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- Sweet Rubys
- Cheesestraws
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- produce
- Phillips Farm
- produce
- Jos'Pee Berry Farm
- blueberries, chicken salad
- Backyard Shed
- bread, jellies, and cakes
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- essential oils
- Eden Organics
- produce
- Shemeka Smith
- hair & body care, juices
- Off the Farm Produce
- produce
- Boyd's Knives
- handmade knives
- Jewelry by Keen
- handmade jewelry
- Fields of Dewy Flowers
- flowers and plants
- Taino Farms GA
- soaps & candles
- Donna Todd "The Flower Lady"
- plants and flowers
- Sonrise Farms
- fresh berries
- Stitchhatchie Creek Farms
- produce
- Twisted Sister Bread Co.
- baked goods & lemonade
- Colbey Asbell
- baked goods & lemonade
- Simply Magnolia
- candles
- Jordan Farms
- produce
- Kaleigh Jordan
- produce
- Hot Rod's Ohoopie Grilling Sauce
- BBQ sauce
- Holi Crop Micro Farm
- micro greens
- Moss & Bloom
- sea moss, teas
- Grain & Goat Co.
- cutting boards & crosses
- The Mustard Seed Farm
- baked goods
- Farmhouse Bread Co.
- baked goods
- Crumbs of Joy
- baked goods
- Grandpa Jerry's Cookies
- baked cookies
- MC Sweets
- cake pops
- O'neal Honey Farms LLC
- local raw honey
- Parker Dairy Flower Farm
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- handmade crafts
- From Andrews Oven
- baked goods
- Fairview Park Hospital
- kids' crafts
- Kelly Pop
- kettle corn popcorn

We are an authorized SNAP/EBT market.

Dublin school board OKs spending resolution

Plan covers July operations while new budget is finalized

By **RODNEY MANLEY**
 Staff Reporter

The Dublin City Board of Education adopted a spending resolution Monday to cover operations in July because it will miss the deadline to formally approve a new budget.

Local school boards are required to adopt new budgets by July 1, before the new fiscal year begins.

However, spending resolutions are allowed if a board cannot finalize a spending plan before June 30.

"We are finalizing some new positions that came in, so we want to make sure we are encompassing all the positions that will be in the school's budget for the next year," new Chief Financial Officer Teresa Seeley told the board. "It will be month to month. This can happen

in situations where you have a lot of change."

Spending resolutions must dictate exactly how much money a district can spend. Dublin City's resolution allows the district to spend up to 1/12 of the final amended budget for all funds in the current fiscal year.

Seeley hinted at how the board plans to deal with expected cashflow shortages in the upcoming fiscal year, by obtaining a tax anticipation note, or TAN, a loan for the lean months until prop-

erty tax revenue comes in next winter.

"We are working on our budget prudence in order to get a TAN," she said.

Also Monday, the board approved its monthly financial report for May, which showed the district with a negative fund balance of \$441,000. Seeley noted the system began the current fiscal year with a \$3.9 million deficit.

"The school system is making financial progress, and thanks to strict budgeting we are spending less

than we are bringing in. We're working on erasing that large financial deficit from past years," Seeley said.

The monthly balance sheet showed \$1.7 million in cash and another \$2.9 million in Georgia Fund 1, a high-yield investment pool offered by the state. Its total liabilities of \$5.7 million includes almost \$5.4 million still owed to the State Health Benefit Plan after not paying the plan for more

SCHOOL BOARD
 Continued on page 11



JUNETEENTH CELEBRATED WITH PARADE, FESTIVAL

Downtown Dublin was the site Saturday for the seventh annual Taste of Juneteenth Festival, presented by CultureSHOCK of Dublin. A parade was held where Barbara J. Martin, owner and operator of K.I.D.S. Kingdom, was "ecstatic" to serve as the grand marshal. "When I read about June 19, 1865, and how all of it came about, it puts gratefulness in my heart," Martin said of Juneteenth. "We can do whatever God has ordained for us to do"/



Man killed when hit by vehicle

By **PAYTON TOWNS III**
 Senior Reporter

The Laurens County Coroner's Office is attempting to reach the family of a 71-year-old Bulloch County man who died after he was hit by a car while he was standing near the back of a trailer he was pulling.

Deputy Coroner Nathan Stanley said the man was traveling toward Dublin near Southern Pines Road when he pulled over and was believed to have been tending to a trailer that he was pulling behind his 2010 Lexus SUV. Stanley said a call came into the Laurens County 911 center around 9:27 p.m. on June 23. He pronounced the man dead at 10:06 p.m. at the scene.

"He had multiple blunt force trauma," Stanley said. "The biggest thing that I am doing right now is trying to locate his family. We are trying to track down his kids."

Stanley sent deputies to the man's home, but no one was there.

According to the Georgia State Patrol, troopers responded to an accident at around 9:37 p.m. The crash investigation revealed that the driver of an SUV,

FATAL ACCIDENT
 Continued on page 11

Savannah driver airlifted to hospital after hitting I-16 bridge

By **PAYTON TOWNS III**
 Senior Reporter

A Savannah man was airlifted to a hospital Tuesday morning after the 18-wheeler he was driving struck the Ga. 338 bridge on Interstate 16.

According to the Georgia State Patrol, Harold Frazier was driving a 2026 International for SYCS Trucking Co. in the right lane of I-16 West around 8:55 a.m. For an unknown reason, the driver failed to maintain the lane and traveled off the road to the right and onto the north shoulder of I-16 West.

After leaving the road, the vehicle went west for

approximately 144 feet before striking the guardrail. The vehicle continued striking the guardrail with its front and undercarriage for about 104 feet before hitting the bridge pier with its front right.

After impact with the bridge, the vehicle rotated in a clockwise motion. While rotating, the trailer was detached from the vehicle while the cab of the vehicle was ripped in half because of the hard impact with the bridge pier.

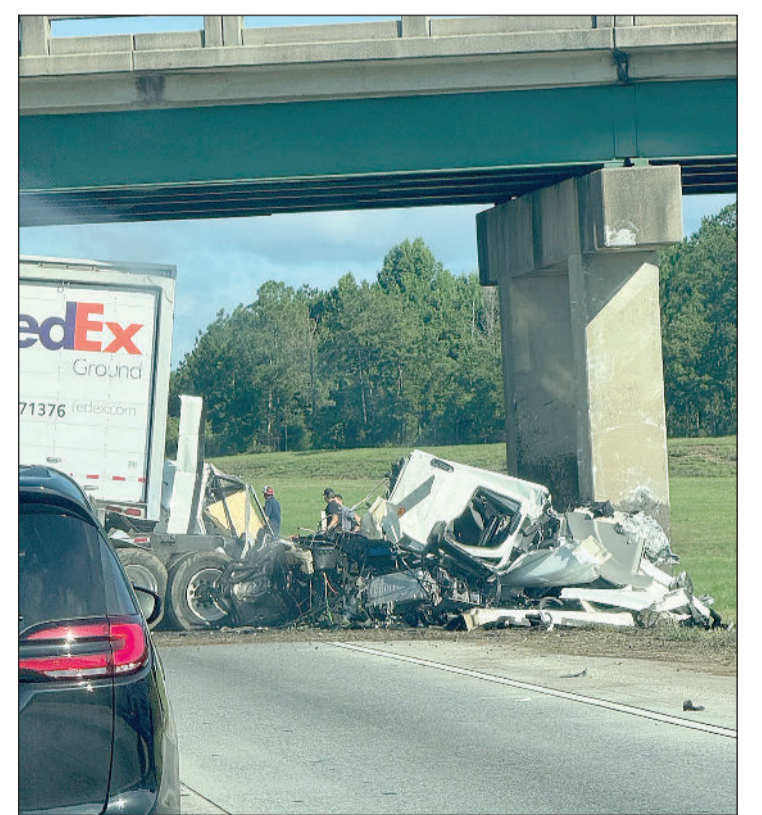
The driver's side of the cab was detached from the rest of the vehicle and continued traveling west as it slid down the road for ap-

proximately 125 feet before coming to an uncontrolled final stop on the north shoulder of the I-16 West.

The trailer traveled west for approximately 81 feet before coming to an uncontrolled final rest in the right westbound lane. The passenger side of the vehicle rotated in a clockwise motion and stopped facing north against the bridge pier.

Laurens County Fire Chief Josh McCard said firefighters extricated the man from the vehicle. Frazier was airlifted to a hospital,

I-16 WRECK
 Continued on page 11



Responders work the accident scene on I-16 West late Tuesday morning/SPECIAL PHOTO

Board says it was aware of litigation against superintendent finalist

By **RODNEY MANLEY**
 Staff Reporter

The Dublin City Board of Education says it was aware of litigation filed against DeMarcos Holland, which was later dismissed, before choosing him as the top candidate to be Dublin's

new school superintendent.

The whistleblower lawsuit was filed in 2024 by the director of the Marietta City Schools' Student Life Center claiming race discrimination by the Marietta district and its chief human resources officer, Holland. The lawsuit was dropped

last November but refiled earlier this year, but with Holland no longer named as a defendant.

The Dublin school board last week approved Holland as the sole finalist for the superintendent job. "During the superintendent search process, the board

was aware of Dr. Holland being named in the lawsuit, and information related to that lawsuit did not alter the board's belief that Dr. Holland is the best candidate to lead Dublin City Schools,"

SUPERINTENDENT
 Continued on page 11

INDEX

OBITUARIES	2
PIECES OF OUR PAST.....	3
DID YOU KNOW?.....	3
EDITORIAL	4
TELL IT!.....	4
POLICE BEAT.....	5
SPORTS	6
COMICS	10

1 section, 12 pages • Vol. 112, No. 71, Pub. No. 161860



OBITUARIES



James Royce "Jimmy" Lowery Jr.

James Royce "Jimmy" Lowery Jr., of Dublin, Georgia, was called home to be with the Lord on June 18, 2026, at the age of 65. Born on Oct. 31, 1960, Jimmy spent most of his life in Dublin, where he was known for his dedication to his family, his faith, and his community.

Jimmy was preceded in death by his father, James Royce Lowery Sr.; his mother, Jacqueline "Jackie" Taylor Lowery; his sister, Lisa Lowery Clements; and his infant sons, Benjamin and Bradley Lowery.

He is survived by his son, Matthew Lowery; his daughter-in-law, Kaitlyn; and his beloved granddaughter, Charlotte. He is also survived by his stepson, Justin Avery, his wife Heather, and their son, Nolan.

Jimmy was a proud graduate of Georgia College, where he earned his Bachelor's degree in business administration. He enjoyed a successful career with Rockwell Automation, from which he retired after many years of dedicated service.

A man of strong faith, Jimmy served as a former deacon and choir director at Oconee Baptist Church, where he faithfully contributed his time and talents. He had a deep love for music and worship, and his leadership touched many lives.

In his free time, Jimmy enjoyed golfing and playing tennis, hobbies that reflected his active spirit and love of the outdoors. He will be remembered as a loving father and Papa, as well as for his warmth, his steady presence, and his devotion to those he loved.

Jimmy's legacy lives on through his family and all who had the privilege of knowing him. He will be deeply missed and forever cherished.

A Celebration of life service will be held at 3 p.m., Saturday, June 27, 2026 at the Mary Whitaker Townsend Memorial Chapel at Townsend Brothers Funeral Home.

The family will receive friends from 2 p.m. until 3 p.m. Saturday at the funeral home.

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

Townsend Brothers Funeral Home has charge of the arrangements.

Pamela McAlpin Magouirk

It is with heavy hearts we announce the peaceful passing of Pamela McAlpin Magouirk on June 21, 2026. Born on Nov. 9, 1957, in Grand Ridge, Florida, Pamela was a beacon of love and kindness, whose warmth touched all around her. Pamela was born to Bobby and Robbie Cox McAlpin who preceded her in death. Pamela lost her cherished husband and high school

sweetheart, Larry Thomas Magouirk, early in life and although she missed him every moment since his passing, we find solace in knowing they are now reunited, with Larry watching over her once again. In addition, Pamela was predeceased by her great-grandson, Myles, sister-in-law Diane McAlpin, many aunts and uncles, and a host of Magouirks who cherished her as their own. Pamela leaves behind a legacy of love and devotion.

She is survived by her dedicated son, Eric (Jessica) Magouirk, her faithful brothers, Steve McAlpin and Gregory McAlpin, grandchildren, Laura (Dalton) Tyson and Caleb (Hannah) Bass, nieces Crystal McAlpin and Brittany McAlpin, and her great-nephew, Holden, along with many loving Coxes, McAlpins and Magouirks.

The family extends their heartfelt gratitude to the dedicated staff of Wrightsville Manor Health and Rehab, as well as Compassus Hospice, for their immeasurable compassion and comfort during Pamela's final journey.

The family will have a private memorial at a later date.

Please post your condolences online at ServicesbyDudley.com.

Services by Dudley Funeral Home and Cremations of Dudley.

Lawmakers go home after postponing changes to Georgia election system

By TY TAGAMI
Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA — Georgians should continue voting with the same machines they have been using for years until a new system can be acquired in 2028, lawmakers decided before ending their special session Tuesday.

In largely partisan votes by the state House and Senate, Republicans approved a measure that delays their previous July 1 ban on the use of QR codes to tabulate votes.

Georgia's voting machines became a target for some after President Donald Trump lost the 2020 election. Critics contended the system was vulnerable to hacking and error, and they noted that voters cannot read the QR code on their ballot to confirm it accurately recorded their intent.

After voting two years ago to ban the system, GOP lawmakers failed to adopt or pay for an alternative. They blamed fellow Republican Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger, who pointed back at them.

With the November midterms approaching, local election directors were saying it was far too late to switch to a new system. And that was back in the winter and spring, when the General Assembly was considering postponing the July 1 deadline during its regular session.

Lawmakers failed to pass a bill that would have done that, so Gov. Brian Kemp called them back to the Capitol to resolve the crisis.

If Kemp signs Senate Bill 3EX, it will delay the deadline to replace the system until Jan. 1, 2028.

It would also establish a committee of lawmakers to recommend standards for the next voting system based on hand-marked paper ballots. And it would require a hand recount of top-of-the-ballot races with tiny margins.

An earlier version produced by the Senate would have required hand recounts of the two top races in each cycle, including for U.S. president and U.S. Senate.

Critics derided that proposal, saying hand counts are inaccurate and time-consuming and that manual tallies that conflicted with machine tallies would further erode confidence in elections.

"Please do not subject Georgia to this," Kristin Nabers, the Georgia director of the group All Voting is Local, said at a House committee hearing Monday.

Members of that committee, both Republicans and Democrats, were dubious about the hand count provision, as well.

So, leaders of the House and Senate met Monday night to negotiate a compromise.

The version of SB 3EX the Legislature sent to Kemp would require hand recounts in most statewide races only when the margin is within 0.5%.

"So it's very narrowly defined," Rep. Victor Anderson, R-Cornelia, the chairman of the committee that reviewed SB 3EX, said on the House floor Tuesday.

The organization that represents election officials was satisfied by the change.

But those who do not trust the state's current voting machines were

not happy that the requirement for manual recounts would not extend to federal races and that QR codes would still be used in November.

"I think there's going to be dissatisfaction in the fact that we are still on the QR codes for the 2026 election," said Garland Favorito, cofounder of VoterGA, a group that has been pushing to eradicate the digital codes from the voting process.

Many Democrats rejected the premise of a flawed election system, calling the special session a waste of time and taxpayer money.

"You just cannot build a healthy democracy by catering to people who will just never accept the results of an election if it does not favor them," Rep. Jasmine Clark, D-Lilburn, said on the House floor before voting against SB 3EX.

But her GOP colleague, Rep. Rob Leverett, R-Elberton, noted the fast-approaching July 1 deadline for eradicating QR codes. If the General Assembly failed to pass the measure, he said, "then we may be hand-counting ballots in 159 counties in the state of Georgia. That is a high probability."

In the Senate, only four Democrats voted for the measure, including Sen. Josh McLaurin, D-Sandy Springs, his party's nominee for lieutenant governor.

His opponent, Sen. Greg Dolezal, R-Cumming, voted for passage along with all the other Republicans present.

If Kemp signs SB 3EX, and the tally in their election is within 0.5%, they will automatically get a hand recount.

COUCH THEATRE

By DEMI TAVERAS
King Features

"House of the Dragon: Season 3" (TV-MA)

-- Fans of the "House of the Dragon" series have been waiting two years for this season premiere, and because much of the second season was a build-up to the third season. Eight episodes long, the season kicked off on June 21 with episodes premiering every Sunday night at 9 p.m. ET. Heads of Team Black, Matt Smith ("The Death of Bunny Munro") and Emma D'Arcy ("Rhoda"), are back in their respective roles of Daemon and Rhaenyra as they brace themselves for war against Team Green. At the end of last season, viewers learned that Otto Hightower was taken captive, Rhaena finally found her wild dragon, and "King" Aegon and Larys fled the city together in secret. Get your flagons of wine and mead ready for what should be a memorable season! (HBO Max)

"Little Brother" (R)

-- Guess we've lived long enough to see John Cena ("Heads of State") go from playing the funny guy in a buddy comedy to playing the serious one! (What range, am I right?) In this film premiering June 26, Cena plays Rudd, a type-A real estate agent who lives an orderly life with his wife (Michelle Monaghan) and sons. When he receives sudden news that his estranged "brother," Marcus (Eric Andre), was in a car accident, the incident leads them to reconnect. The thing is ... Marcus isn't really Rudd's brother; they met as kids through a "Big Brother, Little Brother"



Eric Andre, left, and John Cena star in "Little Brother" /Courtesy of NETFLIX

program. So, when Marcus starts causing havoc in Rudd's perfect life, Rudd wonders if having a brotherly bond is worth all this trouble. Ego Nwodim ("Saturday Night Live") and Christopher Meloni ("IF") co-star. (Netflix)

"Strung" (TV-MA)

-- This latest Peacock original film is a psychological thriller from Blumhouse Productions, led by Chloe Bailey ("Fight Night: The Million Dollar Heist") and Lynn Whitfield ("Eyes of Wakanda"). Bailey plays a violinist named Layla, who signs on to be a live-in music tutor for a young girl from a wealthy family. Upon meeting the young girl, Layla is put off by an odd mask that the girl carries, as well as an ominous air that permeates the house. On top of this, the girl's mother, Jasmine (Coco Jones), becomes increasingly hostile toward Layla, leaving her to think that she made a terrible mistake in taking this job.

Lucien Laviscount ("People We Meet on Vacation") and Anna Diop ("The Man in My Basement") co-star in the film, which premieres on June 26. (Peacock)

"Queens of the Dead" (TV-MA)

-- This campy zombie-comedy film is a great watch for Pride Month, and hopefully, it'll pave the way for more queer horror in the future. Led by Katy O'Brian ("Love Lies Bleeding"), the film takes place on the night of a giant warehouse party in Bushwick. Club owner Dre (O'Brian) is scattered in her preparation for the party, which makes her warehouse the prime spot for a zombie attack. Later that night, as zombies start blending into the chaos of the party, drag queens, club kids and disco dolls are forced to join forces and put up a gnarly fight against the monsters. Premieres June 26. (Hulu)

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Local kids raising money for cancer foundation



A group of local kids have spend the summer raising money for Alex Lemonade Stand Childhood Cancer Foundation selling lemonade to thirsty passersby. Their final day of fundraising will be June 27 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 518 Bay Springs Rd in Adrian. The kids are closing out with a celebration featuring a bounce house, boiled peanuts, pork skins, baked goods and a story time sharing Alex's story and the history of the foundation/SPECIAL PHOTO

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The City of Dublin will be closed on Friday, July 3rd, 2026 to observe July 4th, holiday.

There will be no recycle pick up this week.

Recycle will resume on Friday, July, 10th, 2026, for Wednesday and Thursday route customers.

BIRTHDAYS

June 25
*Eric Jackson
Marcus Little*

June 26
John Pugh

Colonel John Laurens: Unsung hero of the America Revolution

John Laurens was born in Charleston, South Carolina, in 1755. His ancestors were Huguenots who came from France around the beginning of the 18th century. John was sent to London for higher education. The winds of war with Great Britain began to blow in 1775. His father, Henry Laurens, was the first President of the Continental Congress. Henry Laurens denied his son's repeated requests to leave law school at the Temple. John desperately wanted to return home to join in the fight for freedom from English tyranny. Laurens could no longer control his yearning for independence. He made his way back to the colonies by sailing to France and thence to America aboard neutral ships.

Laurens yearned for a field colonelcy position on the staff of George Washington. Much to his dismay, Gen. Washington appointed him to be his personal secretary. He was given the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. Laurens participated in the Battle of Brandywine on Sept. 11, 1777. Washington had hoped to destroy the British at Germantown, Pennsylvania, on Oct. 3, 1777. The anticipated victory turned into a defeat, with Col. Laurens being severely wounded. While recovering from his wounds, Laurens spent the bitter winter of 1777-1778 at Valley Forge. In a letter to his father, he questioned whether or not the army should winter there and leave the surrounding countryside to the pillaging of the British. In June of 1778, he participated in the decisive Battle of Monmouth. It was at Monmouth where Molly Pitcher became the most famous woman soldier in American history. The battle was also important in the relationships between Washington's generals. General Charles Lee failed to act, causing the loss of many lives. Col. Laurens recommended to his father, the President of Congress, that Lee be tried for misconduct. Lee made insulting remarks about Laurens's best friend, Alexander Hamilton. Laurens challenged Lee to a duel. The honor of Laurens and Hamilton was upheld when Lee was slightly wounded in the fight. Over two decades later, Hamilton would lose his life in a duel with Aaron Burr.

On Aug. 30, 1778, Laurens took command of a regiment in the Rhode Island Campaign. Early that morning, Laurens and Livingston launched an attack on the head of the British column on the road between Butts Hill, Turkey Hill, and Quaker Hill. Laurens and his men fought gallantly but were turned back by a superior British force. The commanding general, Nathaniel Greene, complimented Laurens on his actions, calling him a "general and a partisan."

During the second half of 1778, the British launched a

second campaign to capture the Southern Colonies. Savannah fell to the British on Dec. 29, 1778. Laurens was granted permission to leave Washington's army to defend his homeland. He took part in the defense against Prevost's attack on Charleston in May of 1779. On October 9th, 1779, Gen. Lincoln led an attack on Savannah. His forces were supported by the French and by Count Casimir Pulaski's cavalry. The main attack came from the southwestern section of Savannah. Pulaski charged toward the British right. He received a mortal wound. The attack floundered. Laurens, in command of the light infantry, led his South Carolinians against the British Springhill redoubt. At the head of the attack, Laurens moved into the ditch and planted his flag in the berm. The British relentlessly slaughtered the Americans in the ditch. Laurens ordered his men to retreat. The attempt to recapture Savannah failed. The city remained in British hands until July 11, 1782, nearly nine months after the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown.

The Colonial army retreated inland and moved to defend Charleston, the next target of the British. By February, the British were making demonstrations about Charleston. Laurens wrote to Gen. Washington asking for reinforcements. He told Washington that it would be good if he himself came and rescued the city of Charleston. The British, with their superior naval power, were too much for the defenders. The city fell on May 6, 1780. Most of the Colonials were captured. Col. Laurens was taken prisoner but was shortly exchanged for a British officer.

Congress realized that in order to defeat the British, more naval support would be needed. The British had stopped the French fleet at Newport. Gen. Washington recommended that Laurens be a special emissary to King Louis of France. Laurens was described by a 19th-century historian as "a born courtier and having polished manners, a figure that would grace the company of kings, and more over, he spoke French like a Parisian." Laurens, being fearless and self-reliant, was known to be a dominating presence among men. Gen. Lafayette sent a letter to Count de Vergennes. Lafayette described Laurens as "a man who, by his integrity, frankness, and patriotism, must be extremely acceptable to the government." Laurens' mission was to convince the French to increase their support of the colonies with men, material, and especially money. Lafayette concluded his letter stating that 10,000 Frenchmen would be appreciated. By that time, Henry Laurens, the Ambassador to Holland, was held as a prisoner in the tower of London. John Laurens returned to Boston. His mission

PIECES OF OUR PAST



By **SCOTT B. THOMPSON SR.**

being a success, Laurens reported to Colonial government that European support was on the increase, and that he had secured a substantial amount of monetary support.

Col. Laurens once again was assigned to Gen. Washington's staff. All of the criticism of Washington and his generals came to an end on Oct. 19, 1781. Lord Cornwallis and his grand army were captured on the Virginia peninsula at Yorktown. Col. Laurens was appointed to arrange the terms of the surrender. He was among the first to enter the British lines as a commissioner to receive the surrender. The surrender did not end the war. The British were still in control of Savannah and Charleston. Laurens was sent to aid Gen. Greene. Laurens got out of his sick bed to lead a detachment against a British foraging party near Combahee, South Carolina. The day was August 27, 1782. Col. Laurens, leading the charge against the British, was struck by a musket ball. He fell mortally wounded. He was only twenty-seven years old.

The story of Col. John Laurens doesn't dominate the history books. Historians fail to mention his name among the heroes of the revolution. His is a story of a young man who loved his country. His actions in France during the "dark days" of 1781 directly led to the American victory at Yorktown and the eventual defeat of the British Army. On December 10, 1807, the State of Georgia honored Col. Laurens by naming its newest county, Laurens County, in his honor.

On an odd note, John Laurens, the polar opposite of his slave trading father, was an abolitionist who pushed to recruit 3,000 black soldiers, who would gain their freedom after serving in an outfit known as the "Black Regiment." The plan was defeated by Georgia and South Carolina. Only after the Civil War did Kansas begin naming its counties after abolitionists. So it was our county that was the first county in the United States to push for limited abolition of slavery.

DID YOU KNOW ... A POPULAR FAST FOOD CHAIN ONCE SOLD A 'HULA BURGER?'

By **JACK BAGLEY**
GTLN

Sunday was Father's Day, and it got me to thinking about my dad, who left us in 2007.

Dad was a pretty good fellow, all things considered. Like all fathers, he made a few mistakes while we kids grew up, but he made sure of one thing: my brother and I grew up to be gentlemen. And my sister grew up to be a lady.

That was a non-negotiable part of our childhood; learning to do the right thing even when nobody was watching was another. I have to admit I fall short on that, as we all do, but Dad did his best. Happy Father's Day, Dad, wherever you are.

Now, on to the trivia!

Did you know ...

... the oldest known work of art is on an Indonesian island? On the island of Sulawesi can be found a human-created work that dates back more than 44,000 years. The work is made up of handprints and figurative depictions of the hunting of pigs. (I didn't say it was worthy of being shown in the Louvre or anything.)

... the habit of driving on the left side of the road, as practiced in the United Kingdom, dates back to the 1700s? Yes, I know they didn't have cars back then. What they did have, however, was a practice by which travelers would keep passers-by on their right, in case they were bandits. That meant the sword hand (usually the right hand) would be ready at the draw if needed. This evolved into driving horses, and later cars, on the left side of the road. (Over here in the states, we had someone riding shotgun across from the driver.)

... a popular restaurant chain once sold a "Hula burger?" In 1963, McDonald's offered the Hula burger, which had no beef - it was rather a thick slice of grilled pineapple, topped with cheese, on a bun. The sandwich was created by company owner Ray Kroc

(1902-1984) as an alternative menu item for Catholic customers who traditionally did not eat meat on Fridays. Since the Hula burger tasted pretty much the way you would expect grilled pineapple, cheese and bread to taste, it was not a big seller, and the other sandwich created for the same reason - the Filet-O-Fish - became the sales champion. Additional trivia note: The Filet-O-Fish was created in 1962 by Lou Groen (1917-2011), a Cincinnati McDonald's franchisee. Many reports indicate Kroc, who initially hated the idea of a fish sandwich, carried a grudge against Groen for the rest of his life because of the failure of the Hula burger. (You might say Kroc had a real beef with Groen. You might. I won't.)

... people once ate arsenic to improve their skin? According to reports, in the late 19th Century people would eat arsenic to get rid of freckles, pimples and blackheads. (It did, too. They went away when the person died from the poison.)

... a British monarch was also an auto mechanic? Queen Elizabeth II (1926-

2023) joined the British Labour Exchange when she was 16 and learned the basics of truck repair. The education came in handy, too, as she performed such duties during World War II. (Her Majesty's oil changes must have been great.)

... a popular entertainer long thought to have been a spokesman for a particular million-dollar giveaway actually wasn't? For decades, people have thought that they remembered Tonight Show sidekick and game show host Ed McMahon (1923-2009) as the spokesman for Publishers' Clearing House, which used to (and maybe still does) send out blind mailings to millions of people offering them the chance to win millions of dollars, while at the same time providing cut-rate magazine subscriptions. They will swear that McMahon was in Publishers' Clearing House commercials and his face was on the envelopes. Only ... he wasn't. Yes, McMahon did lend his talents to such a giveaway, but it was with American Family Publishers, not Publishers' Clearing House. This is cited as a classic example of the Man-

dela Effect. (Here's Ed ... oops.)

... a popular media personality has a strange clause in her contract? Kim Kardashian (born 1980)

has what is called a "glam" clause in her contracts, which states that if she is ever in a position where she cannot communicate or is unconscious, someone has

to make sure that her makeup, hair and nails are all perfect. (I have a line here, but it would close the show.)

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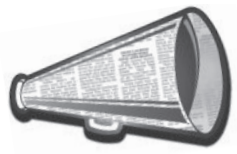
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TELL IT!



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Teenagers and pre-teens have nothing to do now except to get in trouble and get on drugs. Why don't we bring back the roller rinks or skating rinks for the children to go to? Teens can gather, have snacks and fellowship. We can change things in the world, but probably won't do it.

The Courier Herald June 13 edition, mentions the IGA account ending balance of \$30. It also lists "new hires" for DCS, specifically three people hired as teachers for IGA. What? Try to make this make sense. DCS is hiring teachers for a school that doesn't exist and that had an ending balance of \$30. We either need drug testing or IQ testing or both for these decision makers.

Can overtime be approved for the sanitation department to pick up yard debris? Navigating my neighborhood with all the piles is a challenge and not safe for children.

Something sure sounds suspicious when the board of education in Dublin wants to take their money out of the Bank of Dudley when there was only \$65 in there. Yet, they want to put it over at (other) banks where they can make interest off of taxpayers money. Why isn't that a crime?

So you want to complain in the Tell It! about gun violence in Atlanta. But yet, you want to grow like Atlanta, like you don't foresee that violence has been in Dublin for some time. You want to blame it on Atlanta instead of yourself.

A study has shown that gun laws have no effect on crime. And the fact we can carry and go places with guns has actually reduced crime. So get off the gun law kick and get on the let's bring the young up with morals and love and a family environment that is what will solve the problem. The second amendment is a constitutional right that Democrats hate and their voters blame for violence when it is actually them and their poverty welfare system that causes the issue.

Gun laws effect 100 percent of the population and violate all their sec-

ond amendment rights, but have no effect on the one percent that commit crimes with guns and have no respect for any law, and those are the facts.

Would the city of Dublin consider a speed enforcement camera system? Might I suggest a camera on Hillcrest, near Robins Financial Credit Union.

If memory serves, Rev. Superintendent Fred Williams' wife was the director of the Irish Gifted Academy museum at one time for the Dublin City Schools. I'm sure there was no nepotism involved. But IGA had a museum. It was apparently extensive enough that it required a director. What was that director's salary again? Somebody on the board will know, they approved it. Will that substantial museum be moved to Moore Street?

I would be great if The Courier Herald could start posting our local restaurant inspection scores like they used to. I miss those!

Is the new super's salary made public? Let's hope it is more in line with comparable systems.

I hope the new super is able to make decisions and that board will be put in its place.

To the new superintendent - please don't follow advice from the current board. No one trust them. Be transparent and make decisions for all students not just the so called IB students.

Has Dublin City checked their student numbers for IB academy in August? Because we are hearing most have left IGA and going back to county schools. Why open an IB school for just a few?

I pray Dr. Holland is smart enough to see the IB school is not needed and that he will take care of the true Dublin City kids. We need to start at zero and build up based on needs.

The 25 candidates for the superintendent for Dublin City School, did not know the reputation that Dublin City School has. They must be very hard up for a job?

Georgia GOP looks for unity - but on whose terms?

By **CHARLIE HARPER**

Georgia's primary elections are now mercifully over. There are probably few people happier than your local mail carriers, who will get a bit of respite before the printing presses crank up again.

While the nominees have quickly turned to branding their partisan opponents as what's wrong for Georgia, the real game for the next couple of months is "uniting the base". Democrats have had their top two candidates for a month, showing a slight advantage in having a ticket focused on flipping the state. Republicans have...a bit of work to do.

It's arguable to call Rick Jackson's runoff victory an upset, given that spending by and on behalf of his campaign dwarfed that from the rest of the field combined. Yet the reality is that the MAGA establishment was solidly behind the candidacy of Lieutenant Governor Burt Jones.

This backing included the endorsement of President Donald Trump, and an only slightly veiled endorsement from the Georgia Republican Party. In February, GA GOP Chairman Josh McKoon signed a letter with Georgia's two other Republican National Committee members waiving a rule which would have barred the RNC from engaging in the contested primary. McKoon told Politico at the time the letter was "to remove any barriers" the RNC to work with President Trump's candidate.

The letter sparked quite a bit of backlash from party activists who saw their own

voices and activities diminished behind the will of a Washington based establishment. Where state party leaders had seen a beachhead, many of their own saw an undrained swamp.

Jackson, for his part, went out of his way not only not to offend MAGA voters, but to welcome them as part of his coalition. His message is, after all, one that resonates with those who consider themselves outsiders and who vote against "the establishment".

Lost on too many of the party's current leaders is that they, now, are the establishment. Many of the same folks who used anti-establishment rhetoric and actions along the way to their current positions of importance are now shocked to learn that "the base" still doesn't like the establishment, especially when they do establishment things.

This is a fundamental paradox of the modern Republican Party. With majorities come responsibilities. Those elected to govern must actually make the hard choices of governing. A party that fails to do so will be replaced by one that will.

Yet many within the Republican base have internalized the old line from Grover Norquist that he wants a government small enough so that it can fit in a bathtub...so he can drown

it. Norquist was speaking of the Federal Government, but many within the GOP see government at all levels as disposable, while somehow still demanding the menu of services they deem important.

The GA GOP is now led mostly by the former anti-establishment crowd. They've won.

The message of those who still attend the party functions is still too often aimed at "holding elected officials accountable" instead of winning elections. Several prominent Georgia Republican Party officials ran for their current seats after losing contests at the ballot box. Only in an insular club would those rejected by voters claim it is their job to hold those who received the majority of both Republicans and general election voters accountable.

For those unaware of how one becomes an officer in the Georgia GOP, it requires going through a convention process which consumes four Saturdays of in-person attendance at county, district, and state meetings. Activists have long figured out that reducing the number of attendees is the path to victory, and make these events as unpleasant and drawn out as possible.

Most voters neither have the time nor willingness to put up with these games, nor the shenanigans of those participating in them. The result over the past three decades has been smaller and smaller crowds at these events.

Candidates grouse pri-

vately that party meetings take up a huge amount of time where most attendees are other candidates and few voters, with those attending mostly having already made up their minds. None wish to alienate the vocal groups, yet understand they need to reach far outside these circles to reach the voters who will actually elect them.

Which brings us to a rodeo held as a unity event by the Georgia GOP in Perry this past weekend. It was, in fact, their first rodeo, and it showed.

Advance staffers know one of the first rules when choosing a venue is that it needs to be slightly smaller than the anticipated crowd. The pictures coming out of the event, with more candidates on stage than standing before it or in the seats within frame, were best described by one GOP insider as "brutal".

In addition to the missing activists was the GOP's nominee for Governor. Rick Jackson did not feel the need to kiss the rings of those who played king maker for someone else.

There's also some November calculus in play here. Unlike the current leadership of the Georgia GOP, actual Republican voters have been known to split with President Trump and MAGA from time to time, especially when the issues are state or local.

"Unity" is a nice buzzword. It doesn't always solve the calculus needed to get 50% plus one vote from a fractured and disparate electorate.

There is nothing new with political mud slinging

You may be amused as most seem to be about the attack ads in the recent gubernatorial race in Georgia, but if you delve back into political history, you realize that the axiom that there is nothing new under the sun holds true.

Perhaps, there never has been a campaign as intensely bitter as the race for governor in 1906 between Hoke Smith, publisher of the Atlanta Journal, and Clark Howell, editor of the Atlanta Constitution.

Believe it or not, the candidates advocated the disenfranchisement of Blacks in their campaigns. Each campaigned intensely to disallow Blacks the right to vote.

I can remember the fifties and sixties when the issue had to do with school integration. Those certainly were not memorable times for our state.

As bad as it was, Georgia ultimately seemed to fare better than other Southern states.

There were some exceptions, however. Because Carl Sanders had played quarterback for the University of Georgia, I got to know him when he was a state senator from Augusta, his hometown.

After he lost to Jimmy Carter in 1970 to return to head of the state, he spent the rest of his professional life heading up a law firm and investing in business, becoming ultra successful.

His office was located at the corner of North Avenue and Peachtree Street, and I often stopped by to see him. He was always eager to talk about Georgia football and



By **LORAN SMITH**

other interesting subjects.

He was proud of several initiatives that took place when he was governor, the main one being that during his term of office 40 cents of every tax dollar was spent on education.

Something else he was also very proud of was helping smaller towns across the state to build airports. Many out of state corporations that considered bringing business to the state objected to flying into Atlanta and then drive 2-3 hours to where their business was located.

Of course, he reminisced about the political scene, which I enjoyed very much. He recalled a scene involving his opponent in the 1962 election—Marvin Griffin and how political opponents can maintain civility.

It was the first statewide race following the Supreme Court decision in 1963 to strike down the County Unit System of voting. The best example of how unfair the statue came when James V. Carmichael won the statewide popular vote but lost

the 1946 election to Gene Talmadge. Carmichael received 313, 389 (45.3%) popular votes to 297,245 (43 %) to Talmadge. 'Ol Gene became governor, thanks to the county unit vote.

Sanders was the first statewide winner following the Supreme Court decision. Griffin was a colorful character who noted following his loss that a lot of people ate his barbecue but voted for somebody else.

Sanders, in one of our conversations, recalled a scene at the upscale Cloister at Sea Island on the eve of a Georgia-Florida game. The place was packed. Sanders, as Georgia's chief executive, was hosting some VIP guests whom he was cultivating to do business with the state.

As the evening moved forward, he saw that Marvin Griffin, former governor, and his wife showed up and

obviously asked for a table.

He saw the hostess vigorously shaking her head negatively. Sanders knew she was telling the former governor that they could not seat any more diners.

Sanders got up, went over and invited the Griffins to join his table. In a matter of minutes, Griffin, one of the great raconteurs in history of our state, had the governor's guests in stitches.

It was a laugh, a minute storytelling, prompting Sanders' guests to later ask this question. "How in the world did you defeat a fellow like that?" Which prompts a question that a lot of us have, why does negative campaigning hold sway?

Mark Twain once said, "Why waste your money looking up your family tree? Just go into politics and your opponent will do it for you."

TELL IT! GUIDELINES

Have something to say about life in Dublin and Laurens County? We want to hear it. Tell It is a space for community voices: praise, frustration, questions, and everything in between.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Keep it local. Submissions should focus on issues, people, and places in Dublin and Laurens County. We are not the right venue for commentary on national politics or public figures outside our community.

Be civil. Personal attacks, profanity, and hate speech will not be published. Criticism is welcome; name-calling is not.

Stick to the facts. Submissions must not contain false statements of fact about identifiable individuals or organizations. We cannot publish content that is defamatory or exposes the Courier Herald to legal liability.

The Courier Herald reserves the right to edit submissions for length and clarity, and to decline any submission at its sole discretion. Submission does not guarantee publication.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY...

"If it weren't for the rocks in its bed, the stream would have no song."

- Carl Perkins

DAILY SCRIPTURE...

"For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal."

- 2 Corinthians 4:17-18

EVERY DAY'S A HOLIDAY...

June 25, 2026 is...

- National Work From Home Day
- National Handshake Day
- National Bomb Pop Day
- Please Take My Children to Work Day
- Color TV Day
- National Strawberry Parfait Day
- Global Beatles Day
- National Catfish Day
- World Vitiligo Day
- Day of the Seafarer

The Courier Herald

LOCAL MATTERS



Judged a newspaper of General Excellence 2024

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

Dublin Police Department

- Robert Charles Scott, 38, was charged with disorderly conduct on Hudson Street around 8:50 p.m. on May 29.

An officer responded to the location in reference to a motor vehicle accident. During the investigation, an officer saw Scott arrive at the scene. Shortly after his arrival, Scott became involved in a physical altercation with the driver of the other vehicle. It was reported that verbal threats were exchanged prior to the physical confrontation.

Officers immediately intervened and made contact with both individuals. Both were detained and transported to the police department for fingerprint processing. The officer reviewed the dash camera footage from a patrol vehicle. The footage appeared to show the driver of the other vehicle attempting to avoid contact with Scott. The video further showed Scott aggressively grabbing the driver of the second vehicle by the jacket, which escalated the encounter into a physical altercation.

The driver of the second vehi-

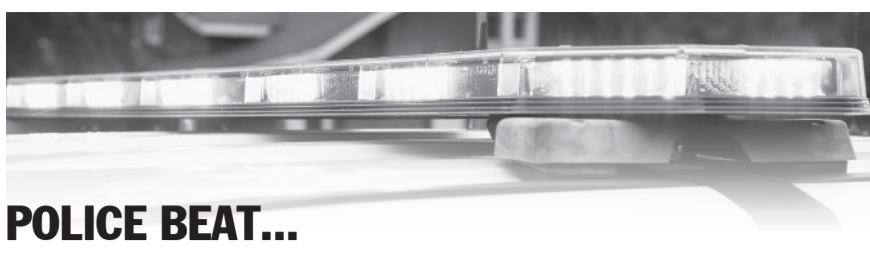
cle did not want to pursue charges against Scott. He was later released from the police department on the citation.

- Around 4:55 p.m. on May 31, an officer went to King Edward Drive in reference to a report of an individual damaging property inside the residence.

Upon arrival, the officer met with Roshanda Latrell Walker King, 30, who said her aunt had been taking her money and food stamps. She was unable to provide any additional details regarding the incident that occurred inside the house.

The officer met with the complainant who said Walker had recently returned from a store, when King began yelling and using profane language toward her without apparent provocation. King later went into the dining room area, slammed a door and struck the wall beside the dining room door with her fist, causing a hole in the wall.

Dispatch advised officers that King had an active warrant through the Navicent Police Department. Dispatch further advised that the originating agency was unable to take custody of the



POLICE BEAT...

woman. The officer transported King to the Bibb County Sheriff's Office and released her into their custody.

- Eric Wise, 45, was charged with pedestrian under the influence at the intersection of Palmer Street and Telfair Street around 8:02 p.m. on June 6.

Officers responded to the location in reference to a person with a weapon yelling at vehicles by the railroad tracks. An officer met with Wise who initially did not identify himself. He met the description of the person given by dispatch.

Wise showed signs of intoxication, including struggling to balance, bloodshot and watery eyes, and a strong odor of alcohol coming from his person. Several alcoholic containers were found in his immediate area.

Wise, who was sitting in a chair, was detained and frisked for

weapons, but none were found on his person. In his immediate reach was a pipe that was found hidden in a tree that would fit the profile of a handgun. The officer ran Wise's information through GCIC and was notified of an active warrant with the police department and other counties.

Wise was transported to the county jail.

Laurens County Sheriff's Office

- On June 1, around 10:47 a.m., a deputy was dispatched to the westbound rest area in reference to vehicle damage that happened on I-16 near mile post 55. The deputy observed a blue Mustang parked with a woman standing in front of it.

- Around 4:40 p.m. on May 31, a deputy met with a man at the sheriff's office in reference to a de-

posit account fraud case.

- A deputy responded to the sheriff's office to meet with a complainant about an incident that happened on Carolyn Avenue around noon on May 29.

- Henry Braddy, 37, of Dublin, was charged with criminal trespass on John Lowery Road around 10:20 p.m. on May 28.

- A tag was lost on Ernest Stinson Road around 11:04 a.m. on June 7.

- A deputy responded to U.S. Highway 441 North in reference to shot fired around 4:30 p.m. on June 6.

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.

COMMUNITY NEWS



Retired Educators hold meeting

Georgia Retired Educators Association Unit 11 Executive Board and members from each of the 4 Local Units met on Tuesday, June 16, 2026. Area 11 Director Carol Roe facilitated the Officer Planning meeting. Hancock County Unit President Annie Ingram and HC members served as hostesses for the meeting. In addition to Hancock County, other attending Unit Presidents and members were: Margaret Hightower, Johnson County; Robyn Bridges, Laurens Dublin; Lillie Spikes, Washington County/SPECIAL PHOTO



Claxton receives honor from Carl Vinson VA Center

The John Laurens Chapter of DAR met June 6, 2026 at the Moore Station Village Clubhouse for an end of year luncheon. During the luncheon Cherry Ramage Smith presented Mrs Harriett Jones Claxton a plaque awarded by the Veterans Administration in appreciation for the 55 years of her volunteer service at the Carl Vinson campus. Mrs. Claxton served as Representative from the re-organization of the chapter in February 1969 until her retirement in March 2026. Cherry Smith, who had served as her deputy now serves as the representative. Present for the award presentation was her daughter, Joanie/SPECIAL PHOTO

Radio host Martha Zoller dies

By TY TAGAMI
Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA — Georgia radio host and state school board member Martha Zoller died Monday, House Speaker Jon Burns, R-Newington, said in a speech on the House floor.

"We lost a great Georgian today: Someone who was a great conservative, but she was also a friend to all Georgians," Burns said Monday afternoon during

the Legislature's special session.

Burns said she had suffered from heart conditions.

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution reported last week that Zoller was leaving her daily talk show on Gainesville news/talk station 102.9/550 WDUN on June 26 due to what she described as a "stress-related heart attack."

Zoller appeared on var-

ious national broadcasts and also made a name in politics, running for Congress in 2012.

She lost the Republican primary runoff for U.S. House that year to Doug Collins in northeast Georgia, a seat now held by Rep. Andrew Clyde, also a Republican.

In 2019, Gov. Brian Kemp, a Republican, appointed Zoller to a three-year term on the State Board of Nursing Home Administrators. The next year, Kemp appointed Zoller to the state Board of Education, a position she still held Monday.

She earned respect across party lines.

"Martha was a respected stalwart of Georgia's civic community, an accomplished broadcaster, and a formidable activist," U.S. Sen. Jon Ossoff said in a statement Monday.

Burns said Zoller was a direct but kind, straightforward and trustworthy interviewer on her radio show.

"Georgia has lost a leader in the communications business and the business of life," he said.

NEWS DIGEST

THE TOWN OF CADWELL is have its next council meeting on Monday July 13, 2026 at 7 p.m. at the Cadwell Town Hall. The agenda: Call Meeting To order -Invocation -Approval Of minutes -Approval Of financial statement -Old business -New business -Comments -Acknowledge visitors -Adjourn

Local 7-day Forecast:

The next 48 hours:

THURSDAY:
92° Intervals of sun and clouds.
Sunrise: 6:26 a.m.

THURSDAY NIGHT:
69° Clear to partly cloudy.
Sunset: 8:43 p.m.

FRIDAY:
92° Partly sunny and humid.
Sunrise: 6:26 a.m.

FRIDAY NIGHT:
69° Partly cloudy and humid.
Sunset: 8:43 p.m.

Saturday 6/27 HIGH/LOW 92/73 Partly sunny and humid; watch for a strong storm or two or three... Sunrise: 6:26 a.m. Sunset: 8:43 p.m.	Sunday 6/28 HIGH/LOW 94/73 Mostly sunny and humid. Sunrise: 6:27 a.m. Sunset: 8:43 p.m.	Monday 6/29 HIGH/LOW 95/72 Humid with times of clouds. Sunrise: 6:27 a.m. Sunset: 8:43 p.m.	Tuesday 6/30 HIGH/LOW 94/71 Variable clouds with a couple of storms. Sunrise: 6:27 a.m. Sunset: 8:43 p.m.	Wednesday 7/1 HIGH/LOW 92/70 Plenty of sunshine. Sunrise: 6:28 a.m. Sunset: 8:43 p.m.
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Middle Georgia veterans charge into Tampa to compete in next week's Golden Age Games

By FRANK G. JORDAN
Carl Vinson VA Communications Director

Later this month, veterans aged 55 and older from across the country will arrive in Tampa to participate in the National Veterans Golden Age Games, an annual multi-sport competition hosted by the Department of Veterans Affairs for older veterans.

Middle Georgia area veterans Dr. Kathleen McGowan, Navy; Robert Wells, Army; Toney Lattimore, Army; Griffin Bonner, Army; Nathaniel Foreman, Army, Army National Guard, and Coast Guard Reserve; Keith Walker, Marine Corps; Joann Dickson-Smith, Navy; Edwin Blitch, Army; Sabrina Thorpe, Army; and Stanley Ferguson, Army will participate in the games, June 27–July 2.

The five-day event, with its focus on “Fitness for Life”, offers competitors the opportunity to showcase their talents through events such as basketball, golf and several other sports activities.

Over 1,000 veterans from across the country are expected to participate and will be supported by around 1,300 volunteers and sponsors.

“The Golden Age Games inspire our

nation’s veterans to stay active, stay motivated and stay connected,” said Britany Hook, Director of the National Veterans Golden Age Games. “Each event celebrates our veterans’ commitment to wellness and shows how the pursuit of physical activity can lead to stronger health, greater independence and a higher quality of life.”

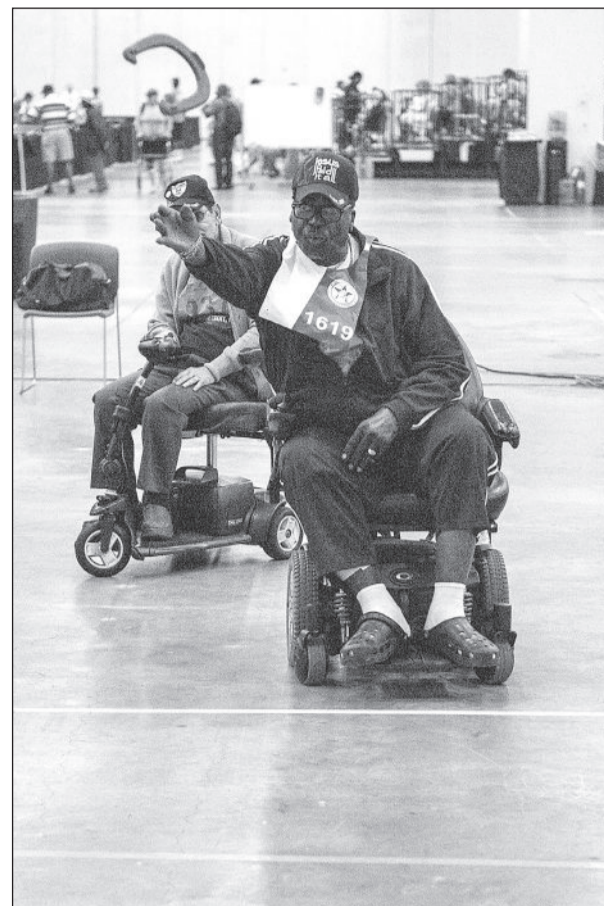
The first Golden Age Games was held in 1985. For nearly four decades, the event has encouraged older Veterans to pursue physical activity through competitive sports for positive outcomes and better health and wellness. World-class instructors and recreation therapists help Veterans experience the full potential of rehabilitation and sports medicine as a tool for improved health and well-being.

To view content from the event, follow @Sports4Vets on X, Instagram, and



Local veterans compete at the Golden Age Games in years past. Twelve are set to represent Middle Georgia at another edition next week in Tampa/FILE

Facebook and search #goldenagegames. B-roll video and photos will be available during the event at <https://department.va.gov/veteran-sports/national-veterans-golden-age-games/>.



Summertime in Europe is the peak of sports fandom...

With the recent conclusion of the French Tennis Open, the second grand-slam tournament of the season, it is a reminder of how arresting the sports scene is in June and July in Europe.

In just a few days, Wimbledon will begin. The ancillary options that accompany these two events in the incomparable atmosphere of Paris and London this time of the year are unequalled. Sporting aficionados can absorb the effects of cultural smorgasbord that is as fulfilling as the electricity of the competition itself.

The clay courts of Roland Garos and the ryegrass at Wimbledon are as much of a contrast as the cuisine, but the competition is as keen as you will find anywhere for a major sporting event.

I have always been smitten by the fulfillment of walking the streets of Paris and London. The atmosphere is becoming and the environment brings about contentment that is an elixir for the soul. None of the foregoing considers the great restaurants, the museums of both cities and the

wines of France.

Then there are the other events—which merit the appraisal of “sensational”—headlined by the Tour de France, which seems to go on forever. There is the running of the bulls at Pamplona, the Henley Regatta, and the oldest golf tournament in the world, the British Open. They say Open and consider it high treason to suggest otherwise.

Every venue, every circumstance connects with a piece of history, which sometimes requires a Google search or reaching for a reference book—which brings about enlightenment that makes you appreciate authors, poets and artists.

A summer in Europe and its varied and consequential exposures are enough to qualify one for a full academic year. Perhaps more. Those experiences are worth more than being born into wealth and privilege.

A person who does not have access to fortunes, but through enterprise can collect experiences which are far more appreciated and fulfilling than writing checks



By LORAN SMITH

and not worrying about the balance.

The first time at Roland Garros is unforgettable. First, there is something extraordinary about Paris in the spring. The flowers, the art, the accordion music and life along the Seine.

The Seine has great appeal for those who want to journey to its beginnings Northwest of Dijon. It is not a long river compared to the Danube, but if you take a trip on the river to the north, you can ease along leisurely and stop at the most charming river towns in France, opt for bed and breakfasts along the way, and you couldn't possibly be more emotional-

ly fulfilled.

After breakfast, find a wine shop and stock up for the day—and do it over again. I'd rather do that than spend \$10,000 on a cruise ship where everything is overpriced, overcrowded and often underwhelming.

The little towns throughout Europe offer an ambience that will rest gently on your mind for days on end when you return home and the grind starts up again.

Those indelible side trips and alternate agendas are even more compelling when the world-class competition has concluded. To be able to do both makes for the greatest of daily doubles.

Then there are those journeys to the countryside, the farms, the endless fields of robust sunflowers if you choose to stay off the motorways and let yourself mingle with the everyday people who are as hospitable and agreeable as you would find in Cordele, Tifton, Waycross, Omega, and Chitlin Switch.

There are countless post card towns and villages on the Elbe River in Germany, the vineyards of France, and the tulips and windmills of the Netherlands. You can visit General Patton's grave in Luxembourg and you can take boat trips on the Rhine and Danube rivers.

Visiting the sporting venues that make a European vacation special, and you can enjoy a lot more than the competition. The museums, the local tours, and getting the flavor of the country in addition to seeing the best in tennis, golf and cycling.

The international flavor of the competition at Roland Garros, Wimbledon and the Open is unique although all major sports competition today showcases players

and performers who hail from across the globe.

Roger Federer, Steffi Graf, Martina Navratilova and Jean-Claude Killy are among the superstars who became household names the world over. Certainly, in the U.S.

You notice there is no mention of bullfighters in the foregoing. I loved the experience of running with the bulls at Pamplona, but once or twice is enough.

While it is not fixed, bull fighting is a custom where the bull has no chance. In Spain an average of 1-2 matadors is fatally wounded each year while more than 180,000 bulls, some estimates suggest 250,000, die where bull fighting is practiced.

There are plenty of options for sports throughout Europe without going to Pamplona and taking in a bullfight in the afternoon following the running of the bulls in the morning where participants seldom lose their lives. Only 16 have died over the years which is less than what you have in soccer.



East Laurens High School's football, basketball and competition cheer squads recently recognized these superlatives and seniors from the 2025-26 season/SPECIAL PHOTO

East Laurens Cheer celebrates award winners at 2025-26 banquet

SPECIAL TO THE COURIER HERALD
East Laurens Cheer submission

East Laurens High School Cheer recently held its 2025-26 end-of-season banquet.

Honorees included the following...

Lettering and participation: Monica Edwards, Paris Edwards, Brooklyn Foskey, Lindsey Johnson, Cali Porter, Maurika Edwards, Chasity Foreman, Carmen Green, Madison Necci, Tytiuna Page, Jaycee Powell, Anna Beth Bryan, Lauryn Ellington, Camden Evans, Ariana Pierce, Skylar Spivey, Lillian Davis, Jordan Givens, Quentavia Allen, Takeiya Blue, Sophie McDonald, Andrea Wright, Jaimere Devoe, Jameylyn Bass, Maci Odum, Olivea Jackson, Za'Kayla Harvard, Lyla Tanner, Ta'Kyleh Green, Ta'Nylah Green, Kimora Dudley, Ninya McClendon and Za'Kiyah King

Honor roll: Amaya Salter, Jameylyn Bass, Maci Odum, Olivea Jackson, Za'Kayla Harvard, Brooklyn Foskey, Lyla Tanner, Lindsey Johnson, Monica Edwards, Paris Edwards, Skylar Spivey, Carmen Green, Chasity Foreman, Jaycee Powell, Jordan Givens, Lillian Davis, Madison Necci, Maurika Edwards, Tytiuna Page, Anna Beth Bryan, Camden Evans, Kimora Dudley, Lauryn Ellington, Quentavia Allen, Sophie McDonald and Takeiya Blue.

Highest average:
• Freshman: Olivea Jackson
• Sophomore: Lindsey Johnson
• Junior: Chasity Foreman
• Senior: Sophie McDonald
• Overall: Jaycee Powell

Football Cheer Awards:
• Most Spirited ~ Takeiya Blue
• Most Dedicated ~ Madison Necci & Lauryn Ellington

• Most Improved ~ Cali Porter
• Rookie of the Year ~ Jameylyn Bass
• Most Valuable Cheerleader ~ Ariana Pierce
• Coaches Award ~ Jordan Givens
• Falcon Award ~ Anna Beth Bryan & Sophie McDonald

Basketball Cheer Awards:
• Most Spirited ~ Olivea Jackson and Jaimere Devoe (JV)
• Most Dedicated ~ Camden Evans and Maci Odum (JV) and Amaya Salter (JV)
• Most Improved ~ Kimora Dudley and Ta'Nylah Green (JV)
• Outstanding Jumpers ~ Maurika Edwards, Tytiuna Page, Carmen Green, Ariana Pierce, Monica Edwards, Olivea Jackson, Za'Kiyah King, Za'Kayla Harvard
• Rookie of the Year ~ Olivea Jackson & Amaya Salter (JV)
• Most Valuable Cheerleader ~ Carmen Green

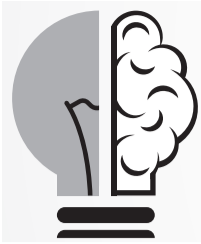
• Coaches Award ~ Ariana Pierce
• Falcon Award ~ Takeiya Blue & Maci Odum(JV)
• Precision in Motion ~ Quentavia Allen
• Golden Heart Awards (Basketball) ~ Olivea Jackson and Za'Kayla Harvard

Competition Cheer Awards:
• Most Dedicated ~ Carmen Green
• Most Spirited ~ Lindsey Johnson
• Most Improved ~ Cali Porter
• Rookie of the Year ~ Lyla Tanner
• Best Tumbler ~ Skylar Spivey
• Best Stunt Group ~ Ariana Pierce, Maurika Edwards, Jaycee Powell, Za'Kayla Harvard, Tytiuna Page, Jaimere Devoe
• Most Valuable Cheerleader ~ Za'Kayla Harvard
• Coaches Award ~ Jaycee Powell
• Falcon Award ~ Lauryn Ellington

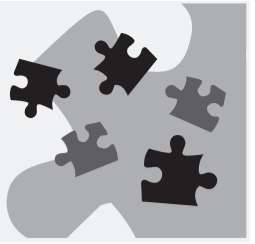
Special Awards:
• Triple-A (Awesome Attitude

Award): Lillian Davis, Madison Necci, Andrea Wright and Chasity Foreman
• Great Helper Award ~ Amya Wicker
• Teammate of the Year (Voted on by team members): Takeiya Blue (football); Lauryn Ellington (competition); Ariana Pierce (basketball)

Senior Recognition:
• Lauryn Ellington ~ Four years competition & football
• Ariana Pierce ~ Four years competition, football and basketball
• Camden Evans ~ Four years football & basketball
• Anna Beth Bryan ~ Four years football
• Sophie McDonald ~ Four years football
• Takeiya Blue ~ Four years foot-



Family Puzzles & Games

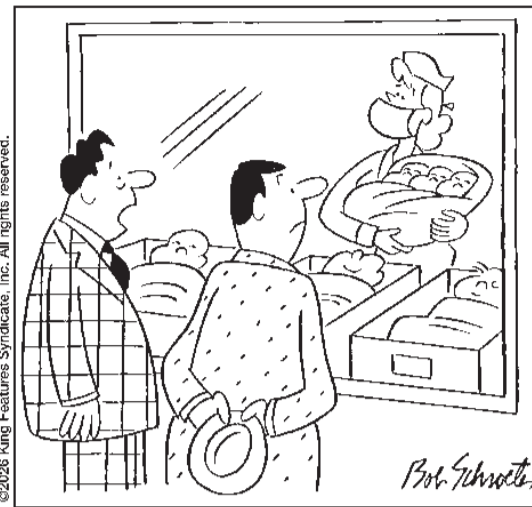


KNIGHT MOVES

I	T	S
E		C
E	N	I

Unlock the power of chess to find the eight-letter word of the day. Choose your starting letter carefully, then move around the square in a one by two fashion to get to the next letter.

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"It's not the doctor bills that worry me, it's the thought of having three _____ daughters."

SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Force

SUDERS

Grasp

RENAL

Increase

AIRES

Slew

ADMIYR

TODAY'S WORD

King Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Mule, for one
 - 5 Unruly group
 - 8 Bygone fliers
 - 12 Lawman Wyatt
 - 13 Stop — dime
 - 14 Ornamental jug
 - 15 Heart charts
 - 16 Business card no.
 - 17 Calf-length
 - 18 Stop
 - 20 Son of Erik the Red
 - 22 "War and Peace" author
 - 26 Violin stroke
 - 29 Cyclades island
 - 30 British verb ending
 - 31 Subject, usually
 - 32 Fellow
 - 33 Healthy
 - 34 Internet address
 - 35 Continent north of Afr.
 - 36 Disinfectant brand
- DOWN**
- 37 Oscar-winning actress in "The Fighter"
 - 40 Arizona tribe
 - 41 Prisoner
 - 45 Conspiracy
 - 47 Corn core
 - 49 Big-screen format
 - 50 — song (cheaply)
 - 51 Lincoln nickname
 - 52 Zlich
 - 53 Swindles
 - 54 Dogpatch adjective
 - 55 Musician's jobs
 - 9 Fans of pop icon Taylor
 - 10 — Talks (online lecture series)
 - 11 Lanka lead-in
 - 19 Stitch
 - 21 Golf's Ernie
 - 23 Pageant crown
 - 24 City on a fjord
 - 25 Holler
 - 26 "E Pluribus —"
 - 27 Skin opening
 - 28 Megaphone's kin
 - 32 "Suffs" or "Rent," e.g.
 - 33 Cheyenne's state
 - 35 Mentalist's gift
 - 36 Cariou of "Blue Bloods"
 - 38 Smidgens
 - 39 Slander in print
 - 42 Mine, in Marseille
 - 43 Tart flavor
 - 44 Alimony recipients
 - 45 USMC rank
 - 46 Privy
 - 48 Japanese sash

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14		
15				16				17		
18				19			20	21		
			22			23			24	25
26	27	28				29			30	
31				32				33		
34				35				36		
37			38					39		
			40					41		42 43 44
45	46			47	48			49		
50				51				52		
53				54				55		

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Weekly SUDOKU

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

- ♦ Moderate
- ♦♦ Challenging
- ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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Wishing Well®

2	4	6	8	7	2	5	3	6	2	3	7	2
S	B	D	E	A	W	S	A	I	E	S	P	E
6	7	2	7	6	8	7	8	3	6	7	8	5
S	E	T	R	P	S	S	T	O	E	O	E	P
7	2	4	8	4	8	2	6	3	7	6	8	6
N	S	O	E	S	M	U	L	C	A	I	O	L
7	3	6	5	8	5	7	4	2	7	4	7	2
L	I	L	R	F	E	V	S	C	I	S	C	C
3	7	2	5	7	8	3	7	5	6	8	6	8
A	T	E	A	O	C	L	R	D	U	O	S	W
7	5	6	8	2	8	2	5	4	6	5	8	3
Y	J	I	O	S	R	S	O	A	O	Y	K	E
8	6	8	3	8	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	4
E	N	R	V	S	Y	E	S	N	Y	T	E	S

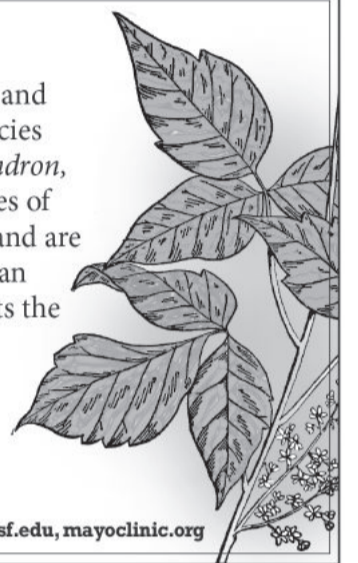
HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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Urushiol oil

Poison ivy, poison oak and poison sumac are all species within the genus *Toxicodendron*, which means "poison tree." These types of plants are native to the United States and are found in every state. They all contain an oily resin called urushiol, that protects the plant from fungal, bacterial and viral attacks. If urushiol touches your skin, it binds to proteins in your skin cells and can cause redness, itching, swelling and blisters. — Brenda Weaver



Sources: awaytogarden.com, etc.usf.edu, mayoclinic.org

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ccmg
Cancer Center
of Middle Georgia

"Solving a puzzle is like fighting cancer — one piece at a time."

- Comprehensive Hematology & Oncology Care
- Access to Clinical Research & Advanced Therapies
- Local, Compassionate Support

Because when it comes to your health, every piece matters

2400 Bellevue Rd., Ste 26 | Dublin, GA
www.ccmgeorgia.com



We Do Tires And A Whole Lot More!



Ben East



Matt East



Rob East

BUBBA'S

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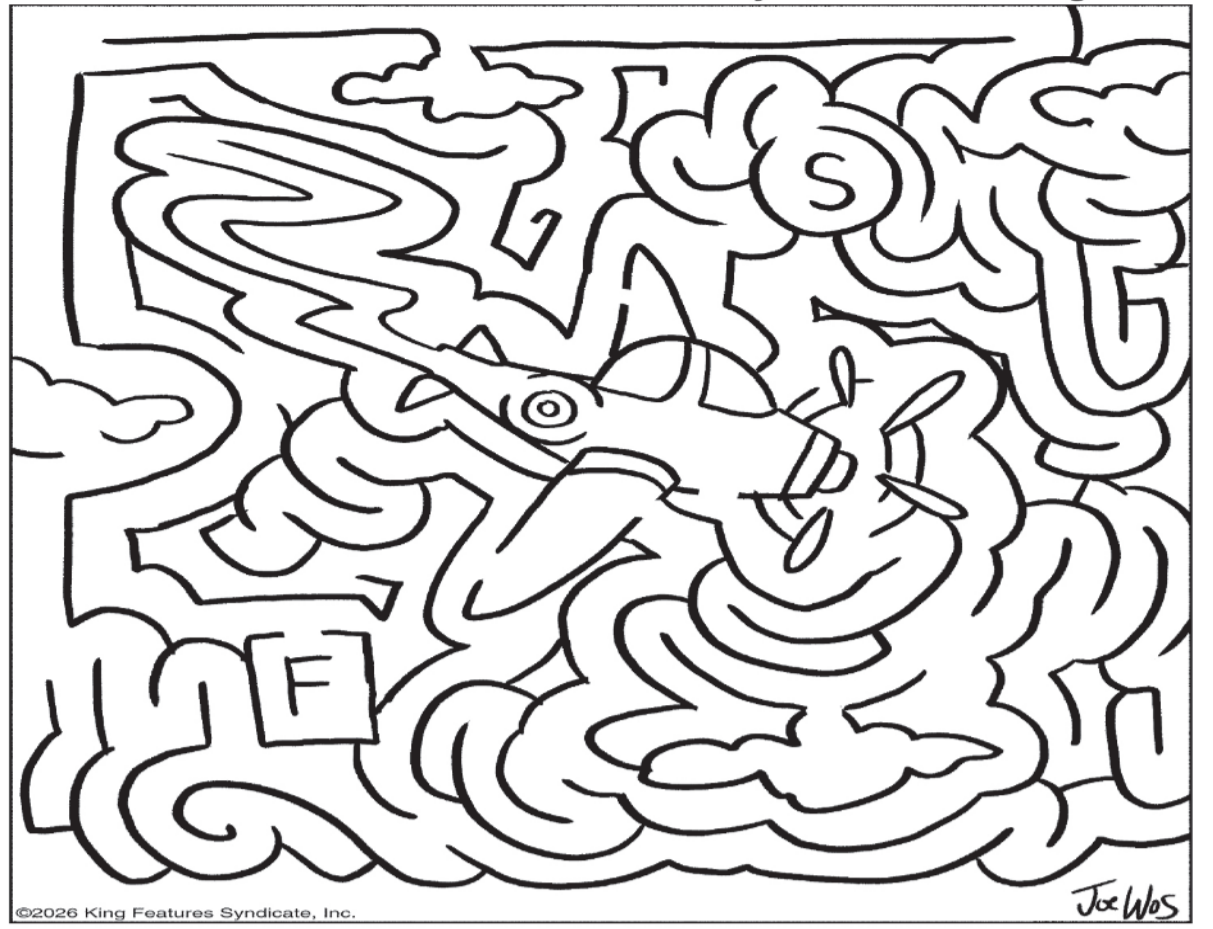
MICHELIN GOOD YEAR



Super Crossword

FILLED FOOD

- ACROSS**
 1 "Thank U, Next" singer Grande
 7 Yachts, e.g.
 12 Keto dieter's nutrient calculation
 20 Right-rear bowling target
 21 Like Viking script
 22 Call to have food delivered
 23 Chief justice before William Rehnquist
 25 Runaway
 26 Fruity drink
 27 Reclined
 28 Actress Russo
 30 Chaplin of "Game of Thrones"
 31 Makeovers
 33 Application to improve blood flow
 39 Stew legume
 41 Glazer of "Broad City"
 42 Gold, in Italy
 43 Person not getting deserved acclaim
- 48 Chilly tourist lodge
 53 New Mexico art mecca
 54 Old New York theater
 55 Whirled
 58 To a greater extent
 59 Phased-out cartoon storekeeper
 60 Greek cheese
 61 Easels, e.g.
 63 Susa's ancient land
 64 Take care of
 66 Bikers' association
 70 Tunes for two
 72 Permissible
 73 Tiny bits
 74 Curveball that breaks over the plate at the very last second
 78 Wine vessel
 81 Wrinkly tangelo
 82 "Joan of Arc" actress Sobieski
 83 Acorn trees
 85 Grassy tract
 86 Wrecked
 89 Santa — (some winds)
 90 Agra dress
- 91 Feels ill
 92 Hip-hop band
 94 Thaw after winter
 96 Roadhouse
 97 Writer Wilde
 100 "Fancy that!"
 101 Pilot's heading indicator
 108 Newton who was knighted
 112 Met solo
 113 Fishing rod
 114 \$5 bills, slangily
 116 H.S. lab class
 117 "The Velvet Fog"
 121 Its menu might include the ends of seven answers in this puzzle
 125 Web pop-up, e.g.
 126 Be of help to
 127 King of pop
 128 Salted-away sums of money
- 129 Mails in, e.g.
 130 Isis' brother
- DOWN**
 1 In combat
 2 Novelist Charles
- 3 Way to mark losses
 4 Fourth mo. name
 5 TV ratings
 6 Chlumsky of "Veep"
 7 Musical Mars
 8 "— Gang" filmmaker
 9 Filmmaker Lee
 10 — del Fuego
 11 TV part
 12 Center points
 13 Previous to
 14 NFL goals
 15 OK grade
 16 Bow go-with
 17 Turbine part
 18 — Vista, Mexico
 19 Purse piece
 24 Pen brand
 29 U.S. intel org.
 32 Musical work
 34 Like swamps
 35 Gp. in the Arab League
 36 Quadrennial games org.
 37 City near Provo
 38 NYC area near the Village
 40 Go along with
 43 37-Down's state
 44 Wine valley of California
 45 Brief audio file
 46 All the rage
 47 Midterm, e.g.
 48 "500" race
 49 Mine vehicle
 50 Prevaricates
 51 Genesis twin
 52 Bausch & —
 55 Cheap cigars
 56 St. Patrick's Day event
 57 "I give up!"
 60 Absconded
 61 — Artois
 62 — -fi flick
 65 — it out (fighting)
 67 Mary-Kate of "Beastly"
 68 Latching, e.g.
 69 LGA info
 71 Fa-la linkup
 74 Aaron in "Hamilton"
 75 Water, in Chihuahua
 76 Get in return
 77 Mimic a lion
 79 Descended
 80 Toward dawn
 84 Actress Nicole — Parker
 87 Funny Idle
 88 Fail to
 90 Agile
 91 City in Iowa
 93 Half of bi-
 94 Sink down
 95 Hired
 96 Japanese hostesses
 97 Yoko of "Two Virgins"
 98 Taco toppers
 99 Split with an ax, say
 101 Actor Matt
 102 Actress Ryan
 103 Small brooks
 104 Absorb the loss, in slang
 105 Opinion pieces
 106 Lou who won three Grammys
 107 Japanese sash
 109 Hate
 110 Garlic mayo
 111 Makes do
 115 Danish shoe brand
 118 Undivided
 119 Rule, informally
 120 "Zine
 122 Delhi bread
 123 Carried out
 124 — Lanka



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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19		
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43	44	45			46	47						48				49	50	51	52	
53				54					55	56	57		58							
59				60					61				62				63			
64			65				66	67					68	69						
	70					71		72					73							
74	75						76					77	78				79	80		
81						82						83	84					85		
86				87	88		89					90						91		
92						93						94						95		
						96				97	98	99					100			
101	102	103	104					105					106	107		108		109	110	111
112								113					114	115				116		
117					118	119	120			121		122	123					124		
125										126										127
128										129										130

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CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: K equals L

V T T F A V X L Y E H I K G V X T O
 E B T V P A K B G H E B L K L O X T
 I E V C G S Y T L B, L Y L V F T H K L O T F
 "C V A S T ' P B G G P I G O B ."

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STICKELERS

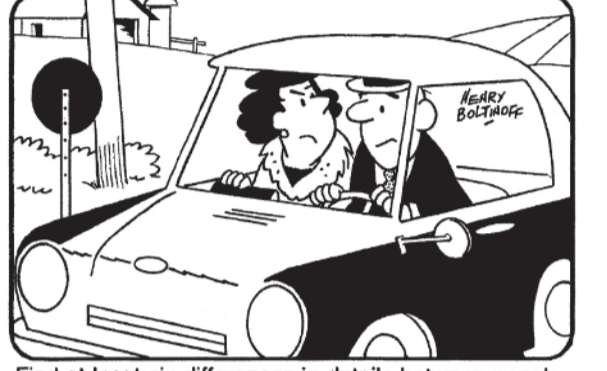
by Terry Stickels

What is the last number in this logical number sequence?

45 99 198 1089 10890 20691 ?

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HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Side mirror is moved. 2. Grille is different. 3. Sign is taller. 4. Door handle is different. 5. Fence is different. 6. Headrest is added.

Answers

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

Even Exchange

by Donna Pettman

Each numbered row contains two clues and two 6-letter answers. The two answers differ from each other by only one letter, which has already been inserted. For example, if you exchange the A from MASTER for an I, you get MISTER. Do not change the order of the letters.

1. Young female horse	— I — — —	Foolishness	— O — — —
2. Restaurant server	— — I — —	Mr. Mitty or Cronkite	— — L — —
3. Serena Williams' tool	— A — — —	Spaceship	— O — — —
4. Sluggish creature	S — — — —	Fabric	C — — — —
5. Code inventor	— — R — —	Mickey or Minnie	— — U — —
6. Alternate route	— — T — —	Wolf down	— — V — —
7. Boxer Sonny	— — — O —	Eavesdrop	— — — E —
8. Groucho's quiet kin	— — — O —	Angelic instruments	— — — S —
9. Deep red gem	— — — — T	Harvest	— — — — R
10. Alf or ET	— — — — I — —	Steve or Woody	— — — — L — —

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"Knife's too short."
 hunk of meat, a man declared
 utensil to cut a large
 answer
CryptoQuip

Repeat these steps and you will arrive at 40293.
 198 + 891 = 1089, 1089 + 9801 = 10890.
 number: 45 + 54 = 99, 99 + 99 = 198.
 reverse it and add it to itself to get the next
 The answer is 40293. Take each number.
Sticklers Answer

Even Exchange

1. Fifty, Folly
 2. Waiter, Waiter
 3. Racket, Rocket
 4. Cloth, Cloh
 5. More, Mouse
 6. Delour, Davor
 7. Liston, Listen
 8. Harpo, Harp
 9. Gambel, Garner
 10. Alien, Alien

GO FIGURE!

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

-	÷	=	1					
+	+	+						
-	x	=	16					
+	÷	-						
-	+	=	11					
=	=	=						
16	1	1						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

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CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: S equals F

VXYCO YS SYDUM PEY
 KYAODZJZDH MCOOYXJ
 PGMKYIMGI'M OXY SYYJLQDD
 JZQA: JEZ VXZZI LQH LQKUZXM.

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Piecing together healthier well-beings

GEORGIA

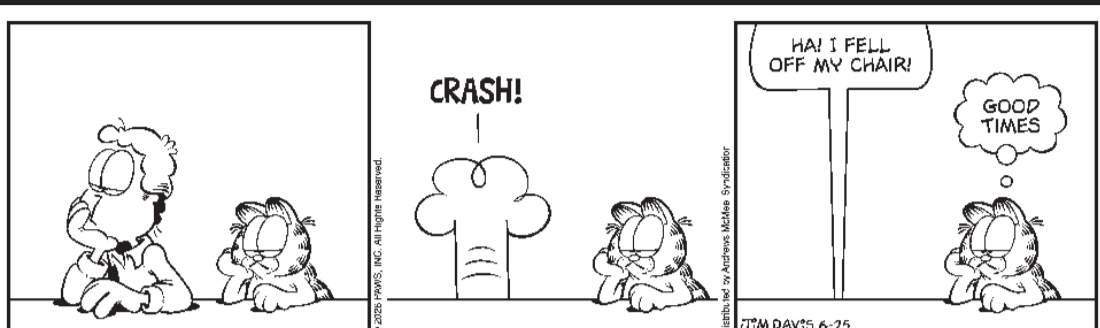
BLOOD AND CANCER

(478) 353-5700 | 207 Fairview Park Drive, Dublin, Georgia 31021

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



GARFIELD



OVERBOARD



DEFLOCKED



ZIGGY



PLUGGERS



A pluggers still loves the feeling of going shoeless out in the yard during the summer.

Woman's antics at the office negatively impact co-workers

DEAR ABBY: I have worked with "Bev" for 12 years. She is insufferable. I love my job and my other co-workers, but they all feel the same way as I do. Bev is a domineering, bullying, entitled woman in her late 50s. She has two "friends" in the entire facility and, unfortunately, considers me one of them, as well as our boss, "Janet," who I am sure merely tolerates her as I do.

Bev calls me incessantly during the day to talk about her personal life. She demeans people and is controlling and rude. She says she is "so busy," but other people end up doing her work for her while she takes all the credit. When my phone rings and it's her, I can feel the life being sucked out of me, and I want to throw my phone at the wall.

The problem is that her other "friend" is Janet. Bev constantly says that nobody can say anything about her because the boss will tell her, which makes it hard for the rest of us who all feel the same way about her. It is affecting my mental health. She calls no fewer than 10 times a day, and then she complains about how busy she is, after she has kept me on the phone 15 minutes or more talking about her personal life. I feel like one day I'm going to explode, and I do not want to lose my job. Help! -- VAMPIRE VICTIM



DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEAR VAMPIRE VIC-TIM: Do you know for a fact that Janet considers Bev a friend? You may see them talking frequently, but that doesn't mean Janet is enjoying it. If, as you say, everyone else in the workplace dislikes her, it's hard to believe the boss hasn't noticed.

Have a private chat with Janet. Tell her about the long, unwelcome chats, the bullying and the rudeness. Be as specific as you can. Ask her if she really supports Bev's habit of invoking their friendship to avoid social consequences. If Janet takes Bev's side in everything -- which is doubtful -- at least you'll know where you stand.

DEAR ABBY: I have a male friend I would really like to get to know better. I would love to date him. We are both divorced and have relatives who no longer speak to us. I

know he's single and not seeing anyone.

I haven't had a relationship in three years. I sometimes wonder what's wrong with me. I'm a bit overweight but I have a great personality. I can't understand why I can't get a man interested in me. What can I do to get this man (or any man) interested in me? -- READY IN NORTH CAROLINA

DEAR READY: You say your personality isn't the problem. Not every man finds skinny women attractive. However, if you suspect that your weight is what's keeping him (and other men) away, it may be time to address it. Talk with your doctor about a healthy eating plan and join a gym.

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

Thursday, June 25, 2026

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH BOB JONES
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LEARN FROM THE LEAD

North-South vulnerable, West deals

NORTH				EAST			
♠ AK 9 7	♥ Q 9 2	♦ 8 7 4 2	♣ J 6	♠ J 6 2	♥ 5	♦ A 10 9 5	♣ K Q 10 9 5
WEST				SOUTH			
♠ Q 8 5 4	♥ Q 9 2	♦ K J 6	♣ 7 4 2	♠ 10 3	♥ A J 8 7 6 4	♦ Q 3	♣ A 8 3

The bidding:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Pass	1♠	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♣**
Pass	2♥	Pass	4♥

All pass
*10-15 points
**artificial game force

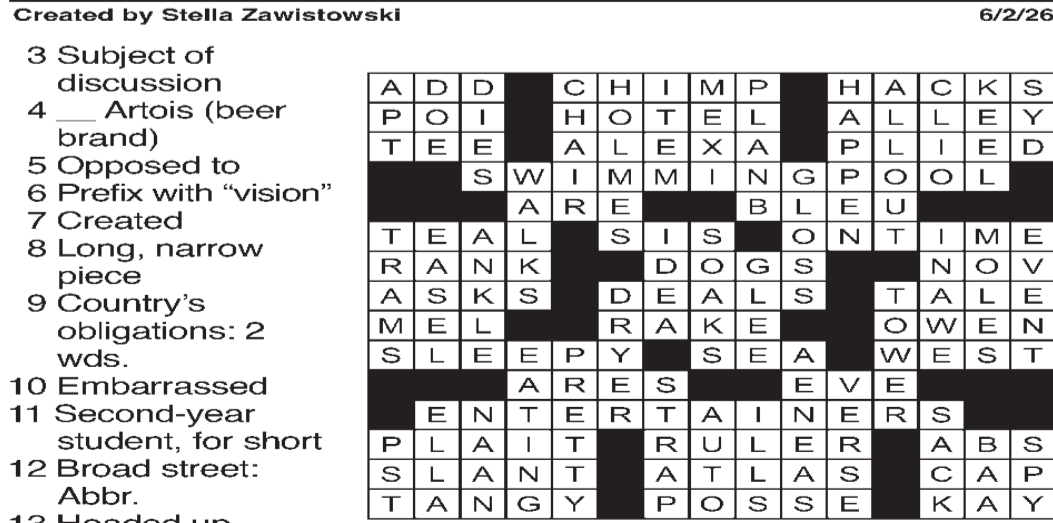
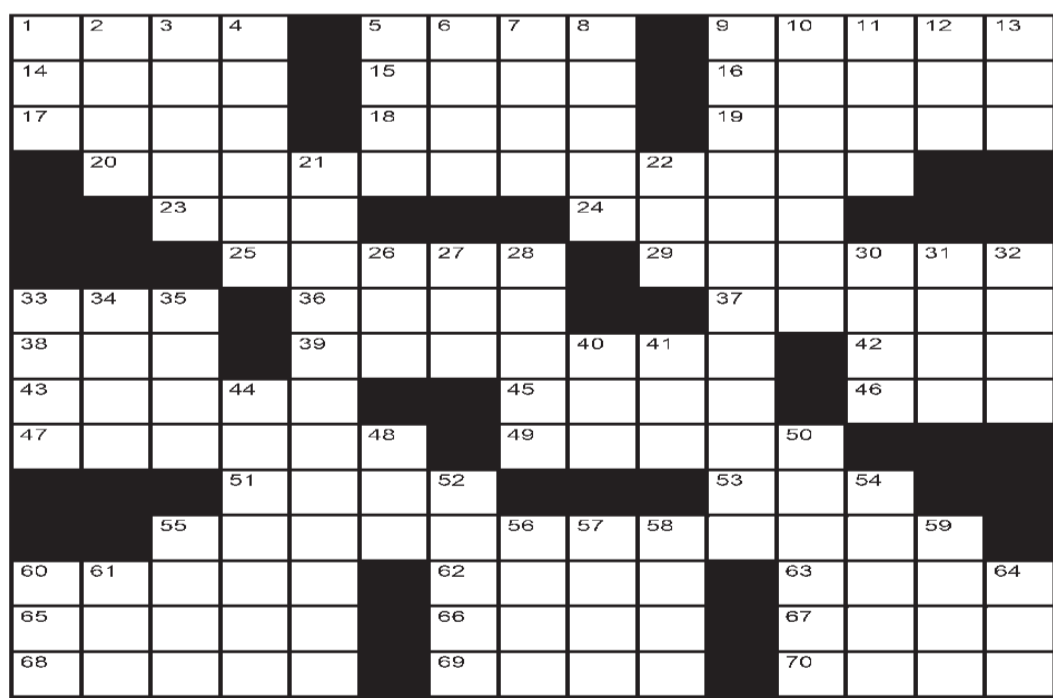
Opening lead: Two of ♣

Today's deal is from a tournament in China. South was Chinese expert Zhang Yongge. North-South were playing a strong-club system and all opening bids other than one club showed 10-15 points. Considering his system, Yongge's decision to force to game with his hand was very aggressive. East-West were using "third and fifth" leads, where the third highest card is led from an even number of cards and the lowest is led from an odd number. Yongge played low from dummy on the opening club lead and let East's nine win the trick. East shifted to the 10 of diamonds and Yongge's queen lost to the king. West continued with the jack and another diamond, ruffed by Yongge. The play so far suggested that West started with three diamonds and three clubs. West probably did not have six spades or he would have opened with a weak two-bid, therefore West had at least two hearts and might well have three.

Yongge decided to play West for the queen of hearts. If Yongge cashed the ace of clubs at this point and ruffed a club, he would be in dummy and could only pick up West's trumps if the suit split 2-2. To allow him to pick up West's trumps if he had three to the queen, Yongge led a heart to dummy's 10. When that won, he led a club to his ace and ruffed a club in dummy. He then cashed the king of hearts, dummy's two high spades, and ruffed a spade. He finally cashed the ace of hearts to draw the last trump. Nicely handled!

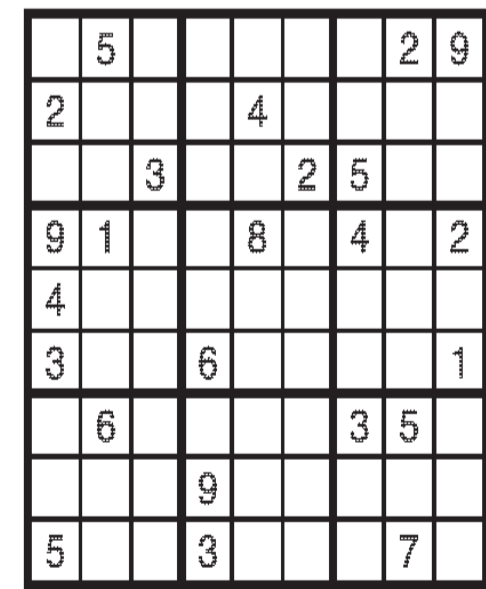
THE Daily Commuter Puzzle by Stella Zawistowski

- ACROSS**
- "Marching" insects
 - Cash access points: Abbr.
 - Whiny-sounding
 - Chimney dust
 - Tidy
 - ___ and beyond
 - Have aspirations
 - Letters before a Reddit summary: Abbr.
 - Recorded
 - "Bad Guy" singer: 2 wds.
 - Cavaliers, on scoreboards
 - Winnie-the-___
 - Turn at the plate
 - Underhanded
 - Burst
 - Ancient Roman garb
 - French goodbye
 - "___ you kidding?"
 - Everlasting
 - Type of sleep: Abbr.
 - Lowest point
 - "I ___ you so!"
 - Relaxing resort
 - Supports for broken arms
 - Control a car
 - Pre-calc class
 - "That's show ___ for ya!"
 - Spread paired with jelly: 2 wds.
 - Get up
 - Historic periods
 - Lyft alternative
 - Get up
 - Certain
 - Specialized field
 - Cables
 - Casual tops
 - "___ Bird" (2017 film)
- DOWN**
- Cigar residue
 - Beginner, for short
 - Subject of discussion
 - ___ Artois (beer brand)
 - Opposed to
 - Prefix with "vision"
 - Created
 - Long, narrow piece
 - Country's obligations: 2 wds.
 - Embarrassed
 - Second-year student, for short
 - Broad street: Abbr.
 - Headed up
 - Report card marks: 2 wds.
 - ___ Angeles
 - AI program
 - Get older
 - Pop-___ (toaster pastries)
 - Makes public
 - Retain
 - Arizona city
 - Bad reviews
 - Taken by mouth
 - Foot treatment
 - "That's ___ fair!"
 - Bitter beer
 - Deeply felt
 - Religious no-no
 - Cultural custom
 - Partygoer
 - Striped equine
 - Couple
 - Opposite of false
 - Unadorned
 - Employs
 - Clarinnet insert
 - Noticed
 - Three-part race
 - Singer Charles



Created by Stella Zawistowski 6/2/26
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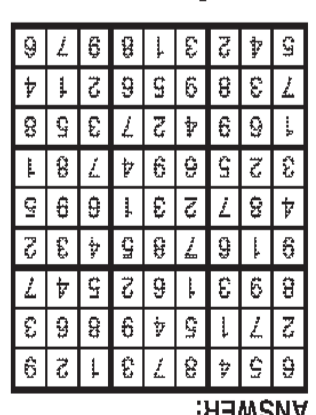
SUDOKU



Fun By The Numbers

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

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



ANSWER:

I-16 WRECK

Continued from page 1

and his condition was not known as of Wednesday afternoon.

Traffic was backed up on I-16 for at least a mile as officials from Georgia Department of Transportation worked on the bridge and deputies from the Laurens County Sheriff's Office directed traffic to travel up the exit ramp and either straight to get back on the interstate or left or right onto Ga. 338.

GDOT's anticipated end time for construction work was 7 p.m. Tuesday.



Authorities, including a hazmat team, begin to clear the wreckage near the Dudley exit on I-16/PAYTON TOWNS III

VA invites community to Freedom 250 celebration

By PAYTON TOWNS III
Senior Reporter

The Carl Vinson VA Medical Center wants the whole community to come out and celebrate America's 250th birthday one week early.

The Dublin VA's Freedom 250 will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, June 27. This event will be held on the front lawn and is free and open to the public.

"We will have music, games and fun," said VA Center for Development and Civic Engagement Chief Keith Griffin. "I had received numerous calls and emails from people in the community. It started with the city calling me and wanting to see how other businesses and organizations were going to celebrate. We made the decision to be part of the 250. We wanted to have a community event and also use this as an opportunity to use this as a resource fair for veterans."

The fair will give the veterans an opportunity to find out more about what they can receive at the Dublin VA. They will be able to ask questions and file for benefits.

"Any veterans who may not be receiving VA care, will have an opportunity to register for VA healthcare," Griffin said. "They will be able to receive answers for claims and the capability to file a claim as well."

There will be a Women Jeepfest and Women Can-Am Fest along with food trucks and vendors.

"I think about what this country has been through in 250 years," Griffin said. "I think about the veterans and the soldiers who are still protecting our freedoms. I feel like this is a time where we can appreciate our past, present and future. There are soldiers who gave the ultimate sacrifice to enjoy the freedoms that we have each and every day. I also think about our present veterans that we take care of on a daily basis as we try to give the best healthcare that is affordable for them. I think of our future soldiers who are protecting us now. I know we all hope and pray that our country will be in position to celebrate another 250 years from now. We just want to continue to celebrate being an American citizen and enjoying the country and the freedoms that we have."

Griffin, who served in the U.S. Air Force, knows it is important for veterans to get the healthcare they deserve.

"Veterans have a lot of challenges, and a lot of times, family members are looking for opportunities and ways to help better serve their veterans. With an event like this, and the resources we will have there, this is the opportunity for them to get the answers they have been looking for and it maybe the right time to find out about the benefits and services that are offered to our veterans."

For more information, contact Griffin at Keith.Griffin@va.gov



Teresa Seeley, Dublin City Schools' new finance officer, shares the district's monthly financial report with the school board Monday night/RODNEY MANLEY

SCHOOL BOARD

Continued from page 1

than a year.

"Our assets are primarily cash, what we have in Capital City (Bank) and Georgia Fund 1," Seeley explained. "Our liability is primarily payroll deductions that are owed to State Health."

The investment funds will be transferred to Capital City "to cover operations for the next month or two," she said.

For the year, the district has spent less – \$25.5 million – than it has received in revenue – \$28.9 million, allowing it to cut into the \$3.9 million deficit in which it started the fiscal year last July.

The largest expenditure by far has been on instruction.

"We've managed our spending tightly across all departments," said Seeley. "Our priority is the classroom comes first. We've spent \$14.1 million directly on instruction and teacher salaries."

The next largest year-to-date expenditures are in maintenance and operations, at \$2.7 million, and in administration, at \$2 million.

Last fall, after discovering the district owed more than \$6 million in overdue payments to the State Health Benefit Plan, state officials had projected the system would end the current fiscal year June 30 with a \$13.4 million deficit.

"We are moving forward," said board member Peggy Johnson. "I know there are people who don't think so, but we are moving forward."

SUPERINTENDENT

Continued from page 1

board members said in a joint statement.

"Publicly available court records and media reports indicate that the federal lawsuit was jointly dismissed by the parties in November 2025. The dismissal did not include a finding of liability or wrongdoing by Dr. Holland or Marietta City Schools, and the case was not resolved through a trial or judgment on the merits."

In the lawsuit, Marietta City Schools' Student Life Center Director Sarah Barbour, who is white, alleged that Holland, who is black, falsely accused her of racism and retaliated against her after she acted as a whistleblower, accusing her predecessor at the Student Life Center of mismanaging a program. Barbour also claimed the Marietta Board of Educa-

tion slashed her budget and programs because some members disagreed with her support of LGBTQ+ students.

Holland was among 25 candidates who applied for Dublin's superintendent's position during a search led by the Georgia School Boards Association.

"Throughout the superintendent search process, the Georgia School Boards Association conducted a thorough review of candidate qualifications, experience, references and professional credentials," Dublin board members said in their statement. "Dr. Holland brings more than two decades of educational leadership experience and was selected based on his demonstrated record of service, leadership and commitment to student success."

A vote to hire Holland is expected in two weeks. State

law requires that a finalist or finalists for the position must be announced at least 14 days before a vote on the hiring can be taken.

Former curriculum director Marcee Pool has served as interim superintendent since last September, when Superintendent Fred Williams stepped down to take an early retirement after the severity of the school district's most recent financial troubles were revealed.

Holland will be tasked with turning around the struggling school system, which last fall was projected to end the current fiscal year with a \$13 million deficit. The district has significantly reduced spending – and its deficit – through cuts that included mid-year terminations of several dozen teachers and other staffers, but still owes the state more than \$5 million in overdue payments to the State Health Benefit Plan.

FATAL ACCIDENT

Continued from page 1

traveling south on Ga. 19, stopped partially in the roadway, straddling the fog line. The SUV did have its hazard lights flashing, but they were not visible from the back due to a small utility trailer loaded with a metal carport.

A GSP official said the trailer did not have functioning lights, the area was dark and unlit and the SUV driver was standing in the road near the back of the trailer.

A sedan approached from the rear and hit the SUV driver as he was standing in the road. The sedan then swerved into the west shoulder and hit a large creek.

"It was dark and the driver (of the sedan) probably didn't see him," Stanley said. "Part of the vehicle was on the side of the road, and he was out in the road. There are no security lights. It is pitch dark right there, and he had on dark clothes too. Nobody could have seen his lights from the SUV because it was blocking all of that. It is such a sad situation."

The driver of the sedan was transported to the hospital for minor injuries. The highway was blocked for approximately two hours until 11:30 p.m.

SNAPSHOTS: MORE FROM THE TASTE OF JUNETEENTH FESTIVAL



Legislature kills sales tax for property tax swap

By TY TAGAMI
Capitol Beat

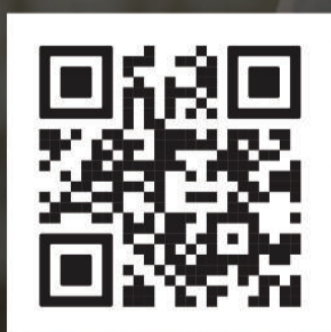
ATLANTA — Democrats in the Legislature on Monday closed the door on Republican proposals to implement new local sales taxes to offset homeowner property tax bills.

Republicans have a majority in the House and Senate, but the sales tax legislation required a two-thirds majority for passage, which would have put the question to voters in local referendums.

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