

The Courier Herald

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SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2026

COURIERHERALDTODAY.COM

Former VA chief faces new child molestation charges

By **PAYTON TOWNS III**
Senior Reporter

The former Carl Vinson VA Medical Center director has been arrested again in a new case where he was charged with aggravated child molestation and cruelty to children in

the second degree.

Manuel Davila, 57, was arrested Wednesday and remained in custody a day later said Laurens County Investigator Lt. Jeremy Reese.

"This is a completely separate and new case," Reese said. "He was out on bond and some

new charges came up. These stand alone from the old ones. Sometimes new evidence or victims come forward and that might lead to a new investigation or a new case."

In March of 2024, Davila was charged with four counts of child molestation, cruelty to

children in the first degree and enticing a child for indecent purposes. He resigned from the VA on March 4, 2024.

In February of 2025, additional charges of child molestation and computer or electronic pornography were added to Davila. Those charges

were connected to the previous arrest that happened the previous March.

Davila was appointed director of the Dublin VA in January 2022. Prior to that, he



VA DIRECTOR
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DAVILA

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 - Farmhouse Bread Co. homemade bread



David Penny looks over tools he received as Oconee Fall Line Technical College's TOOLS recipient for automotive technology/PAYTON TOWNS III

TOOLS for success: Oconee Fall Line equips 17 students for their jobs

By **PAYTON TOWNS III**
Senior Reporter

Seventeen Oconee Fall Line Technical College students recently received the necessary uniforms or equipment from the 2025-2026 Tools for Outstanding Occupational Leadership Students program.

Students receive the program-specific tools required for their careers to help with a seamless transition into the work force without having to purchase the necessary on-the-job equipment.

"This is a very special occasion," said OFTC President Erica Harden. "Each of our students were nominated by one of our fantastic faculty members at OFTC."

They were interviewed by various leaders, recognized by their hard work, dedication and the committee could see their bright future ahead of them.

The following were this year's recipients:

- Jimmy Givens III, nominated by Bradley Huckabee

- for air conditioning technology

- Bryce Wimberly, nominated by Huckabee for air conditioning technology

- David Penny, nominated by Gary Simpson for automotive technology

- Karessa Hinson, nominated by Bill Adams for construction management

- Abigail Aycock, nominated by Lisa Jones for cosmetology

- Ryan Livingston, nominated by Jones for cosmetology

- Alexis Haigh, nominated by Jennifer Eiland for diagnostic medical sonography

- Alayna Wiggins, nominated by Eiland for diagnostic medical sonography

- Ian Anderson, nominated by Ryan Scarborough for electronics technology

- Gage Harden, nominated by Jeff Frady for machine tool technology

- Cynthia Gontorwon, nominated by Brenda Gurr for medical assisting

- Brittany White, nominated by Kerrie Fountain for practical nursing

- Brittany Coney, nominated by McKinsey Bray for radiologic technology

- Tiffany Marsh, nominated by Bray for radiologic technology

- Peyton Edney, nominated by Josh Bridges for welding and joining technology (Dublin Campus)

- Jaqururis Bridges, nominated by Jeff Frady for welding and joining technology (Sandersville Campus)

- Rodolfo Rodriguez, nominated by Jeff Partridge for welding and joining technology (Jefferson Campus)

"These students have earned these tools," said OFTC trustee Kathryn Willcox.

She added that the Louie and Evelyn Livingston Family Foundation is happy to offer the TOOLS program

OFTC TOOLS
Continued on page 12

Chamber group focused on child care's effect on economic development

By **KYLE DOMINY**
Staff Reporter

Access to affordable, quality child care has become a key factor in an area's economic health. A lack of centers leaves workers, especially mothers, struggling to make shifts, while children are ill-prepared to enter school.

The early learning and child care industry, however, faces nationwide challenges as the cost of operating such centers makes tuition too high for many families while low wages force child care workers to find other employment. Data shows that Georgia faces a \$2.52 billion annual economic loss due to child care struggles and eight out of 10 parents report missed shifts or reduced hours, which means fewer wages, because of a lack of child care.

Increasing access to child care has become a top priority for the Dublin-Laurens County Chamber of Commerce and its non-profit wing, the Chamber Community Foundation. The business advocate group has devoted much time to helping local child care centers maintain licenses and earn higher quality ratings from the state, and even find sponsorships to fund projects and upgrades.

Georgia uses a three-star rating system. One means the facility met basic requirements; additional star ratings are awarded based on if a facility employs certified

CHILD CARE
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County Commission gets 'clean' audit for FY 2025

By **RODNEY MANLEY**
Staff Reporter

The Laurens County Commission on Tuesday approved a "clean" audit for fiscal year 2025, but it came along with a few budget amendments.

"We had a clean opinion. What that means is for all material purposes, our audit was materially correct and accurate, as were our financial statements," said county Finance Officer Donna Lumley

To balance the budget for the year, it was amended with \$749,000 from the general fund to cover expenditures, mostly from health insurance costs and Hurricane Helene.

The county ended the year with more than \$22 million in its general fund, Lumley said.

Also at the meeting, the commission agreed to a resolution that allows the county board of education to issue bonds to build new facilities on East Laurens. The school board plans to build a new elementary school and middle school athletic complex, at a combined cost of about \$40 million. The bonds will allow the school board to borrow money against the future sales tax collections so that construction projects can begin.

COUNTY COMMISSION
Continued on page 12

ELECTION 2026: STATE HOUSE DISTRICT 155

Editor's note: This is part of a series of Q&A's spotlighting the candidates seeking local elected offices in upcoming general primary elections.

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

I am running to be a voice for the people of District 155 and to bring real world experience to this role. I am not a professional politician.

My decisions will be based on what the people of this district want and need, because this seat belongs to the people. Last year, I fought cancer and went through surgery, chemotherapy and radiation. That experience gave me a firsthand understanding of the challenges families face with healthcare, not as a policy debate, but as a reality. I have also owned a business and understand the pressures of making ends meet, creating jobs and navigating economic uncertainty.

I also believe we have to



CAYCE COOK

be forward-thinking. Artificial intelligence is going to reshape our economy, our jobs and our schools. I have taken the time to learn how it works and where it is headed. I believe we need to start preparing now so our workers and our communities are not left behind.

I am running to be a

COOK

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

I love Laurens and Johnson counties and the people who live here. I have resided in Dublin for all but 10 of my 60 years. Dublin has grown and changed during that time in ways that I believe are for the better. From housing to healthcare, restaurants to recreation, Dublin has more options to offer its citizens for all aspects of life. We have everything one needs to live a good life in Laurens and Johnson counties.

I've served this community in many ways volunteering and supporting many non-profit organizations. I've been honored to serve and represent Laurens and Johnson counties since 2011 in the Legislature. I've shared our beliefs and principles with my colleagues in the Legislature and made



MATT HATCHETT

sure that they knew we mattered. This experience that you, the voters of District 155, have given me has allowed me to help many with issues within state government and study and work on legislation to improve not only our lives but the lives of many. As time has gone by, I've been able to influence the investments directly into

HATCHETT

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Early voting begins Monday

By **PAYTON TOWNS III**
Senior Reporter

The election supervisor of the Laurens County Board of Elections and Registration hopes to see a big crowd come out and participate in early voting during the next three weeks.

Advance voting for the general primary/non-partisan election will be held at the Laurens County Board of Elections and Registration Office at 117 E. Jackson St., Suite A, from Monday, April 27, through Friday, May 15, between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Early voting will also be held on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on May 2 and May 9. The final day an application for an absentee ballot can be accepted is May 8.

"Please come out and vote early," said Susan Rooks, election

EARLY VOTING

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OBITUARIES



Clarissa "June" Gay Graham

Clarissa "June" Gay Graham passed away on April 20, 2026. Born on Feb. 15, 1971, June's journey through life was one of steadfast love and kindness.

Predeceased by her husband, Tommy "Chris" Graham and her father, Earl Gay, June is survived by her devoted mother, Wanda Garnto Gay of Rentz, and her aunt Brenda Garnto Brock (John).

Her enduring connection with her family is further upheld by the many generations of her family—cousins: John Brock, Stephanie Richards (Ron), Carl Brock and Nathaniel Richards; nieces and nephews: Alex (Carrie) Graham, Kristinia Graham, Christopher (Bridgett) Maddox, and Amy Maddox, along with her great-niece, Kyrie Preston (Merric) and great-great-niece, Lillith Preston.

June was an alumnus of West Laurens High School, from which she graduated in 1989. Her dedication to her work was evident during her experiences with Leprechauns, McDonalds, Brian's Subs, and Pitts Toyota Body Shop. June also found purpose and joy in the working at Greene Acres Farm, where she was a beloved part of the team. Outside the structure of employment, June was an active Christian, living her faith through actions filled with compassion and selflessness. She was a member of Rentz Baptist Church.

Her hobbies included coloring, spending time with her mother, Wanda and volunteering at Awana on Wednesday nights at Rentz Baptist Church.

Funeral services were held on Thursday, April 23, 2026, at 4 p.m. at Rentz Baptist Church. Rev Tom Vann and Rev. Grady Mimbs officiated. Burial will follow in Rentz Cemetery. June's family received friends on Thursday from 3 p.m. until service time.

Randy Patisaul, John Brock, Earl Greene, Caleb Skipper, Alex Graham, and Seth Smith served as pallbearers.

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

Townsend Brothers Funeral Home has charge of the arrangements.



Karen Le'Anne Simmons Chavarria

Celebration of Life Services for Mrs. Karen Le'Anne Simmons Chavarria will be held on Friday, May 1, 2026, at 11 a.m. Location: Serenity Funeral Home Chapel – 414 Telfair Street Dublin, Georgia 31021.

Mrs. Karen Chavarria was born on Aug. 13, 1962, to the parentage of the late John D. Simmons and Mrs. Jetty Mae Russ Simmons in Georgetown, South Carolina.

Karen was known for her warm heart, gentle spirit and the joy she found in life's simple moments. One of her greatest pleasures was spending time with her mother, especially attending yard sales together. Those outings were more than just a hobby, they were special times filled with laughter, bonding and shared treasures that reflected Karen's appreciation for both people and memories.

She is preceded in death by her father, John D. Simmons.

She is survived by her son, Steve Crabb of Cleveland, Texas; daughter, Mandy Mills of Cleveland, Texas; mother, Jetty Mae Simmons of Dublin, Georgia; granddaughter, Madison Mae Mills of Cleveland, Texas; grandson, Garrett Wayne Mills of Cleveland, Texas; a special friend, Jimmy Alan Barrow of East Dublin, Georgia; and a host of other relatives and friends.

She will be remembered for her love of family, her easygoing personality, and the joy she brought to everyday life. Her presence will be deeply missed, but her memory will live on in the hearts of all who knew and loved her.

Serenity Funeral Home – Dublin has charge of arrangements.



Paul Oberdorff Aikey

Master Sergeant Paul Oberdorff Aikey passed away on April 21, 2026, in Dublin, Georgia, at the age of 97. He was born on March 4, 1929, in Montana, Penn., and lived a life marked by faithful service, steady kindness and deep devotion to the people and places he loved.

MSG Aikey was the son of the late Paul Aikey and Mary Alice Oberdorff Aikey. He carried the values of hard work, integrity and perseverance throughout his life, and those who knew him remember him as a thoughtful, generous and faith-filled man. His presence brought comfort and strength to his family and friends, and his quiet example left a lasting impression on all who were blessed to know him.

He was a proud retired Master Sergeant from the United States Army, where he served his country with honor and dedication. Following his years of military service, he continued to serve others through his work as a Computer Program Trainer with the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

MSG Aikey's was preceded in death by his first wife, Betty Jo Grinstead Aikey, and by his son, Paul Aikey Jr.

He is survived by his wife, Marion Berquist Aikey; his daughter-in-law, Linda Aikey; his step-daughter, Priscilla Solloway; his grandson, Shawn Aikey and his wife Kelly; and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins who will cherish his memory.

He was a member of Rentz Baptist Church, where he enjoyed singing in the choir. In his leisure time, he enjoyed being on the golf course and was an avid golfer who played many rounds at Green Acres Golf Course. He also enjoyed Square Dancing with the Irish Reelers, where he shared laughter, music, and friendship.

A graveside service with military honors were held at 10 a.m., Friday, April 24, 2026 at Rentz City Cemetery with Rev. Tom Vann officiating.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that contributions in memory of Paul Aikey be made to Rentz Baptist Church, P.O. Box 35

Rentz, GA 30175.

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

Townsend Brothers Funeral Home has charge of the arrangements.



Robert Eugene "Bobby" Locke

Robert Eugene "Bobby" Locke, 64, of Dublin, Georgia, passed away on April 22, 2026, in Dublin, Georgia.

Born on Dec. 28, 1961, in Macon, Georgia, Bobby lived a life marked by love, laughter and devotion to the people who meant the most to him. His loving nature, friendly spirit and wonderful sense of humor touched family, friends, and neighbors throughout his life.

Bobby was a member of Dudley Baptist Church, where his faith and fellowship were an important part of his life. He was also the best dad, brother and "Poppy," a title he wore with great pride and joy. His family was the center of his world, and he found his greatest happiness in the time he spent with them. He will be remembered for the kindness he showed, the laughter he shared, and the steady presence he provided to those who loved him.

He was an avid football and baseball fan and enjoyed following the games with enthusiasm. Bobby also served faithfully as a Dudley Little League score keeper, a role that reflected both his love for the sport and his commitment to the community. Whether cheering from the sidelines or sharing a joke with those around him, he brought energy and good cheer wherever he went.

Bobby was preceded in death by his father, Silas James Locke. He is survived by his daughter, Lacey Ward and her husband Blake of Dublin; his granddaughter, Saylor Ward of Dublin; his grandson, Hampton Ward of Dublin; and his mother, Nell Locke of Dublin. He is also survived by his siblings, Janice Ballard and her husband David of Dudley, Ronnie Locke of Dublin, Emily Locke of Dublin, Sheila O'Neal of Dublin, Angie Evans and her husband Stacy of Albany, Georgia, Julie Floyd and her husband

Doug of Jeffersonville, and Jason Locke and his wife Amanda of Dudley. He also leaves behind several nieces and nephews who will cherish his memory.

Those who knew Bobby will remember a man who was loving, funny and friendly in every sense of the words. He had a gift for making others smile and a way of bringing comfort and joy to those around him. His presence will be deeply missed, but the memories he created and the love he gave will remain in the hearts of his family and friends forever.

A funeral service cele-

brating Bobby's life will be held at 3:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 26, 2026, at Dudley Baptist Church with Rev. Matt Greene officiating. Burial will follow at Dublin Memorial Gardens. The family will receive friends from 2:30 p.m. until the service hour at the church.

Mr. Locke's nephews will serve as pallbearers.

In lieu of flowers, please make memorial contributions to Dudley Little League in his memory.

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

TO YOUR GOOD HEALTH

By DR. KEITH ROACH
King Features

DEAR DR. ROACH: At age 48, I underwent a lumpectomy, chemo and radiation for stage I breast cancer. All is good so far, but I started experiencing osteopenia in my mid-50s, perhaps earlier than I would have because of the chemo and estrogen-blocking meds. My mother also had osteoporosis.

For the osteoporosis in my hip, I took alendronate for five years, but it didn't stop the bone loss. I am now on Prolia, which has helped. I am healthy and fairly active. How long can one take Prolia with breaks in between, and what are your thoughts on alternatives? I am concerned about "running out" of strong, effective alternatives to treat my osteoporosis. I walk 3-5 miles most days. -- A.M.L.

ANSWER: You are right that the estrogen-blocking drugs you needed for your breast cancer caused accelerated bone loss and early osteoporosis. Given your family history and young age, it's very important to think about the future. Keeping up your exercise is excellent for your bones, for your overall health, and to reduce your risk of cancer.

Prolia works similarly to alendronate by slowing down the cells that break down bone, called osteoclasts. Unlike alendronate and similar drugs, Prolia stops working as soon as you stop taking it, so people who are on it need to take it continuously.

This is different from alendronate, where people can take "drug holidays" for years sometimes in or-

der to keep the bone from becoming "frozen" and brittle, which can then put them at risk for atypical femur fractures. Between 8% and 10% of people who stop Prolia will get a fracture the following year unless they transition to a different treatment.

Bisphosphonate drugs like alendronate are often the choice for people once they stop Prolia, but they didn't work for you. I'd be concerned about the absorption of the medicine since taking the medicine with any food (even with mineral water) can reduce absorption to the point that it isn't effective.

In addition, you need enough calcium and vitamin D for bisphosphonate drugs (and Prolia) to work properly. But if you've been careful about these issues, it may just be that you are one of the people for whom bisphosphonate drugs aren't a good option.

Anabolic agents like PTH analogues (teriparatide) are another good choice since these directly build up bone. Romosozumab both builds bone and decreases breakdown. However, one option that might be a particularly good choice for you is raloxifene, which decreases the risk of breast cancer and helps keep bones strong. I suggest you ask your prescribing physician about these alternatives.

BIRTHDAYS

April 25
Dutchie Allen
Jathan Billue

April 26
Barbara Fludd

April 27
Gabrielle "Gabby" Smith

ANNIVERSARIES

April 26
Luther & Daisy Tucker

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Housing Administrative Assistant

The Dublin Housing Authority is accepting resumes for the full-time position of Housing Administrative Assistant. The successful applicant must possess superb communication and computer literacy skills. Must be able to multi-task with moderate supervision in all areas of the DHA departmental structure. The ability to prepare clear, concise reports is a plus in this position. The position also performs the centralized collection of all rental payments. Qualifications for the job include an associate's degree in a related work-related field or business training in secretarial sciences or three years' related experience in a money-handling environment is desirable. The starting salary for this position is \$17.50 per hour depending on qualifications. Resumes may be addressed to Brenda B. Smith, Executive Director, Dublin Housing Authority, PO Box 36, Dublin, GA, 31040. They may also be received via email to dhousing@dublinhousingauthority.net. Deadline for submittal is May 15, 2026.

The Dublin Housing Authority is an equal opportunity employer.

Director of Facility Maintenance

The Dublin Housing Authority is accepting resumes for the full-time position of Director of Facility Maintenance. The successful applicant must demonstrate key skills in the area of people management, budgeting, with a strong demonstration in communication and trouble shooting. The desired applicant must have experience in multi-family apartment management, property management or manufacturing/healthcare/education/real estate or educational facility management. An associate's degree in Facilities Management, Engineering, HVAC, electrical of related field or in these classes are a desired plus. Must possess a valid Georgia's driver's license; submit to pre-employment as well as random drug testing, and a criminal background check. The starting salary for this position is \$30.00 per hour depending upon qualifications. Resumes may be addressed to Brenda B. Smith, Executive Director, Dublin Housing Authority, PO Box 36, Dublin, GA, 31040. They may also be received via email at dhousing@dublinhousingauthority.net. Deadline for submittal is May 15, 2026.

The Dublin Housing Authority is an equal opportunity employer.

The Courier Herald

LOCAL MATTERS



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GET IN TOUCH

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GEORGIA TRUST for Local News

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Courtney Vessell/CIRCULATION MANAGER

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

All the things I used to worry about as a child

I like to think that I am a calm, relaxed person. No matter what life throws my way, I want to believe that, and I certainly do try, I can roll with the punches, as they say, and not let anything get me down.

Well, I have been lying to myself. While sometimes I handle the stress and uncertainty of life with the composure of a well-practiced monk or the most stoic of philosophers, clinging to the words of the old hymn, "I Know Who Holds Tomorrow," most of the time I am worried about something. In fact, you can call me a worrywart.

Even as a kid I could always find something to fret about, and like most worries, they never came to pass. I shudder to think of the hours wasted, staring into space or lying awake at night on time wasted thinking about things that really did not matter.

Now, as an adult facing the real struggles of life, like the rising cost of living; making sure my own children are taken care of; and trying to figure out the source of that new strange noise my car is making, it's fun to remember the things that worried younger me.

Here are some of them:

Quicksand: The world was allegedly full of this natural boobytrap, and there wasn't a children's book, cartoon or video game that didn't have the protagonist struggling to pull themselves free from a patch of quicksand. If you didn't act fast, a body could be sucked into the earth and never seen again, leaving only a hat comically floating on

'Don't worry, be happy'

THE NEW SOUTHERN DAD



By KYLE DOMINY

the surface.

Quicksand can occur in the United States, but typically only on beaches and coastal wetlands. While I've been stuck in the mud, walking or driving too close to a body of water, I've never seen or heard a credible account of quicksand.

Mad cow disease: In the early 1990s you could not turn on the news or pick up a newspaper without seeing something this strange ailment killing cows. As it turns out, if you feed a cow food made from other cows, which used to be a common practice, it could develop bovine spongiform encephalopathy, a deadly degenerative infection of the central nervous system.

The BSE crisis was mostly a European problem, but the effects were felt worldwide as people became afraid of eating possibly tainted beef. This, and the undercover reports on unsanitary conditions of meat processing and packing plants that were popular at the time, forced my parents to convince me that every hamburger set before me was fully cooked and safe for consumption. I wasn't the only person with that fear though. Remember when the Texas beef industry sued Oprah?

The hole in the ozone: Another fear established by sensational reports and children's programming. We should all be fried to a crisp by now thanks to Styrofoam coolers and hairspray releasing chemicals into the atmosphere that eat away at the Earth's natural barrier, the ozone layer, against the sun's harmful rays.

Captain Planet had me convinced that we were all doomed, but the ozone is on the mend and now the World Meteorological Organization predicts the ozone will be whole again in 40 years. As long as people don't go back to '80s hairstyles.

DIVA ON A DIME



Homemade curry roux transforms chicken and vegetables into a rich, comforting curry/SPECIAL PHOTO

How to make Japanese curry roux from scratch

By PATTI DIAMOND
King Features

Japanese curry is a "secret weapon" comfort food -- rich, savory and surprisingly simple to make at home. It tastes like it took hours, thanks to one simple shortcut.

First introduced in block form in 1956, Japanese curry roux is a blend of butter, flour and spices that melts into broth to create a thick, flavorful sauce -- the base of curry rice. Boxed versions snap apart like a chocolate bar and dissolve into meat and vegetables for a quick, comforting meal.

But here's the good news: That little block isn't magic. It's just seasoned roux, and you really can make it yourself.

This version uses familiar ingredients, no additives or preservatives, and is easy to adjust to your taste. It's simple and so easy you'll want to double it next time.

Your curry will only be as strong as the curry powder you choose. If it leans mild, the sauce will too. So don't be shy about tasting and adjusting with salt and pepper until it suits you.

smooth out as it cooks. Continue cooking for 12 to 15 minutes, until it turns golden brown and develops a warm, nutty aroma and texture similar to freshly ground peanut butter.

Stir in the curry powder until fully incorporated and fragrant. Remove from heat.

Use either small silicone molds or line a small container with parchment and spread the mixture evenly inside. (Warning: Curry stains plastic.) Smooth the top and lightly score into portions for easy use later. Cover and refrigerate until firm. Refrigerate up to 1 month or freeze for 3 to 4 months.

What to do now? Use whatever you have on hand -- chicken, pork, beef, vegetables, tofu, even beans -- and serve it over rice, noodles or potatoes. It's also delicious over fries, tucked into wraps or used to transform leftovers into a new meal.

IN A HURRY
"ANYTHING" CURRY
Yield: 4 servings
Total Time: 30 minutes

- 1 1/2 to 2 pounds of pork, chicken or tofu
- 1 tablespoon soy sauce
- 1 onion
- 2 bell peppers
- 2 to 4 cloves garlic
- 3 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1 cup green peas
- 4 cups broth or water
- 4 cups cooked rice

Cut the pork (or chicken, or anything) into bite-size cubes. Toss with soy sauce and set aside. Chop the onion and bell peppers, mince the garlic.

Heat 2-3 tablespoons of oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Add the pork (anything) and stir-fry for 2-3 minutes, until mostly cooked through. Work in batches if needed.

Add the onion and bell peppers. Cook for 3-5 minutes, then stir in the garlic and green peas.

Add the liquid and curry roux. Reduce heat to medium-low and cook, stirring, until the sauce is thick and smooth and everything is evenly coated.

Simmer for 5 minutes, adding a splash of water or broth if needed to reach

your desired consistency. Serve hot over rice.

With a batch of curry roux in your refrigerator, a comforting dinner is never far away.

Lifestyle expert Patti Diamond is the penny-pinching, party-planning, recipe developer and content creator of the website Divas On A Dime -- Where Frugal, Meets Fabulous! Visit Patti at www.divasonadime.com and join the conversation on Facebook at DivasOnADimeDotCom. Email Patti at divapatti@divasonadime.com

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By JACK BROWN

David A. Martin (1926 - 2008) 'Shenandoah'

David A. Martin was a Christian gentleman, friend, WWII veteran and a resident-patient at the Carl Vinson VA Medical Center in Dublin. I was his chaplain during his years at the VA. He loved the hymns of faith, and he especially loved the folk song "Shenandoah." We visited many times, and he was always present at the weekly music programs where I played songs of my harmonica for the veterans on the ward.

One July 11, 2008, Mr. Martin asked me, whenever the Lord called him home, if I would conduct his funeral and play a few Christian songs and "Shenandoah" during the service. I gladly consented to his request. He knew that his earthly life was running out and he was making his plans.

On Nov. 24, 2008, the day of his funeral in Hazelhurst, Georgia, I had the honor of conducting the service for my friend and playing some songs at his request, and they were: "Near the Cross," "Count Your Blessings" and "Shenandoah." Additionally, and at his gravesite, I played "Amazing Grace."

In closing this short essay, permit me to say a little more about David A. Martin and how much he meant to this chaplain. Because of his service in WWII, he was one of my heroes for I was just a boy growing up during those war years, and he was a dedicated Christian gentleman who had sung in a Gospel quartet for many years; he always attended the weekly chapel services; he was respected by other patients and the nursing staff; and, he was always thinking of others and spoke often of his late wife. Yes, I am a better man for having known this Christian gentleman and American military veterans.

"Shenandoah" has long been a favorite of mine, but this song now takes on a special meaning to me because of my friend David A. Martin.

Peace!

Moment of Inspiration

We Were Not Saved to Be Silent

"Go ye into the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."
Mark 16:15

Salvation is a gift we receive—but it is also a message we are called to share. Jesus did not save us so we could stay silent; He saved us so we could be witnesses of His grace and truth.

It can be easy to stay quiet—out of fear, uncertainty, or feeling unprepared. But the gospel is too powerful and too important to keep to ourselves. Someone around you needs to hear about the hope you have in Christ. You don't have to have all the answers. You just need a willing heart. Your story, your faith, and your voice can point others to Jesus. Today, ask God for boldness. Speak with love. Share with courage. Because we were not saved to be silent.

Prayer: Lord, give me boldness to share my faith. Help me not to stay silent, but to speak Your truth with love and courage. Amen.

Dr. Curt Lysaker, Pastor Shady Grove Baptist Church, East Dublin, GA
Pastors if you would like to share a devotional please email to: advertisingtch@gmail.com

Dublin GA

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HOMEMADE JAPANESE CURRY ROUX

Yield: About 1 1/2 cups (enough for 1 large pot of curry)

Total Time: 20 minutes + chilling

- 1/2 cup (1 stick) butter
- 1 tablespoon honey, optional, if desired
- 3/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/4 cup curry powder
- 1/2 teaspoon each salt and pepper

Melt the butter in a skillet over low heat. Stir in the honey (if using) until fully combined.

Add the flour and cook, stirring or whisking constantly. The mixture will look lumpy at first, then

CITY OF DUBLIN
POSTING DATE APRIL 27, 2026

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT CHAU THAO NGO HAS SUBMITTED AN APPLICATION FOR CONDITIONAL USE OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2103 VETERANS BLVD. SUITE 5, DUBLIN GEORGIA. PROPERTY WILL BE USED FOR A NAIL SALON AND TO ALLOW CONSUMPTION OF BEER AND WINE ON PREMISES.

THE CITY OF DUBLIN PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION WILL HOLD A MEETING TO VOTE IN FAVOR OF OR DENIAL OF THIS APPLICATION. THIS REQUEST WILL BE HEARD BY THE PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD ON MAY 12, 2026 AT 5:30 P. M. IN THE HENRY "BUD" HICKS JR MEMORIAL CHAMBER LOCATED IN CITY HALL IN DUBLIN GEORGIA. ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THIS MEETING TO GIVE YOUR COMMENTS ON THIS CONDITIONAL USE REQUEST.

Sharon Eveland, City Planner

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

Federal medicaid rules require one month of work

Some states seek tougher rules

By SAMANTHA LISS
KFF News Service

Millions of people who apply for Medicaid in the coming years will have to prove they've been working, going to school, or volunteering for at least a month before they can gain or retain health insurance through the government program.

But Republican lawmakers in some states think the new rules — part of the GOP's One Big Beautiful Bill Act, signed last July by President Donald Trump — don't go far enough.

Indiana is leading that charge, with a new law that requires applicants to prove they've been working or participating in a similar activity for three consecutive months to get benefits.

Meanwhile, residents in many other states will have to show they've been working just one month, the least cumbersome option under Trump's signature tax-and-domestic-spending law. It instructs states to decide whether to require one, two, or three months of work history.

As in Indiana, Republican Idaho lawmakers approved a three-month requirement, and the state's governor signed the bill into law on April 10.

The efforts, along with similar moves in Arizona, Missouri, and Kentucky, are aimed at restricting flexibility to implement the federal law at the state level.

"Normally, you would not see state legislators weighing in on these decisions," said Lucy Dagneau, a senior official with the American Cancer Society's advocacy arm.

The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office es-

timated 18.5 million adults will be subject to the new rules, which will be enforced across 42 states and the District of Columbia. In Indiana, work rules will target about 33% of the state's Medicaid population. The rules generally wouldn't apply to children, people 65 or older, or people with disabilities or serious health issues.

Typically, state administrators — not lawmakers — detail how they plan to comply with new federal standards, and they often look to federal regulators for guidance. But officials at the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services have yet to tell states how to comply with many aspects of the sweeping budget law, leaving state lawmakers to intervene.

Gov. Mike Braun, a Republican, signed the Indiana bill into law on March 4, making his state the first to set the Medicaid work requirement at three months — the longest period allowed under the federal law.

Republican state Sen. Chris Garten introduced a bill in January, saying it was needed to "align" state law with the new federal Medicaid rules. He also pitched the bill as a way to crack down on "waste, fraud, and abuse" in public programs.

When ineligible people get enrolled, it robs "the truly vulnerable Hoosier who actually needs the help," Garten said during a January committee hearing.

Democratic state Sen. Fady Qaddoura expressed skepticism during the hearing and questioned the necessity of the legislation. Qaddoura asked Indiana

Family and Social Services Administration Secretary Mitch Roob to provide an estimate of the number of ineligible people who enrolled in Medicaid in the state.

"I think very few," Roob replied. "It'll never be none."

After hearing Roob's answer, Qaddoura said there is no evidence of a widespread problem in Indiana. He accused Republicans of using waste, fraud, and abuse as justification to deny health benefits and food aid to vulnerable Hoosiers.

Garten later called Qaddoura's accusation a "fundamental mischaracterization" of the bill.

Republicans have said imposing these limits protects the Medicaid program's longevity.

"We believe in a safety net for our most vulnerable, not a hammock for able-bodied adults that choose not to work," Garten said. "By tightening these screws, we ensure that our safety net remains sustainable."

Indiana's Medicaid enrollment is expected to decrease because of Garten's legislation, according to an analysis from Indiana's nonpartisan Legislative Services Agency.

Medicaid helps keep people healthy, so they can continue to work, said Adam Mueller, executive director of the Indiana Justice Project, a nonpartisan legal advocacy organization focusing on health, housing, and food insecurity.

Mueller worries that people will struggle to prove their work history, especially those with nontraditional jobs.

"If the point is to get peo-

ple engaged, the one month would do it," Mueller said.

Ultimately, he fears the law will harm Hoosiers with the greatest need for assistance. "They're going to get tripped up by the bureaucratic hurdles."

An analysis by the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities predicted that work rules will impose new barriers to coverage and that how states choose to implement the rules will "significantly affect the number of people who lose coverage." State policy decisions will determine just "how intense the burden is," the left-leaning think tank found, and opting for a shorter look-back period "will enable more people to enroll."

Lawmakers in multiple states considered limits. And the same right-leaning lobbying group, the Foundation for Government Accountability, testified in favor of these measures in Arizona, Indiana, and Missouri.

In Missouri, FGA lobbyist James Harris said the measure intends to "move people from dependency and give them back that dignity and pride of work."

Missouri state Rep. Darin Chappell proposed requiring a three-month look-back period like the measure in Indiana. But the latest version of the bill he sponsored would require applicants to show they were working for only one month before enrolling.

Chappell, a Republican, said his initiative would encourage a "working mindset."

Anna Meyer, owner of a small bakery in Columbia, Missouri, said the implication is that she and others

on Medicaid are lazy. "I have been working since I was 15 years old," she said. "I'm 43 now."

Meyer, who voiced her opposition, said she previously had problems submitting information to the state Medicaid agency. She fears new reporting requirements will put her and others at risk of losing coverage, even if they meet the work rule.

She has fibromyalgia, a chronic condition that increases overall sensitivity to pain. She also has food allergies. Medicaid helps pay for medications and doctor visits that keep her healthy and allow her to keep working.

"I work very hard," Meyer said.

In St. Louis, Jessica Norton, an OB-GYN, treats many Medicaid patients at an Affinia Healthcare clinic. She said they struggle to remain insured even though Missouri extends a full year of Medicaid coverage to eligible women after they give birth. Some of her patients are inexplicably kicked off that coverage by the time of their checkups six weeks after birth. She fears red tape from the new work requirements will make it harder to hang on to insurance, even though pregnant women and new mothers are supposed to be exempt.

Norton criticized lawmakers for the message this policy sends to vulnerable patients. They are saying, "Oh, actually, health care is a privilege, and you have to earn it," she said.

Nearly two-thirds of adults ages 19 to 64 on Medicaid already work, according to KFF. The reason many of the remaining adults on Medicaid are not working is that they are re-

tired, serving as a caregiver, or too sick, KFF has found.

Some states are not only setting the strictest requirements but also blocking out the optional leniency built into the federal rules.

For example, states may adopt additional exemptions from work rules, such as allowing people to claim a "short-term hardship," designed to provide continued Medicaid coverage to people with medical conditions that prevent them from working.

Missouri lawmakers are seeking a constitutional amendment to bar their state from offering such optional exemptions. But patient advocates warn these limits would harm the state's vulnerable residents when they need coverage the most, particularly Missouri's rural cancer patients.

Often, rural Missouri patients must travel to Kansas City or St. Louis for treatment, disrupting their ability to work, Emily Kalmer, a lobbyist for the American Cancer Society's advocacy arm, testified at the January hearing. Recognizing this, the federal law provides certain exemptions for this kind of scenario.

But this short-term hardship exemption would be off the table in Missouri.

Time is "very important in the life of a cancer patient or a cancer survivor," Kalmer said.

KFF Health News is a national newsroom that produces in-depth journalism about health issues and is one of the core operating programs at KFF—an independent source of health policy research, polling, and journalism. Learn more about KFF.

Local Businessman and Former EMS Worker Launches Campaign Focused on Community Values



District 155 - Long before the noise of politics ever found him, Joe Powers was already learning what it meant to serve. Raised in a community where neighbors looked out for one another and hard work was simply expected, Joe grew up understanding that the strength of a town comes from the people willing to show up—day in and day out.

Joe's dad Randall, a door-to-door Electrolux Vacuum Cleaner salesman and his mom Betty, a waitress taught their kids important life lessons through the way they earned their living; you've got to be willing

to serve, relate to all people, and you must be able to meet people wherever they are. Those lessons shaped Joe and his older brother Randy to become inclusive, engaging and respectful men who gravitated into leadership because they understood both empathy and the value in respecting others.

That sense of confidence and discipline carried him into the classroom and onto the field. Joe continued his education while pursuing his passion for baseball, earning the opportunity to compete at the collegiate level at Newberry College and later at Piedmont College. As a student-athlete, he learned the value of teamwork, resilience, and accountability—early mornings, long practices, and the constant balance of academics and athletics helped shape the work ethic that defines him today.

But Joe's commitment to service didn't stop there. He went on to serve his community in public safety, working in Emergency Medical Services (EMS), where every call meant stepping into someone's worst moment and doing everything possible to make it better. Those experiences gave him a firsthand understanding of the challenges families face in times of crisis and the importance of dependable, well-supported healthcare and emergency services.

Professionally, Joe brings more than two decades of experience in media and communications. Over a 20+ year career, he led television operations including FOX 54 WXTX in Columbus, Georgia, and served as General Sales Manager at 41 NBC WMGT in Macon. He later oversaw operations across the state for COX Communications in Georgia for more than five years, managing teams and delivering results in a rapidly changing media landscape. Today, Joe is a business owner, operating his own digital media company and streaming radio station, where he's also known on the air as the "Voice of the Irish"—a role that keeps him closely connected to the community and the traditions that bring people together.

At home, Joe's purpose is even clearer. He and his wife, Jamie, are raising their two boys with the same values that shaped his own life—faith, hard work, and a commitment to others. Like so many families in District 155, they care deeply about the future of their community, their schools, and the opportunities available to the next generation.

Over time, Joe saw a growing disconnect between the decisions made in Atlanta and the real concerns of families back home. Conversations at kitchen tables, ball fields, and small businesses all pointed to the same truth: people wanted leadership that understood their lives, not one that spoke past them. That realization is what led him to run.

Today, Joe Powers is building a campaign rooted in service, accountability, and real connection to the people of District 155. Focused on strengthening education, supporting working families, and ensuring practical healthcare solutions, he isn't running to be a politician—he's running to be a true representative. Someone who listens, shows up, and fights every day for the people he's proud to call neighbors.

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IMPORTANT DELIVERY UPDATE

Dear Subscriber,

We want to inform you of an upcoming change to your newspaper delivery service. Beginning Tuesday, May 5th, your newspaper will be delivered through the mail rather than by home delivery.

This adjustment allows us to continue providing reliable service while adapting to changes in our delivery operations. You can expect your newspaper to arrive via the postal service on a consistent schedule.

We appreciate your understanding and continued support. Please call our office before May 5th to verify your correct mailing address. If you have any questions or concerns about this change, please do not hesitate to contact our customer service team at 478-272-5522.

Thank you for being a valued subscriber.

Sincerely,

The Courier Herald

Preservationists pressure chemical company for pledger against mining near Okefenokee

By TY TAGAMI
Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA — People who want to protect the Okefenokee delivered a petition with 26,000 signatures Wednesday to a company they fear might mine near the swamp, asking for a permanent pledge not to.

Last year, conservationists assembled about \$60 million to buy a stretch of land adjacent to the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge that was owned by a company with plans to harvest titanium dioxide, a mineral used to whiten everything from toothpaste to snacks.

The Conservation Fund may have neutralized one threat by acquiring Twin Pines Minerals' land, but environmentalists say it was

not the only property on Trail Ridge that could invite mining.

They have been targeting Chemours, which mines materials such as titanium dioxide to feed its global chemicals business and is active in the region.

"We know that interest in mining Trail Ridge persists even though the Okefenokee Swamp is too precious to risk for an abundant mineral that is used to make paint, toothpaste and Oreo filling white," Jennette Gayer, director of Environment Georgia, said in a statement Wednesday.

Her group and others delivered their petition to Chemours on Wednesday, Earth Day.

The company seemed unmoved.

A spokeswoman said a prior Chemours statement on the topic still stands.

In that 2022 statement, the company said it was committed to responsible mining with "thorough planning and design" to protect sensitive features, such as wetlands and groundwater. It said Chemours had no plans to mine on Trail Ridge because it had mineral flowing from enough other sites in Georgia and Florida to satisfy demand "well into the 2030s."

The statement also said Chemours had no intention of doing business with Twin Pines for five or 10 years, which became moot after the purchase by conservationists last year.

That absence of a new commitment disappointed

Josh Marks, president of Georgians for the Okefenokee.

"What has been so frustrating is that they want to preserve the option to extract and process minerals from the Okefenokee for toothpaste and junk food," he said by email.

He pointed to a 2024 article in The Current in which the owner of other land near the Okefenokee supported the idea of Chemours mining nearby.

Marks said Chemours' 2022 statement about safely mining is outdated given a study last year by the University of Georgia. Researchers there found more evidence that the Okefenokee is linked to an underlying aquifer and that drawing water from the aquifer

would effectively draw water from the swamp.

Twin Pines Minerals had contended that its plans to draw an average of 1.4 million gallons of water a day from the aquifer would not harm the swamp.

Environmentalists say lowering the aquifer would wreak havoc on a rich ecosystem that is among the best preserved blackwater wetlands in the world and home to endangered and threatened species.

They also say mining

could harm a part of the swamp that will soon be open to visitors.

The Georgia Department of Natural Resources was awarded \$7 million from a stewardship fund to buy nearly 4,000 acres of the land that The Conservation Fund purchased from Twin Pines, according to Environment Georgia.

The land will be part of a new Wildlife Management Area that will open to the public next year.

Kemp declares state of emergency for more than half of state

By TY TAGAMI
Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA — An extended spell of dry weather has led to major wildfires in South Georgia, prompting Gov. Brian Kemp to declare a state of emergency covering more than half the state.

Kemp's order on Wednesday covers 91 of Georgia's 159 counties. It

will be in effect for 30 days and includes a ban on burning yard debris and agricultural material there.

"With much of Georgia remaining in extreme drought conditions, wildfires have already surpassed the state's 5-year average and continue to spread," Kemp said in a statement.

The Federal Emergency

Management Agency approved assistance grants for two locations: the Pine-land Road Fire in Clinch and Echols Counties and the Highway 82 Wildfire in Brantley County.

"We are praying for the families who have lost their homes in these devastating conditions, as well as for the first responders working

around the clock," Kemp said.

For current wildfire information and emergency updates, visit gates.org/current-wildfire-information-and-resources/. For a map of active fires and response, visit georgiafire-response.com/public/

FROM THE RECORD

Liens: Ginger Lynell Hasty to First Franklin Financial; Gwendolyn Hall to American Express National Bank; Marvin McNatt & Robin Lawhord to H&S Financial Inc.; Dublin 1507 LLC to Georgia Department of Revenue; Dublin 1507 LLC; Georgia Department of Revenue; Proverbs Power to Georgia Department of Revenue; Andrew Griggs Capital One NA; Kathy Mitchell to Credit Acceptance Corporation; Andrea Arthur to Mariner Finance LLC; Jo Ann Denson to credit Acceptance Corporation; Joe Maus Dublin CDJR LLC to Associated Credit Union; Cynthia Fitch to First Portfolio Ventures II LLC; Michael Medina to JP Morgan Chase Bank NA; William M Ussery to Capital City Bank; Curtis Davis Family Farm LLC to Nutrien AG Solutions Inc.

Veterans United Loans to Secretary of Veterans Affairs; Horse Shoe Rentals LLC to Lioguardo Ruiz Enriquez; Jonathan Chadwick Wheeler and Donella M. Peacock nka Donella M. Wheeler to Justin Stewart Construction LLC

Security deed: Christopher Thomas Graham and Olivia Graham to Farmers State Bank; Jacqueline Sue Smith to Citizens Bank of The South; Lauren Kathleen Smith Bush and Austin Harold Bush to Georgia

First Bank; Built by Walker LLC to Farmers State Bank; Donald R. Russell and Lou Ann Russell to Plaza Home Mortgage Inc.; Brittany Sue Williams and Joshua Cole Deason to The Four County Bank; Prime Farms LLC to Farmers State Bank; Peggy Pope Hodges to Bank of Dudley; Thomas Sluck to Morris Bank; Carla R. Baggett to Community Bank of Dublin-Laurens County; Brent Allen Mayo and Donna Marie Mayo to Guaranteed Rate Inc.; Joshua Tray Platt to PennyMac

Loan Services LLC; Donald Rossman Carswell to First Laurens Bank; K&J Services LLC to Citizens Bank of Laurens County; Hannah M. McCroan and William Keith McCroan to Lakeview Loan Servicing LLC; Rodney G. McNamara to Robins Financial Credit Union

Local 7-day Forecast:

The next 48 hours:

SATURDAY:
85° Intervals of clouds and sunshine with a thunderstorm in spots.
Sunrise: 6:51 a.m.

SATURDAY NIGHT:
60° An evening thunderstorm in a couple of spots, partly cloudy.
Sunset: 8:09 p.m.

SUNDAY:
86° Variable cloudiness with a thunderstorm in spots in the afternoon.
Sunrise: 6:50 a.m.

SUNDAY NIGHT:
58° Partly cloudy.
Sunset: 8:09 p.m.

Monday 4/27 HIGH/LOW 83/57 Less humid with times of clouds and sun. Sunrise: 6:49 a.m. Sunset: 8:10 p.m.	Tuesday 4/28 HIGH/LOW 85/63 Mostly cloudy. Sunrise: 6:48 a.m. Sunset: 8:11 p.m.	Wednesday 4/29 HIGH/LOW 81/62 Mostly cloudy; a couple of showers in the morning followed by a thunderstorm. Sunrise: 6:47 a.m. Sunset: 8:11 p.m.	Thursday 4/30 HIGH/LOW 85/63 Mostly cloudy. Sunrise: 6:46 a.m. Sunset: 8:12 p.m.	Friday 5/1 HIGH/LOW 82/57 Clouds and breaks of sun; humid with a thunderstorm. Sunrise: 6:45 a.m. Sunset: 8:13 p.m.
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River levels...
Oconee (at Dublin) 1.52'
Ocmulgee (at Macon) 5.92'

Warranty deed: Debra R. Munoz to Christopher Thomas Graham and Olivia Graham; Jill Carole Justice to Jacqueline Sue Smith; Austin Bush aka Austin Harold Bush to Lauren Kathleen Smith Bush and Austin Harold Bush; Country Lots LLC fka Cardinal Land Company LLC to Heather C. Wagner; R. Clark Development Inc. to Built by Walker LLC; William Lee Whitaker, Jan. W. Lake, Wanda W. Hicks, Linda W. Ronnin and Candi W. Pharis to JBP Dub LLC; K and C Real Estate LLC to Silver Cedar LLC; AAA Cadwell LLC to Donald Russell and Lou Ann Russell; Walter Gene Wood to Christopher Scott Wood; Brittany Sue Williams and Joshua Cole Deason to The Four County Bank; Prime Farms LLC to Farmers State Bank; Peggy Pope Hodges to Bank of Dudley; Chelsea Shea Holland to William Casey Holland; Deborah J. Bush to Carla P. Delossantos and Randy S. Delossantos; Country Lots LLC to Cora Nantzbyrd; Clarks & Hayes Development Corporation to William A. Frost; Johnnie Moses Smith to Schroer Development LLC; Donald Lee Carswell to Donald Rossman Carswell; Cedar Grove Veterans Club Inc. to Anthony Lee Malott; Wilkes Rental Property LLC to K&J Services LLC; Susie D. Maddox aka Sue Maddox to Joshua E. Cooper; Mortgage Research Center LLC dba

Cedar Grove Methodist Church
Rev. Dr. Jerry Roe, Pastor

Homecoming
Sunday, May 3, 2026 at 11:00 AM

In Concert
New Day



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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!

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Dublin Police Department

- Tanner Hale Wimberley, 29, was charged with disorderly conduct at Crooked Finger Brewery on South Jefferson Street around 12:35 a.m. on April 12.

Officers responded to the business in reference to a man wearing a black shirt, blue jeans and boots trying to fight someone at the restaurant.

The officer arrived and saw a man matching the description given by dispatch arguing with someone on the patio outside of the restaurant. The officer attempted multiple times to calm down the man in order to investigate what happened.

The officer told the man many times to turn around and talk to the officers on the scene, but he refused to co-operate with them. The man, later identified as Wimberley, was severely



POLICE BEAT...

intoxicated and could not stand up on his own without assistance. Wimberley was hollering profanity, calling both officers on the scene names.

He was arrested and transported to the Laurens County Detention Center. Once there, Wimberley did not comply with the jail staff or the other officers. He was placed into the medical holding cell.

The manager at Crooked Finger Brewery advised officers that she wanted Wimberley to be criminally trespassed from the restaurant. He also refused to sign the criminal trespass paper.

- Bridavia Fields, 25,

was charged with theft by deception at Walmart on Highway 80 West around 1:40 p.m. on April 10.

An officer met with the complainant and Fields. The officer saw what appeared to be the complainant attempting to verbally stop Fields from leaving the store. The officer asked both to enter into the store to see what the issue was about.

The complainant said Fields was returning items that were not purchased for a gift card with no receipt of the supposedly returned items. Fields removed the items from the shelf, placed them in the buggy and took

the items to customer service where she "returned" the items for a gift card, despite never making the purchase.

The officer talked with Fields who said she had previously purchased printer ink that she wanted to return and was later addressed by the complainant that she was stealing as she was exiting the store. Fields said she went to the back to check the prices and that she had the items in her pockets the whole time. Officers saw the footage of Fields appearing to grab items from the shelves, placed them in the buggy and went to customer service where she made the exchange with no receipt and received a gift card.

The employee wanted Fields trespassed from the store.

She was transported to the Laurens County Jail.

- Charlotte Elizabeth Toler, 40, was charged with

theft by shoplifting at Dollar General, on South Jefferson Street around 9:34 a.m. on April 11.

An officer arrived at the store and met with an employee who stated that she observed Toler grab two items and walk to the area of the store where the camera could not capture what she was doing. The employee said that when she approached Toler, she placed one of the items in her bag and had opened the package to the second item.

The total price for both items was \$20.47. The officer arrested Toler and transported her to the police department where she was fingerprinted and released on citation. Toler was trespassed indefinitely for Dollar General on South Jefferson Street.

Laurens County Sheriff's Office

- On April 7, around 3:30 p.m., the deputy made con-

tact with a woman in reference to a theft that happened on Wingate Drive in Rentz.

- A deputy talked with a woman about a stolen vehicle on Rose Avenue that happened between Feb. 23 and April 2.

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.

I am the one who is proud of not having to pay the \$2,300 in taxes the next time the taxes are due. What I have to say about the person who's taxes is \$3,594.32, more power to you. I hope you laugh all the way to the bank.

The school will be let out in less than 60 days. So why, would the superintendent of schools continue letting the board and the staff who is there, keep hiring people? They have hired a new financial director. Are they qualified to do that after all of this?

When I get off for work I have to go straight across town. If I don't get into the inside lane to turn left five miles up the road, that means I have to get in the other lane, turn my blinkers on and look in my mirrors to get over. That's too much work.

Here's you a sweet

one. You ready? Have you ever seen a butthole wrapped in plastic? Look at your driver's license.

From a former Dublin City School teacher, I know they were stealing money from our paychecks. Ask any of us who have been fired or who have left.

Get rid of the Dublin City School board. All of them ... even the new one who promised to clean house! We need a fresh start!

The newly renovated park at Hilburn is so nice, but why are there so many kids out there during school hours? Are they not in school?

I think the next time someone hits a deer in Laurens County, they should sue the county or the city if they are in the city. If we own livestock we are responsible if it gets out and hurts somebody's car. The popula-



TELL IT!

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tion of the deer needs to be decreased. Sue them if you have to.

This is going on the third week with yard debris sitting by the street in our neighborhood. We are having to walk, drive, navigate, dodge, etc. the piles to make it to our homes. Do something!

The new paving on Evergreen looks good and rides even better. The cherry on top would be a road name sign for Evergreen at Mt. Olive Road. We've been asking one for long enough.

Can someone tell us why there are constantly two refrigerated big trucks parked side by side in the Kroger parking lot? This

should be investigated. McVeigh used a Ryder truck in Oklahoma City. Think!

Mrs. Pool states they had an almost perfect review in 2023. That review was based on complete lies and false information. Don't act like that was a credible review.

Mrs. Pool keeps making statements like "we are working hard - making progress" but never wants to be realistic about the issues. Where are we in the new superintendent search? Time for her to go.

Can we please bring in a new board and new superintendent? This crew just says the same old things and same old games being

played. And boot the HR director too. She did all the extra hiring.

There is nothing authentic about a Dublin City school board meeting. I can't stand to listen to them anymore.

So Moore Street will have to have certified teachers but the regular schools don't have to? Please make all this crap make sense.

Please just remove the board. How long are we going to play their games again - no transparency, decisions made in the interest of "elite" kids and no responsibility for the mess they made.

Mrs. Pool needs to go

and we need a real superintendent with experience and one that wasn't groomed under Fred Williams.

The board votes are a joke. It's the haves against the have nots. We know the agenda of the four yes voters. They are scared to lose the top elite kids.

NEWS DIGEST

The Town of Cadwell will hold a council meeting on Monday, May 11 at 7 p.m. at the Cadwell Town Hall. The agenda follows:

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



Bridal Registry

Katie Adcock & Rob Foskey	Kate Melvin & Jared Renshaw
Sara Andrews & Holby Holmes	Kayla Odom & Dawson Arrington
Jordan Ashcraft & Carson Brown	Logan Oliver & Logan Thompson
Danni Barwick & Chaise Donaldson	Kayley Perry & Michael Magee
Charlene Bracewell & Jacob Clark	Emma Powell & Andrew Dukes
Michaela Brooks & Austen Crews	Lillian Reece & Hunter Waldrep
Avery Burchfield & Whit Mason	Olivia Rogowski & Devin Dollar
Madelyn Chance & Cameron Thompson	Kiley Paige (K.P.) Smith & Carson Estep
Taylor Cobb & Drew Anglin	Victoria Smith & Jordan Difazio
Ally Jo Fordham & Ryan Carlisle	Annabelle Veal & Logan Jolicoeur
Kaylee Gilmer & Brian Schaade	Carson Veal & Sam Williamson
Carmen Graham & Joseph Glenn	Lindsey Whitesides & Jon Barron
Rebekah Graham & Landon Thompson	Emma Kate Williams & Dallas Pettus
Anna Green & Madison Bramlett	Hannah Woods & Cameron Taylor
Mikayla Hardman & Wilson Brantley	
Camille Hatchett & Matthew Thompson	
Sydney Hayes & Landon Ott	
Kathryn Heard & Timothy Lake, Jr.	
Audra Howard & Chase Lightner	
Bailee Horne & Jerrett Alligood	
Molly Hutto & Trace Woodard	
Alston Kirk & John Harkins	
Krista Lee & Trevor Shewmaker	
Hannah McDaniel & Reese Chatman	
Katlyn McIntyre & Mason Torrance	



BABY Registry

Bailey & Chase Price
 Victoriana & Andrew Freeman
 Morgan & Gunnar Weger
 Rebecca & Noah Hester

Colleen's China & Collectibles

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 478-272-6767
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Annie

APRIL 23-25

THEATRE DUBLIN

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APR 24, 7 PM

APR 25, 2 PM & 7 PM

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GHSA SOCCER PLAYOFFS

Raiders, on a run...

WL's girls, boys get some postseason traction with first-round wins over Bainbridge, Howard

By CLAY REYNOLDS
Sports Editor

Wednesday's second of back-to-back playoff wins, at separate sites on separate nights, had West Laurens head soccer coach Nate Smith racking his brain to recall if, and how long ago, both the school's girls and boys teams had ever won a state playoff game in the same year.

The girls defeated Bainbridge 1-0 on Tuesday, and the boys Howard by a 3-0 final Wednesday, to make some likely history (recent, at least) in advancing together to next week's round of 16.

Though the two programs have had their separate playoff runs – the deepest for the girls back under head coach Colby Taylor over a decade and a half ago, and the boys' just a few years back with their first trip to the quarters in 2022 – few, if any, have occurred simultaneously.

That footnote, along with two distinct postseason victories that experience has proven tough to earn even with the best of teams, made both the week's results especially satisfying.

"We've been knocked out early the last couple years, so it's nice," Smith said. "To me, in this kind of tournament, you win one game and you've made a little run... It's nice to win the first one. It makes you feel like you belong. When you get bounced in the first one, it's a tough pill to swallow."

Howard's boys didn't let any of the eight matches it lost this year get away by any margin bigger than three goals. So it was fitting that the same number decided Wednesday night's rematch, as the Huskies once again lived up to a season-long reputation for being tough to put away that held true both times the Raiders faced them in the regular season.

They used a tiebreaking goal with about three minutes to go to win the first go-round 2-1 at The SHU Feb. 12. Last month, West Laurens won in slightly more convincing fashion, but still needed a trifecta in the second half to seal its 3-1 victory in Macon.

Howard, which finished outside the region's top four but qualified at-large to gain the 30th of 32 seeds in the bracket, hung around until near the end in this one as well by playing some more of the pesky defense that kept the Raiders from shaking them off in either of the first two games, confirming why the once-beaten 4-AAA champions were less than thrilled to draw a rematch in their postseason debut.

"For us, it's really all about the tempo of the game. If we can get tempo, that helps," Smith said. "That's one of the things that they're really good at taking away is our tempo. We tried to do a few different attacking styles that worked, but we didn't capitalize on it too much. Some of it was just straight



DRIVING HOME THE DAGGER: Dalton Oxford (23) celebrates putting West Laurens in front by a score of 3-0 with 20 minutes to go, on a shot (below) that dismissed the last of Wednesday's comeback chances for a Howard team that was notoriously tough for the Raiders to finish off all season/CLAY REYNOLDS

hustle, too.

"They're a good team. To have to play them a third time kind of sucked."

But the unyielding Raiders found ways to capitalize at more of the key moments, starting with the break, and breakthrough, they were waiting for late in the first half. The rest of the night, continuing with two add-on goals in the early part of the second, proceeded ever more gradually in their direction.

Howard had its square wheels on to keep the cart from getting anywhere quickly as it stacked defenders deep on the back end to start the match, and dug in hard to weather one of the fiercest West Laurens sieges of the night for about 15 minutes following their early sortie into the home half just off the opening kick.

The Huskies' determination to give nothing up easily was so resolute that their midfielder Waki Kiza – in one instance – would voice frustration at having to send a throw-in toward his own goal with no teammates willing to yield their position to run upfield after the Raiders lost a ball out of bounds.

Howard goalkeeper Eduardo Leiva secured or knocked away most every airborne ball that was up for heads in the box off of crosses, corners or throws.

West Laurens likely credited its best chances to some situations in which it lured the Huskies' back liners upfield in hopes of drawing an offside flag on the inevitable long passes to speedsters who timed things up perfectly, but were off the mark on shots that mostly flew high and rattled the football goalposts.

The Huskies were on track to keep the board blank through the half, and would have if not for a hiccup with about 10 minutes to go.

A simple oversight opened the door wide for the Raiders as Leiva handled a routine save, and – assuming the coast was clear – dropped the ball with intent to kick it away



without noticing a late-closing West Laurens defender who charged in with designs on pulling a fast one.

Leiva, in a bind, opted to dive and cover the ball back up, inadvertently committing soccer's equivalent of a double-dribble.

"The keeper can't grab it, drop it and then pick it up again all in the same motion," Smith said. "It's got to touch somebody else in between the two things."

The situation resulted in a rarely seen free kick from point-blank range, as officials – following a short conference to confirm that a Raider had not in fact touched the ball – placed it at the spot of the violation near the penalty kick hash.

Howard, which was free to obstruct the shooting line, arranged every defender possible a step in front of the goal. But the Raiders found an easy solution to the puzzle by tapping the ball a few yards to the side with their initial touch to create alternate angle for Yearwood, who thumped it straight in.

The Huskies continued to play unrelenting defense, and put several shots on goal that West Laurens keeper R.T. Gilder (in for a recently banged-up Clyde Warren) took care of with no problem in a balanced first few minutes out of the halftime retreat.

But the Raiders got it back down to the other end in no time to resume their regular

RAIDERS

Continued on page 8

Falcons blanked at Bremen, Fitzgerald

From STAFF REPORTS

Tuesday and Wednesday were each long nights for East Laurens' soccer teams, which came up on the wrong end of shutouts in the first round of the GHSA playoffs.

Doubly so for the Lady Falcons (8-11, 5-3 region 2-High A) when you add a more than three-hour ride to and from Bremen to the roughly 76 minutes of match time that were dominated by the 7th seeded Blue Devils, a winner 10-0.

Lorin Rice scored four times to pace an array of frequent scorers, while Daylee and Dalanie Sheets added a pair of goals each to the tally, which had Bremen in front 7-0 by halftime.

The home team backed off the throttle a bit out of halftime, but failed to allow an East Laurens score before ending the match with its 10th a few minutes before full time.

10th seed Bleckley County, a winner over Dade County in round 1, will visit Bremen next week.

The Eastside boys fell to Dodge County by similar margins as it went to Eastman for a rematch of a regular-season loss to the Indians that had only a goal's difference.

The Falcons, who scored just once to break serve against Dodge on their own home field March 20, trailed only 1-0 through a half of Wednesday's battle.

But the Indians struck three times down the stretch to add on, and pull away to the 4-0 win. They advance to challenge Armuchee in the second round as East Laurens finishes 9-9 overall (4-3 region).

EL, WL slip up in early rounds of slowpitch tourney

From STAFF REPORT

Early-round losses cut short this week's appearances for East and West Laurens slowpitch softball teams in Woodstock at the GHSA state tournament.

Both were eliminated before the end of the opening stage of the eight-team competition, which would ultimately crown Creekview High School as champion, after being sent to the loser's bracket in their first games of the day.

Cherokee handed the Lady Falcons a 12-1 loss, as Jefferson got the best of the Lady Raiders 9-4.

West would go on to pick up a 12-0 victory over Colquitt County later in the morning to stay alive, but both would ultimately face elimination... East at the hands of Franklin County, 14-1, and the Lady Raiders in a 5-4 heartbreaker against Richmond Hill.

Trinity sweeps Vidalia Heritage, falls to FPD

From STAFF REPORTS

Trinity's soccer teams rattled off two more big wins, and came up a bit short against a pair of quality non-region foes, as they began a final homestand of the regular season Tuesday and Thursday.

The Crusaders swept Vidalia Heritage to improve their region records Tuesday night, but fell in two competitive matches with FPD on Thursday, to send them into their last week of the schedule – which includes just one game more apiece against Central Fellowship Monday night.

Addie Kendrick racked up four goals, and Chloe Rozier added three, for the bulk of the scoring in the girls' 8-1 victory over VHA. Abby Gillis added a solo goal, with Sarah Grace Todd registering the only mark on an otherwise clean Trinity defensive sheet.

A late-first half landslide of goals for FPD got the Lady C's (12-3, 10-1 region) a little too far down, by a count of 3-0, at halftime. Maddy George's goal with about 25 minutes left in the match, mirrored by one more by the Vikings in the remaining time, made for a 4-1 final score.

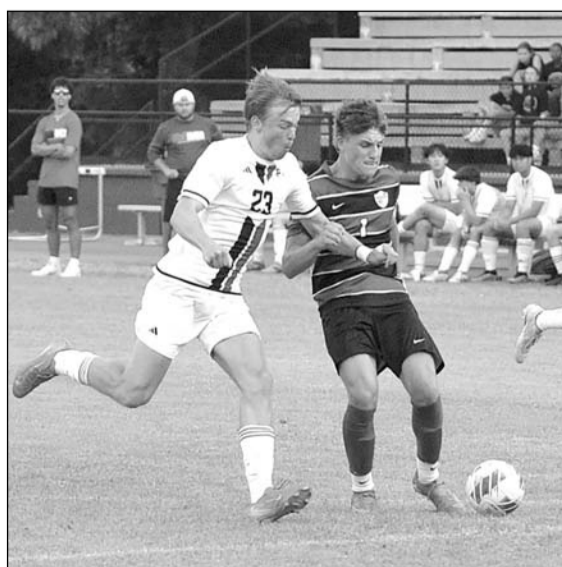
The Trinity boys (9-4-1, 8-1 region) also hammered Heritage to close out Tuesday's sweep, scoring five times in the first half and four in the second. The Crusaders spread the love offensively. Jagger George was its only scorer with two goals. Everybody else – Josh Mosley, Hudson Shirley, Matthew Kitchen, Zane Milburn, Jace Bellflower, Brooks Barrs and Parker Smith – got in on the action with one apiece.

A second-half FPD goal was the slight difference in a nip-and-tuck match, marked by some physical defense, that went for the Vikings 2-1 Thursday night.

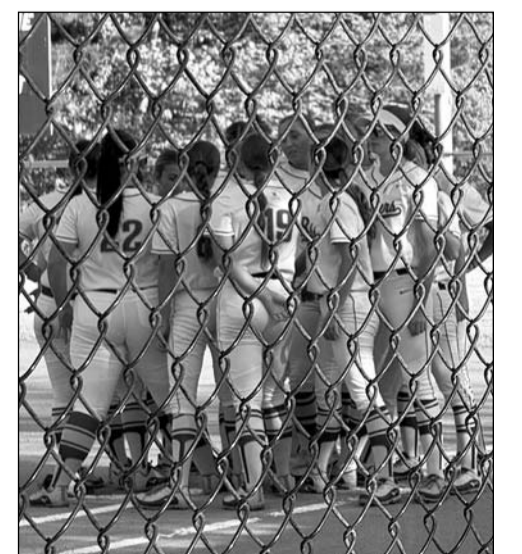
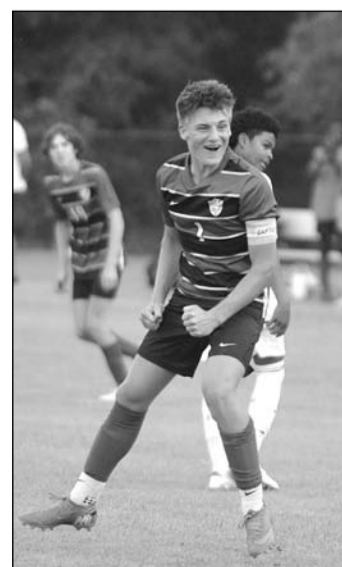
They struck first via Dominic Economopolous midway through the first half, before George nailed a gorgeous shot into the top right corner above a tough-to-threaten FPD keeper Breck Griffin, to even it at 1s going to halftime.



MARK UP!: Brinley Vinson (9, left) and Maddy George (3, right) play some D for the Lady Crusaders late in Thursday's second half/CLAY REYNOLDS



BEATING HIM TO THE KICK: Jagger George (1) was only a quarter of a step ahead of FPD defender Luke Judah (23) on this race to the ball, but got off a shot that evened the match for Trinity late in the first half/CLAY REYNOLDS



READY FOR ACTION: The West Laurens slowpitch softball team huddles just before one of their games at the GHSA state tournament Wednesday morning/SPECIAL PHOTO

SCOREBOARD

GIRLS SOCCER
 Thursday
 FPD 4, Trinity 1

BOYS SOCCER
 Wednesday
 Dodge Co. 4, East Laurens 0
 West Laurens 3, Howard 0

Thursday
 FPD 2, Trinity 1

GIRLS TENNIS
 Tuesday
 Armuchee 5, EL 0

Wednesday
 WL 4, West Hall 1

BOYS TENNIS
 Wednesday
 WL 5, Dougherty 0

Wednesday
 Swainsboro 3, EL 0

Thursday
 Fannin Co. 3, Dublin 0

SLOWPITCH SOFTBALL
 Wednesday
 Cherokee 12, EL 1
 Jefferson 9, WL 4
 WL 12, Colquitt Co. 0
 Franklin Co. 14, EL 1
 Richmond Hill 5, WL 4

PREP SCHEDULE

SOCCER
 Tuesday
 Central Fellowship at Trinity/5 p.m.

GHSB Playoffs, Round 2
 Heritage (Ringgold) at West Laurens (girls) /5:30 p.m.

Wednesday
GHSB Playoffs, Round 2
 Peach Co. at WL (boys) /6 p.m.

BASEBALL
 Friday
GHSB Playoffs, Round 1 (doubleheaders)
 Gilmer at WL/4 p.m.
 EL at Fitzgerald/Jasper Co. at Dublin/5 p.m.

Saturday
 Tallulah Falls at Trinity /2 p.m.

GHSB Playoffs, Round 1 (Game 3s, if necessary)
 Gilmer at WL/11 a.m.
 Jasper Co. at Dublin /12 p.m.
 EL at Fitzgerald/TBD

TENNIS
GHSB Playoffs, Round 2
 TBD
 TBD at WL (girls)
 Spalding at WL (boys)

GOLF
Monday
 Trinity at GIAA State Tournaments (Boys: Eatonton; Girls: Hawkinsville)

Tuesday
 WL at GHSB Area Tournament (Georgia Southern GC Statesboro)

BULLETIN BOARD...

10th Raider Rumble set for May 9 at Green Acres
 The West Laurens golf team is hosting its 10th annual Raider Rumble tournament Saturday, May 9 at Green Acres Golf Club. The four-man scramble is \$100 per player, and \$400 per team. There are no extra fees and lunch is included. Cash prizes will be awarded to winners in two flights. There will also be a longest drive and closest-to-the-pin contests and raffle drawing. Registration at 8 a.m. Shotgun start at 9. For more information, contact Green Acres at (478) 875-3110 or greenacresgolf@gmail.com.

RACING THIS WEEK...

O'REILLY RECAP

• Saturday's KANSAS LOTTERY 300, Kansas Speedway



WINNER: TAYLOR GRAY

The early bird got the victory on Saturday night.

The first of the frontrunners to pit during the final 95-lap green-flag run in the Kansas Lottery 300, Taylor Gray grabbed the lead during the cycle and held off charging Sheldon Creed to score the second O'Reilly Auto Parts Series victory of his career.

Crew chief Jason Ratcliff, who won at Kansas with driver David Green in 2003, called Gray into the pits on Lap 143 of 200. Creed and Brandon Jones, running first and second on Lap 146, emerged from pit road after stops on Lap 147 three seconds behind Gray.

Jones, winner of the first two stages, had to serve a pass-through penalty for a tire violation during his stop and lost the chance to win. But Creed, with Justin Allgaier behind him in third, began a pursuit of Gray that ultimately came up 0.718 seconds short.

"How about Jason Ratcliff?" Gray exclaimed after climbing from his No. 54 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota. "That pit call was awesome. We had a car capable of winning. I thought the 20 (Jones) was a little better than us before the green-flag cycle started, but we just had to stay locked in, and we had to be a little bit freer."

"Jason made a really good adjustment on the car and a really good pit call and got us in clean air. It's been a long start to the year, man—not that we're not bringing speed to the race track. It's just that things haven't really gone our way. So it's nice to finally be able to close one out."

Gray gained three positions to ninth in the series standings.

As it turned out, Creed also had plenty of reasons to celebrate. By finishing first among four eligible drivers, he earned a \$100,000 Dash 4 Cash bonus for the first time in his career. It was Creed's fifth attempt to win the Dash 4 Cash prize money.

Allgaier came home third, followed by defending series champion Jesse Love and Brent Crews. William Byron, Cole Custer, Jones, Sam Mayer and Ryan Sieg completed the top 10 in a race that featured 11 lead changes among eight drivers.

Allgaier finished third in both stages and added one point to his series lead over second-place Creed. The margin is now 131 points.

The race wasn't two laps old when an accident on the backstretch launched the No. 1 JR Motorsports Chevrolet of Carson Kvapil into the air and sent it flipping down the backstretch.

Contact from Byron's Chevy turned Kvapil's car sideways near the front of the field. Parker Retzlaff's piled into Kvapil's car near the outside wall. The impact knocked the rear of Kvapil's Camaro airborne, and the car proceeded to barrel-roll down the backstretch, coming to rest on its roof.

With the use of tethers and a tow truck, workers righted the car, and Kvapil climbed out before a mandatory trip to the infield care center.

Gray, Creed, Allgaier and Love qualified for the third Dash 4 Cash race of the season, Saturday's Ag-Pro 300 at Talladega Superspeedway.

ADVENT HEALTH 400

Sunday's winner Tyler Reddick is the first driver since Dale Earnhardt in 1987—and fourth all-time—to win five of the first nine races of a season in NASCAR's top division. His series lead increased to 105 points over Denny Hamlin.



Tyler Reddick, driver of the #45 Supply House Toyota, takes the checkered flag to win the Cup Series AdventHealth 400 at Kansas Speedway on Sunday. (Sean Gardner/Getty)

Reddick handles his way to sweet OT win

KANSAS CITY, Kan.—Tyler Reddick scraped the outside wall in the closing laps. His fuel system stumbled at a critical moment. He collided with fellow Toyota driver Christopher Bell in overtime. He fell behind defending Cup Series champion Kyle Larson on the final restart.

Yet, in a magical season for the driver of the No. 45 23XI Racing Toyota, Reddick won Sunday's AdventHealth 400 at Kansas Speedway in spite of all the adversity.

The catalyst was Cody Ware's spin on Lap 266, the penultimate circuit of the scheduled regulation distance. That incident caused the third caution of the race one lap after Denny Hamlin had retaken the lead from Reddick, who switched to pump 2 after the car sputtered with two laps left.

Ware's spin sent the race to OT, and all 16 cars on the lead lap came to pit road for tires, with Hamlin, Reddick, Larson, Christopher Bell, Bubba Wallace and five cars behind them taking right-side tires only.

Moments after the overtime restart on Lap 273, Larson steered to the inside of Hamlin on the bottom row and charged into the lead. Reddick fell back after his contact with Bell's Toyota forced Bell into the outside wall.

But the outside lane opened up for Reddick, whose handling was superior to Larson's in the overtime. Reddick mustered a huge run in the top lane, then drove to the inside of Larson's Chevrolet, which tightened up on corner entry.

Reddick cleared Larson through the final two corners and crossed the finish line 0.118 seconds ahead of the reigning champion.

"Just really blessed with the late caution," said Reddick, who won for the fifth time this season, the second time at Kansas and the 13th time in his career. "Was that nuts or what? I couldn't believe it."

"I mean, first off, I feel like I have to say obviously just for how I feel. I never like being on the inside of it—really hate that for Christopher Bell. Good, hard racing. The 11 (Hamlin) came up. I mean, I took off tight. Not thrilled I got Christopher there. I hate that for him because he was having a good, solid day."

"Man, these late race restarts get crazy. I obviously had a run on the 5 (Larson). I was shocked I was able to get to his inside there."

An incredible SupplyHouse Toyota Camry all day long."

Reddick is the first driver since Dale Earnhardt in 1987—and fourth all-time—to win five of the first nine races of a season in NASCAR's top division. His series lead increased to 105 points over second-place Hamlin, who won the first stage.

NBA Hall of Famer Michael Jordan, who co-owns 23XI Racing with Hamlin, was elated with the victory.

"This kid is on fire," said Jordan, who has witnessed all five of Reddick's victories this season in person. "I don't know how I can ever cool him down. He is unbelievable. Unbelievable last couple laps. I'm proud of the whole team."

Larson, who led 78 laps and won the second stage, executed the overtime restart to perfection but couldn't hold the lead.

"I got to the lead, and I thought I could cruise right there to the checkered flag, but my balance on two tires was just super, super tight," said Larson, whose winless streak grew to 33 races. "I didn't get through (Turns) 3 and 4 fast enough, and then the No. 45 (Reddick) had such a big run on me from behind."

"I thought I could go to the top to get some load into my front tires, but it still didn't turn there. That was a bummer, but just overall happy with the day we had."

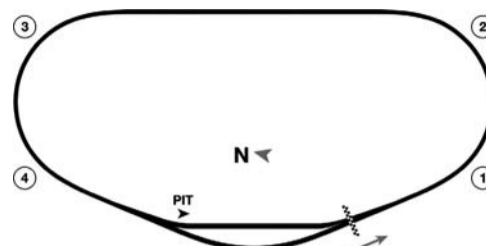
Chase Briscoe finished third on four new tires, with Hamlin and Wallace running fourth and fifth, respectively. Brad Keselowski, William Byron, Chase Elliott, Ty Gibbs and Chris Buescher completed the top 10.

Bell, who led 47 laps, spun coming to the white flag in overtime and finished 20th. Hamlin led a race-high 131 laps and was positioned for the victory until Ware's spin.

"I mean, obviously it's not winning," Hamlin said of the way the race played out. "It's Cody Ware, six laps down, wrecking. I don't know. It just added up."

"I fell for the same move that the 5 (Larson) got me a couple years ago when I was on the inside. I got to learn from those mistakes that I make, not executing those last few laps."

NEXT: JACK LINK'S 500



Talladega Superspeedway

3 p.m. ET Sunday, FOX
 • Location: 3366 Speedway Boulevard
 Lincoln, Alabama

• Capacity: 80,000
 • Owner: NASCAR (2019–present)

• A car used in the filming of **Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby**, a 2006 movie considered one of the most beloved auto racing films.



• Course: Tri-oval
 • Surface: Asphalt
 • Length: 2.66 miles
 • Turns: 4
 • Banking: Turns: 33°; Tri-oval: 16.5°; Straights: 2°

• Fastest lap: 0:46.530; Parker Kligerman, Toyota Camry, 2019



Austin Cindric won last April's race at Talladega with a last-lap pass. GETTY

2026 CUP SERIES STANDINGS

Top 30 as of April 19

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Tyler Reddick 23XI	457	16 Daniel Suárez Spire	210
2 Denny Hamlin JGR	352	17 Austin Cindric Penske	197
3 Ryan Blaney Penske	337	18 S v Gisbergen Trak	178
4 Ty Gibbs JGR	319	19 Mike McDowell Spire	174
5 Kyle Larson Hendrick	314	20 Ross Chastain Trak	164
6 Chase Elliott Hendrick	305	21 AJ Allmendinger Kaulig	162
7 William Byron Hendrick	275	22 Zane Smith Front Row	149
8 Bubba Wallace 23XI	275	23 T. Gilliland Front Row	147
9 Brad Keselowski RFK	264	24 Erik Jones Legacy	147
10 Christopher Bell JGR	261	25 Austin Dillon RCR	145
11 Chris Buescher RFK	259	26 Josh Berry Wood Bros.	138
12 Carson Hocevar Spire	237	27 Kyle Busch RCR	133
13 Ryan Preece RFK	235	28 Riley Herbst 23XI	132
14 Joey Logano Penske	225	29 J.H. Nemechek Legacy	126
15 Chase Briscoe JGR	214	30 Ricky Stenhouse Hyak	123

2026 O'REILLY AUTO PARTS STANDINGS

Top 30 as of April 18

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Justin Allgaier #7	520	11 Parker Retzlaff #99	258
2 Sheldon Creed #00	389	12 Rajah Caruth #32	254
3 Jesse Love #2	371	13 Ryan Sieg #39	229
4 Corey Day #17	344	14 Sam Mayer #41	225
5 Brandon Jones #20	324	15 Brennan Poole #44	199
6 Sammy Smith #8	310	16 Brent Crews #19	190
7 Carson Kvapil #9	301	17 Jeb Burton #27	189
8 Austin Hill #21	296	18 Anthony Alfredo #96	171
9 Taylor Gray #54	294	19 Dean Thompson #26	152
10 William Sawalich #18	271	20 Patrick Staropoli #48	152

2026 CRAFTSMAN TRUCK STANDINGS

Top 30 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 Custer #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

RAIDERS

Continued from page 7

barrage of shots. Soon enough, they'd strike again.

After a few missed chances, Yearwood played a long one into the box for Joe Powell, who put the ball back after his kick from just in front of the net rebounded off of Leiva's hands. The second try made it by him, and the lead was 2-0.

Momentum was slowly tipping, but didn't tumble as Howard clung to a bit of remaining life, and held off the Raiders' efforts to add on for about 10 more minutes. Dalton Oxford connected on a shot from straight away, about 20 yards out, to put the match in hand.

The Huskies, coming up empty on a few final chances, were unable to get a late consolation goal as the last 20 brought an end to their strongest season (10-8, 7-7 region 4-AAA) in a decade.

Tuesday's game was an even lower-scoring staring contest for the West Laurens girls, who held off a number of big threats from Bainbridge to keep the



MAKING THEM PAY: Several early opportunities didn't quite come together for the Raiders, but they capitalized on this can't-miss chance, resulting from a Howard error in the goal box, that set up Jack Yearwood (10) with a shot from less than 10 yards away (left) to break the game's scoreless tie late in the first half/**CLAY REYNOLDS**



match scoreless through halftime.

Goalkeeper Natalie Howell took several Bearcat shots captive and K.K. Wilson cleared another one out off a late first-half free kick.

The Lady Raiders were still biding their time, in search of a chance to make their move, as time wound down in the second half.

That moment arrived just inside of the 10-minute mark, just after Kristin Ivey had a good-looking shot deflected wide left.

She got another chance,

though from a tough angle, as she hit one toward the near post while going step-for-step with a primary and secondary defender in the right short corner.

Ivey kept just enough clearance to get the shot off around both purple shirts. The Bainbridge keeper, though arriving in plenty of time, couldn't handle it cleanly, and the ball glanced into the net with eight minutes to go.

"It was a counter attack," Smith said. "We were playing defensive, and they were

pretty high. We made a couple of passes down the field and Kristin did what she does, and that's score in big games. She is a really talented player for us. And she has a knack for scoring goals in big games."

Bainbridge's Kinsley Kirkland sent a free kick over the top with about three left that represented its last chance in the match, and the Lady Raiders (12-8, 9-5 region 4-AAA) hung on for the win that will bring them back home for the second round on Tuesday.

It'll be the 28th seed Heritage, of Ringgold, that knocked off No. 5 Peach County to save them from another road trip, and make the second-round action twice as nice for the Raider nation on back-to-back evenings at the SHU.

Those two will be played on separate nights. The girls will welcome Heritage on Tuesday, and the boys are pitted against Peach Wednesday.

"We're pretty stoked to have two home games," Smith said.

Classifieds

Employment

PUBLIC WORKS SERVICE TECHNICIAN I

The City of Dublin is currently accepting applications for team members with positive attitudes and initiative. A Service Technician I in the Public Works Street Department is needed. Work involves the performance of a variety of tasks in constructing, maintaining and repairing water and sewer lines, streets, sidewalks, storm drains and related facilities. Applicants must have a valid Georgia driver's license, high school diploma or GED, and pass a drug screen. Starting salary is \$15.98 an hour. 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.

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 - \$9,993.33 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

ESTATE SALE!

462 Evergreen Rd. Dublin, GA 31021. Fri April 24 9a-7p, Sat April 25 9a-4p, Sun April 26 1p-5p, Mon April 27 9a-2p. 1/2 PRICE Sun & Mon

Legals

Legals

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
704 Industrial 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

26-170 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 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

26-155 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

26-159 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 (\$117,150.75). **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, Milldegeville, 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
Milldegeville, 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 1st day of April, 2026.
Estate of Barbara Jean Smith Coleman
Melinda Coleman Wright, Executor
1043 Snow Hill Road
Cadwell, GA 31009

April 18, 25, May 2, 9, 2026

26-179 IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

JIMMIE MCKINNEY and KATHLEEN MCKINNEY, Plaintiffs, v. CHARLIE JOHNSON and CB JOHNSON CONSTRUCTION & MASONRY, INC., Defendants
Civil Action File No. 25-CG-0611-WT.
NOTICE OF SUMMONS - SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

TO: Charlie Johnson, Individually and as Registered Agent for CB Johnson Construction & Masonry, Inc. You are hereby notified that in the above-styled action a Complaint was filed against you in said Court on August 5, 2025, and that by reason of an Order on Motion for Service by Publication entered on March 27, 2026, you are hereby commanded and required to file with the Clerk of said Court and serve upon J. Jackson Dixon, Plaintiffs' attorney, whose address is 205 N. Franklin Street, Dublin, GA 31021, an answer to the Complaint within sixty (60) days of the date of the Order on Motion for Service by Publication. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. Witness the Honorable William D. Taylor, III, Judge of said County. This 20 day of April, 2026.
Georgia Jeffcoat
Deputy Clerk of Superior Court

April 25, May 2, 9, 16, 2026

26-172 NOTICE OF INCORPORATION

Notice is given that Articles of Incorporation that will incorporate Stage Life Ministries have been delivered to the Secretary of State for filing in accordance with the Georgia Nonprofit Corporation Code. The initial registered office of the corporation is located at 44* Parks Ridge, Dublin, Georgia 31021 and its initial registered agent at such address is William J. Baynes, Jr.

April 18, 25, 2026

26-184 NOTICE OF SALE

Pursuant to the Official Code of Georgia, Annotated Section 10-4-210, et seq., there will be a public sale by Curry Management Corporation on May 12, 2026, starting at StorageAuctions.com. The proceeds of said sale will be used to first satisfy the storage fee and other expenses of the auction. Any other proceeds will be used to satisfy such creditors as present their claims in advance of sale.

SPACE Terry Huskins Claxton Dairy A28 HOUSEHOLD GOODS

SPACE Rykeria Whipple Claxton Dairy D16 HOUSEHOLD GOODS

SPACE Nickaral Chapman Claxton Dairy E23 HOUSEHOLD GOODS

SPACE Daryl Hunter Market Square C19 HOUSEHOLD GOODS

SPACE Shilano Howell Kellam Road B11 HOUSEHOLD GOODS

April 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: SMJUAESS
March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 25, May 2, 2026

April 11, 18, 25, May 2, 2026

26-181 IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

Ernest Perry, Plaintiff v. Terriona Perry, Defendant
Civil Action File No. 26-CD-0162-JG
NOTICE OF SUMMONS - SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

TO: Terriona Perry, Defendant Named Above: You are hereby notified that the above-styled action seeking Divorce was filed against you in said court on Feb. 20, 2026, and that by reason of an order for service of summons by publication entered by the court on April 7, 2026, you are hereby commanded and required to file with the clerk of said court and serve upon Ernest Perry, plaintiff, whose address is 723 Victoria Circle, Dublin, GA 31021, an answer to the complaint within sixty (60) days of the date of the order for service by publication. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. Witness the Honorable Jud Green, Judge of said Court. This the 7 day of April, 2026.
Georgia Jeffcoat

Deputy Clerk of Superior Court
Laurens, County

April 25, May 2, 9, 16, 2026

26-183 NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF LAURENS IN RE: ESTATE OF Richard M. Baker, DECEASED

All creditors of the Estate of Richard M. Baker, 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. Tracy baker Batten
Executor of Richard M. Baker, deceased
316 Clin Ct Macon, GA 31216
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..."

April 25, May 2, 9, 16, 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

26-127 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 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 will 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

26-137 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

26-148 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

26-176 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

26-182 NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF LAURENS IN RE: ESTATE OF Theron W. May, DECEASED

All creditors of the Estate of Theron W. May, 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.
Johnny Lee May Jr
Administrator of Theron W. May, deceased
428 Shannon Drive 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..."

April 25, May 2, 9, 16, 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, 2002, recorded in Deed Book 1310, Page 222, 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 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: **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 docu

mentation 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, LLLP
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

Said property is known as **306 Brookwood Dr, Dublin, GA 31021**, together with all fixtures and personal property attached to and constituting a part of said property, if any.

Said property will be sold subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, whether or not now due and payable), the right of redemption of any taxing authority, 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.

The proceeds of said sale will be applied to the payment of said indebtedness and all expenses of said sale as provided in said Deed, and the balance, if any, will be distributed as provided by law.

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 secured creditor.

The property is or may be in the possession of **Melvin L. Coney, successor in interest or tenant(s)**.

Servbank, SB as Attorney-in-Fact for Melvin L. Coney

File no. 22-079079
LOGS LEGAL GROUP LLP*
Attorneys and Counselors at Law
1050 Crown Pointe Parkway, Suite 500
Atlanta, GA 30338
(770) 220-2535
https://www.logs.com/
*THE LAW FIRM IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

April 25, May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 2026

**26-174
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF Laurens COUNTY**

STATE OF GEORGIA
In Re: Nicamerahnn Jheremiah Johnson
Civil Action File No. 26-CF-0213-WT
NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

GEORGIA, Laurens County
Notice is hereby given that Nicamerahnn 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 Nicamerahnn 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.
Nicamerahnn Johnson
Petitioner

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

**26-169
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 northwesterly 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

**26-079
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER GEORGIA, LAURENS COUNTY**

By virtue of a Power of Sale contained in that certain Security Deed from WAYNE STEVENS and ZYCHERIA STEVENS to MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS INC. AS GRANTEE, AS NOMINEE FOR CITYWORTH MORTGAGE LLC, dated April 16, 2024, recorded May 9, 2024, in Deed Book 03477, Page 00043-00058, Laurens County, Georgia Records, said Security Deed having been given to secure a Note of even date in the original principal amount of Two Hundred Six Thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$206,000.00), with interest thereon as provided for therein, said Security Deed having been last sold, assigned and transferred to VILLAGE CAPITAL & INVESTMENT LLC, there will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash at the Laurens County Courthouse, within the legal hours of sale on the **first Tuesday in 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 LYING AND BEING IN THE NORTH DUBLIN DEVELOPMENT IN THE CITY OF DUBLIN, LAURENS COUNTY, GEORGIA, AND IN THE FIRST (1ST) LAND DISTRICT, AND MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED ON A PLAT OF SURVEY BY MARVIN D. CLEMENTS, LAND SURVEYOR, DATED 10/22/75, AND RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 333, PAGE 542, RECORDS OF THE CLERK OF THE LAURENS COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT. SAID PROPERTY IS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED ACCORDING TO SAID PLAT AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT AN IRON PIN LOCATED 340.58 FEET ON THE EASTERNMOST SIDE OF MAPLE DRIVE FROM ITS INTERSECTION WITH THE NORTHERNMOST SIDE OF LASSITER ROAD, THENCE RUNNING NORTH 14 DEGREES 00 MINUTES EAST A DISTANCE OF 15 FEET ALONG MAPLE DRIVE TO AN IRON PIN; THENCE RUNNING SOUTH 84 DEGREES 00 MINUTES EAST A DISTANCE OF 225.00 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; THENCE RUNNING SOUTH 12 DEGREES 48 MINUTES WEST A DISTANCE OF 126.7 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; THENCE RUNNING NORTH 76 DEGREES 58 MINUTES WEST A DISTANCE OF 225.0 FEET TO AN IRON PIN AND THE POINT OF BEGINNING. SAID PLAT AND THE DESCRIPTION THEREON ARE HEREBY INCORPORATED AS PART OF THIS DESCRIPTION BY REFERENCE.

Said legal description being controlling, however the property is more commonly known as **101 MAPLE DR, DUBLIN, GA 31021**.

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

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

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

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

The entity having full authority to negotiate, amend and modify all terms of the loan (although not required by law to do so) is: Village Capital & Investment, LLC, Loss Mitigation Dept., 2460 Paseo Verde Parkway Suite 110, Henderson, NV 89074, Telephone Number: 1-800-919-0068. Nothing in O.C.G.A. Section 44-14-162.2 shall be construed to require a secured creditor to negotiate, amend, or modify the terms of the mortgage instrument. **VILLAGE CAPITAL & INVESTMENT LLC** as Attorney in Fact for **WAYNE STEVENS, ZYCHERIA STEVENS** THE BELOW LAW FIRM MAY BE HELD TO BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR, UNDER FEDERAL LAW. IF SO, ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Attorney Contact: Rubin Lublin, LLC
3145 Avalon Ridge Place, Suite 100,
Peachtree Corners, GA 30071
Telephone Number: (877) 813-0992
Case No. VCI-25-05417-3
rslaw.com/properly-listing
April 11, 18, 25, May 2, 2026

**26-131
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA**

IN RE: ESTATE OF BILLY HAZLEY, SR., DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 26-38
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO: Paul Hazley, Maurice Washington, Cornelius Hazley, Cassandra Hunter, Jennifer Hazley, Billy Hazley, Jr. and to whom it may concern:
Julia Hazley has petitioned to be appointed administrator(s) of the estate of BILLY HAZLEY, SR. 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

**26-167
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 RAWLS 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 SOUTHWESTERLY 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. 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-4689716
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

**26-157
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 NORTHWESTERLY 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.

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

**26-156
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 92688, 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


RELIGION DIGEST

The Mount Tilla Baptist Church Family will have a deacon ordination service for Brother Travis Roberts, at 11 a.m. Sunday, April 26. The guest speaker will be Pastor Kenneth Price of Church at Dudley.

The First Rehoboth Baptist Association will not have worship Service on the First Sunday, May 3. First Sunday Service will resume on the First Sunday, June 7 at 4 p.m. During this service, they will celebrate Mothers and Fathers. Everyone is invited to attend.

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

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



Name: Mark Holliday
Address: 1826 Veterans Blvd
Dublin, Georgia
Date of Birth: 05/28/1969
Time of Arrest: Unknown
Place of Arrest: Iowa

Crime: Pandering
Disposition: Unknown
Date Placed on State Registry: 04/21/2026
For additional information regarding the Georgia Sex Offender Registry - www.ganet.org/gbi Or contact Laurens County Sheriff's Department 4



DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

Mother Calls Her Own Child a "Traitor"

DEAR ABBY: My mother and stepfather, "Pop," divorced a few years ago. He was the only father figure in my life and was good to me, so I want to maintain a relationship with him. What happened between them is a "he said, she said" situation. I don't know where the truth lies, and I have tried hard not to take sides.

Last year, Pop and his new wife, "Judy," wanted to visit. I now live a couple of thousand miles away. He planned to get a hotel, but I asked them to stay here, which my husband agreed with. I must admit that Pop seems much happier than he was with Mom, and Judy is very nice. Plus, my kids really liked her.

When Mom came here a few months later and asked about their visit, I told her that Pop was well and Judy was pleasant. She then blew her lid and said that was a betrayal to her. She's now calling me a traitor and tells everyone, usually through a flood of tears, that I love Pop more than her, and that his new wife is a witch and a homewrecker.

Mom is retired and not in good health, and she plans to move closer to my family in the near future so she won't be alone. She has no one else. I want to move beyond all this, and I'm willing to help her in her later years. I communicate occasionally with Pop, and he will not visit again when Mom lives close by as he doesn't want me in the middle of a muddle. How do I soothe things with her? I do love her, but I don't want to write Pop out of my life. -- TORN IN CONNECTICUT

DEAR TORN: You may not be able to soothe your mother's feelings, but you may be able to reach an understanding if you tell her, preferably in person, that you would be happy if she moved closer and you are willing to help her in her later years, BUT you intend to maintain a relationship with Pop and his wife.

Explain to her that you are not her possession or his, and no one should dictate who you see or don't see. Say you're sorry she and Pop didn't make it to the finish line, but keeping him in your life is not a betrayal of anyone.

DEAR ABBY: My husband started a side business during the pandemic making and selling small batch hot sauces. Five years have passed, and a year and a half ago I told him I should be paid for my time when he needs help manning the booth at an eight-hour-long street fair. I told him I didn't think it was fair to expect his wife to accept 50% less per hour than the 14-year-old he hired to give me a break.

Now he's resentful that I get paid to work for his business "when he hasn't paid himself." He also expects me to "volunteer" my time to help him set up before and break down after events. We have been together 25 years, married for 15, but we have always had our own bank accounts and paid our own bills. Is this fair? -- HIRED HELP IN THE WEST

DEAR HIRED HELP: Your husband is assuming you are indentured labor. He should give YOU a break by paying you as much as he pays the 14-year-old he hired. What he pays (or doesn't pay) himself for running this enterprise is beside the point.

SUDOKU

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

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!

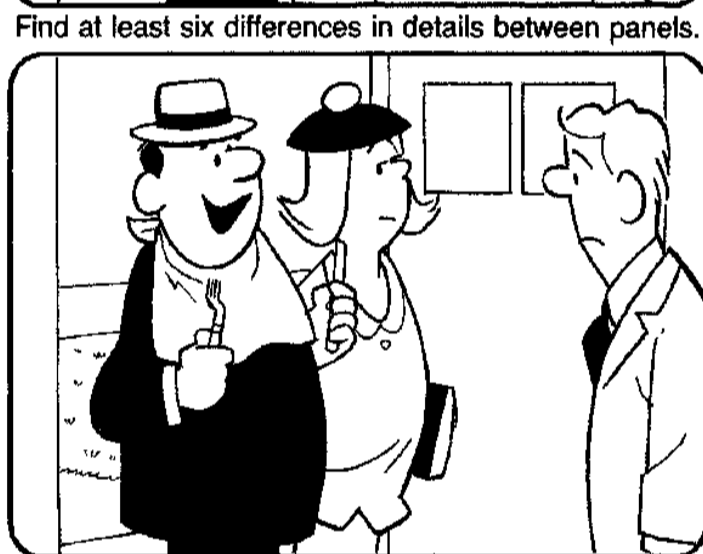
Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear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

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

Level: Advanced

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTIHOFF

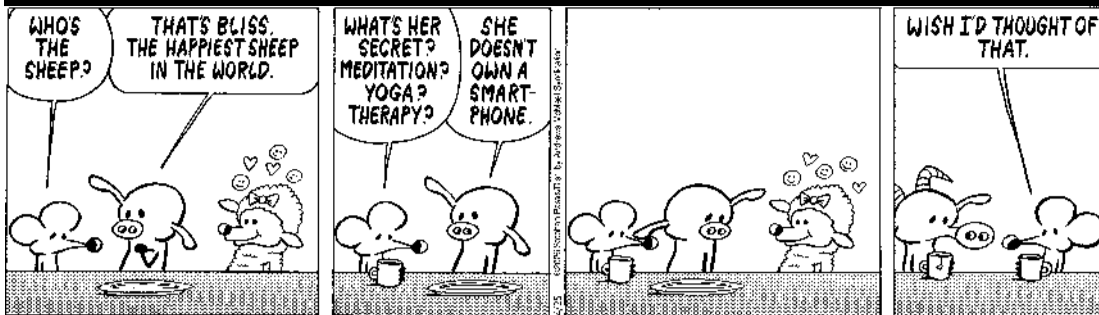


Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Purse is moved. 2. Fork is reversed. 3. Window in door is different. 4. Doorway opening is not as wide. 5. Window in door is different. 6. Jacket is longer.

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

BY STEVE PASTIS



GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS



OVERBOARD

BY CHIP DUNHAM



DEFLOCKED

BY JEFF CORRIVEAU



Prepping your soil for the demands of the growing season ahead is key to the success of your garden this year. You want to add in what might be lacking in your soil as your plants begin their growth. If the soil crumbles when you work it around in your hands, then it is ready to till; if it's sticky, it may be too wet. Use a soil-testing kit to see what nutrients should be added to your soil, then work the needed amounts into the soil before planting. - Brenda Weaver

Source: uvm.edu

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THE Daily Commuter Puzzle by Stella Zawistowski

ACROSS

- 1 Narrow cut
- 5 Orated
- 10 Window ledge
- 14 Add to the staff
- 15 and the Chipmunks
- 16 Wood source
- 17 Shakespeare's river
- 18 Very cold temperatures
- 19 Inflatable boat
- 20 Italian leather-goods brand
- 22 Quarrels
- 24 Attempt
- 25 NYC Marathon sponsor: Abbr.
- 27 Historical period
- 28 Snail's protection
- 31 Big Broadway hit
- 35 Santa's helper
- 38 Above-ground area
- 40 Rebounding sound
- 41 November 1 Mexican holiday: 4 wds.
- 44 In only
- 45 Shoe cushion
- 46 Studio area
- 47 Boxing venue
- 49 Skincare product
- 50 the cows come home
- 52 CBS forensic show
- 53 Glide down a slope
- 56 Evasion
- 61 Sir John
- 63 Bro and sis
- 64 Spools of film
- 66 Taken by mouth
- 67 Tie the
- 68 Country home
- 69 Disco event
- 70 Looks at
- 71 Metallic mixture
- 72 Whack

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					16				18			19
17												
20				21		22			23			
24					25	26			27			
					28			29	30		31	32
33	34											
35	36	37						38			40	
41					42						43	
44								45				46
47												
49								48			49	
50	51	52									53	54
55								56				
57								58				
59	60										61	62
63											64	
65											66	
67											68	
69											70	
71											72	

Created by Stella Zawistowski

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

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- 42 Root-canal pros
- 43 Fear-inducing
- 48 Help
- 51 Caterpillar, e.g.
- 53 Hat material
- 54 Aussie marsupial
- 55 Arm of the sea
- 56 Inquires
- 57 Climbing plant
- 58 Slender instrument
- 59 Astronaut
- 60 Body's building block
- 62 Defeat
- 65 Put into words

Saturday, April 25, 2026

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH BOB JONES

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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q 1 - Neither vulnerable, as South, you hold:
♠ A K 9 3 ♥ A Q 9 3 ♦ J 10 6 ♣ J 2

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
1♣ Pass 1♦ Pass
? What is your re-bid?

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
1♣ Pass 1♦ ?
What action would you take?

Q 5 - Both vulnerable, as South, you hold:
♠ A 5 2 ♥ 10 9 6 ♦ Q 10 4 ♣ A 9 4 2

Q 2 - Both vulnerable, as South, you hold:
♠ K J 4 ♥ 8 6 ♦ A K 6 5 3 ♣ Q J 7

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
1♦ Pass 1♠ Pass
? What bid would you make?

Q 6 - North-South vulnerable, as South, you hold:
♠ A K J ♥ A K Q 6 4 ♦ 6 4 ♣ K 7 4

Q 3 - East-West vulnerable, as South, you hold:
♠ 7 ♥ A J 9 8 6 2 ♦ K Q 5 4 ♣ 8 3

You are the dealer. Pass, one heart or two hearts?

You are the dealer. What is your opening bid?

Look for answers on Monday.

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

Q 4 - Neither vulnerable, as South, you hold:
♠ J ♥ K 8 5 ♦ Q J 5 ♣ A K J 10 7 5

OFTC TOOLS

Continued from page 1

each year. "This is one of our longest running and most distinguish initiatives," she said. "It is one that truly reflects our commitment to student success and workforce development. As President Harden mentioned, we are incredibly grateful for our sponsors and generous donors who make this program possible."

Harden congratulated the students for their hard work and dedication.

"You earned these tools and the opportunity to do something important with them," she said. "We appreciate the commitment to our college. These tools will help you do a job. Your passion will help you build a legacy."

Penny graduated from East Laurens High School a few years ago.

"It felt good to be selected and receive these," Penny said. "I just wish more people could be honored and more people be selected."

The tools will help him at his job

at Lake's Alignment.

"I will pretty much use these tools every single day," Penny said. "Instead of having to look all over for my tools, I'll just go to my toolbox. I don't have to run around and look to find them. This will help me when it comes to time."

Penny praised and thanked Simpson for being his instructor. "He is incredible," Penny said. "He taught me everything beyond what my dad taught me. We talk every day about tools, cars, racing and hunting. He taught me about different techniques that I already knew."

Without the Tools program, Penny knows he would not have all of the tools he was able to gain in one day.

"This would normally take me a good while to get a lot of this," Penny said. "This is worth \$2,000, and that's a lot in today's economy. One day this could be worth \$4,000."

As for his time at OFTC, Penny would not change anything.

"I have enjoyed every single day," Penny said. "I came here with friends I already had from school and then I made new friends."

CHILD CARE

Continued from page 1

teachers, offers individualized instruction and a curriculum that prepares children for kindergarten and provide social-emotional development opportunities.

"One of their major initiatives has been to improve the child care scene in Laurens County," said Valerie Dixon, with the UGA Archway Partnership. Child care access has been named a priority for the partnership, which pairs communities across the state with university resources. "It's still an area we're trying to work on."

Data compiled by a UGA researcher shows that Laurens County has a deficit when it comes to available seats in child care facilities. There are about 3,000 children under 5 years old in the area and just over 1,000 available seats in licensed centers. Of those only about 880 seats are taken.

And those seats come with a hefty price tag. The medi-

an household income in Laurens County is about \$49,700, well below the state average of \$74,600. The annual cost of care can top \$6,000 per child.

The Chamber Community Foundation has partnered with Georgia Public Broadcasting to shine a light on the struggles of parents and childcare centers. The pair will host a screening of the documentary "Make a Circle," which documents teachers who work to change how society views child care, and hear from a panel of experts and community members on efforts to improve access.

Panelists include members of the Chamber Community Foundation, speaking on its efforts; a UGA professor who has researched the industry; and local accountants and bankers, who will discuss childcare tax credits. The event is set for April 29, at 11:30 a.m., at the McGrath Keen Conference Center. For registration information visit www.gbp.org/events.

VA DIRECTOR

Continued from page 12

was associate director for the Southeast Louisiana Veterans Health Care System in New Orleans, La., after serving as associate director at the West Texas VA Health Care System in Big Spring, Texas.

Reese said the investigation into Davila continues.

"The thing about these cases, and because they are underage victims, sometimes when a person goes to jail other victims come forward," Reese said. "If there is anyone who has any other information, or anybody who needs to contact us in reference to Mr. Davila, we are definitely open to talking to them."

Anyone with information call the sheriff's office at (478) 272-1522.

COUNTY COMMISSION

Continued from page 1

The commission approved a resolution, as the county's taxing authority, pledging to adopt the school board's millage rate as recommended, should the sales tax underperform and not raise enough money to cover the local share of the projects, County Administrator Bryan Rogers said.

In other business, Dublin City Councilman Bennie Jones spoke to the board during public comments and asked if the county's animal control officers could do more to address the stray dog issue in the city.

Rogers said about 70 percent of animals picked up by the county are from Dublin. Part of the city's problem is that people are moving from rental properties and leaving their pets behind.

"We trying to implement some things that hopefully will make a huge difference," Rogers said.

NEWS DIGEST

The DUBLIN CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION will meet at 6 p.m. Monday at the board office. The agenda:

- Approval of agenda
- Approval of minutes (April 13, April 13, April 21)
- DCS board norm/protocol
- Board code of ethics
- Public comments
- Superintendent comments/announcements
- General administration
 - School spotlight
 - FY27 revised calendar
 - HVAC unit at SDE
- Financials
 - March financials
- Board member comments
- Executive session
 - Discussion of personnel
 - Discussion of real estate
 - Discussion of litigation
- Return to regular session
- Approval of personnel
- Adjournment

COOK

Continued from page 1

voice for this community. Someone who listens, shows up, and works to deliver real solutions for the people of District 155.

What are the biggest challenges facing this area and how will you address them?

The biggest challenges facing District 155 are access to affordable healthcare, economic opportunity and ensuring our education system is working for every student.

Healthcare is a major concern, especially for families who have lost coverage or are struggling with rising costs. Having gone through cancer treatment myself, I understand how overwhelming and expensive it can be.

I will work to support policies that increase access, lower costs and provide real options for working families. We also need to focus on strengthening our local economy by bringing in jobs that will last.

As technology and AI continue to change the workforce, we need to attract industries that provide long term stability and invest in skills that will keep our workforce competitive for the future, not just jobs that may disappear in a few years.

Education is a key part of our future, and that means making sure all students in our community have access to opportunity. I believe we should be working together across our schools to expand opportunities, strengthen diversity and ensure that every child has a fair chance to succeed.

These challenges are real, but with the right focus and leadership, they are absolutely solvable.

HATCHETT

Continued from page 1

our district through the leadership roles that I've had the honor to serve in in the General Assembly, like the one I currently serve in as chair of the Appropriations committee, which creates the state budget each year. However, my greatest joy in this job is helping you with problems in state government and to help secure our future prosperity through investment into our industry, infrastructure and quality of life. I feel honored that you have had the trust and faith in me over these years to help you with some of the most challenging pieces of life – issues that impact your children, your professions, your aging parents – and I hope to be able to continue to serve all of this community in any way I can.

What are the biggest challenges facing this area and how will you address them?

As I mentioned previously, making sure the rest of Georgia knows that we matter here in Laurens and Johnson counties is a must. There truly are two Georgias and we must continue to fight to get our fair share.

Jobs are No. 1. Making sure we continue to recruit industry that can pay great wages for our area is top priority.

Affordability is next behind job recruitment. To help, the General Assembly suspended the gas tax until late May, and we have set limits on the valuation of your home for property tax. We also passed legislation to lower the income tax rate to 4.99% now, with further decreases possible in the future. We

are sending income tax refunds of \$250 for single filers/\$500 for couples, and homeowners will be getting a reduction of around \$500 on this year's property tax bill.

A strong education system is another area of great importance to our community. Though it's always said, its importance bears repeating: our children are our future. We must make sure that they get the tools now to ensure their future prosperity and grow the communities we love.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention the ongoing concerns about our Dublin City School system, of which I am a graduate. What's happened has been horrible for the staff and students. As the state investigates, more details will be uncovered into how this occurred and how we can protect our students and our schools from further harm. Since this concern was raised to me, I have made sure the state and our local school board have the resources and contacts to right these problems and continue to provide a strong education for all of the children in Dublin City Schools. As the investigation unfolds, I'm committed to continuing to work with the school board to make sure our children do not suffer because of mistakes made by adults and that they have the opportunity to learn and graduate from the same schools I am proud to call my alma mater.

I'm confident that Dublin City, Johnson County, Laurens County and Trinity Christian schools will all continue to provide the best for our children, and I will continue to support them all as they work to resolve any outstanding concerns.

EARLY VOTING

Continued from page 1

supervisor of the Laurens County Board of Elections and Registration. "I really encouraged this so that we can people in here to vote. I would rather stay busy, busy. I would like to get at least 50 percent or more for early voting."

Voters must choose between Democrat, Republican or nonpartisan ballots. The nonpartisan candidates will be on the Democratic and Republican ballots.

"Voters will need to show a picture ID," Rooks said. "They can use

a driver's license, passport, birth certificate and any kind of government, pictured ID is acceptable."

On the ballot will be the Laurens County Commissioner District 1 race between incumbent Brenda Chain and challenger Carolyn McCune in the Democratic primary. Only District 1 voters who select a Democratic ballot will be able to vote in this race.

The other contested local race will decide who fills the vacant term for Ricky Harrison in the city of Dudley. Jennifer "Jenny" Taylor and Jay Powell qualified for this position. Rooks said only those liv-

ing in the city of Dudley will be able to vote in this race.

"These (two races) will determine who win the seats," Rooks said.

Matt Hatchett, incumbent state representative for District 155, will face challenger Cayce Cook in the Republican primary. Only those who select a Republican ballot will be able to vote for this race. The winner of that race will face Democratic challenger Joe Powers in November.

County Commissioners Kevin Tanner and Jimmy Rogers face no opposition, as does county school

board member Kevin Malone. Newcomer Jennifer "J." Stone also faces no opposition in school board District 1. Incumbent Kathy Sweat, who has served three terms on the board, announced earlier this year that she would not seek a fourth term.

Voter also can wait to vote on primary election day on Tuesday, May 19. A runoff, if needed, will be held on June 16.

For more information, call Rooks at the Laurens County Board of Elections & Registration Office at (478) 272-2841.



Jeremi Hightower, PA-C



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