day supplements and more than double what peer school systems paid for extended year supplements.

Stakeholders also expressed “deep frustration” regarding the inequitable distribution of qualified educators across the system, “explicitly noting that some of the certified teachers have been taken away from their base school to staff the Irish Gifted Academy.”

However, the monitoring review team did not request data confirming the percentages of certified and non-certified teachers by school site, which limited the team’s ability to verify or refute stakeholders’ perceptions.

Pool noted in her statement that the Cognia report also identified areas of improvement:

- Transparency is increasing under current leadership
- The interim superintendent is already working to make information more accessible
- Corrective actions have already begun
- Governance, finance and HR reforms are in progress
- Parents and stakeholders praised communication at the school level
- Teachers and principals remain highly engaged with students
- The report provides specific directives, not vague criticism
- This is essentially a step-by-step improvement plan

“We remain unwavering in our commitment not only to resolving these concerns, but also to building a strong, lasting foundation for Dublin City Schools that will serve generations of students to come,” Pool said. “We will continue to share updates throughout this process and keep all stakeholders informed of our progress as we work toward a common future of high achievement and success for all students.”



From left: Winners of the 11th annual MLK Jr. Oratorical Contest held at First African Baptist Church on Sunday, April 12: Kemonte A. Davis, Memajae D. Davis, Arthur P. Ayotte, Sydney E. Howard, Malcolm K. Rayner, Zachary B. Brazeal, Sahara Aliece Brown, Aisha Saxena and Christian A. Lee/HORACE AUSTIN

MLK
Continued from page 1

Inc), Fort Valley State University National Alumni Association, Inc. (FVSU-NAA Inc.), VisitDublinGA and First African Baptist Church.

The history of the oratorical contest started many years ago, according to an article by Harriett Claxton in The Courier Herald dated April 18, 2015. It referenced an oratory being held 86 years ago (1930), that was sponsored by the N.G. McCall Elks Lodge. It stated it was one of the best

presentations or oratory exhibited in Dublin.

The Annual Oratorical Contest was revised at the suggestion of the Georgia Tourism Resource Team, a part of the Georgia Department of Economic Development. One of the highlights of the report was that a young Martin Luther King Jr.’s first public speech was held in Dublin, at the First African Baptist Church on April 17, 1944. It was confirmed in his autobiography.

“We re-started the oratorical speech contest back

in 2015,” Davis said. “I always try to make a difference in the community. I know that by having an oratorical speech contest, one of the things I found difficult when I was attending college was make a presentation in front of a live audience. I know at some point in time, you are going to have to make a presentation. We just wanted to give the kids an experience prior before it being necessary in high school and college.”

- Horace Austin contributed to this report.

COCA-COLA
Continued from page 1

commute from Laurens County.

“We see this as a job retention project. The fit could not be more perfect,” he said. “There are an awful lot of projects like this out there and the small business park is doing exactly what we designed it to do. It will give them some visibility from the 441 corridor and they are excited about that, and we are, too.”

The Birmingham-based Coca-Cola Bottling Compa-

ny has a long history in the region. Founded in 1902, it once operated bottling facilities in Dublin and McRae. The Dublin plant, on East Jackson Street, was eventually shuttered while the McRae operations were shifted to distribution. The old Coke building still stands and now houses The City of Dublin’s natural gas utility department.

United’s return to Dublin strengthens Laurens County’s stance as a shipping and logistics hub, a position local authorities

have touted for its access to major highways, the interstate system and railroads.

“The addition of this iconic company to our community demonstrates how well positioned we are for distribution and logistics, which is an important sector of our local economy,” said Roger Folsom, who chairs the development authority’s governing board, in a statement. “Coca-Cola United will bring quality jobs and positively impact our community for years to come.”

CAUTION
Continued from page 1

with,” McCard said. “Those don’t take long to get out of control. And it can get bad in a hurry, especially in these conditions. We sure could use some rain.”

Dublin Fire Chief Matthew Cutler called the latest condition “significant.”

“We are under hazardous fire-weather conditions,” he said. “People are not supposed to be burning in the city anyway. That won’t stop people from doing things. With the conditions as they are, a little small fire can turn into

damage to property, injuries and all kind of things.”

And there is no rain in sight until a 50 percent chance on April 23.

“That’s a long way out,” Cutler said.

People should also stay aware when grilling outside.

“They need to be careful when it comes to fire or fire sources,” Cutler said.

Along with the dry conditions, everyone should be aware of the heat.

“If you are doing strenuous activities outside, they need to make sure to drink plenty of fluids in order to keep cool,” he said.

“You lose a lot more fluid through sweating than people think.”

Also while outside, it is best to wear a hat or use sun block.

“People think about that when they go to the beach, river or the pool,” Laird said. “Other than that, we don’t think about it. Grab a hat and let that help shade your face and keep the sun off of it. A good application of sunscreen is needed because sun damage to your skin could have lasting effects. You may not see it today but it could turn up as cancer five years from now.”

Perdue to retire, ending historic political career

By TY TAGAMI
Capitol Beat

ATLANTA — Georgia Chancellor Sonny Perdue announced Wednesday that he will retire from his job overseeing the state’s 25 public colleges and universities, ending a career that spanned more than four decades, from service on a local zoning board to the cabinet of President Donald Trump, with two terms as governor in between.

“As I prepare to retire, I’m grateful for our presidents, faculty and staff, our students and the many communities that make up this remarkable system,” Perdue said in a statement. He did

not give a definitive date, saying he would leave the post after a national search finds a successor.

Just over four years ago, on April 1, 2022, Perdue assumed leadership of a higher education system that now has a \$12.1 billion budget, with 54,000 employees and 382,000 students.

Enrollment has grown during his tenure.

“Under his leadership, the system has seen record enrollment, modernized campuses and advanced medical education, including the launch of UGA’s new School of Medicine,” Gov. Brian Kemp said in a statement, adding that Perdue’s time leading the University

System of Georgia “has solidified a legacy of impact that will continue for generations to come.”

A native of Perry, Perdue attended undergraduate and graduate school at the University of Georgia, earning a veterinarian medical degree. He flew in the U.S. Air Force and owned an agricultural business.

He started his political career in the 1980s, on the Houston County Planning and Zoning Board, before making his way to the state Senate in 1991. He chaired the Senate Higher Education Committee and rose to the top rung for a senator as President Pro Tem.

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ANNIE

Continued from page 1

first time in a DCT production. His daughter, Nora, who stars as the orphan Pepper in this show, was in "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" last November.

"She really enjoys the theatre and I've been involved in music in the past," Warnock said. "The two of us decided to come out and audition together. It has been a great experience."

Warnock was impressed with the historical backdrop of "Annie" that deals with Herbert Hoover, people in Hooverville, unemployment and Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

"I was never aware that this type of history was in the play," Warnock said. "Jimmy Cox, who is playing Roosevelt, has been probably my favorite character. He looks like Roosevelt and sounds like Roosevelt. It has been fun to see him fill in that role."

Becky Wilson, who teaches at Bleckley County Middle School, will make her DCT debut as Warbucks' secretary - Grace. Though she is new to Theatre Dublin, Wilson has played Maria in "The Sound of Music," Marian in "The Music Man," Belle in "Beauty and the Beast."

"She has an impressive resume," Berry said. "She is wonderful on stage. Not only has she brought a lot to her role, but she has brought a lot to part of the choreography team working with the orphans."

This is Wilson's third time in "Annie." She played Annie when she was 9 and starred as Grace in the late 1990s. Her daughter - Clara - is also in the show as Molly. They have had the chance to work their lines at home.

"She learned her lines before I learned mine," Wilson said.



Miss Hannigan, played by Avianc'e Gainey, has fun putting the orphans to work/PAYTON TOWNS III

There are a few scenes where Wilson has the opportunity to be on stage at the same time as her daughter.

"It has been fun and a dream come true," Wilson said. "When I found out I was having a little girl I couldn't wait to get her involved in music and theatre. This show is so special to me and I wanted Clara to get involved and for this to be her first show too. It's a good first show for young girls to get involved in."

As for Clara, "I think audiences are going to be delighted by her because she does such a wonderful job," Berry said.

When it comes to someone having an evil, good time, do not look any further

than Avianc'e Gainey, who stars as Miss Hannigan.

"She is a dynamo on stage," Berry said. "I think she is hilarious in the role. We wanted Miss Hannigan for laughs. I didn't want to make her too evil. I really wanted the audience to laugh with the villains."

Gainey called Miss Hannigan "a pretty bad girl." But, she added that the character is fun and challenging to play.

"This is the first role of this type that I have really embraced, and I have had to do so much physical comedy," Gainey said. "I am embracing her and I am trying to make her as human as possible."

Gainey has had the privilege of working with the

young ladies who make up the orphans.

"They are all so sweet and they are incredibly talented, each and every one of them," Gainey said. "I love that they have a distinction between Avianc'e and Miss Hannigan. They love Avianc'e but they can't stand Miss Hannigan."

Miss Hannigan and her brother, Rooster, played by Weston Snell, and his partner in crime, Lily St. Regis, played by Julie McLendon, eventually collaborate to pull off an evil scheme. But from their point of view, they just want what they sing about in the song, "Easy Street."

"That song is so much fun," Gainey said. "It kind of breaks away from the

more serious tones that are around that song. I think it gives a variety and spice. We get to be our characters and live out in those characters."

Snell, from Swainsboro, called that song fun, but admitted it was a challenge to learn.

"The harmonies must be pinpoint," he said. "It is such a fun number and has a lot of comedic points."

Snell starred as Arvide Abernathy in last summers DCT's production of "Guys and Dolls." As Abernathy, Snell was a good positive character.

"I'm the villain this time," Snell said. "Rooster is someone who wants money. He wants the easy way out. He wants to go to "Easy Street."

Another aspect of Annie is the dog, Sandy. Bates will be familiar with Sandy who is being played by her dog - Gunner.

"That was crazy," Bates said. "I never thought he would be on stage with me. It's kind of weird that I have to act like I don't know him but I do know him."

Sandy is an important part of the production.

"The original Sandy needed to be re-cast and it just so happened that our Annie had a dog that her mom showed us a photograph and asked if he could be our Sandy," Berry said. "When Gunner and Gracen are on stage together, I believe it's going to be something that will touch people's hearts."

There is a number of adults, some who have been in other DCT productions and some making their debuts, who play multiple roles throughout the show.

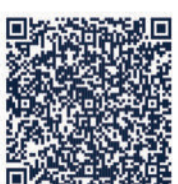
"I was super impressed with how talented everyone was during auditions," Wilson said. "It's nice to have this amount of talent locally. It has been fun to get to know the other adults who love doing theatre."

Warnock has enjoyed watching the process come together.

"Glenda has a lot of experience doing this," he said. "There are so many moving pieces and so many people involved. If you don't have a strong leader, it can get very chaotic."

With a few more practices remaining, the cast and directors of "Annie" are putting in the final pieces to make sure the audience will like this optimistic presentation.

"I hope everybody comes out to see it," Berry said. "I think people will love seeing "Annie." I think the crowd will be amazed about the talent we have in Middle Georgia."



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