

Twiggs Co. under burn ban as landfill fire is contained

Officials say the fire at Wolf Creek Landfill in Dry Branch started around noon on Friday and has since been contained/CHRIS PATAT



Residents living near the landfill have complained of smelling burning plastic and smoke from inside their homes since Friday and expressed concern over the ongoing air quality issue/CHRIS PATAT

By CAROLINE WEATHERSBY
Staff Reporter

A fire broke out at Wolf Creek Landfill in Dry Branch on Friday. No injuries have been reported, but residents complained of smelling smoke and burning plastic.

Twiggs County Fire worked into the night to extinguish the fire, sharing it was "contained" to the landfill until it was put out.

Officials say the blaze began around noon and that they believe the fire was started by discarded fireworks.

Residents in neighboring counties shared they could see the blaze from their homes several miles away.

Nearby residents reported smelling burning plastic and smoke

from inside their homes, even after the fire was extinguished. Many voiced their concerns on social media drawing attention to harmful toxins people could be breathing in, even without smoke being present and without warning.

One resident expressed concern that no public health advisory or air quality guidance was issued. He shared that he wished someone would address it, especially as many people live in the area.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the best ways to protect yourself from smoke inhalation during active fires is by keeping indoors, using portable air cleaners or filters if

LANDFILL FIRE
Continued on page 2

City of Gordon owes more than \$16,500 in unpaid invoices to two companies



Gordon's city council met for a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, April 20 to discuss city matters including over \$16,500 in unpaid bills from 2024 /SPECIAL PHOTO, City of Gordon

By CAROLINE WEATHERSBY
Staff Reporter

A council meeting earlier this month revealed the city of Gordon currently owes \$16,594.44 to two companies after dozens of invoices from 2024 went unpaid.

Multiple city officials say they don't know why they weren't paid.

During the meeting, Mayor Aprill Adside-Smith explained to the council that last fiscal year, the city clerk received several invoices from two companies over email. After requesting the companies send official invoices through the mail, explaining she didn't have the ability to pay invoices over email, the invoices never arrived, and so they went unpaid.

"If she didn't get it in the mail, she didn't pay it," said Adside-Smith. "That's probably why."

According to Adside-Smith, these companies didn't go entirely unpaid, as they did receive partial payments for services billed through the mail. As she explained, only invoices that never appeared in the physical mail weren't paid.

The mayor further clarified that money wasn't an issue in paying the missing invoices, but now that the fiscal year had concluded, the city doesn't have the money allotted in the current budget. To pay the bill now, Adside-Smith would need approval from the council.

GORDON COUNCIL
Continued on page 2



The Double Barrell Band, a Cochran-based rock band specializing in oldies rock, will play alongside The Rocky Creek Band at the Battle of Guitars at the Chester's Lions Club on May 2/CONNOR PAYNE, Special Photo

Cochran's Double Barrell Band to rock Lions Club

By CAROLINE WEATHERSBY
Staff Reporter

A 50-plus year old music tradition will continue next Saturday with the annual Battle of Guitars event in Chester, and this year's line up is set to include Cochran's own Double Barrell Band.

Every year beginning in 1973, the Lion's Club sponsors the Battle of Guitars at the Chester gym, promising great food, great prizes and great entertainment. This year the event will be held on May 2 at 6 p.m.

The Rocky Creek Band, a staple at Battle of Guitars since the 70s asked the Double Barrell Band to

perform with them at the show.

Originally formed in 1978, The Double Barrell Band banded together with a goal to play classic rock music and share in the fun turning the tunes of their time. The group eventually split, going their separate ways for college, but over the years, the members never lost their love for 70s rock. It wouldn't be until 2011, over 30 years later, that they would play together again, continuing their passion for old-school rock and roll.

Today, the band consists of James Lamb on the bass, his brother Kerry Lamb on guitar, Lacy Royals lending his talents to keyboard and vocals, Ronnie



The Double Barrell Band circa 1979 /CONNOR PAYNE, Special Photo

Smith on guitar and vocals, Randy Barlow as lead vocals, and newest member Connor Payne on drums.

Roughly 40 years younger than the rest of the band, Payne says the age difference doesn't bother him. "The music they play is what I like," he said.

Payne said he auditioned with the Double Barrell Band in 2022 after playing his first live

DOUBLE BARRELL BAND
Continued on page 2

Periodical — Mail Label

OFTC students awarded in TOOLS annual program

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES JOURNAL POST

OFTC – Seventeen Oconee Fall Line Technical College (OFTC) students were awarded the program specific tools they'll need to jump-start their careers during the 27th annual Tools for Outstanding Occupational Leadership Students (TOOLS) Program held on the college's Dublin campus, Wednesday, April 15.

The 2026 TOOLS Program was sponsored by The Louie and Evelyn Livingston Family Foundation, and corporate-level donors were Morris Bank, a Division of Vallant Bank; the OFTC Foundation, Inc.; and Smurfit-WestRock.

"This event is always a special one for us," said Kathy Aaron, OFTC's Executive Director of Institutional Advancement and the Foundation. "Seeing the excitement and gratitude of these students as they receive the tools they need for their careers is a powerful reminder of our mission at OFTC—to equip students for success."



TOOLS PROGRAM
Continued on page 2

Seventeen OFTC students were recently awarded equipment to help launch their careers through the 27th annual TOOLS program/SPECIAL PHOTO



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LANDFILL FIRE
Continued from page 1

possible, using respirators when leaving the building, and regularly checking the Air Quality Index which can be found on most smart phone weather apps.

While Twiggs County Fire hasn't directly mentioned the fire on social media, they posted on Saturday afternoon warning residents the burn ban set to begin in May has been pushed up due to the ongoing drought throughout Georgia, which could have exacerbated the flames.

"GA Forestry is advising we are under an early burn ban due the drought that we are in. That means no fires or burns except agricultural burns are being permitted for the rest of this week and next week for right now. It could be longer I will update further when we know more," officials wrote.

According to the Western Fire Chiefs Association, droughts greatly increase the likelihood of wildfires and are more likely to exacerbate existing fires.

"Drought directly impacts the speed and behavior of wildfires because dry vegetation causes fires to spread more quickly and become more intense... While drought conditions increase the risk of wildfires, wildfires can also worsen drought by damaging vegetation and reducing the amount of moisture in the soil. Communities in fire-prone areas should take steps to reduce the risk of wildfires, such as creating defensible space around homes and other structures, and following fire safety guidelines."

According to the Georgia Forestry Commission, over 98% of Georgia is now in a "moderate to exceptional drought" and over 69% is in "extreme to exceptional drought."

The commission advises residents to avoid parking vehicles in dry grass, use outdoor equipment carefully, never leave grills or fire pits unattended, obey local burn restrictions and report smoke or wildfire concerns quickly.

GORDON COUNCIL
Continued from page 1

"It's not the fact that we didn't have the money to pay it, but it was a previous budget... We can't move forward with this unless I get from the council what you all want to do, because I don't know why they weren't paid," she said.

The two companies named in the meeting were Pace Analytical, a company that tests the city's water, and Amazon, for undisclosed services with the city library.

Officials shared that over 30 unpaid invoices from Pace Analytical totaled \$16,324.50. Bills from Amazon, dating back to July and August of 2024, totaled \$269.94.

Ultimately, the council decided to table the topic until a later date.

At an April 20 meeting when the council revisited the topic, a library representative spoke directly to council members, warning them that bills from Amazon are legitimate and must be paid in a timely manner. Leaving hefty bills unpaid could cause trouble for not only the city, but the

library as well.

"[The Amazon bill] is a legitimate bill that needs to be paid. As a reminder, the library board has authorization to say which bills need to be paid. The city is the fiscal agent which then signs the checks the board authorizes," he said. "If the city cannot successfully meet that requirement - being the fiscal agent - then the city will have to withdraw from being the fiscal agent, and the library will have to pay for a bookkeeper to handle those things, which the library really can't afford."

Aside-Smith asked the council for a motion that would amend the budget for the current fiscal year to make room for the newly-discovered invoices. During discussion, multiple council members agreed that, though the bills need to be paid, they would like to see financial statements before paying them.

In the end, the council decided to hold off on a motion once again until they could review financial statements.

Statements are expected at the next council meeting on May 4.

DOUBLE BARRELL BAND
Continued from page 1

event as a drummer at the Oak Grove Jamboree. He said the reason he was able to secure the drummer spot was because he could play Elvis, and for a 70s rock cover band - Elvis was a must.

Payne described the music of the Double Barrell Band as "high energy," rooted in 70s rock and roll, Elvis Presley and the Allman Brothers.

The name "Double Barrell Band," commonly misspelled "Barrel," came to be when an organizer at the Swamp-land Music Hall in Toombsboro asked bassist James Lamb for their band name. According to the organizer, the band needed a name, and so Lamb came up with one on the spot, The Double Barrel Band. Later, when making posters, according to Payne, someone misspelled "Barrel" as "Barrell" on a poster, and so they decided to keep it.

Recently, the Double Barrell Band played Country Fest in Cochran back in October.

"Like most bands around here, it's like a 'Spinal Tap' situation," Payne said. "They've had like 10 different drummers, but I'll be darned I'm going to be the last drummer... Nobody does it like we do."

Admission to Battle of Guitars is \$5.

TOOLS PROGRAM
Continued from page 1

Recipients were awarded program-specific tools required for their careers so that they can seamlessly transition into the workforce without the burden of purchasing necessary on-the-job equipment or tools. Students received items like stethoscopes, toolboxes, welding helmets, scrubs, lab coats and other essential items related to their program of study and future profession.

- The 2026 TOOLS recipients**
- Bryce Wimberly of Chester, Air Conditioning Technology
 - Jimmy Givins III of Eastman, Air Conditioning Technology
 - David Penny of Adrian, Automotive
 - Karessa Hinson of Wrightsville, Construction Management
 - Ryan Livingston of Milan, Cosmetology
 - Abigail Aycock of Milledgeville, Cosmetology
 - Ian Anderson of Dublin, Electronics Technology
 - Gage Harden of East Dublin, Machine Tool Technology
 - Cynthia Gontorwon of Dublin, Medical Assisting
 - Brittany White of Eastman, Practical Nursing
 - Brittany Coney of Dublin, Radiologic Technology
 - Tiffany Marsh of Gray, Radiologic Technology
 - Alexis Haigh of East Dublin, Diagnostic Medical Sonography
 - Alayna Wiggins of Bartow, Diagnostic Medical Sonography
 - Roldolfo Rodriguez of Wrens, Welding and Joining Technology
 - Jaquarius Bridges of Tennille, Welding and Joining Technology
 - Peyton Edney of Rentz, Welding and Joining Technology
- To learn more about OFTC and the 130+ programs of study available, or the OFTC Foundation, visit the college's website, OFTC.edu.

The OFTC Foundation

The OFTC Foundation, Inc. is an independent nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization established to support students and programs at the college. The foundation is governed by a local board of trustees whose mission is to maintain a focus on local campus needs that mirrors the direction of Oconee Fall Line Technical College. Donors' wishes will be adhered to, and existing donor agreements will continue to be enforced. The foundation provides leadership and community influence through the college's eleven-county service area of Bleckley, Dodge, Glascock, Hancock, Jefferson, Laurens, Telfair, Warren, Washington, Wheeler and Wilkinson counties.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Burt Jones is an Election Denier. Burt Jones was a Fake Trump Elector in the 2020 election. Trump has endorsed Burt. Do you think Burt would be an independent governor or would he be taking his orders from Trump?

John Ricks, Cochran, Ga.

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CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION
Exit 24- Proposed Water System Improvements
Twiggs County
GA0006124

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) has conducted a review of the above subject project in accordance with the State's Environmental Review Process (SERP) for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) projects. The EPD has determined that this project is eligible for a categorical exclusion. Accordingly, the EPD is exempting the project from further substantive environmental review requirements under Georgia's SERP.

The proposed project will include the installation of approximately 3,300 LF of 12-inch water main, isolation valves, fire hydrants, and all related appurtenances to connect a proposed truck stop and travel center located adjacent to Exit 24 and Interstate-16. The proposed extension is necessary to supply the truck stop and travel center with adequate and reliable potable water service, create jobs in the area, and allow the county to continue to grow while developing the Exit 24 interchange. All proposed improvements will occur within the County or State public Right-of-Way.

This project is eligible for a Categorical Exclusion because it meets the following specific criteria, outlined in the DWSRF SERP: construction of new water lines, valves, hydrants, and appurtenances in previously disturbed areas within 1/2 mile of the existing distribution system and storage facilities for the purpose of system reliability, both serving primarily existing residential or commercial users. Furthermore:

- The project will not require issuance of a new or modification of an existing groundwater or surface water withdrawal permit.
- The project is not known or expected to have a significant adverse effect on the quality of the human environment, either individually, cumulatively over time, or in conjunction with other Federal, State, local or private actions.
- The project is not known or expected to directly or indirectly have a significant adverse effect on air quality and on/or threatened species; or environmentally important natural resource areas, such as floodplains, wetlands, coastal barriers and zones, important farmlands or aquifer recharge areas; and cultural resource areas, such as archaeological and historic sites; habitats of endangered species;
- The action is cost-effective and is not expected to cause significant public controversy.

This determination shall become effective after thirty (30) days following its distribution by EPD and can be revoked if significant adverse information is made available. The documentation to support this decision is on file with the Georgia Environmental Protection Division and is available for public scrutiny upon request. A copy of the proposed project documentation is also available for review at the County Hall in Twiggs County, Georgia.

All interested agencies, groups and persons supporting or disagreeing with this decision are invited to submit written comments, within thirty (30) days of the publish date of this notice to:

Georgia Environmental Protection Division
ATTN: Duplex Tchinda, Environmental Engineer
Drinking Water Program
2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, SE, Suite 1052 East
Atlanta, Georgia 30334-9000

After evaluating the comments received, EPD will make a final decision regarding the approval of the project planning documents. No administrative action will be taken on the project for thirty (30) calendar days after publication of this Notice in a local newspaper that serves the Twiggs County area.

4/23/2026
Publish Date: _____

Patel Manny, Program Manager
Drinking Water Program

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DID YOU KNOW...?



Poltergeist (1982)/SPECIAL PHOTO

Did Poltergeist (1982) display a poster six years prior to the real event?

By JACK BAGLEY
Georgia Trust For Local News

Did you know...

... carrots were not always orange in color? Back when they grew wild and uncultivated, carrots were actually purple. During the 17th Century, farmers began cultivating mutant strains into their carrots, resulting eventually in the current orange-ish color the vegetable has today. (Who wants a purple carrot?)

... an animal produces a scent that smells like buttered popcorn? The binturong, which is found in Southeast Asian rain forests, looks kind of like a cross between a bear and cat, and the scent produced is used to mark territory and attract mates. (To take to the movies for popcorn, I bet.)

... the set of a horror movie featured a poster for something that wouldn't happen for six more years? In the 1982 film *Poltergeist*, the characters of Robbie – portrayed by Oliver Robins (born 1971) – and Carol Anne, played by Heather O'Rourke (1975-1988), share a room. On Robbie's side of the room is a poster for Super Bowl XXII, which would not be played until 1988. The year 1988 even figures prominently on the poster. No one on the production team could ever explain why the poster was used in the movie, but if you think that's odd, hang on - it gets far stranger. On January 31, 1988 – the day that Super Bowl XXII was played – Heather O'Rourke began exhibiting flu-like symptoms, and the next day was rushed to the hospital after collapsing in her home. On the way to the hospital she suffered cardiac arrest, but was resuscitated. It was discovered that the young girl had a severe bowel blockage that required immediate surgery, but O'Rourke died on the operating table.

... the insignia of rank of a U.S. Army captain was once proposed to be three gold bars? Prior to World War I, officers in the Army wore their rank on cloth and bullion shoulder straps. A second lieutenant had a plain strap, a first lieutenant had one gold bar at each end, and a captain had two gold bars. During World War I, however, officers wore more basic field uniforms without the shoulder straps, and second lieutenants were being mistaken for regular privates due to a lack of specific insignia. The decision was made in 1917 to make a second lieutenant's insignia the gold bar, with two gold bars for first lieutenants, and three gold bars for captains. However, that change was going to cost a lot of money to implement in designing new production machinery for the metal bars, so they kept the gold bar for second lieutenants, and the first lieutenant's bar became silver. Captains then got two silver bars. (And the respect that those bars earn, I suppose.)

... you may suffer from gelotophobia? If you do, you have a fear of being laughed at. By the way, there's no name for the fear of being laughed with – probably because nobody is afraid of being laughed with. (If you've ever met me, you know I definitely don't suffer from it.)

... years before he became President, Lyndon Johnson had a business deal with another Chief Executive? While still a senator from Texas, Johnson (1908-1973) also owned a Muzak™ franchise in Austin. Johnson sold easy listening background music to President Dwight D. Eisenhower (1890-1969) to be played in the White House. (That Lyndon, always lookin' for a buck.)

... cashews are not nuts? They are actually drupe seeds. What's the difference, you ask? Well, a nut is actually a dry fruit with a hard shell surrounding a single seed. But cashews are the seeds of cashew apples, fleshy fruits which are classified as drupes. (So don't be druped by the advertising.)

... the Victorian era had some pretty interesting terms for people who cheated on their significant others? Those who were caught doing so were said to have been "carrying tackle" or "being on a left-handed honeymoon." (Left-handed honeymoon?)

... a group of British women wanted to do away with coffee? In 1674, the Women's Petition Against Coffee claimed that the brew was turning British men into "useless corpses." Mental Floss tell us that the group proposed a ban on coffee for anyone under the age of sixty. (Heck, ladies, we're all "useless corpses" on Monday mornings, at least until we have our coffee.)

Now... you know!

Call coming from inside the house

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

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

Sure enough, perched on the ceiling fan, was a bird.

I'm no ornithologist, but I think it was a mockingbird. That explains why it sounded like it was making fun of me.

"You let a bird in the house," I hollered at no one in particular, though with a mouthful of toothpaste it sounded more like "Youph mlet um buhrd ihn da huse."

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

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

THE NEW SOUTHERN DAD



By KYLE DOMINY

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

The call was coming from inside the house.

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

She contacts the authorities who work to trace the source of

the phone calls, and, spoiler alert, the calls were coming from inside the house. That myth grew into the plot of a dozen or more films.

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

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

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

COUCH THEATER



The Testaments (TV-MA)

Based on the 2019 novel by Margaret Atwood, this dystopian drama series is a continuation of "The Handmaid's Tale" series that gave Elisabeth Moss ("Imperfect Women") her breakout role. And who better than 25-year-old powerhouse Chase Infiniti, a Golden Globe nominee for "One Battle After Another," to follow in Moss' footsteps? Infiniti plays a young teenager named Agnes who studies at a preparatory school that will train her to become a future wife within the Gilead society. Meanwhile, breakout star Lucy Halliday ("California Schemin'") portrays Daisy, a convert from outside of Gilead.

The first four episodes are out now to stream, with subsequent episodes premiering every Wednesday (Hulu)

/Photo courtesy of MovieStillsDB

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10:00 A.M.

WHERE: THE BLECKLEY COUNTY COURTHOUSE

SPECIAL RECOGNITION – 11:30 A.M.

Mules

On a recent trip from Athens to Hartwell, I enjoyed driving the backroads and monitoring the fields which have or are being prepared for spring planting.

There were plenty of John Deere tractors about, which always makes my day. I remember what the old tricycle model MT meant to our family. It was the most versatile of machines. It could do things beyond its primary purpose—to use its two-row design to cultivate crops that were the staple of our survival.

We began the New Year by using a tiller to break our land, turn over the fallow fields for spring planting. We used a harrow to further bring about ideal conditions for putting seeds into the ground.



LORAN SMITH

The John Deere MT could be outfitted to where it could be used to cultivate the row crops as they matured for growth and eventual harvest. We hooked up crop dusting equipment to attack the dastardly boll weevil which we vehemently despised.

That old MT could be outfitted with a pulley belt

and a rear wheel to cut timber. It could haul heavy loads, and it could, in those unpaved road times, pull a car out of the ditch.

Today, machines for the most part have replaced manual labor down on the farm. You never see men and women stooped over in the cotton fields with long cotton sacks strapped to the backs.

Seeing those John Deere tractors on my drive brought about a flashback to farming with mules. I never had to plow a mule, but I have vivid memories of that era.

It made me consult Mr. Google which revealed that mules date back a thousand years BC or more. I learned that the Hittites, “a people of Asia Minor known for their horse-riding skills, held mules in higher esteem than their best horses.”

Long ago, the price of a mule was three times that of a good horse. Mules were present in Israel and Judah in the time of King David. Further research disclosed that George Washington bred mules at his estate at Mr. Vernon. He was not only the father of our country, but he was also known as the “father of the American mule.”

Among the reasons that mules were so highly regarded was that they worked harder and longer than horses, and they required less food and water.

You must be long in the tooth to remember the popular singer, Frankie Laine whose rendition of the song, “Mule Train,” reached No. 1 on the charts in 1949.

“Mule train (hyah, hyah) “Mule train, “Seems as how they never stop, clippety, clop,

“Clippety, clippety, cippety, clippety, clippety clippety along!”

The success of that song led to the name “Frankie Laine and the Muleskinners.” It turned out to be one of the great promotions by Mercury Records.

You likely know that the mascot of the Army football team is a mule. Interestingly, there are three—General Scott, Raider, and Ranger. This makes one wonder how the mule(s) became so important at West Point, given that calvary units had become so valuable to the Army.

Armies across Europe were dominated by calvary units before the coming of mechanized equipment such as tanks. Both America and England utilized calvary in the Revolutionary War.

However, the Army has

continued using mules in training exercises and has explored options for using robotic mules to assist troops on the battlefield.

My question is, how do you train a robot to understand “gee” and “haw.” “Gee” meant that you wanted the mule to go right and “haw” meant for it to go left. Hardheaded mules might be up for a hard nose confrontation, literally, if they didn’t learn to gee and haw correctly.

Then there was the problem when the farmer absent mindedly used the wrong command saying haw when he meant gee. “Damn it, you scoundrel, I meant Gee. Gee, Gee, Gee you (unprintable).”

I remain thankful that a John Deere tractor enabled me to avoid having to become adept in “Gee and haw,” language in the fields.

Upcoming election candidates missing opportunity to illustrate vision

Georgia will begin early voting for partisan primary races along with non-partisan judicial races on Monday, April 27. The votes cast between then and Georgia’s official primary date of May 19 will determine the judicial races, but most of the focus will be on the partisan contests.

Much of the early oxygen has been consumed by the governor’s race. With two of the Republican candidates each able to self-fund eight figures of ad buys and direct mail, they’ve likely gotten your attention. If you missed their commercials, don’t worry. You’ve probably gotten a dozen or so unsolicited texts.

The Democratic primary for governor has been a bit more low key, as the candidates in that race don’t have the money or in many cases name ID that their Republican counterparts have. They’re also having to define not only themselves, but as members of a minority party without a clear state or national leader to set the

tone, what Democratic governance should and would look like if they are able to take the governor’s mansion after an almost quarter century’s absence.

While there are additional contested primaries for lieutenant governor, attorney general, state school superintendent, secretary of state, public service commission, not to mention federal races for U.S. Senate and Congress, it will be the next governor who sets the tone for Georgia. As the chief executive and spokesperson for the State, it is the governor who decides more or less what changes we’re going to make – and those that we will not – and who tells the rest of the country and world who we are.

That tone is important. It’s not often set in the primaries.

Eight years ago the usual suspects in media decried Georgia’s reign as a state to do business was over when then governor-elect Kemp had just won a campaign largely due to his “Jake” ad,



CHARLIE HARPER
GEORGIA POLITICS

where he jokingly threatened a potential suitor of his daughters with a gun. He’s not only presided over one of the most impressive economic development records for rural America, but is generally viewed as a pragmatic centrist for how he led the state through the Covid crisis.

Eight years before that, I, at the peak of my “hot-take” blogging role, referred to candidate Nathan Deal’s campaign for governor as

“toast” after he had made a few missteps in trying to appeal to the right flank of the GOP base. He managed not only to get Georgia’s economy out of the great recession with entire new industries located and thriving here, but managed to get bipartisan consensus on common-sense criminal justice reforms. He too can be labeled a successful pragmatic centrist for his tenure.

What is much more clear in retrospect about both of these governors is that they had a clear vision for the path they believed the state needed, and were willing to make tough choices – sometimes against their own base – to ensure the state got there. That’s what leaders do.

Modern campaigns don’t allow for much of that anymore. Consultants are highly paid to instruct candidates for all levels to message in generalities, avoid specifics, and above all, make sure they voters hear what they want to hear – and only that.

As such, thus far we’ve heard a lot about tax cuts. We’ve heard very little about spending cuts.

The state’s budget must be balanced, every year. If you cut a dollar of incoming tax revenue, you have to cut a dollar of spending. Alternatively, you can cut a dollar of tax revenue by making it up with another tax or “fee” coming from someone else.

There are several proposals floating around dealing with property taxes. These are not state revenues, but local ones. Candidates for governor, lieutenant governor, state representative and state senate that are promising to cut property taxes are ultimately going to have to fight the bumper sticker of “local control” if they are truly trying to curtail spending by counties, cities, and school boards. That’s a fight the locals usually win.

Voters care about a lot of other things than taxes, even if taxes are the one thing voters will generally agree are all too high.

They want good roads and to spend less time in traffic. They want their schools to be safe, and their children to be highly educated and employable when they graduate from them. They want access to healthcare in their own communities, and they are increasingly aware this includes facilities for mental health.

And they want to know their homes, streets, and communities are safe. They want those who the police arrest to be prosecuted for the crimes alleged, and if convicted, to receive appropriate sentences. They’re tired of stories of some district attorneys refusing to bring appropriate charges and some local judges keeping revolving doors on county jails.

Cutting taxes are nice. A vision about how to fix the state’s most pressing problems while effectively and efficiently using tax dollars is much harder. Too many candidates are avoiding the topics altogether.

Discussing a tale of war, of passports and good constituent service

While most of us have viewed the war with Iran on television from the comfort of our home, to Shelly Corgel in Cobb County, it has been up-close-and-personal.

Her daughter, Leah, has lived and worked in Abu Dhabi, the capital of the United Arab Emirates, for the past 10 years. For security reasons, I have agreed not to get into the details of her work. Suffice it to say it is in a dangerous part of the world.

The UAE, along with other Arab countries, had come under attack from missiles and drones being launched by Iran, resulting in injuries and fires and damage to industrial sites. It was a dangerous place to be.

Ms. Corgel told me, “When I saw the headline that the U.S. and Israel had attacked Iran, I immediately contacted Leah. She was very frightened and distraught. Not only was she terribly afraid because of not knowing exactly what was happening, she was hearing extremely loud explosions, which it turned out were missiles being shot down by the UAE defense system.” (According to reports, the UAE was hit by some 2,300 drones and over 500 missiles and their defense systems had intercepted 90% of them.)

As a result of what was happening, Leah Corgel was



DICK YARBROUGH

being told to shelter in place by the UAE government. If she chose to evacuate, she would have to go alone.

Because of the nature of his work, her husband could not leave. That brought up a problem. No passport.

According to Leah, “I sent my passport for renewal on Feb. 17, which was about two weeks before the conflict started. While I was not planning to return to the U.S., I was very frightened by the initial and confusing ‘Depart Now’ orders from the State Department and not having a travel document in hand and no way to get out.”

Shelly Corgel said, “My fear was that if she didn’t get out soon, the whole Middle East might erupt into war and then she wouldn’t be able to leave.

She had several dealings with the US authorities there but by Tuesday,

March 3, there was still no passport.”

One option was to get an Emergency Passport which would allow her to get out of the country but then she would not be able to get back in the UAE. Also, she was not sure which countries would allow her entry with that kind of passport.

In desperation, Shelly Corgel called Sen. Jon Ossoff’s offices. A friend who had hosted fund raisers for Jon Ossoff gave her his cell phone number.

She called that number (A worried mom has no shame when it comes to her children, she told me) and left a message. After reminding him that they had met previously and had talked at length about her daughter living in Abu Dhabi, she got to the issue at hand: Her daughter desperately needed a passport, and

they were following every avenue they could to get it.

Ms. Corgel said within 2 hours of calling Ossoff’s office, “I got a call from his constituent services representative to follow up on Leah and the passport situation and was told that Senator Ossoff personally instructed them to check in with her about Leah if anything else was needed.” Leah now has her passport.

Shelly Corgel says, “Thinking about this now brings back so many emotions about that time and the situation. I was so touched by Senator Ossoff’s compassion and his staff’s personal response to our situation that I cried.”

A number of former members of Congress from both sides of the aisle read this column on a regular basis and I suspect they would be the first to tell you that



while their political positions got them elected, it was good constituent service that kept them there. I know of several who were so busy creating a national profile for themselves, they were not responsive to their constituents’ needs and lost reelection.

We may forgive you on how you voted on a political issue. We won’t forget if you failed to help us in our time

of need. First things first.

As of this writing, Leah Corgel says things have been calm in Abu Dhabi since the ceasefire and that life is relatively back to normal.

“It’s important for your readers to know that their representative or senator can help in these situations,” she says and adds, “That said, let’s hope they are never in this situation.”

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Legals

Bleckley Co. Legals

C26-035
RETAIL PACKAGE STORE ADVERTISE-
MENT O.C.G.A. 3-4-27

Notice is given that Cochran Beverage Outlet located at 182 East Dykes Street Suite A Cochran GA 31014 has applied for a retail package store license to sell Liquor, Beer, and Wine Products. The business is owned by Shiv Parvati 182 LLC at 182 East Dykes Street Suite A Cochran GA 31014. The LLC member is Babubhai Patel.

April 16, 23, 2026

C26-029
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF BLECKLEY COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: ESTATE OF JAMES EMMETT WHITE DECEASED ESTATE NO. 2026P8
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO: whom it may concern: PAMELA LEDDY AND EMILY W. WHALEY has petitioned for PAMELA LEDDY AND EMILY W. WHALEY to be appointed administrator(s) of the estate of JAMES EMMETT WHITE deceased, of said county. (The petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, waiver of statements, and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. § 53-12-261.) All interested persons are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed with the Court on or before MAY 11, 2026. **BE NOTIFIED FURTHER:** All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing. Jonathan R. Fordham Judge of the Probate Court

April 2, 9, 16, 23, 2026

C26-036
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

RE: ESTATE OF WALTER JACK JOHNSON, DECEASED
All creditors of the Estate of Walter Jack Johnson, deceased, late of Bleckley County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to Executor. This 9th day of April, 2026. Lesa J. Bergh, Executor 281 Mac Thompson Road Cochran, GA 31014

April 16, 23, 30, May 7, 2026

C26-033
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF BLECKLEY COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA
In Re: Cailee Brianna Harp
Civil Action File No. 2026V-00525FW
NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

GEORGIA, Bleckley County
Notice is hereby given that Cailee B. Harp, the undersigned, filed his petition to the Superior Court of Bleckley County, Georgia on the 25th day of March, 2026, praying for a change in the name of petitioner from Cailee Brianna Harp to Cailee Brianna Moore. Notice is hereby given pursuant to law to any interested or affected party to appear in said Court to file objections to such name change. Objections must be filed with said Court within 30 days of the filing of said petition. This 25th day of March, 2026.

/s/ Cailee Harp
April 9, 16, 23, 30, 2026

C26-032
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF BLECKLEY COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: ESTATE OF MARGUERITE BROWN, DECEASED ESTATE NO. 2026P11
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO: whom it may concern: CHERYL LYNN TUNSTALL has petitioned for CHERYL LYNN TUNSTALL to be appointed administrator(s) of the estate of MARGUERITE BROWN, deceased, of said county. (The petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, waiver of statements, and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. § 53-12-261.) All interested persons are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed with the Court on or before MAY 11, 2026. **BE NOTIFIED FURTHER:** All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing. Jonathan R. Fordham Judge of the Probate Court

April 9, 16, 23, 30, 2026

C26-038
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

RE: ESTATE OF DANIEL G. GUERRANT All creditors of the Estate of DANIEL G. GUERRANT, deceased, late of Bleckley County Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned. This 16TH day APRIL, 2026. AMBER GUERRANT YEATTS 1811 GREENBRIER CIR. BLACKSBURG, VA 24060 540-239-7709

April 23, 30, May 7, 14, 2026

C26-034
Notice of Sale Under Power. State of Georgia, County of BLECKLEY. Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Deed to Secure Debt given by LESLIE T HOWARD to MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. ("MERS") AS NOMINEE FOR COLE MORTGAGE & INVESTMENT, dated 06/05/2001, and Recorded on 06/08/2001 as Book No. 220 and Page No. 68 80, BLECKLEY County, Georgia records, as last assigned to NEWREZ LLC D/B/A SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING (the Secured Creditor), by assignment, conveying the after described property to secure a Note of even date in the original principal amount of \$62,225.00, with interest at the rate specified therein, there will be sold by the undersigned at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash at the BLECKLEY County Courthouse within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in May, 2026, the following described property: ALL THAT TRACT OF LAND WITH DWELLING HOUSE THEREON IN THE CITY OF COCHRAN IN LAND LOT 144 OF THE 21ST LAND DISTRICT OF BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA, DESIGNATED AS LOT 1 OF BLOCK "M" OF MC VAY HEIGHTS SUBDIVISION FRONTING 114 FEET ON THE NORTHEAST LINE OF EIGHTH STREET AND EXTENDING NORTHEASTERLY IN EQUAL WIDTH 175 FEET ALONG THE SOUTHEAST LINE OF PETER STREET, ACCORDING TO A PLAT OF SURVEY MADE BY JAKE D. HARRELL, SURVEYOR, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 1, PAGE 233, IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA, AT COCHRAN, GEORGIA. SAID PROPERTY IS RESI-

DENTIAL IN NATURE AND IS SUBJECT TO THE RESTRICTIVE COVENANTS RECORDED IN DEED BOOK D 27, PAGE 44, BLECKLEY COUNTY RECORDS. SAID PROPERTY IS THE IDENTICAL LANDS DESCRIBED IN A WARRANTY DEED FROM FRANK L. MC VAY TO ROY M. BRYANT AND LOIS M. BRYANT DATED JUNE 23, 1961, RECORDED IN DEED BOOK D 28, PAGE 555, BLECKLEY COUNTY RECORDS. The debt secured by said Deed to Secure Debt has been and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of default, failure to pay the indebtedness as and when due and in the manner provided in the Note and Deed to Secure Debt. Because the debt remains in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, as provided in the Deed to Secure Debt and by law, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given). NEWREZ LLC D/B/A SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING holds the duly endorsed Note and is the current assignee of the Security Deed to the property. NEWREZ LLC d/b/a SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING, acting on behalf of and, as necessary, in consultation with FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION, A/K/A FANNIE MAE (the current investor on the loan), is the entity with the full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the loan. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 44 14 162.2, NEWREZ LLC d/b/a SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING may be contacted at: NEWREZ LLC d/b/a SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING, 601 OFFICE CENTER DRIVE, SUITE 100, FORT WASHINGTON, PA 19034, 866 825 2174. Please note that, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 44 14 162.2, the secured creditor is not required to amend or modify the terms of the loan. To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party/parties in possession of the subject property known as **204 E. PETER STREET, COCHRAN, GEORGIA 31014** is/are: LESLIE T HOWARD or tenant/tenants. Said property will be sold subject to (a) any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), (b) any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, and (c) all matters of record superior to the Deed to Secure Debt first set out above, including, but not limited to, assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, easements, restrictions, covenants, etc. The sale will be conducted subject to (1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code; and (2) final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the secured debt. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 9 13 172.1, which allows for certain procedures regarding the rescission of judicial and nonjudicial sales in the State of Georgia, the Deed Under Power and other foreclosure documents may not be provided until final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan as provided in the preceding paragraph. NEWREZ LLC D/B/A SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING as Attorney in Fact for LESLIE T HOWARD. THIS LAW FIRM IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. 00000010762045 BARRETT DAFFIN FRAPPIER TURNER & ENGEL, LLP 4004 Belt Line Road, Suite 100 Addison, Texas 75001 Telephone: (972) 341 5398.

April 9, 16, 23, 30, 2026

C26-039
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF BLECKLEY COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: ESTATE OF BILLY R. SMITH, DECEASED ESTATE NO. 2025P67

NOTICE TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN
Billy R. Smith, Jr. as Administrator of the Estate of Billy R. Smith, deceased, has filed a petition to be discharged from office and all liability. Notice is hereby given that any objections must be filed with this court on or before May 8, 2026. **BE FURTHER NOTIFIED:** All objections

to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing. Jonathan R. Fordham Judge of the Probate Court 112 N. Second Street Cochran, GA 31014 (478) 934-3200 Ext. 4

April 23, 2026

C26-037
STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF BLECKLEY
IN RE: ESTATE OF JIMMY ALLAN BEVERLY, DECEASED.

All creditors of the estate of JIMMY ALLAN BEVERLY, deceased, late of Bleckley County, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment. This 13TH day of APRIL, 2026. MICHELLE PONEGALEK Executor of the Estate of JIMMY ALLAN BEVERLY 204 DILLARD CARY RD COCHRAN, GA 31014

April 16, 23, 30, May 7, 2026

C26-030
GEORGIA, BLECKLEY COUNTY
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

All creditors of the Estate of Michael J. Williamson deceased, late of Bleckley County, Georgia are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said Estate required to make immediate payment.

This 17th day of February 2026. Beverly Lister Williamson, as Executor of the Estate of Michael J. Williamson 109 Racetrack Dr. Cochran, Georgia 31014

F. Bradford Wilson, Jr. Adams, Hemingway, Wilson & Rutledge, LLC Post Office Box 1956 Macon, Georgia 31202-1956

April 2, 9, 16, 23, 2026

Twiggs Co. Legals

T26-027
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

IN RE: ESTATE OF BOBBY LEE ANDERSON.
All creditors of the estate of Bobby Lee Anderson, late of Twiggs County, deceased, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment this 9th day of April 2026 to Thaddus L. Anderson., c/o Attorney: Tim J. Thompson, 1900B Northside Crossing, Macon, GA 31210, 478-471-9900.

April 16, 23, 30, May 7, 2026

T26-031
CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

Exit 24- Proposed Water System Improvements
Twiggs County GA0006124

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) has conducted a review of the above subject project in accordance with the State's Environmental Review Process (SERP) for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) projects. The EPD has determined that this project is eligible for

a categorical exclusion. Accordingly, the EPD is exempting the project from further substantive environmental review requirements under Georgia's SERP. The proposed project will include the installation of approximately 3,300 LF of 12-inch water main, isolation valves, fire hydrants, and all related appurtenances to connect a proposed truck stop and travel center located adjacent to Exit 24 and Interstate-16. The proposed extension is necessary to supply the truck stop and travel center with adequate and reliable potable water service, create jobs in the area, and allow the county to continue to grow while developing the Exit 24 interchange. All proposed improvements will occur within the County or State public Right-of-Way.

This project is eligible for a Categorical Exclusion because it meets the following specific criteria, outlined in the DWSRF SERP: construction of new water lines, valves, hydrants, and appurtenances in previously disturbed areas within 1/2 mile of the existing distribution system and storage facilities for the purpose of system reliability, both serving primarily existing residential or commercial users. Furthermore:

- The project will not require issuance of a new or modification of an existing groundwater or surface water withdrawal permit.
- The project is not known or expected to have a significant adverse effect on the quality of the human environment, either individually, cumulatively over time, or in conjunction with other Federal, State, local or private actions.
- The project is not known or expected to directly or indirectly have a significant adverse effect on air quality and on/or threatened species; or environmentally important natural resource areas, such as floodplains, wetlands, coastal barriers and zones, important farmlands or aquifer recharge areas; and cultural resource areas, such as archaeological and historic sites; habitats of endangered species;
- The action is cost-effective and is not expected to cause significant public controversy.

This determination shall become effective after thirty (30) days following its distribution by EPD and can be revoked if significant adverse information is made available. The documentation to support this decision is on file with the Georgia Environmental Protection Division and is available for public scrutiny upon request. A copy of the proposed project documentation is also available for review at the County Hall in Twiggs County, Georgia. All interested agencies, groups and persons supporting or disagreeing with this decision are invited to submit written comments, within thirty (30) days of the publish date of this notice to: Georgia Environmental Protection Division ATTN: Duplex Tchinda, Environmental Engineer Drinking Water Program 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, SE, Suite 1052 East Atlanta, Georgia 30334-9000

After evaluating the comments received, EPD will make a final decision regarding the approval of the project planning documents. No administrative action will be taken on the project for thirty (30) calendar days after publication of this Notice in a local newspaper that serves the Twiggs County area. Publish Date: 4/23/2026 Patel Manny, Program Manager Drinking Water Program

April 23, 2026

T26-024
STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF TWIGGS

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
Pursuant to the power of sale contained in the Security Deed executed by DANYELLE NEWTON AND BARBARA SIMETON TO WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. in the original principal amount of \$108,000.00 dated

March 9, 2007, and recorded in Deed Book 72, Page 429, Twiggs County records, said Security Deed being last transferred to U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCF 2 ACQUISITION TRUST in Deed Book 11D, Page 198, Twiggs County records, the undersigned will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, before the Courthouse door in said County, or at such other place as lawfully designated, within the legal hours of sale, on 5/5/2026, the property in said Security Deed and described as follows:

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN THE CITY OF JEFFERSONVILLE AND THE 26TH LAND DISTRICT AND THE 325TH G. M. D. OF TWIGGS COUNTY, GEORGIA, WHICH IS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AND DELINEATED AS LOT 1, D'MARIUS COURT SUBDIVISION ACCORDING TO A PLAT OF SURVEY PREPARED FOR D. JOHNSON ENTERPRISES, INC. BY T. JERRY PEACOCK, GEORGIA REGISTERED LAND SURVEYOR NO. 2132, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 10, PAGE 670, CLERK'S OFFICE, TWIGGS SUPERIOR COURT; SAID PLAT AND THE RECORDED COPY THEREOF BEING INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE AS PART OF THIS DESCRIPTION AND REFERENCE THERETO IS HEREBY MADE FOR A METES AND BOUNDS DESCRIPTION OF SAID PROPERTY. PARCEL ID: JV08C 146

Said property being known as: **257 RAILROAD EAST ST, JEFFERSONVILLE, GA 31044**
To the best of the undersigned's knowledge, the party or parties in possession of said property is/are DANYELLE NEWTON AND BARBARA SIMETON or tenant(s). The debt secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due and payable because of, among other possible events of default, failure to pay the indebtedness as provided for in the Note and said Security Deed. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of sale, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given).

Said property will be sold subject to the following: (1) any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, whether or not yet due and payable); (2) the right of redemption of any taxing authority; (3) any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property; and (4) any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above.

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

The name, address, and telephone number of the individual or entity who has full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the mortgage is as follows:

Selene Finance LP
3501 Olympus Boulevard, 5th Floor, Suite 500 Dallas, TX 75019 877-768-3759

Note that pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2, the above individual or entity is not required by law to negotiate, amend, or modify the terms of the mortgage.

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

U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCF 2 ACQUISITION TRUST,

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

The Wilkinson County Board of Commissioners is currently accepting applications for the following position:

CODE ENFORCEMENT/BUILDING PERMIT OFFICER

This is a part-time position, 20 to 24 hours per week. A successful applicant should possess a valid Georgia drivers' license, at least 5 years of experience in code enforcement and building inspections, and possess certifications needed for legal building inspections and permitting. Applicant will be responsible for enforcing county ordinances by spending time out in the county and issuing building permits for residential and commercial buildings which includes overseeing payment for said permits. Applications are available in the Wilkinson County Board of Commissioners office located at 100 Bacon Street, Irwinton, GA 31042 and on the county website at <https://wilkinsoncounty.net>. Applications must be completed and returned to the office by close of business Friday May 15, 2026. Anyone with questions may call 478-946-2236.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed Bids: The City of Ivey will accept sealed bids for the construction of the project entitled **FY 2025 LMIG – Repair of a portion of Lakeshore Drive** until, **11:30 a.m., May 27, 2026**, at the Ivey City Hall, City Council Chambers, 148 Ga. Hwy. 243, Ivey, Georgia 31031 at which time and place all Bids will be publicly opened and read. No bid may be withdrawn after the closing time for receipt of bids for a period of sixty (60) calendar days.

Contractor License: Any Contractor submitting a bid must be licensed by a pre-qualified Georgia Department of Transportation Contractor and must be fully insured and bonded. License numbers must be written on the face of the bid envelope. No bid will be opened unless it contains the Contractor's license number. See Instructions to Bidders for additional bidding requirements.

Work to Be Done: The work to be done shall consist of furnishing all labor, materials, and equipment necessary to construct the project titled **FY 2025 LMIG – Repair of a portion of Lakeshore Drive**. In general, the project consists of repairing a portion of North Lakeshore Drive.

Plans and Contract Documents: Plans and Contract Documents are on file for review only at the Ivey City Hall and the Dodge Plan Room. Copies for bidding purposes can be obtained from Ingram & Associates, L.L.C., 332 New Street, Macon Georgia 31201, Phone: (478) 745-3996, Fax: (478) 742-4690, Email: ashley@ingrameng.com upon payment of **\$50.00** for each digital set (non-refundable). Bidders MUST acquire Bidding Documents from the Engineer in order to bid this project.

Bonds: All bid forms must be accompanied by a Bid Bond in an amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the amount bid. The successful bidder, if awarded the Contract, will be required to furnish a Performance Bond and Payment Bond, each in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the Contract amount. All bonds must appear on the Treasury Department's most current Circular 570 Listing, latest edition.

Funding: Any Contract or Contracts awarded under this Advertisement for Bids are expected to be funded through the City of Ivey FY 2025 LMIG Program.

The Owner: reserves the right to reject any or all bids, including without limitation, the right to reject any and all non-conforming, non-responsive, unbalanced or conditional bids and to reject the bid of any bidder whom the owner believes would not be in the best interest of the project to make an award to that bidder whether because the bid is not responsive, the bidder is unqualified, or of doubtful financial ability, or fails to meet any other pertinent standard or criteria established by the owner.

By: Mr. Clint Hardie
Mayor, City of Ivey

Georgia
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Call Georgia Newspaper Service: 770-454-6776
ATTN: THE GEORGIA PRESS ASSOCIATION

<p>We don't knowingly accept advertisements that discriminate, or intend to discriminate, on any illegal basis. Nor do we knowingly accept employment advertisements that are not bona-fide job offers. All real estate advertisements are subject to the fair housing act and we do not accept advertising that is in violation of the law. The law prohibits discrimination based on color, religion, sex, national origin, handicap or familial status.</p>	<p>HOME IMPROVEMENT Replace your roof with the best looking and longest lasting material - steel from Erie Metal Roofs! Three styles and multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer - up to 50% off installation + Additional 10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders.) Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-866-939-2151</p>	<p>0231 Have zip code of property ready when calling! HOME BREAK-INS take less than 60 SECONDS. Don't wait! Protect your family, your home, your assets NOW for as little as 70¢ a day! Call 1-833-890-1269 SunSetter. America's Number One Awning! Instant shade at the touch of a button. Transform your deck or patio into an outdoor oasis. Up to 10-year limited warranty. Call now and SAVE \$350 today! 1-877-740-0337</p>	<p>SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY BENEFITS. Unable to work? Denied benefits? We Can Help! Strong, recent work history needed. Call to start your application or appeal today! 877-627-2704 Moving Out of State? Licensed and insured, full-service nationwide movers. Call now to get a free, instant price quote on your next move. 1-866-590-6443 DONATE YOUR CAR TO KIDS. Your donation helps fund the search for missing children and preventing abduction. Accepting Cars, Trucks and Vans. Fast Free Pickup - Running or Not May Qualify for Tax Deduction - Call (888) 515-3813. TV/INTERNET Get DISH Satellite TV + Internet! Free Install, Free HD-DVR Upgrade, 80,000 On-Demand Movies, Plus Limited Time Up To \$600 In Gift Cards. Call Today! 1-866-369-1468</p>
<p>STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS FOR THE WEEK 4/19/26</p>	<p>BATH & SHOWER UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Affordable prices - No payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Senior & Military Discounts available. Call: 1-833-781-0206</p>	<p>MISCELLANEOUS YMT Vacations. Over 50 guided tours available. Affordable, social and stress-free travel designed for mature travelers. Our tours include accommodations, transportation, baggage handling, sightseeing, entrance fees, a professional Tour Director and select meals. For a limited time SAVE \$250 on all tours. Call YMT today. 1-855-548-2623</p>	<p>COMPUTER ISSUES? FREE DIAGNOSIS by GEEKS ON SITE! Virus Removal, Data Recovery! 24/7 EMERGENCY \$20 OFF ANY SERVICE with coupon 442522! Restrictions apply. 854-739-4842 WANTED We Buy Houses for Cash AS IS! No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy three step process. Call, get cash offer and get paid. Get your fair cash offer today by calling Liz Buys Houses: 1-877-399-2113 TOP CASH PAID FOR OLD GUITARS! 1920-1980 Gibson, Martin, Fender, Gretsch, Epiphone, Guild, Mosrite, Rickenbacker, Prairie State, D'Angelico, Stromberg. And Gibson Mandolins / Banjos. 1-833-641-6792</p>
<p>CELLULAR Consumer Cellular - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just \$20/month. For more information, call 1-833-446-1847</p>	<p>WATER DAMAGE CLEANUP: A small amount of water can lead to major damage to your home. Our trusted professionals dry out the wet area and do repairs to protect your family and your home's value! If you have water in your home that needs to be dried, call 24/7: 1-833-871-2090. Have zip code of service location ready when you call!</p>	<p>BANKRUPTCY RELIEF! Help stop Creditor Harassment, Collection Calls, Repossession and Legal Actions! Speak to a Professional Attorney and Get the Help You Need! Call NOW 855-968-5222</p>	<p>BEHIND ON YOUR MORTGAGE PAYMENTS? Threatened with foreclosure? Denied a loan modification? Let us help! Call the Homeowner Relief Line to speak with a mortgage specialist. 844-797-7162 Wesley Financial Group LLC Timeshare Cancellation Experts Over \$50,000.00 in timeshare debt and fees cancelled in 2019. Get free informational package and learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. Call 866-411-5215</p>
<p>HEALTH CARE Don't let the stairs limit your mobility! Discover the ideal solution for anyone who struggles on the stairs. Is concerned about a fall or wants to regain access to their entire home. Call AmeriGlide today! 1-877-871-3210</p>	<p>ELECTRICAL SERVICES: Reliable & experienced. Competitive rates. From simple household problems to installing a brand new electrical system, we can take care of it all! Call now and have the zip code of the service location when you call! 1-833-399-6566 NEED NEW FLOORING? Call today schedule a FREE in-home estimate on Carpeting & Flooring. Call Today! 1-833-641-6602</p>	<p>ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS! Discover Oxygen Therapy That Moves with You with Inogen Portable Oxygen Concentrators. FREE information kit. Call 1-833-661-9339 Stroke and Cardiovascular disease are leading causes of death, according to the American Heart Association. Screenings can provide peace of mind or early detection! Contact Life Line Screening to schedule your screening. Special offer - 5 screenings for just \$149. Call 1-855-391-2065</p>	<p>PEST CONTROL: PROTECT YOUR HOME from pests safely and affordably. Roaches, Bed Bugs, Rodent, Termite, Spiders and other pests. Locally owned and affordable. Call for service or an inspection today! 1-833-406-</p>

as Attorney-in-Fact for
DANYELLE NEWTON AND BARBARA
SIMETON
Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane &
Partners, PLLC
13010 Morris Rd., Suite 450
Alpharetta, GA 30004
Phone: 470-321-7112
Firm File No. 25-319354

April 9, 16, 23, 30, 2026

T26-025
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
GEORGIA, TWIGGS COUNTY

Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by Jason R Garcia, Amanda L Garcia to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for Taylor, Bean & Whitaker Mortgage Corp., its successors and assigns dated December 26, 2007, recorded in Deed Book 8F, Page 460, Twiggs County, Georgia Records, as last transferred to Select Portfolio Servicing, Inc. by assignment recorded in Deed Book 11D, Page 464, Twiggs County, Georgia Records, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of TWO HUNDRED SIXTY-SEVEN THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND 0/100 DOLLARS (\$267,700.00), with interest thereon as set forth therein, there will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the courthouse door of Twiggs County, Georgia, or at such place as may be lawfully designated as an alternative, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in May, 2026, the following described property:

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

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

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

Select Portfolio Servicing, Inc is the holder of the Security Deed to the property in accordance with OCGA § 44-14-162.2.

The entity that has full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the mortgage with the debtor is: Select Portfolio Servicing, Inc., 3217 S. Decker Lake Dr., Salt Lake City, UT 84119, 888-818-6032.

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

Upon information and belief, said property is more commonly known as **241 Richard Drive, Jeffersonville, GA 31044**. Should a conflict arise between the property address and the legal description, the legal description shall control.

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

The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code, (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed, and (3) to confirmation that the successful bidder has timely provided all information required for reporting under the Rule, 89 FR 70258.

Select Portfolio Servicing, Inc as Attorney in Fact for Jason R Garcia, Amanda L Garcia McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLP 1544 Old Alabama Rd Roswell, GA 30076 www.foreclosurehotline.net EXHIBIT "A"

All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in Land Lot 42 of the 26th GMD of Twiggs County, Georgia, being designated as Tract A-2, comprising 8 acres, more or less, according to a plat of survey recorded in Plat Book 10, Page 732, Twiggs County Superior Court. Said plat and the recorded copy thereof are incorporated herein for all purposes.

MR / CA May 5, 2026
Our file no. 23-11993GA-FT1
23-11993GA

April 9, 16, 23, 30, 2026

T26-029
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF TWIGGS COUNTY

STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF KIMBERLY A. LANE, DECEASED

ESTATE NO. P-26-026
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO: WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Robert Wesley Jones has petitioned to be appointed administrator of the estate of **Kimberly A. Lane**, deceased, of said county. (The petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, waiver of statements, and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. § 53-12-261.) All interested persons are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed with the Court on or before **May 11, 2026**.

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

Gary Nobles, Jr.
Judge of the Probate Court
By: **Diane H. Robinson**
Clerk of the Probate Court
425 Railroad Street PO Box 186
Jeffersonville, Georgia 31044
478-945-3390

April 16, 23, 30, May 7, 2026

T26-021
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF TWIGGS COUNTY

STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF SAAD D. ABULHAB, DECEASED

ESTATE NO. P-26-011
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

Re: Estate of Saad D. Abulhab. All creditors of the Estate of Saad D. Abulhab, deceased, late of Twiggs County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said Estate are required to make immediate payment to me. This 18th day of March, 2026. Sara Tourville, Esq. Attorney for Estate of Saad D. Abulhab 446 S. Houston Lake Road Warner Robins, GA 31088 (478) 333-6502

April 2, 9, 16, 23, 2026

T26-023
STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF TWIGGS

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF SAID STATE AND COUNTY

IN RE: ESTATE OF WILLIAM M. FOSTER, ESTATE NO. P-26-015

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS All creditors of the estate of **William M. Foster**, deceased, late of Twiggs County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to me. This 24th Day of March, 2026

Joshua E. Kight
Attorney for the Estate of **William M. Foster**
Kight Law, LLC
P.O. Box 816
Dublin, Ga. 31040

April 2, 9, 16, 23, 2026

T26-030
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

IN RE: ESTATE OF DONALD CONNER. All creditors of the estate of Donald Conner, late of Twiggs County, deceased, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to me. This 15th day of April 2026 to Ronald Conner c/o Attorney: Tim J. Thompson, 1900B Northside Crossing, Macon, GA 31210, 478-471-9900.

April 23, 30, May 7, 14, 2026

T26-028
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF TWIGGS

IN RE: BEULAH LOU SAULS SMITH, DECEASED

All debtors/creditors of the Estate of Beulah Lou Sauls Smith, deceased, of Twiggs County, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned. This 9th day of April 2026. Patricia Smith, Executor 20672 Hwy 80 Danville, GA 31217

Kindall E. Browning-Rickle
P. O. Box 4939
Eastman, GA 31023
(478) 227-7331

April 16, 23, 30, May 7, 2026

T26-026
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF TWIGGS COUNTY

STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: DORIS HAMM GILDER ESTATE NO. P-25-024

NOTICE OF PETITION TO FILE FOR YEAR'S SUPPORT

The petition of **Thomas R. Gilder**, for a Year's Support from the estate of **Doris Hamm Gilder**, deceased, for decedent's Surviving Spouse, having been duly filed, all interested persons are hereby notified to show cause, if any they have, on or before **May 1, 2026**, why said petition should not be granted.

This Notice specifically acknowledges heirs Tanya Scarpelli, Brandi Harle, and the Estate of Charity Self Robinson whose heirs are unknown. The location/last address of these heirs is unknown and this advertisement specifically identifies the named heirs in order to give the notice in the only way possible since a diligent search has not produced their whereabouts.

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

Gary Nobles, Jr.
Judge of the Probate Court
By: **Diane H. Robinson**
Clerk of the Probate Court
425 Railroad Street North P. O. Box 186
Jeffersonville, Georgia 31044
478-945-3390

April 9, 16, 23, 30, 2026

Wilkinson Co. Legals

W26-034
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF WILKINSON COUNTY

STATE OF GEORGIA
LaTasha Simmons, Plaintiff

v. Danny Simmons Sr
Civil Action File No. 2026CV0022

MOTION FOR SERVICE By PUBLICATION

Comes Plaintiff, pursuant to O.C.G.A. 9-10-971, and moves the court for an order directing that service to the defendant be made by publication upon grounds that he/she cannot, after due diligence, be found within the state, as more fully appears from the affidavit filed herewith and attached hereto.

LaTasha Simmons
Plaintiff pro se
103 Bud Dupree Drive

Toomsboro, GA 31090
478-233-8272

April 2, 9, 16, 23, 2026

W26-042
NOTICE OF THE OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

AIR PROTECTION BRANCH
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF WILKINSON

NOTICE OF DRAFT TITLE V OPERATING PERMIT

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

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

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

Copies of the draft permit, narrative, and permit application will be available through our internet site <https://epd.georgia.gov/draft-title-v-permitsamendments>. (Please note that the Internet is generally accessible from most public libraries in Georgia.) You are hereby notified of the opportunity to submit written public comments concerning the draft Title V Air Quality Operating Permit. Persons wishing to comment on the draft Title V Operating Permit are required to submit their comments, in writing, to EPD at the above Atlanta Air Protection Branch address, or via email [preferred] to air-permits.comments@dnr.ga.gov (email comments must include the facility name and "Air Permit" in subject line). Comments must be received by the EPD no later than 30 days after the date on which this notice is published in the newspaper before close of business at 4:30 p.m. (Should the comment period end on a weekend or holiday, comments will be accepted up until the next working day.) The Division, in making its final decision to issue the Title V permit, will consider all comments received on or prior to that date. Any request for a public hearing must be made within the 30-day public comment period. A request for a hearing should be in writing and should specify, in as much detail as possible, the air quality-related issues that constitute the basis for the request. Where possible, the individual making the request should also identify the portion(s) of the Georgia Rules for Air Quality Control and/or the Federal Rules that the individual making the request is concerned may not have been adequately incorporated into the draft permit. If a public hearing on the draft Title V Operating Permit is to be held, the date, time, and location of the hearing will be provided in a subsequent, separate public notice. At that hearing, anyone may present data, make a statement or comment, or offer a viewpoint or argument either orally or in writing concerning the draft Title V permit. During the Division's decision-making procedures to issue the Title V permit, any information received during a public hearing will be considered together with information received during the comment period. The Division conducts public hearings in "virtual" format using Zoom meeting applications.

Following this 30-day public comment period, the draft permit will undergo a 45 day review by U.S. EPA in accordance with 40 CFR 70.8. Information pertaining to U.S. EPA's review period can be found on their website at <http://www.epa.gov/caa-permitting/georgia-proposed-title-v-permits>. After the comment period has expired, the EPD will consider all comments, make any necessary changes, and issue the Title V Operating Permit. Copies of the final Title V Operating Permit, comments received, EPD's responses to comments, and any other relevant information will then be made available for public review at the office of the Air Protection Branch by appointment only. A summary of comments and any changes made to the final permit will be found in an addendum to the narrative. A copy of this narrative and the final Title V permit will be added to the information already available at the internet address given above.

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

April 16, 23, 2026

W26-038
STATE OF GEORGIA WILKINSON COUNTY

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

RE: Estate of Ann Muriel Jackson All debtors and creditors of the Estate of Ann Muriel Jackson, deceased, late of Wilkinson County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands and payments to the Personal Representative(s) of the estate, according to law, ans all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the Personal Representative(s).

Glenda Jackson
60 5th Street
Danville, GA 31017
This 30th day of March, 2026.

April 9, 16, 23, 30, 2026

W26-040
STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY OF WILKINSON

All debtors or creditors of the Estate of James Ricky Flury, late of Wilkinson County, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are to make immediate payment to me. This 6th day of April, 2026.

Erin Lee Flury
Executor of the Estate of James Ricky Flury, deceased
c/o Susan S. Shook
P.O. Box 1040
Vidalia, GA 30475

April 16, 23, 30, May 7, 2026

W26-036
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF WILKINSON COUNTY

STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: ESTATE OF Catherine D. Hagins, DECEASED

ESTATE NO. 338
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO: **James Hagins Sr.** and to whom it may concern:

James Hagins Sr. has petitioned for **James Hagins Sr.** to be appointed administrator(s) of the estate of **Catherine D. Hagins**, deceased, of said county. (The petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, waiver of statements, and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. § 53-12-261.) All interested persons are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed with the Court on or before **April 27, 2026**.

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

Sarah A. Holder
Judge of the Probate Court
By: Bradasia Mims
Clerk of the Probate Court
Wilkinson County Probate Court
100 Bacon St
Irwinton, GA 31042
478-946-2222

April 2, 9, 16, 23, 2026

W26-037
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF WILKINSON COUNTY

STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: ESTATE OF Derek J. Johnson, DECEASED

ESTATE NO. 321
NOTICE OF PETITION TO FILE FOR YEAR'S SUPPORT

The petition of **Anika Johnson**, for a year's support from the estate of **Derek J. Johnson**, deceased, for decedent's surviving spouse, having been duly filed, all interested persons are hereby notified to show cause, if any they have, on or before **April 27, 2026**, why said petition should not be granted.

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

Sarah A. Holder
Judge of the Probate Court
By: Bradasia Mims
Clerk of the Probate Court
Wilkinson County Probate Court
100 Bacon St
Irwinton, GA 31042
478-946-2222

April 2, 9, 16, 23, 2026

W26-043
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF WILKINSON COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: ESTATE OF Willie Mae Jackson, DECEASED

ESTATE NO.342
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO: **Shadonna Jackson, Jordy Jackson, Andrea Coats, Kiara Chambers, Lula Mae Whipple** and to whom it may concern:

Lula Mae Whipple has petitioned for **Lula Mae Whipple** to be appointed administrator(s) of the estate of **Willie Mae Jackson**, deceased, of said county. (The petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, waiver of statements, and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. § 53-12-261.) All interested persons are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed with the Court on or before **May 11, 2026**.

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

Bradasia A. Mims
Judge of the the Court
By: Carol Hodnett
Clerk of the Probate Court
Wilkinson County Probate Court
100 Bacon St
Irwinton, GA 31042
478-946-2222

April 16, 23, 30, May 7, 2026

W26-039
NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS

STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY OF WILKINSON

All creditors of the estate of **Willie Mae Burke Jackson**, deceased, as of late **June 3, 2015**, Wilkinson County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned, according to law, and all persons indebted to said Estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned:

Wilkinson County Probate Court Clerk, 100 Bacon Street Irwinton, Georgia 31042 This is the 02 day of April , 2026

Donald Lewis Roberts, Attorney

April 9, 16, 23, 30, 2026

W26-041
NOTICE OF THE OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

AIR PROTECTION BRANCH
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF WILKINSON

NOTICE OF DRAFT TITLE V OPERATING PERMIT

To All Interested Parties: The Georgia Environmental Protection Division announces its intent to issue a Title V Air Quality Operating Permit to BASF Corporation – Edgar Plant. The facility is located at 1520 Detric Road, McIntyre, Georgia. The primary purpose of this permit is to identify and consolidate existing State and Federal air requirements applicable to BASF Corporation – Edgar Plant and to provide practical methods for determining compliance with these requirements. The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) is preparing Title V Operating Permits in accordance with Title V of the Clean Air Act. This permit will be enforceable by the Georgia EPD, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and other persons as otherwise authorized by law.

The facility is a kaolin clay processing plant.

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

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

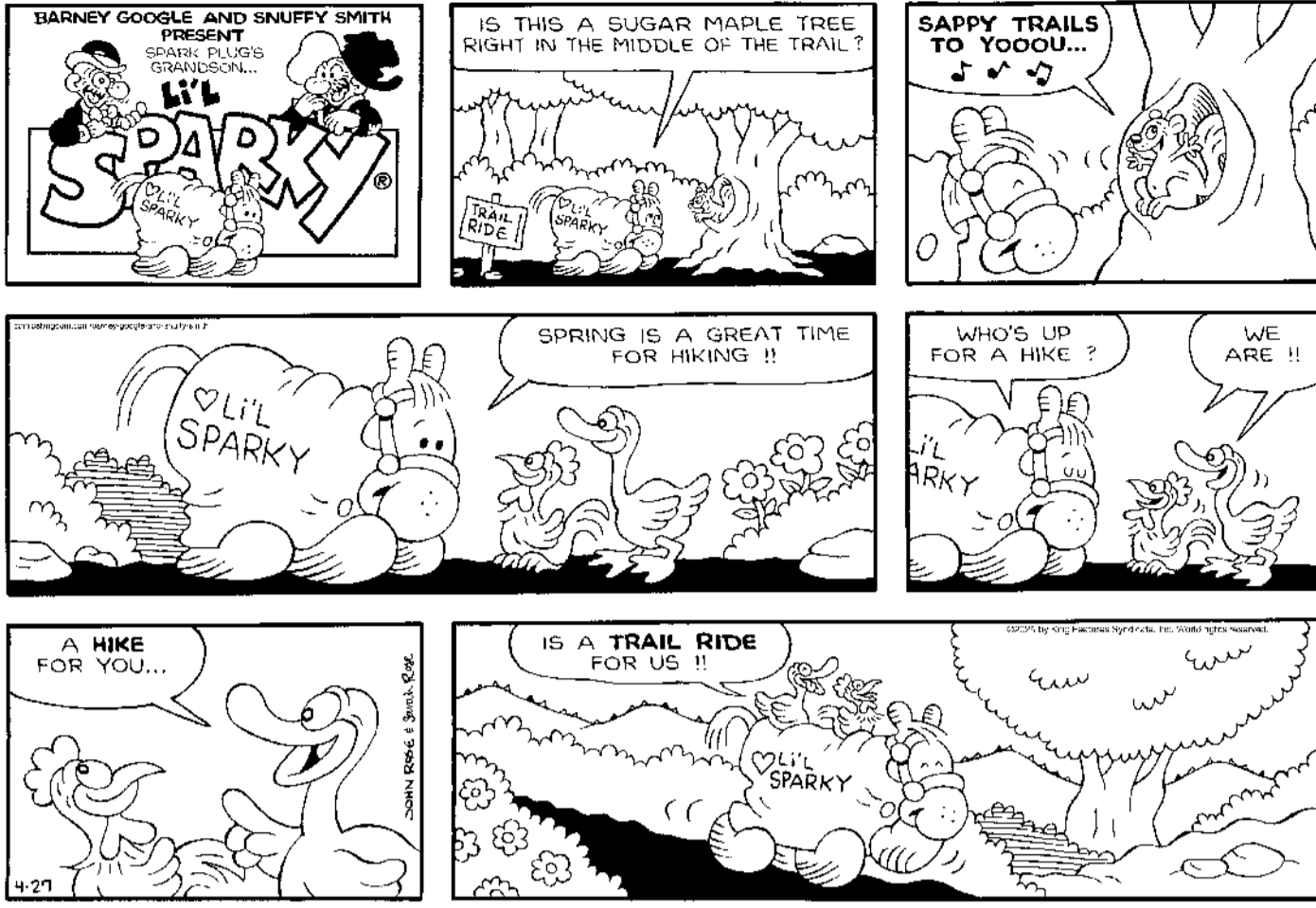
You are hereby notified of the opportunity to submit written public comments concerning the draft Title V Air Quality Operating Permit. Persons wishing to comment on the draft Title V Operating Permit are required to submit their comments, in writing, to EPD at the above Atlanta Air Protection Branch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

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

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

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

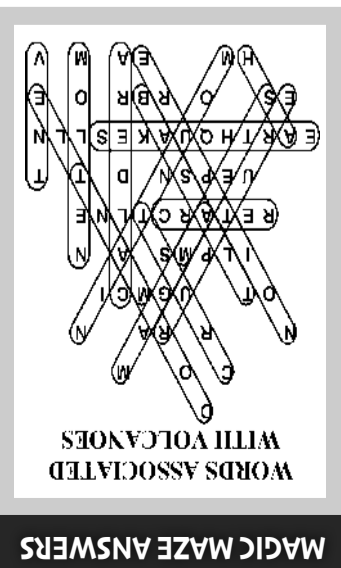
For additional information, contact the manager of the Stationary Source Permitting Program, at the Atlanta address, or by phone at 404/363-7000. Please refer to this notice when requesting information. You can sign up to receive weekly emails regarding Air Public Notices at <https://epd.georgia.gov/subscribe-air-protection-branch-updates>.



The Spats



Out on a Limb



King Crossword

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		

ACROSS

- 1 Spruced up
- 5 Comedian Margaret
- 8 Arduous journey
- 12 Taj Mahal city
- 13 Unprocessed
- 14 Conceal
- 15 Buffets with Mexican food
- 17 Rocker — Pop
- 18 Yoko from Tokyo
- 19 Astern
- 20 Unravels
- 21 Blaster's need
- 22 Tease
- 23 Neighbor of Chad
- 26 Wilma and Fred's kid
- 30 Piglet's pop
- 31 Author Fleming
- 32 Ethereal
- 33 Rabbi's religion
- 35 Fall bloom
- 36 Buddy
- 37 Canonized Fr. woman
- 38 Prima donnas
- 41 Carnival city
- 42 Co. that created Watson
- 45 Pizza cooker
- 46 Home to the Buccaneers
- 48 Social standing
- 49 Wall St. wheeler-dealer
- 50 Deadly septet
- 51 Picnic invaders
- 52 Pot pie morsel
- 53 Whispered "Hey!"
- 7 Pained sounds
- 8 Baseball diamond stop
- 9 Latvia's capital
- 10 Jittery
- 11 Lock openers
- 16 "Troy" actor Eric
- 20 Little lie
- 21 "America's Next Top Model" host
- 22 "Community" actor Jeong
- 23 JFK's veep
- 24 Chit
- 25 Abysmal
- 26 Shriver of tennis
- 27 Tipsy
- 28 Before
- 29 Aleppo's land (Abbr.)
- 31 Equi-
- 34 1040 org.
- 35 On
- 37 "The Lion King" lion
- 38 TV explorer
- 39 Author Turgenev
- 40 Air outlet
- 41 Scarce
- 42 Nile wader
- 43 Proscribes
- 44 Island in a computer game
- 46 Spigot
- 47 Nile biter

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MAGIC MAZE ● **WORDS ASSOCIATED WITH VOLCANOES**

ROLHEBXUROLIEBY
 VSQNKDHEBYWTROL
 JGEBCYOWUMRPNKI
 GNDBZRXRAVSNQOM
 KIOTGEUGMCICAYW
 USQILPMSANNALJ
 HFRETARCTLNEVEC
 AYXUEPSNVDUTATS
EARTHQUAKES LLNQ
 PESNMOKRBRJOHEF
 ECBHMZYXEAVMUVT

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Unlisted clue hint: MOLTEN ROCK

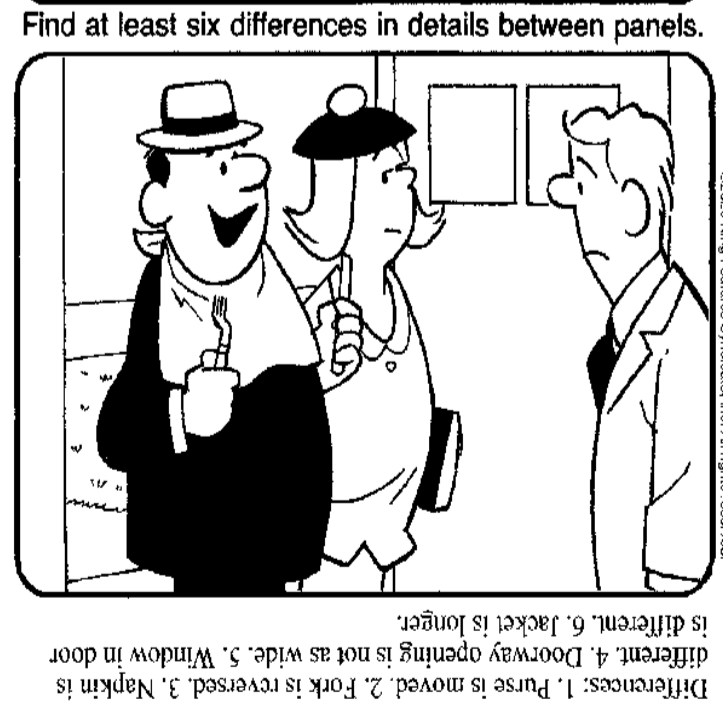
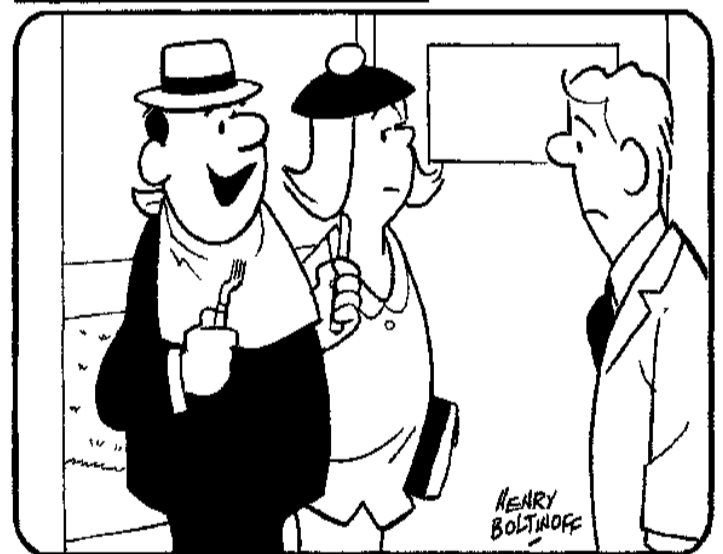
- Ash
- Crust
- Magma
- Rupture
- Basalt
- Dormant
- Mantle
- Steam
- Caldera
- Earthquakes
- Molten
- Vent
- Crater
- Eruption
- Mountain

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Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTIHOFF



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

It pays to advertise in your local paper!

Georgia Chancellor Sonny Perdue to retire, ending historic political career

By TY TAGAMI
Capitol Beat

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

"As I prepare to retire, I'm grateful for our presidents, faculty and staff, our students and the many communities that make up this remarkable system," Perdue said in a statement. He did not give a definitive date, saying he would leave the post after a national search finds a successor.

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

Enrollment has grown during his tenure. "Under his leadership, the system has seen record enrollment, modernized campuses and advanced medical education, including the launch of UGA's new School of Medicine," Gov. Brian Kemp said in a statement, adding that Perdue's time leading the University System of Georgia "has solidified a legacy of impact that will continue for generations to come."

A native of Perry, Perdue attended undergraduate and graduate school at the

University of Georgia, earning a veterinarian medical degree. He flew in the U.S. Air Force and owned an agricultural business.

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

In 2003, he made history by becoming the first Republican to occupy the Georgia governor's office since Reconstruction, serving the maximum two terms. Trump, in his first term as president, then tapped Perdue as the 31st U.S. Secretary of Agriculture.

After his pivot to chancellor, Perdue focused on affordability, eliminating a fee that saved students hundreds of dollars a year. He also restrained tuition growth, with students on average paying less now than in 2017 when adjusted for inflation, according to the system.

The national search for Perdue's successor will be conducted by a committee of the Board of Regents, with help from a consultant and from former Chancellor Stephen R. Portch and former Georgia State University President Mark Becker.

After they find a successor, Perdue, who has served as a foster parent with his wife, Mary, will have more time to spend with their four children, 14 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Invitations for Bid and Request for Proposals by Twiggs County, Georgia

Twiggs County is accepting proposals from qualified Contractors for resurfacing and related road work (the "Work") on Shannon Drive. The Work shall begin at the intersection of Shannon Drive and Highway 96 and shall continue for approximately .4 miles along Shannon Drive, ending at the intersection of Shannon Drive and Highway 80.

All bids must be received by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, May 5, 2026. Proposals/Bids must be signed; late Proposals/Bids will not be considered. A Bid Bond in the amount of five percent (5%) of the total bid amount is required. Proposals/Bids without a Bid Bond shall not be considered. Proposals/Bids for the Project will be sealed and not opened until Thursday, May 7, 2026 at the 9:00 A.M. Twiggs County Board of Commissioners Meeting at the Twiggs County Court House.

The terms and conditions for the Proposals/Bids, specifications for the Project are: (1) a minimum application of 1.5" asphalt for resurfacing; (2) centerline striping and fog line striping are required; (3) a 2-foot apron is required at all driveways and intersections to ensure a smooth transition; (4) work must be completed within 60 calendar days from the notice to proceed; (5) if necessary, clipping in preparation for new pavement is mandatory; (6) Contractor agrees it shall remove all debris from the project site upon completion of the Work; and (7) mobilization, bonding, and insurance is required.

As allowed by Georgia law, this Request for Proposal expressly provides that:

Offerors submitting proposals may be afforded an opportunity for discussion, negotiation, and revision of proposals. Discussions, negotiations, and revisions may be permitted after submission of proposals and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining best and final offers.

In accordance with the request for proposals, all responsible offerors found by Twiggs County to have submitted proposals reasonably susceptible of being selected for award shall be given an opportunity to participate in such discussions, negotiations, and revisions. During the process of discussion, negotiation, and revision, Twiggs County shall not disclose the contents of proposals to competing offerors.

Twiggs County specifically reserves all of its rights under Georgia law as to the proposals it receives pursuant to this Request, specifically including but not limited to, the right to waive any requirements and/or specifications included, to reject any or all proposals, waive technicalities or informalities, and to accept any proposal that in its judgment best serves the interests of the County and/or is deemed to be best suited for its needs.

Please note that Georgia's law as to the bonding requirements for a county road are applicable to this Project and must be followed, including but not limited to, a performance and payment bond, that must be paid for as part of and included in the contract price awarded to the Contractor selected by Twiggs County.

If there are any questions please submit such questions in writing to the Twiggs County Board of Commissioners Office at 425 N Railroad Street, Jeffersonville, Georgia 31044.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 625.201 AND SECTION 625.202 OF THE TWIGGS COUNTY CODE REGARDING THE REQUIREMENTS AND CONDITIONS AS TO THE INSTALLATION OF DRIVEWAY PIPES/CULVERTS ON, ACROSS, OR THROUGH A COUNTY RIGHT OF WAY, TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY, TO PROVIDE FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE, AND FOR OTHER LAWFUL PURPOSES

Notice is given that at the May 7, 2026 regularly scheduled Board of Commission Meeting for Twiggs County, Georgia (the "Meeting"), a proposed ordinance will be considered to amend Section 625.201 and Section 625.202 of the Twiggs County Code regarding the requirements and conditions as to the installation of driveway pipes/culverts on, across, or through a County right of way.

The Meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. in the Board of Commissioners Meeting Room located on the first floor of the Twiggs County Courthouse located at 425 Railroad Street N, Jeffersonville, Georgia 31044.

Copies of the proposed ordinance to be considered are on file in the Office of the Clerk of the Twiggs County Commission for the purpose of examination and inspection by the public. The Clerk shall furnish anyone, upon written request, with a copy of the proposed ordinance.



WRPD STRONG:
NIGHT OF BLUE LIGHTS
FOOD TRUCK ROUNDUP
LIVE MUSIC | KIDS ZONE | FOOD TRUCKS
Thursday, May 14 | 6:00pm - 9:00pm
Perkins Field, 105 Mulberry St.





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