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THE TWIGGS TIMES NEW ERA

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THE WILKINSON COUNTY POST

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Bleckley County student in running to be Georgia tech school student of the year

Mary Helene Hall
Times Journal Post

Growing up, Brooklynn McDowell was ashamed of her smile.

Her family didn't have the resources or education for proper dental care. She didn't have her first dental appointment until she was almost 17 years old. Her teeth were sensitive, leaving her in pain on top of her insecurity.

"My first experience in a dental chair was traumatic," she said at the Cochran Rotary Club meeting Tuesday. "I remember that hygienist was very judgmental towards me, and she told me, 'At your age, there's no excuse for not brushing or flossing your teeth,' and I had never felt more belittled in my life."

Although that first appointment was a negative experience, it's what began her interest and passion in oral health. Now, she's a dental hygiene student at Central Georgia Technical College (CGTC) set to graduate this May.

The program is competitive, so she wasn't sure she'd be able to make the grades. Evidently, she had nothing to worry about. She made it into the program on her first attempt and became class president.

McDowell is now being recognized by CGTC for her dedication and excellence as this year's recipient of the college's Georgia Occupational Award of Leadership (GOAL).

See CGTC, page 3



JoBen Rivera-Thompson
Brooklynn McDowell speaks to the Cochran Rotary Club earlier this week about her education journey in CGTC's dental hygiene program and the GOAL award.

Majority of WCPS teachers turn in resignation requests

Christian McKearney
Times Journal Post

Teacher turnover is not unusual, and every school district in Georgia deals with resignations and retention, especially this time of year, spring only a week away.

What is unusual, however, is the when the majority of one school's teachers all announce they're leaving, all in the same month.

Such is the case at Wilkinson County Primary School, where eight teachers recently put in their requests for resignation, effective at the end of the school year, according to the Wilkinson County School District's March 11 regular meeting agenda. On top of that, two paraprofessionals at WCPS also recently announced they're leaving the district.

The School Board's March 11 agenda listed a total of 14 teachers or paraprofessionals on its "Resignations List," with 10 of those coming from WCPS, one from the elementary school, one from the middle school and two from the high school.

Attempts to reach Superintendent Angela James were unsuccessful.

The Times Journal Post will continue to follow up on this story.

For whatever it's worth, the WCSD ranked 135th in teacher pay out of the 159 county school districts in Georgia in 2022, which was the last time the Georgia Department of Education released average compensation data to the public. However, Wilco's compensation was not out of line for smaller school districts. More often than not, the larger the district, the more teachers make.

The Department of Education most recently placed the WCSD's student enrollment at 1,036 student, making it the 19th-smallest out of Georgia's 159 county school districts. The WCSD's student enrollment has been cut almost in half during the last three decades. In October 1994, for example, the Georgia Department of Education's FTE "headcount" for the WCSD was 1,993 students. Fast forward to October 2024, and that number was 1,036 students. Back in the 1990s, there were always closer to 450-500 students at Wilkinson County Middle School. Now, it's less than 250.



Mary Helene Hall / TJP
Left to right, Dianne Lester, Tyler Sapp, Trecia Gardner and Teresa Mack speak to the audience at last week's city council candidate forum at the Cochran city auditorium.

Cochran city council candidates speak at forum ahead of election

Mary Helene Hall
Times Journal Post

The city of Cochran hosted a candidate forum for the upcoming city council election for districts 1 and 3 last week, allowing residents and community members to learn more about who is running for local office.

The candidates, Trecia Gardner and Teresa Mack for district 1, and Dianne Lester and Tyler Sapp for district 3, spoke before about 40 attendees about why they are running for office and how they would solve the largest issues facing Cochran today.

The last day of early voting will be Friday at 4:30 p.m. at

Cochran City Hall. Election day is Tuesday, March 18 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Community House, located at 192 SE 3rd St.

Below are their answers to each question, edited for clarity. Due to audio technical problems at the venue, the candidates' responses may not have been captured in their entirety.

"What is the biggest problem facing Cochran in the next decade?"

Dianne Lester, district 3: Growth, from both industry and residential, is what I think is the biggest challenge facing Cochran in the next decade. You know, we want to get industry in here, but also we want to make sure that we have adequate housing for them, and then we have the new apartments. But you know, we may have some families that are looking for single family homes.

ing for single family homes.

Tyler Sapp, district 3: The biggest thing that I see that I've after talking to all of our citizens and all our residents, is a lot of our residents are worried about stagnation for Cochran and what that looks like in the next decade. And so I'm looking for industries and more residents to come to Cochran, and so how do we do that? We look at how we can help our community, and I hope we get to discuss that further.

Trecia Gardner, district 1: As well as Dianne discussed, I think jobs and affordable housing.

Teresa Mack, district 1: I think we're all on the same line, because of jobs, and I think we're facing a decrease in the population because the elders are dying out and the younger are leaving, so we

See COUNCIL, page 2

Twiggs County High cadets present at Hawks game

Cadets Dakota Haney, Bobby Patel, Jayda Finn, Aniya Green & Irelynn Finn from Twiggs County High School's AFJROTC, the "Fighting 55th", took to the NBA floor when they presented the colors at a recent Atlanta Hawks basketball game. This was the largest crowd our Color Guard has ever performed for. Well done cadets!

- Twiggs County High School



Wilco deputies staying busy

Christian McKearney
Times Journal Post

The Wilkinson County Sheriff's Office recently has been dealing with some more of the same, as well as a bit of the unusual.

The "more of the same" is Marshaud Lowe, who recently was arrested after violating the terms of his probation. Lowe previously was arrested twice in four weeks for stealing vehicles.

The first time around, Lowe was arrested on Feb. 6, 2024 after reportedly busting out the window of a car in downtown Gordon and then coming back and stealing the same car several days later. Lowe, 17 at the time, initially broke into the vehicle while it sat in the parking lot of Angus Lake

Healthcare, which is the old bank building across from downtown. Security footage of the incident then showed Lowe walk across the railroad tracks and attempt to enter several more vehicles parked near The Jelly Elephant, according to law enforcement. Warrants were issued for Lowe's arrest two days later. That same day, while he was on the run, Lowe returned to the scene of the crime, this time finding a set of keys inside of the vehicle and taking off in it. That's when the BOLO was issued, and Lowe was arrested within 24 hours over in Bibb County. A break in the case came after several Flock Security cameras in Bibb County documented the license plate of the stolen car in north Macon. The search

area was narrowed down, and the stolen car eventually was spotted in a neighborhood off of Riverside Drive. Gordon Police Department Chief Mike Hall then responded to the scene and contacted the Bibb County Sheriff's Office, which arrived shortly after and arrested Lowe without incident.

Then, a mere three days after his release from jail, Lowe was arrested after reportedly stealing a side-by-side and joyriding around Gordon. "I wanted to ride around on it," was Lowe's explanation for why he stole the Yamaha utility task vehicle, according to a Wilkinson County Sheriff's Office incident report. The

See WILCO, page 8



Upcoming
Events

St. Patrick’s Day

Weekend at

Jellystone Park

Friday, March 14 -

Monday, March 17

Jellystone Park, Cochran

Get ready for a shamrockin’ good time as we celebrate St. Patrick’s Day with green crafts, leprechaun hunts and Irish traditions! Will you be lucky enough to catch a leprechaun?

Family and Fridays Day at

Tabernacle of

Testimony Church

Sunday, March 16

10:30 a.m.

188 Dinah St., Cochran

Members of the Tabernacle of Testimony Church are invited to bring their friends and family members to this special service. This year, an award will be given to the member with the most guests and immediate family in attendance. Food and drinks will be available afterward.

Business After Hours

Thursday, March 20

6 p.m.

129 North Second St.

Come join us as we celebrate Sojourney Travel by April Green, Green & Wimberly Law Firm and Middle Georgia Structures and network with other small business owners and community members and

Business in Bloom

Saturday, March 22

6 p.m.

158 College Street, Cochran

We heard your requests and are bringing the Silent Auction back so show us what you have to offer to promote your business in the Silent Auction! Tickets are 50 dollars.

Banana Pudding

Festival

Saturday, April 5

12 a.m.

128 E Main St, Irwinton, GA. Registration includes a festival t-shirt, and proceeds will benefit the Clover Glove Race Series, which presents scholarships to the Georgia 4-H Foundation in honor of the overall winners.

Chamber Classic at
Uchee Trail Golf Club

Friday, May 2

8 a.m.

202 Country Club Road, Cochran

Entry fee is \$400 per team of four and includes breakfast and lunch, golf cart rental, contest entries, a goodie bag and a T-shirt for those who register by Friday, April 18. This annual event hosted by the Cochran-Bleckley Chamber of Commerce offers lots of prizes for first, second and third place teams. To learn more or register, contact Melissa Barker at 478-934-2965.

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Obituary

Jeffery K. Barron

DANVILLE, GA - Jeffery “Jeff” Kent Barron of Danville, Georgia, was born July 27, 1952, in Inglewood, California and was promoted to glory on March 5, 2025.

Jeff is survived by his wife of fifty years, Guindalen Barron; his children, Jeffery Barron (Jennifer) of Littleton, CO, Jonathan Barron (Clarissa) of Columbus, GA, and Katie Couch (Josh) of Little Rock, AR; his grandchildren, Kayleigh, Hannah, Henry, Isabell and Aidan; his siblings, Bill (Barbara), Marie, Joan (Ron) and Sam (Linda), all of California.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Alfred and Louise Barron; and his sister, Alice Louise Barron.

Jeff and Guin were married September 14, 1974, and lived in California until moving to the Barron family farm near Irwinville, Georgia in early 1979. They moved to Danville, Georgia in 1985 where he built the house where they lived until his death.

He surrendered to the Lord’s call to preach on April 3, 1971, and attended California Missionary Baptist Institute (CMBI) in Bellflower, California. While Jeff had his beginnings in California, he was a pastor in Georgia since 1979. He had previously been pastor of Pinetta Baptist Church in Irwinville, Georgia, and Northside Missionary Baptist Church in Vienna, Georgia. At the time of his death, he was pastor of Edgewood Missionary Baptist Church in Danville, Georgia.

Jeff loved the Lord, his Word, and his people, and was committed to the care and feeding of the church the Lord had entrusted to him to protect through careful teaching of the scriptures. “Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood” (Acts 20:28).

He worked in outside sales for apartment maintenance supply companies (AMSCO,

Century, Hughes, Home Depot Supply, and HD Supply), but each was bought or acquired by the next, so he never really changed jobs. He was a well-respected and honored member of the apartment association communities of central Georgia in Columbus, Macon, Warner Robins, and surrounding areas. He loved his customers, and his customers loved him.

Jeff loved his family very much, and he was a husband, daddy, and grandpa to a family that loved him. Jeff and Guin raised their boys, Jeffery and Jonathan, and daughter, Katie, in the “nurture and admonition of the Lord” (Ephesians 6:4). On his 65th birthday, Jeff wrote these words to his kids, “Being your father has been an adventure! I accepted very quickly that I didn’t have perfect children, but I loved you anyway! More than that, I liked you, I chose to trust your judgment, and I prayed you would embrace the wisdom that God grants. I have taught you all I could, and, while not always enough or correct, it was all I had. I only have two more pieces of wisdom: ‘Fear God, and keep his commandments,’ and try to love each other as I have loved you! If you were able to see each other through my eyes, you will stand in awe of the most remarkable people it has ever been your privilege to know. Along with Mom, You Are The Love of My Life!”

We are thankful for his faithful and dedicated service to the Lord and his love and care for his family.

Visitation will take place at Reece Funeral Home, at 15548 US-80, Jeffersonville, GA, on Friday, March 14, 2025, from 1:30-3:00, followed immediately by a funeral service. Interment will follow at the Dublin Memorial Gardens.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the American Heart Association or a charity of your choice.

Visit reecefuneralhomeinc.com to express tributes.

Reece Funeral Home in Jeffersonville, GA has charge of arrangements.

Council, from 1:

need to generate some jobs to keep the children interested in staying in the Cochran area.

“How do you resolve the tension between not cutting government services without increasing tax liability assistance?”

Sapp: It’s to take a look at our budget. Our city manager and our people at our administrative offices do a great job, and I want to continue to look at our budget and see where things can be used differently and that sort of thing, and look at other grants and opportunities that our federal and state levels provide us and other private and public partnerships that we can use to incorporate into our budget. That way we can hopefully lower our taxes or provide an alternative method to getting some of our budget and costs covered.

Gradner: Bringing awareness to the community, letting people know what’s available. Getting a budget, setting goals, and new ideas.

Mack: The city does have a budget. We may need to revisit the budget. Instead of cutting out some things, cut back on some things. We

need to keep the revenue in Cochran.

Lester: Review all possible options, for example, if you maintain the government service, and it might increase the tax liability, or if you eliminate the government service, it might increase the budget, but have a negative impact on the citizens, and then so maybe find a way to reduce the government service instead of eliminating it. So I think that reviewing how spending efficiency can be balanced to maintain the city budget and protect the citizens, and then being transparent to let the citizens know what’s going on with what they’re doing to make sure that we’re working on their behalf. And as a council member, I would do my part to help the city council make the best decision for the citizens.

“Why do you want to serve?”

Gardner: Because I am a servant, I am here to serve, and that’s what I do.

Mack: I’d like to serve because I love the city of Cochran. I’ve lived here all my life. I love helping people. I love serving people, and I want to be an advocate for the citizens, to keep them aware of what’s going on and share the information that the city

has for them as well, and to make the proper decisions concerning the betterment of the community.

Lester: I consider myself to be an experienced, committed local leader who is fully engaged and focused on the future of Cochran and serving as a city councilman for district three would be an opportunity for me to serve the community on a larger scale.

Sapp: This community has given me everything. It’s poured in me, just as much as I’ve poured into it as an educator, a community member. I’m a graduate from Bleckley County High School. Went through K through 12, a graduate from Middle Georgia State University. I never left home. Now it’s time that I feel that I need to give to the community that gave to me. As a city councilman sitting in district three, I would like to be able to do that and give our residents the opportunity to have a voice and give them a seat at the table. And if elected, I can promise I will continue to do that as we go through the terms, to make sure that every voice in district three and the city of Cochran is heard.

See COUNCIL, page 4

CGTC, from 1:

“I’m fulfilling my dream of being able to show compassionate care to those who so desperately need it,” she said. “Empathy, compassion and kindness are amongst the most important qualities of any hygienist, and I want to break the stigma around dentistry being scary.”

Four students including McDowell were chosen as finalists for the award, and community leaders chose her as the winner. Last month, she competed against seven other schools in the region, and in April, she’ll go on to the state competition to compete for the title of student of the year for the entire technical college system. If she wins that distinction, she’ll be awarded a new car from Kia Motors. The winner also serves as a year-long ambassador for technical education across Georgia.

One of McDowell’s chemistry instructors, Ekaterina Mirzakulova, nominated her for the recognition.

“I do get emotional when I talk about our school. I love our school,” McDowell said. “It has changed the trajectory of my life, and I love every single one of my instructors and all that they have done for me. So to have this opportunity to go in and represent my school was

very exciting.”

Before deciding to continue her studies, she was a pediatric dental assistant after graduating from Bleckley County High School. Post-graduation, her goal is to go back into pediatric dentistry so she can ensure kids get a better experience in the dental chair than she did.

McDowell is also a familiar face in Cochran for a totally different reason.

“A lot of you already recognize my face from Scott’s (Barbecue),” she told the Rotary Club. “I see you all almost every week!”

A community she recognizes — like her Cochran neighbors at the Rotary Club — isn’t too intimidating, she said, this award nomination experience has been a useful exercise in public speaking.

“As a dental hygienist, part of my job is educating patients,” she said. “This is preparing me not just on a personal level but also into my career as I go to speak out into the community.”

She hopes to one day pursue a master’s in dental hygiene so she can return to CGTC to teach.

“My college experience at CGTC has taught me that the circumstances of one’s birth are irrelevant,” she said. “It is what you decide to do with the gift of life that determines who you are.”

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NEW SOUTHERN DAD

Crazy Uncle Kyle’s ABCs part 2: A literacy primer

Welcome back kids. Are you ready to learn a little bit more of the crazy little thing we call the alphabet? Well, you better be because Uncle Kyle is in no mood for your nonsense. You can go back to Snapchats and Tik-Toks later. There’s plenty of time for big corporations and countries, foreign and domestic, to steal your information. Let’s pick up where we left off ...

H is for helium, that gas that makes balloons float. If you inhale some it makes your voice sound funny, but they say it’s bad for your brain. My cousin Geech was killed by helium. He wasn’t breathing it; it was in a tank and a gang of out-of-work party clowns beat him to death. It’s called the economy, and it’s tough

on everybody.

I is for ice cream. Always eat your ice cream first. Dessert doesn’t ruin your supper, but that green stuff certainly will. In fact, secretly feed all your vegetables to the dog (if it managed to find its way home, that is), or just toss them out the window, then mommy and daddy will praise you for cleaning your plate and give you a double serving of delicious, healthy ice cream.

J is for juggling. That’s what we’re going to learn to do with those shiny knives from the kitchen. How long do you think you can keep them in



Kyle Dominy

the air? It looks so easy on the internet.

K is for kite. See how the colorful kite sails on the breeze. Do you think you could fly if you tied yourself to a kite? That’s just stupid enough that it’s got to work. Let’s try it from the roof ...

L is for Lenny. Lenny is one of Uncle Kyle’s alley friends. Stay away from Lenny. He cheats at dice, and he stole my lighter, my good Bic lighter with the monkey on it. That one was my favorite. He says he gave it back, but I know he has it.

M is for money. The love of money is the root of all evil, but money also

makes the world go ‘round. Mommy and daddy work hard to make money to buy you video games and ice cream. You should do everything you can to help them save a little money, so they can buy more video games and ice cream. Maybe give yourself a haircut?

N is for Nigerian prince. Posing as one is a great way to get more money. Set up a fake email and send a message to everyone in your dad’s contacts. Pretend to be a big shot in Nigeria who wants to send his riches to the United States. All the people have to do is front a few thousand dollars in “legal” fees. Rich people will do anything to get more money, and it’s only smart for you to take advantage of that. Then you can buy your own video games and ice

cream. Just don’t forget your ol’ Uncle Kyle, unless the police show up.

OK kids, that’s all for now. Uncle Kyle is getting bored. And what’s the best part of being an uncle? That’s right, telling you to hit the road.

Better known as “The New Southern Dad,” a nickname shared with the title of his column digging into the ever-changing work/life balance as head of a fast-moving household, Kyle is as versatile a journalist as he is a family man. The do-it-all dad and talented wordsmith, in addition to his weekly commentary, writes on local subjects including health/wellness, lifestyle and business/industry while also leading production of numerous magazines, special sections and weekly newspapers.

JUST JERRI

Rising from the rubble

This past week another fire erupted in Long Island, New York. Over 400 acres were destroyed. Compound that with the fires in California, and the hurricanes that have recently hit the south, one wonders if homes and lives will ever be the same.

Have you ever felt like your life has been sabotaged or hit by a hurricane? Suddenly, everything you have held near and dear has been destroyed and you wonder if life will ever



Jerri Tuck

return to normal again. I have good news for you. God is in the cleaning and restoration business.

Jeremiah the prophet wondered about the same thing. In the book, called by his name, he recorded a message he heard from God. “I have this day set you over the nations and the kingdoms. To root out and to pull down. To destroy and to throw down. To build and to plant.” (Jeremiah 1:10)

For many of God’s ancient people it was

hard to imagine any good could come from the destruction of their sacred city. This prophecy was referring in particular to the devastation that would come to Jerusalem in the sixth century before Christ. Later his counterpart, Haggai, prophesied that the latter temple in Jerusalem would be more glorious than the former temple. (Haggai 2:9)

The Jews could hardly believe this promise. To date they have yet to see it fulfilled, but just as sure as the sun comes up each morning, it will come.

In our personal lives when tragedy or setbacks occur, we find ourselves tempted to doubt God’s promises for a brighter tomor-

row. We look at the debris all around us and find it hard to walk by faith. Above the clouds, the sky is still blue. The stars are still in the courses set by God. Look past what you can see with your eyes and fix your gaze on the Lord who has the master blueprint. Despite all the rubble surrounding you, a new day is coming. All His promises are YES and AMEN!

Jerri Tuck is a regular columnist for the TJP. In each column, Jerri seeks to bring Biblical truths to light with the prayer that each article will bring “inspiration, information and illumination.” Her books are available on Amazon in print and on Kindle.

Letter to the Editor

Elon Musk has called Social Security, the basis for the United States social safety net, a “Ponzi scheme”. The Social Security Administration has announced that it will consolidate the current ten regional offices into four and cut at least 7,000 jobs from an agency that is at a 50 year staffing low. DOGE cancelled the leases of 45 of the agency’s field offices and is urging employees to quit.

Musk falsely claims that Social Security is paying out funds to millions of beneficiaries over 100 years old. Trump emphasized in his speech that this nonsense proves that Social Security is riddled with fraud.

Senator Ron Wyden says the system currently delivers 99.7% of retirement funds accurately and on time. He warned that the administration is currently hollowing it out and when it can no longer function Republicans will say it needs the private sector to take it over. Wyden says the cuts are a “prelude to privatization.”

“The public is going to suffer terribly as a result of this.” a senior official told NPR. “Local field offices will close, hold times will increase and people will be sicker, hungry or die when checks don’t arrive or a disability hearing is delayed just one month too late.”

If you value Social Security at all, you need to call or write you Senators and Congressman that Social Security is in the gravest danger of its 90 year old history.

- John Ricks

To submit a letter to the editor, email news@timesjournalpost.com with your letter of no more than 200 words. Name, address, and contact info required. Content may be edited for clarity or length.

Council, from 2:

“Name a leader you try to be like and explain what traits of theirs you admire.”

Mack: The leader that I admire the most is the late Clarence Max Sr. His traits is honesty, because if he said something, he’ll do it, and if I give you my word, I’m going to try my best to hold to that. And if I cannot, let you know why. He was honest, and he was resilient. I understand a lot of challenges are faced with me, and I’m prepared to go above and beyond to help the citizens, and I’m strong. My grandfather was a symbol of strength to me because he came from Alabama and built his home with his own hands. He did not read nor write, but he bought properties and used it to rent houses. So he left a legacy for his family. So that’s what I came to do and what I admire the most.

Lester: The first leader that came to mind was Jesus. And I say that because he was the only perfect leader, and the Bible gives you a blueprint you go by to live your life. But there’s one other leader that’s also near and dear to my heart, and that’s my brother, Ernest Lawson, Pastor Ernest Lawson Jr. from Kingdom Village Church. He’s a selfless person, determined, loving, compassionate, honest, patient, responsible, transparent and accountable to God, to name a few traits. So I’m thankful that he makes the effort to live a life he can be proud of.

Sapp: I picked two leaders, and this was a hard question. It was a really hard question a little bit because of all the leaders that I see, not just in the school system, but at the state level and federal level. And the first one that came to mind was my grandfather. He was a leader in his church, a leader at his work, and he gave this community what it gave to him. He raised the family, he raised me, and so I look up to him. He did it with integrity. He did it with faith, and that’s what I want to bring to Cochran. And the second person is Rep. Danny Mathis. I’ve known Danny my entire life, and to see him at the state level lead with faith and integrity and ethical decision making and doing it for the right reasons, as for our state of Georgia and for the district that he serves under, is just a big passion of mine. I see that, and I want to continue that honor that both of those men have led me to do.

Gardner: I would say Christ, because you get to love like him, and I try to treat people the way I want to be treated, and that’s what he tells us in the Bible, and just be yourself and just try to put yourself under people’s shoes and just do what you do. I’m just Trisha. I can only do what I can do. If I do my little bit. You do your little bit. Hey, we have done so much. Just doing what the Bible tell us to do and just be who God has created us to be.

“How would you resolve conflicts over ideas and

policies and build consensus?”

Lester: I think we should review the end goal for whatever ideas and policies that’s being discussed, and then you know you gotta be willing to listen to each other’s ideas and opinions to see if you can find some common ground, that maybe you can start the conflict resolution process with. And finally, being willing to compromise and negotiate, because you have to understand it’s not for me. I understand that it’s not all about me. It’s about what’s best for the entire community.

Sapp: I’ve been taught all my life that I talk too much and don’t listen a lot, and over the years, as I’ve grown older and become wiser and listened to great leaders where I work and my community and my mother a lot more, I have realized that active listening and open dialog is one way to resolve a problem that is not an argument, but could be. Also finding that common ground that each idea will have, you just have to have that common ground through data. I’m a data guy, a math guy, and so I want to see the data and what it looks like, and do my research, stay true to my convictions and what our residents want. Any problem that comes about can always be solved. We just have to encourage collaboration with our city members and our community, and just to make sure that we’re listening rather than always talking.

Gardner: Same as Mr. Sapp here. Clear goal, understanding the goals and the needs of the people, and having an open line of communication, visit all angles. I mean, everybody’s got an opinion. You know, we need to listen more.

Mack: Respect others’ opinions because everyone has one, and to listen attentively. And if we can’t come

to a resolution at that time, maybe we can table things if possible, but if not, we should be able to agree to disagree. We should all have the same goal in mind, and that’s building a better community. And it shouldn’t be about one district. It should be about the city of Cochran as a whole, and not as individual districts.

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DuBose Porter, Executive Director
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Mary Helene Hall, Editor
Christian McKearney, Staff Writer

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Periodicals postage paid at the Jeffersonville, GA Post Office and at additional mailing offices.

The Cochran Journal
Cochran, GA 31014 (USPS 120-340)
Periodicals postage paid at the Cochran, GA Post Office and at additional mailing offices.

The Wilkinson County Post
Irwinton, GA 31042 (022-564)
Periodicals postage paid at the Irwinton, GA Post Office and at additional mailing offices.

Subscription rates for one year:
In-county: \$31
Out-of-county: \$37
Senior in-county: \$29
Out-of-state: \$41

www.timesjournalpost.com

Proposed bill aims to better serve Georgia’s growing aging population during police calls

Sofi Gratas

Georgia Public Broadcasting

The number of people over 65 years old in Georgia is growing faster than most other groups.

Georgia gained an additional 60,000 seniors from 2022 to 2023, according the latest data available from the U.S. Census Bureau's population estimates by state.

Comparatively in the same time frame, the number of adults between 24 and 44 years old grew by only half that, and there was a decline in the number of minors, those under 18 years old.

Nancy Petra with the Alzheimer’s Association of Georgia said it’s time for state lawmakers and agencies to really consider what’s best for its aging population.

“These are going to be the majority of people that are retiring in our North Georgia mountains and in our coastal areas and who are going to make up those communities,” Petra said.

As those communities grow, it’s expected that so will the number of people with cognitive decline.

“We wanted the legislation to codify that Georgia is making this a priority,” Petra said.

The Alzheimer’s Association along with the Georgia Council on Aging have advocated for

House Bill 238, which would expand training for officers on identifying and responding to situations to aid someone with Alzheimer’s, the most common form of dementia, or other de-

generative diseases.

The bill passed the state House by the Cross-

See POLICE, page 6



Jason Vorhees / The Macon Melody

U.S. Sen. Jon Ossoff gets a demonstration of a hydraulic stretcher in one of the new Atrium Health Navicent ambulances from EMT Josh Humphrey and paramedics Kerry Sanders, back, and Jeannie Middlebrooks on Monday, April 22, 2024.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed Bids: Sealed bids for the construction of the project titled **Water System Improvements – FY2023 CDBG** will be received until, **April 11th, 2025 at 11:00 A.M** at the Ivey City Hall, 148 Hwy. 243, Ivey, Ga. 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) days.

Contractor License: Any Contractor submitting a bid must be licensed by the State of Georgia. License numbers must be written on the face of the bid envelope. 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 **Water System Improvements – FY2023 CDBG** as shown on the construction drawings. In general, construction consists installation of + 3,697 L.F. of 8” and 4,498 L.F. of 6”water main, fire hydrants, gate valves, sidewalk replacement, grassing, erosion control, and all other appurtenances necessary for a complete project. This work will be awarded in one (1) contract.

Plans and Contract Documents: Plans and Contract Documents are on file for review only at the City of Ivey and the Dodge 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 **\$200.00** for each hard copy set OR **\$75.00** for a digital set (non-refundable).

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 by a grant by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs – Community Development Block Grant Program and city funds.

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.

This is a Section 3 Covered Project under the HUD Act of 1968 and Section 3 Residents and Business Concerns are encouraged to apply. The city is committed to providing all persons with equal access to its services, programs, activities, education, and employment regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, disability or age.

PART-TIME FIREFIGHTERS

Wilkinson County Board of Commissioners/Fire & Rescue

The Wilkinson County Fire & Rescue Department is accepting application for part-time firefighters. All applicants are required to be able to pass a drug test and background check, possess a high school diploma or GED, Firemen certification, and a Class F license or higher. A successful applicant should also have good communication and public relations skills along with computer skills.

Job duties will include, but will not be limited to, the following:

- Respond to fire and rescue calls
- Help to maintain fire/rescue vehicles and equipment
- Maintain up to date certifications and trainings
- Maintain accurate response records
- Maintain a safe and clean work stations

Applications may be picked up at the EMA/Fire office at 114 Wriley Road, Irwinton, GA, the Board of Commissioners’ Office at 100 Bacon Street, Irwinton, Ga, or online at www.wilkinsoncounty.net. All applications must be received by 5pm on Friday March 28, 2025.

If there are any questions, please contact Chris Landrum at 478-291-1937 or Tracy Strange at 478-946-2236.

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS AIRPORT CONSULTING SERVICES-Airport Planning

The City of Cochran is seeking a qualified aviation consulting firm to provide professional planning services in connection with the Airport Capital Improvement Plan at the Cochran Municipal Airport in Cochran, Georgia.

It is the intent of the City of Cochran is to enter into a multi-year Master Agreement with a consultant for the upcoming five (5) year period. The selected consultant will negotiate and enter into individual sub-agreements for services, based on the scope of work, with the City of Cochran on an assignment-by-assignment basis during the term of the Master Agreement. The selection of the consultant is being done in accordance with FAA Advisory Circular 150/5100-14E and applicable Georgia statutes and laws. Responding firms must possess a current pre-qualification by the Georgia Department of Transportation in Area Class No. 1.08 Airport Master Planning.

The consultant and any subconsultants proposed shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex in the performance of this contract. Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) utilization is strongly encouraged. Proposed DBE firms are to be certified by the Georgia Uniform Certification Program. The consultant shall carry out applicable requirements of 49 CFR Part 26 in the award and administration of all Federally assisted contracts. Failure by the consultant to carry out these requirements is a material breach of the contract, which may result in the termination of the contract or such other remedy as the City of Cochran deems appropriate.

The City of Cochran reserves the right to reject any and all submittals in response to this Request for any reason. The City of Cochran is not liable for any costs incurred by the Consultant in the preparation or presentation of a response to this request.

Scope of Services

The scope of work to be included in the multi-year contract may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Prepare/Update Exhibit “A” Property Line Map, Airport Layout Plan, Airport Master Plan, and Environmental Assessments, as necessary.
- Land Acquisition
- Such other airport-related work as the City of Cochran may deem necessary.

Submission Requirements

Required information is to be presented in a manner that clearly illustrates the following:

- Team Description / Background: A general description of the submitting firm, including firm size, and general information regarding any sub-consultant firms.
- Organizational Chart: Include clear illustration as to the Project Manager and key personnel representing the primary firm.
- Resumes: Include for key personnel. Indicate each individual’s qualifications and experience.
- Relevant Experience: Qualifications and experience of the primary firm in the past five (5) years at general aviation airports similar in nature to the Cochran Airport and other airports in Georgia.
- Proximity to the Cochran Airport: Geographical location of the office that will be primarily responsible for assigned projects and where the work will be accomplished, as well as the location of any supporting offices that will likely be involved in this contract.
- References: Contact name, agency name, and telephone number of at least four (4) current airport clients of the primary firm located within Georgia.
- Regulatory Familiarity: Demonstrate familiarity with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Atlanta District Office and Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) Aviation Programs.
- Workload: Provide a brief summary of the primary firm’s current workload and ability to meet schedules and deadlines.

Evaluation Criteria

The following criteria shall be used to select the consultant and therefore should be included in a Statement of Qualification:

- Capability to perform all or most aspects of the project and recent experience in airport projects comparable to the proposed tasks.
- Key personnel’s professional qualifications and experience and availability for the proposed project; their reputation and professional integrity and competence; and their knowledge of FAA regulations, policies, and procedures.
- Capability to meet schedules or deadlines.
- Quality of projects previously undertaken and capability to complete projects without having major cost escalations or overruns.
- Qualifications and experience of sub-consultants regularly engaged by the consultant under consideration.
- Capability of a branch office that will do the work to perform independently of the home office, or conversely, its capability to obtain necessary support from the home office.
- Ability to furnish qualified inspectors for construction inspection.
- Understanding of the projects’ potential challenges and the sponsor’s special concerns.
- Degree of interest shown in undertaking the project and familiarity with and proximity to the geographic location of the airport.
- Capability to incorporate and blend aesthetic and architectural concepts with the project design while accomplishing the basic requirements that transportation facilities be functional, safe, and efficient.
- In meeting the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) contract goal, evidence documenting the consultant met the DBE goal, or by documenting that it made adequate good faith efforts to meet the DBE goal.
- Capability to conduct a Value Engineering (VE) study for projects that are particularly complex or have unique features.

All interested parties should submit four (4) copies of the Statement of Qualifications, which shall contain no more than thirty (30) pages, excluding tabs, and a cover letter not exceeding two (2) pages. Submittals shall be printed single-sided on 8.5” x 11” paper.

Responses are to be addressed to:

COCHRAN - BLECKLEY AIRPORT AUTHORITY
829 GA HWY 126
COCHRAN, GEORGIA 30680

Deadline for submittal is 10:00 AM, April 4th, 2025. The Statement of Qualifications should be delivered in a sealed envelope or box clearly marked, “Airport Consulting Services-1.08 Airport

Master Planning.” The City of Cochran shall assume no responsibility for responses that are received after the prescribed time, or that are not properly addressed or identified.

Responding firms shall have no contact related to this project with City of Cochran elected or appointed officials, members of the City of Cochran, or Airport employees during this Statement of Qualifications process. Any such contact will subject the firm to immediate disqualification for consideration for this project.

This is a Request for Qualifications only. Price proposals are not required at this time.

Selection Process

Qualifications will be reviewed and evaluated based on the criteria listed herein. It is the intent of the City of Cochran to select a consultant as a result of this effort.

AFGE Local 987 hosts rally supporting federal workers’ rights

Sandra Hernandez
Houston Home Journal

This story was originally published in a Georgia Trust for Local News sister publication, The Houston Home Journal. Learn more at GTLN.org.

WARNER ROBINS – The American Federation of Government Employees Local 987 hosted a Rally for Federal Worker’s rights on Thursday, March 6, inviting the community to show support for federal workers.

According to USA Today, President Donald Trump’s has signed executive orders to begin laying off federal employees. Approximately 100,000 federal employees have been dismissed and another 400,000 are expected to lose their jobs, according to Barron’s.

AFGE Local 987 President Ron Hill said the federation organized the rally to help local federal employees. He shared a lot of their rights are being stripped from them.

“It’s a way for us to come together and say, ‘Hey, we need help.’ We’re reaching out to everybody, the congressman, senators [and] to everybody that is willing to help. It’s the voice that sooner or later will be heard. [We’ll] find ways to go out and try to reach out to people to come in and help. Every voice counts,” he said.

Hill said the Department of Defense is crucial to this area due to Robins Air Force Base, and is affected by the executive order.

According to Hill, RAFB is a multi-billion-dollar industry and without it, the middle Georgia area would not be able to maintain as it is without it. He shared at one point, there were 25,000 to 30,000 people working on base.

According to RAFB’s website, they employed a workforce of 22,000 including civilians, contractors and military members.

“It’s a very important infrastructure here, especially in middle Georgia. Federal employees [are] very vital to the mission that we [AFGE] do. That’s why we need it, we need the people; especially a lot of veterans,” he said.

Hill said as a veteran, he would like to know his service to his country did not go in vain. That is why he is helping his community by being involved in the AFGE.

AFGE Local 987 Secretary-Treasurer Jeanette

Allen McElhaney said local federal employees are not just on RAFB. She said the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, United States Department of Veterans Affairs, U.S. Office of Personnel Management and Social Security are being affected, all with offices in the middle Georgia area.

“All of those areas and all of those jobs are in jeopardy. Middle Georgia itself is in jeopardy,” she said.

This congressional district has the largest amount of federal employees in the state. This district is represented by Austin Scott. An AFGE member told the Journal the district has approximately 18,000 civilian federal workers. This does not include contractors and uniform military personnel. He also said the state has 80,000 civilian federal workers.

The member said, in central Georgia, being a federal employee is one of the best jobs to have. He is concerned about what jobs those employees will be able to do and what other career avenues are available for them in the area. He said employees are under attack, receiving emails and pressure every day.

The member also told the Journal local SSA Presidents are being evicted and asking for extra help for other services. He believes the most vulnerable in the community will be targeted, like the elderly and those with disabilities who depend on monthly checks.

McElhaney said there are already notices being sent out to the local OPM and VA centers. She believes people shouldn’t be playing games with people’s lives.

McElhaney shared a young man recently visited the organization and told them his supervisor told him his services were no longer needed. She said the man was a probationary employee and these layoffs are happening within the community.

The organization also recently received a call from an employee at RAFB who was nearing the end of his probation. The employee expressed their fear of losing their job.

“It is actually happening and gathering here today is just an awareness. It’s not a protest; it’s a rally, and there is a difference,” she said.

McElhaney believed it is an important issue because federal jobs assist and help the community. She said RAFB is the main employer

in the area and if it’s gone, it would lead to people competing for the few jobs left.

The AFGE member added federal employees have been receiving emails requiring an account of their performance. He said the emails are not specific to the employee, meaning anyone could get terminated on performance.

Hill described the executive order as “an attack on the federal workforce.” He said when

they remove the employees, they say it’s a performance issue meaning they will not receive unemployment benefits.

“You’re not only going to lose your job, [but] you’re also not able to get the benefits that you normally would have if they hadn’t put that same category in there,” he said. “It goes fur-

See RALLY, page 8

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION TO THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE BLECKLEY COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on March 18, 2025, an election will be held at the regular polling places in all the election districts of Bleckley County, at which time there will be submitted to the qualified voters of Bleckley County for their determination the following question:

- () NOShall the special 1 percent sales and use tax for education currently in effect in Bleckley County be continued for a period of time not to exceed 20 calendar quarters and for the raising of not more than \$16,600,000 for the purposes of acquiring, constructing, repairing, improving, renovating, adding to, extending, upgrading, furnishing, or equipping school buildings, support facilities, or infrastructure in the Bleckley County School District useful or desirable in connection therewith, including acquiring any necessary property or demolition thereof, both real and personal, including, but not limited to the following: (1) paying all or a portion of the costs of acquiring, constructing, equipping, or furnishing school buildings, or educational, support, maintenance, storage, physical education, or athletic facilities; (2) adding to, renovating, repairing, improving, or equipping existing schools or facilities including, but not limited to, vocational or agricultural facilities, gymnasiums, physical education or athletic facilities, or HVAC repairs, improvements, or additions (3) acquiring new equipment, fixtures, or furnishings for the School District, including, but not limited to textbooks, band instruments, computer technology equipment or software, interactive boards, safety or security technology, food service equipment, tables, desks or chairs, school buses, or other vehicles; (4) acquiring any capital property necessary or desirable for the School District, both real or personal (5) paying costs of issuing the below described Bonds, paying debt service on the Bonds, debt service on the School District’s previously incurred Series 2020 general obligation bonds; (6) paying expenses incident to any of the foregoing purposes; or (7) any combination of the foregoing purposes?
- () YES
- () NO

If continuation of the tax is approved by the voters, such vote shall also constitute approval of the issuance of general obligation debt of the Bleckley County School District in the principal amount of up to \$3,000,000, repayable from the proceeds of the aforesaid sales and use tax, for the purposes of (a) funding such portions of the above projects as may be acquired, constructed, or equipped with the proceeds of general obligation debt; (b) paying expenses associated with issuing the bonds; (c) paying capitalized interest on the bonds; or (d) any combination of the foregoing purposes.

All qualified voters desiring to vote in favor of continuing the one percent (1%) sales and use tax for education currently in effect (the “**Sales Tax for Education**”) shall vote “Yes” and all qualified voters opposed to continuing the Sales Tax for Education shall vote “No”. If more than one-half of the votes cast are in favor of continuing the Sales Tax for Education then the Sales Tax for Education shall be continued beginning July 1, 2027, or the first day of the calendar quarter immediately following the quarter in which the Sales Tax for Education now in effect is terminated. The maximum period of time for which the Sales Tax for Education shall be re-imposed shall be twenty consecutive calendar quarters.

The maximum cost of the capital outlay projects for educational purposes described in the above ballot question to be funded with Sales Tax for Education proceeds, including interest, capitalized interest, principal, and costs of issuance on general obligation debt (including previously incurred debt) to be paid, shall be \$16,600,000. To the extent available, the Bleckley County School District may combine available funds from any state or federal governmental source to which the Bleckley County School District may be entitled to pay the costs of its capital outlay projects, and it may choose what capital outlay projects to undertake or not undertake or to delay until additional funding is available to the extent that the proceeds of the Sales Tax for Education and general obligation debt are insufficient to complete any of the capital outlay projects.

Plans and specifications for the capital outlay projects described in the above ballot question have not been initiated and bids have not been received. Depending upon acquisition and construction costs and available funds, the Bleckley County Board of Education may add to, modify, or delete specific projects.

If the Sales Tax for Education is to be reimposed, the Bleckley County School District may issue general obligation debt in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$3,000,000. The proceeds from such general obligation debt, if issued, shall be used to fund all or a portion of the above-described capital outlay projects. The maximum rate or rates of interest on such debt shall not exceed six percent (6.00%) per annum and the maximum amount of principal to be paid in each year during the life of the debt shall be as follows:

Year	Principal Amount
2028	\$565,000
2029	585,000
2030	600,000
2031	615,000
2032	635,000

The School District may issue general obligation debt in an aggregate amount that is less than \$3,000,000 and reduce the principal amounts maturing that are shown above. The debt shall be repayable from the proceeds of the Sales Tax for Education. The debt may be issued in one or more series, and on one or more dates of issuance as the School District may approve; provided, however, that the aggregate principal amount of such debt shall not exceed \$3,000,000. The debt may be made subject to redemption prior to maturity, to the extent permitted by law, upon terms and conditions to be determined by the School District.

The principal and interest on the Debt shall be secured by the proceeds of the sales and use tax and shall be payable in lawful money of the United States of America at a paying agent bank that will be designated by the Bleckley County School District prior to the issuance of the debt.

Any brochures, listings, or other advertisements issued by the Bleckley County School District or by any other person, firm, corporation, or association with the knowledge and consent of the Bleckley County School District shall be deemed to be a statement of intention of the Bleckley County School District concerning the use of the proceeds of the Bonds.

All persons who are not registered to vote and who desire to register to vote in the special election may register to vote through the close of business on February 18, 2025.

Advance In Person Voting will be held February 24, 2025 – March 14, 2025. Mandatory Saturday Early Voting will be held on March 1, 2025, and March 8, 2025. Polls will be open during Advance In Person Voting from 8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Mandatory Saturday Early Voting will occur between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Election Day, March 18, 2025. Those residents of Bleckley County qualified to vote at such election shall be determined in all respects in accordance with the election laws of the State of Georgia.

This notice is given pursuant to a resolution of the Board of Education of Bleckley County and the consent of the Bleckley County Board of Elections and Registration as Election Superintendent.

/s/ Shanna Evans
Chairman, Board of Education
of Bleckley County, Georgia

/s/ Cheryl Ates
Election Supervisor on behalf of the Bleckley County
Board of Elections and Registration as Election
Superintendent



Sandra Hernandez/HJJ

Attendees waved signs in front of AFGE Local 987 office on Watson Boulevard showing their support to federal workers.

Police, from 5:

over Day deadline last Thursday.

Petra said there are hundreds of families that can relate to watching a loved one be diagnosed with a degenerative disease. But early signs of memory loss are not always easy to spot — until maybe one day, when a loved one goes to run an errand.

“She gets in the car, and she goes to the Walmart where she always goes,” Petra said.

Except this time, that loved one forgets why they’re there, and gets confused, or frightened.

“And maybe if people are approaching her, she’s getting agitated,” she said. “And so someone calls the police.”

People with conditions that cause cognitive decline are also prone to wandering — one estimate from the Alzheimer’s Association suggests 6 in 10 people diagnosed with demen-

tia will wander at least once.

As currently written, HB 238 would establish a mandate for the Georgia Public Safety Training Center (GPSTC) to “create and maintain” a training course on at-risk adults with a focus on training for response to people with Alzheimer’s and/or dementia.

The training center in Forsyth is where cadets from around the state attend various programs they are required by law to complete before becoming officers.

That includes Crisis Intervention Training, or CIT. Kevin Angell, public information officer for GPSTC, said that 40-hour training includes scenario-based practice that prepares officers to respond to calls where people may be “emotionally disturbed” and need to be “de-escalated.”

Any new training approved by the state legislature would offer a more focused approach on older adults in cognitive decline, and add on to training

they already offer for At-Risk adults, Angell said.

“We try to be ahead of things like that,” Angell said.

The existing course is 3 hours long and taken online. Angell said just over 2,500 officers took part in it over the course of last year.

There wasn’t much legislation introduced this session centered around aging people. One bill proposed creating a Georgia Adult and Aging Services Board, a group of appointed older adults who would advise on the coordination and availability of aging services. It failed to pass through its origin chamber.

Another, a resolution that failed to make it to a vote, suggested adding caregiving to the list of eligible qualifying activities under Georgia Pathways, the Medicaid program for people who make up to 100% of the Federal Poverty Level and can complete 80 hours of work, education or other activities per month.

Classifieds

Employment

Part-Time Maintenance Technician

This position requires good mental and physical capability. Qualified candidates must possess the knowledge and ability to perform routine maintenance tasks and duties independently and work well as a team member. Position requires the ability to read and write well and have the motivation and ability to learn on the job. Typical duties and responsibilities will include repair/replacement of electrical, plumbing, fixtures, doors, hardware, sheetrock, painting, general carpentry and cleaning of vacant apartments. Knowledge of HVAC, refrigerators and stoves would be a plus. Position also includes ground keeping such as grass cutting, edging, hedging, spraying and other general ground maintenance duties. Must have a valid Driver's License, high school diploma or GED and a clean Criminal History. The position starts at 28 hours per week but could lead into full-time employment for the right candidate. Applications can be picked up at the administrative office located at 172 Limestone Rd, Cochran GA 31014. Office hours are Monday – Friday 8:00 am until 5:00 pm

Legals

Bleckley Co. Legals

C25-018
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF BLECKLEY COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF LUCIANA DIXON, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 2025P9
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO: whom it may concern:
 TERESA DIXON DANIELS and DIANE CAROL BOUTWELL have petitioned to be appointed administrators of the estate of LUCIANA DIXON 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. Section 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 March 27, 2025. 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
 February 20, 27, March 6, 13, 2025

C25-023
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF BLECKLEY COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
In Re: Katalina Stefanie Munoz
Name Change of Minor Children:
 Flynn Kelley Wynne and Clayton Reid Wynne
 Civil Action File No. 2024V-0184CMJ

NOTICE TO CHANGE NAME OF MINOR CHILDREN

GEORGIA
 BLECKLEY COUNTY
 Notice is hereby given that **Katalina Stefanie Munoz**, the undersigned, filed her Petition to the Superior Court of **BLECKLEY** County, Georgia, on the **30th day of October, 2024**, praying for a change in the name of **FLYNN KELLEY WYNNE**, year of birth 2021, to **CARTER JACE MUNOZ** and **CLAYTON REID WYNNE**, year of birth 2021, to **JACKSON SLADE MUNOZ**. Notice is hereby given pursuant to law to any interested or affected party to appear in said Court and to file objects to such name changes. Objections must be filed with said Court within thirty days (30) of the filing of said Petition.
This 18th day of February, 2025.
KATALINA STEFANIE MUNOZ
Petitioner
JOHN P. HARRINGTON
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 130
Eastman, Georgia 31023
478-374-3488

March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 2025

C25-019
 NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER

GEORGIA, BLECKLEY COUNTY

Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by Latasha Curtis to Citifinancial Services, Inc., dated June 5, 2006, recorded in Deed Book 316, Page 100, Bleckley County, Georgia Records, as last transferred to U.S. Bank Trust Company, National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as Indenture Trustee of CIM Trust 2023-NR1 by assignment recorded in Deed Book 482, Page 220, Bleckley County, Georgia Records, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of THIRTY-FOUR THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED SEVENTY-EIGHT AND 78/100 DOLLARS (\$34,878.78), 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 Bleckley 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 April, 2025, 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).

POSITION AVAILABLE

The City of Gordon is now accepting applications for a Public Works Superintendent. This is a full-time salaried position based on 40 hours per week at \$26.65 per hour.

SCOPE OF WORK: Position is responsible for technical and supervisory work in directing projects in various public works activities in the City. Duties involve planning, organizing, supervising and inspecting the work of subordinates to ensure that projects are completed based on oral and written instructions. Incumbent may operate equipment and may perform manual labor to participate in the completion of assigned projects. Incumbent must be available for on-call duty for emergency public works projects. Work is performed under the general supervision of the Mayor and City Council. Public Works include roads, streets, water and sewerage systems, buildings, and advisor or member of Planning & Zoning. Certification by State of Georgia as a Water Plant & Sewerage Plant Operator is required. If not certified upon hire, then certification must be obtained within two years of hire or an extension will need to be authorized by the City Council. A complete job description can be obtained at Gordon City Hall.

Applicant must have a valid driver's license, be 18 years of age or older, and have a high school diploma or GED. A criminal background check will be performed on all applicants. Benefits include insurance, paid holidays, sick leave, and retirement.

Any persons interested can contact the Personnel Department at the Gordon City Hall at 478-628-2222, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday from 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. and on Wednesday from 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Applications will be mailed to those requesting them and can also be found on the City of Gordon website: cityofgordonga.org. Applications for this position must be received by 4:00 p.m. on March 21, 2025 at the Gordon City Hall - 115 College Street. Applications can also be mailed to: City of Gordon, P.O. Box 387, Gordon, Georgia 31031.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

POSITION AVAILABLE

The City of Gordon is now accepting applications for a laborer position for the Public Works Department. Full-time position starting pay is \$15.81 per hour. Must have a valid driver's license, be 18 years of age or older, and have a high school diploma or GED. A criminal background check will be performed on all applicants. Benefits include insurance, paid holidays, sick leave, and retirement. Any persons interested can contact the Personnel Department at the Gordon City Hall at 478-628-2222, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. and on Wednesday from 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Applications will be mailed to those requesting them and can also be found on the City of Gordon website: cityofgordonga.org. Applications for this position must be received by 4:00 p.m. on March 21, 2025 at the Gordon City Hall - 115 College Street. The City Hall drop box is available or the completed application can be mailed to: City of Gordon, P.O. Box 387, Gordon, Georgia 31031.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

INVITATION TO BID
 2025 LOCAL MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT GRANT (LMIG)
 CITY OF COCHRAN, GEORGIA

The City of Cochran is accepting sealed bids for furnishing all labor, material, equipment and services to patch, level, resurface and re-stripe approximately .61 miles OR 3,205 linear feet of various road segments. This project will be funded primarily from LMIG state funds and matched with local SPLOST funds. If interested in submitting a bid please call (478) 934-6346 and request a copy of specifications, or a prospective bidder can visit City Hall at 112 West Dykes Street during normal business hours. Bids will be accepted until 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 30, 2025, at the City Hall address, at which time bids will be opened and read aloud. All bids should be sealed and labeled "sealed bid" along with the Contractor E-Verify Number on the outside of the envelope. Sealed bids should be mailed or submitted to City Hall at 112 West Dykes Street, Cochran, Georgia 31014. E-mailed or Faxed bids will not be recognized. The City of Cochran reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids and to waive technicalities.

POSITION AVAILABLE

The City of Gordon is now accepting applications for a full-time and a part-time police officer.

Requirements: POST Certified, valid driver's license, high school diploma or GED. A criminal history, driver background check, drug screen & physical will be performed.

Pay Scale: Full-time - \$19.64 per hour Part-time - \$18.62 per hour

Full-time benefits: Insurance, paid holidays, vacation, sick leave, retirement

Applications can be picked up & returned to the Gordon City Hall, 115 College Street, Monday - Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Wednesday from 8:30 p.m. to 12:00 p.m. Applications must be submitted no later than March 21, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER
 For more information, contact Chief Mike Hall @ 478-628-2323

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.

U.S. Bank Trust Company, National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as Indenture Trustee of CIM Trust 2023-NR1 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: Fay Servicing, LLC, 425 S. Financial Place, Suite 2000, Chicago, IL 60605, 800-495-7166. Note, however, that such entity is not required by law to negotiate, amend or modify the terms of the loan.

To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party in possession of the property is Latasha Curtis or a tenant or tenants and said property is more commonly known as **176 Pineland Estates Rd, Cochran, Georgia 31014**. Should a conflict arise between the property address and the legal description the legal description will control.

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

U.S. Bank Trust Company, National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as Indenture Trustee of CIM Trust 2023-NR1

as Attorney in Fact for
 Latasha Curtis

McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLP
 1544 Old Alabama Road
 Roswell, GA 30076
 www.foreclosurehotline.net
 EXHIBIT "A"

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 FOR THE WEEK 3/9/25

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ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOT 125 OF THE 21ST LAND DISTRICT OF BLECKLEY COUNTY, GEORGIA, DESIGNATED AS LOT 3, CONTAINING ONE (1) ACRE, OF OAKWOOD ESTATES SUBDIVISION AS SHOWN ON PLAT OF SURVEY DATED JULY 15, 1996 BY T. JERRY PEACOCK, SR., AND RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 11, PAGE 30, BLECKLEY COUNTY RECORDS, AND INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE.

Being that parcel of land conveyed to LATA-SHA CURTIS from MODEST HOMES, INC by that deed dated 05/12/2003 and recorded 05/16/2003 in deed book 264, at page 244 of the BLECKLEY County, GA Public Registry.

MR/mac 4/1/25
Our file no. 23-10859GA - FT 18
March 6, 13, 20, 27, 2025

C25-025
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
RE: ESTATE OF WILLIAM A. MANNING, DECEASED
All creditors of the Estate of William A. Manning, 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 6th day of March, 2025.
Marcia S Manning, Executor
109 Holly Ross Road Apt. 1
Cochran, GA 31014
March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 2025

C25-022
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF BLECKLEY
ESTATE NO. 2025P2
IN RE: ESTATE OF MARY MAGDALENE CHEEK POWELL
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
All creditors of the Estate of Mary Magdalene Cheek Powell 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 the 3rd day of March, 2025.
Billy W. Powell, Administrator of the Estate of Mary Magdalene Cheek Powell, Deceased
112 Hart Cemetery Road
Cochran, GA 31014
March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 2025

Twiggs Co. Legals

T25-009
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF TWIGGS
IN RE: IRIS FRANCINE JEFFREY, DECEASED
All debtors/creditors of the Estate of Iris Francine Jeffrey, 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 11th day of February , 2025.
Ivy Elise Webb
5646 Bullard Road
Dry Branch, GA 31020
February 20, 27, March 6, 13, 2025

T25-012
GEORGIA, TWIGGS COUNTY
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
All creditors of the Estate of Morris Jasper Jones, 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.
This 20th day of February, 2025.
STEPHEN MORRIS JONES AS ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE OF MORRIS JASPER JONES, DECEASED
Stephen Morris Jones
787 Gay Road
Macon, GA 31210
February 27, March 6, 13, 20, 2025

T25-015
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF TWIGGS COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF DONALD D. HOLLIDAY, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. P-25-009
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION
NOTICE
TO: TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:
Caroline F. Starnes have petitioned to be appointed administrator of the estate of **Donald D. Holliday** 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. Section 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 7, 2025.
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
Twiggs County Probate Court
425 Railroad St. N. P.O. Box 186
Jeffersonville, GA 31044
478-945-3390
March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 2025

T25-014
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF TWIGGS COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF
WILLIAM FRANKLIN BRYANT, DECEASED

ESTATE NO. P-25-008
NOTICE
IN RE: The Petition to Probate Will in Solemn Form in the above-referenced estate having been duly filed,
TO: Adam Wilkins and Anthony Bryant and
TO: Whom It May Concern

This is to notify you to file objection, if there is any, to the petition to probate will in solemn form, in this Court on or before April 7, 2025.
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 N. PO Box 186
Jeffersonville, GA 31044
478-945-3390
March 6, 13, 20, 27, 2025

T25-011
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF TWIGGS
IN RE: RUBIE L. HEBERT, DECEASED
All debtors/creditors of the Estate of Rubie L. Hebert, 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 11th day of February, 2025.
Cassandra Denise Collins
4038 Maxanne Drive N.W.
Kennesaw, Georgia 31044
February 27, March 6, 13, 20, 2025

T25-017
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF TWIGGS
IN RE: SARA BROWN STONE, DECEASED
All debtors/creditors of the Estate of Sara Brown Stone, 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 7th day of March 2025.
Dale Stone Wynn
516 Windsor Drive
Macon, GA 31217
March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 2025

Wilkinson Co. Legals

W25-019
NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS
GEORGIA, COUNTY OF WILKINSON
All creditors of the estate of John Harrell Moon, deceased, as of late June 17, 2024, 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, 100 Bacon Street, Irwinton, Georgia, 31042.
Tis is the 25th day of February, 2025.
Donald Lewis Roberts, Attorney
March 6, 13, 20, 27, 2025

W25-023
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
GEORGIA, WILKINSON COUNTY
IN RE: Estate of Jack Harold Upshaw, Sr. All creditors of the Estate of Jack Harold Upshaw, Sr. deceased, 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 required to make immediate payment to me.
This 4th day of March, 2025.
Deborah Hill Upshaw
Executor of the Estate of Jack Harold Upshaw, Sr.
c/o Bert King
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 1707
Gray, GA 31032
478-986-6000
www.BertKing.com
March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 2025

W25-016
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF WILKINSON COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF MARJORIE ANN YOUNG, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 249
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION
NOTICE
TO: BEN EUGENE PAYNE and to whom it may concern:
BEN EUGENE PAYNE has petitioned to be appointed administrator of the estate of **MARJORIE ANN YOUNG**, 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 March 17, 2025.
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 A. Mims
Clerk of the Probate Court
Wilkinson County Probate Court
100 Bacon Street
Irwinton, GA 31042
478-946-2222

February 20, 27, March 6, 13, 2025

W25-017
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR DESOTO COUNTY, FLORIDA
Case No. 25DR75 Division: Family
De'zrae Dawn Burdick, Petitioner and
Matthew Thomas Butler, Respondent
NOTICE OF ACTION FOR PETITION FOR NAME CHANGE (CHILD)
TO: Matthew Thomas Butler, 157 Lakeshore Drive South, Ivey, GA 31031
YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for Name Change - Child has been filed against you and that you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on De'zrae Dawn Burdick, whose address is 6674 NW CR 661, Arcadia, FL 34266, before service on petitioner or immediately thereafter. If you fail to do so, a default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the petition.
February 27, March 6, 13, 20, 2025

W25-020
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY OF WILKINSON

By virtue of a Power of Sale contained in that certain Security Deed from Benedict I. Davis and Charlene Davis to AMERICAN GENERAL FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC. (DE), dated May 21, 2004 and recorded on May 25, 2004 in Deed Book 288, Page 664, in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Wilkinson County, Georgia, said Security Deed having been given to secure a Note of even date, in the original principal amount of Seventy-Two Thousand Six Hundred Seventy-Five and 00/100 dollars (\$72,675.00) with interest thereon as provided therein, as last transferred to U.S. Bank National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as Trustee for the CIM TRUST 2021-NR2 Mortgage-Backed Notes, Series 2021-NR2, recorded in Deed Book 415, Page 502, aforesaid records, will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the courthouse door of Wilkinson County, Georgia, or at such place as has or may be lawfully designated as an alternative location, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in April, 2025, all property described in said Security Deed including but not limited to the following described property:
ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE 330TH (LORDS)

G. M. DISTRICT OF WILKINSON COUNTY, GEORGIA, CONTAINING 1.21 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY IDENTIFIED AS TRACT NO. 2 ON A PLAT OF PROPERTY OF JOE REYNOLDS, SAID PLAT RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 13, PAGE 21, IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF WILKINSON COUNTY, GEORGIA, IS INCORPORATED HEREIN AS A PART OF THIS DESCRIPTION. SAID PROPERTY HEREIN CONVEYED BEING NOW OR FORMERLY BOUNDED AS FOLLOWS: NORTH, BY TRACT NO.1 AS SHOWN ON SAID PLAT; NORTHEAST, BY TRACT NO. 3 AS SHOWN ON SAID PLAT; SOUTHEAST AND SOUTHWEST, BY OTHER LANDS OF JOE REYNOLDS. SAID PROPERTY BEING A PORTION OF THE IDENTICAL PROPERTY CONVEYED TO JOE REYNOLDS BY DEED RECORDED IN THE

OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF WILKINSON COUNTY, GEORGIA. ALSO CONVEYED IS RIGHT OF INGRESS AND EGRESS TO AND FROM THE PROPERTY HEREIN CONVEYED OVER AND ACROSS TRACT NO. 1 AS SHOWN ON SAID PLAT FROM THE NORTHERLY BOUNDARY LINE OF TRACT NO. 3 ACROSS TRACT NO. 1 TO THE RIGHT-OF-WAY OF STATE HIGHWAY NO. 57.
TAX MAP REFERENCE: T02 003

Being that parcel of land conveyed to CHARLENE DAVIS AND BENEDICT I. DAVIS, JOINT TENANTS WITH RIGHT OF SURVIVORSHIP from JOE REYNOLDS by that deed dated 07/16/1986 and recorded 01/22/1987 in deed book 179, at page 22 of the WILKINSON County, GA Public Registry.
Said property may more commonly be known as 110 Irwinton Rd, Toombsboro, GA 31090.

The debt secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of default, non-payment of the monthly installments on said loan. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given).
The individual or entity that has full authority to negotiate, amend and modify all terms of the loan is U.S. Bank National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as Trustee for the CIM TRUST 2021-NR2 Mortgage-Backed Notes, Series 2021-NR2, c/o Nationstar Mortgage LLC, 8950 Cypress Waters Blvd., Dallas, TX 75019, 800-285-8585.
Said property will be sold on an "as-is" basis without any representation, warranty or recourse against the above-named or the undersigned. The sale will also be subject to the following items which may affect the title: a) zoning ordinances; b) matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or by an inspection of the property; c) any outstanding ad valorem taxes, including taxes, which constitute liens upon said property whether or not now due and payable; d) special assessments; e) the right of redemption of any taxing authority; f) all outstanding bills for public utilities which constitute

liens upon said property; g) all restrictive covenants, easements, rights-of-way and any other matters of record superior to said Security Deed. To the best of the knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the owners and party in possession of the property are Benedict I. Davis and Charlene Davis and or tenant(s). The sale will be conducted subject to 1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy code and 2) final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed.
U.S. Bank National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as Trustee for the CIM TRUST 2021-NR2 Mortgage-Backed Notes, Series 2021-NR2 as Attorney-in-Fact for

Benedict I. Davis and Charlene Davis
Contact:
Padgett Law Group: 6267 Old Water Oak Road, Suite 203, Tallahassee, FL 32312; (850) 422-2520 Ad Run Dates: 03/06/2025 ,03/13/2025 ,03/20/2025 ,03/27/2025; 23-003693

March 6, 13, 20, 27, 2025

W25-018
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
All creditors of the Estate of James Washington, late of Wilkinson County, Georgia, deceased, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law; and all persons indebted to said Estate are required to make immediate payment.
This 17th day of February, 2025
Clara Washington and Barbara Shells
Executors of the Estate of
James Washington
Cater C. Thompson
Jones Cork, LLP
PO Box 6437
Macon, GA 31208-6437
February 27, March 6, 13, 20, 2025

W25-021
This is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
GEORGIA, WILKINSON COUNTY
Under and by virtue of Power of Sale contained in Security Deed from **Laronda Yvonne Glover and Eric Andrew Cabiness, Jr., aka Eric Andre Cabiness, Jr.**, to 21st Mortgage Corporation, dated June 16, 2021, filed for record June 24, 2021, recorded at Deed Book 398, Page 403, Wilkinson County, Georgia Records, in the original principal amount of \$149,033.36, aforesaid records to secure the obligations of Grant- or to Lender as set forth in a Promissory Note ("Note") of even date as amended, modified, or revised from time to time, with interest at the rate specified therein, there will be sold, by the undersigned at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, before the Courthouse Door at **WILKINSON COUNTY**, Georgia, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in **April 2025**, the following described property:

All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in Land Lot 43 of the 5th Land District of Wilkinson County, Georgia, being shown and distinguished as "Lot 14" according to a Plat of Survey entitled "Subdivision Heritage Farms", prepared by Brent Cunningham and Co., Inc., Land Surveying, dated January 13, 2005, recorded in Plat Book 19, Page 373, Clerk's Office, Wilkinson County Superior Court, which said plat is incorporated herein and made a part hereof reference.

047 094, 047 004 (PARENT PARCEL)
Title to the above described property conveyed to James Emory, Inc. from John S. Simmons and Wayne Davis, as Co-Executors of The Estate of Gussie Mae Owen and Kay D. Defore by Warranty Deed dated July 30, 2003 and recorded August 4, 2003 in Book 280, Page 640 or Instrument No. NIA.

And also being the same premises conveyed to LaRonda Yvonne Glover and Eric Andre Cabiness Jr. by deed from James Emory, Inc. to be recorded herewith.

Said legal description is controlling however, the property is commonly known as 110 Heritage Farms Court, Gordon, Georgia 31031.
Map and Parcel #047-094

The indebtedness secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of default under the terms of said Security Deed and Note, including, but not limited to, the nonpayment of the indebtedness as and when due. The indebtedness remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same, all expenses of the sale, including attorneys' fees and other payments provided for under the terms of the Security Deed and Note. Said property will be sold subject to the following items which may affect the title to said property: all zoning ordinances; matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or by inspection of the property; any outstanding taxes, including but not limited to, ad valorem taxes, which constitute liens upon said property; special assessments; and all outstanding bills for public utilities which constitute liens upon said property; To the best of the knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party in possession of the property is Laronda Yvonne Glover and Eric Andrew Cabiness, Jr., aka Eric Andre Cabiness, Jr., and /or tenant(s).
The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the United States Bankruptcy Code and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed. 21ST Mortgage Corporation, and its counsel are acting as debt collectors. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
21ST MORTGAGE CORPORATION, as Attorney-in-Fact for Laronda Yvonne Glover and Eric Andrew Cabiness, Jr., aka Eric Andre Cabiness, Jr.
Contact: Jason Godwin
Godwin Law Group
3985 Steve Reynolds Blvd, Bldg D
Norcross, GA 30093
Phone: 470-427-2683
Email: jgodwin@godwinlawgroup.com
March 6, 13, 20, 27, 2025

Wilco, from 1:

side-by-side was stolen from a shop in the 200 block of DC Hardie Road, added the incident report.

A Superior Court judge ultimately sentenced Lowe to 180 days in the county jail, 166 days in a state probation detention center, as well as roughly four-and-a-half years on probation.

Meanwhile, Marissa Gene Taylor provided the “unusual.” Taylor, 24, placed several 911 calls and asked the dispatcher if she could “speak with Donald Trump and Elon Musk,” according to an incident report. Deputies then responded to the origin of the 911 calls, 164 Vinson

Georgia Senate moves to enhance criminal penalties for teens who threaten schools

Ty Tagami
Capitol Beat

ATLANTA – Legislation that would enhance criminal penalties for students who threaten their school passed the Georgia Senate Thursday.

Senate Bill 61 was pushed by Republicans and passed 33-22 in a party-line vote.

It would allow children aged 13 to 17 to be tried as adults for terrorististic threatening. They could also land in superior court for attempting to commit, or for conspiracy to commit, terrorististic threatening.

The legislation also would allow prosecutors to move other serious crimes into superior court, including aggravated assault with a gun or armed robbery.

SB 61 is among several measures GOP senators have offered in reaction to the mass shooting last fall at Apalachee High School in Barrow County.

The chief sponsor, Sen. Greg Dolezal, R-Cum-

Road in McIntyre. Taylor was located in the yard and “seemed very aggravated.” A man at the residence then approached the deputy and said that Taylor “was confusing reality with fantasy.”

The deputy attempted to redirect Taylor to the back of his vehicle, but “she wasn’t complying” and “was trying to get her shoes and started cussing at (the man) and saying more strange things.” The deputy then attempted to restrain Taylor, who “flopped to the ground on her back and started resisting.

Taylor ultimately was booked at the county jail and charged with one count of disorderly conduct.

ming, called it a school safety bill.

But Sen. Emanuel Jones, D-Decatur, said he saw it as criminalizing kids.

At a committee hearing last week, critics said children’s brains are not fully developed and they sometimes do “dumb things.” If one of those things is phoning a threat to their school, it could land them in superior court, with a lifelong criminal record, they said.

Senate Majority Leader Steve Gooch, R-Dahlonega, told reporters that SB 61 was necessary to confront “heinous” crimes like the mass shooting at Apalachee High. He noted that the legislation gives prosecutors discretion about whether to try children as adults.

“We just have to give the district attorneys the tools in order to protect the citizens of Georgia,” Gooch said.

The bill now moves to the Georgia House of Representatives.

Rally, from 6:

ther than just being removed and the area being affected. They’re making sure you don’t get the benefits and the other things and it’s weird. That’s the other reason that it’s so important to know how everything works.”

McElhaney said they have been advising people if they recently receive an appraisal, an award or a letter of appreciation they need to hold on to it. This will show the employees have not given a poor performance since they were awarded.

Hill believes these executive orders are a retaliation against federal workers, something he hasn’t seen in his 50-year career.

“He’s [Trump] hit the veterans and all the different agencies that he’s named. It’s all DOD which is a common factor, the federal service. That’s the backbone of what we do,” he said.

Phyllis Whymark was one of many who participated in the rally. She along with

her husband came out to the rally to support federal workers.

She believed the Trump administration is taking away departments and services the people depend on. She said the administration is hurting veterans and farmers by taking away programs.

“He is hurting our government workers, our veterans and he is now going after departments that oversee over departments that keep our people safe,” she said.

She has called Representative Austin Scott daily and encourages him to host a meeting with his constituents. Whymark urged the public to wake up and encouraged people to speak up.

“Now you’re [Austin Scott] are hurting Georgia farmers by going along with this guy [Trump]. People on base are being fired. People around the country, around the world, are being fired and left wherever they are,” she said.

St. Patrick's Day is known for revelry. A festive atmosphere prevails each March 17, and people from all walks of life and genealogical backgrounds take part in festivities that have become celebrations of Irish culture.

Cuisine is a big part of Irish culture, even if it's not the first thing people think of when pondering the Emerald Isle. This St. Patrick's Day, celebrants can bring a touch of Irish cuisine to their celebrations by preparing the following recipe for "Irish Guinness Stew with Lamb" courtesy of Lines+Angles.

Ingredients

- 8 cups lamb/beef stock
- 1 cup pearl barley
- 3 lb lamb (cubed)
- salt (to taste)
- black pepper (to taste)
- 3 tablespoons oil
- 1/2 cup all-purpose flour
- 4 celery stalks (chopped)
- 2 onions (chopped)
- 3 cloves of garlic (minced)
- 3 large carrots (chopped)
- 12 oz Guinness stout
- 1 bunch fresh parsley
- 1 bunch fresh thyme
- 1 bunch fresh rosemary
- 3 large potatoes (cubed)
- 2 teaspoons cornstarch
- 4 teaspoons water

1. In a medium saucepan set over medium heat, bring 3 cups of stock to a boil; add barley. Reduce heat to low and gently simmer for 20 minutes. Set aside.

2. Meanwhile, pat the meat dry with paper towels. Season the meat with salt and pepper. Heat the oil in a 6-quart Dutch oven. Brown the meat on all sides over medium-high heat. Using a slotted spoon, remove the meat from the pot. Sprinkle flour over the meat, shaking off any excess; set aside.

3. Add the celery, onions, garlic and carrots to the pot and saute until onions are soft and translucent. Add Guinness and deglaze the pot, scraping up all the caramelized bits on the bottom and sides of the pan.

4. Chop the leaves of the parsley, reserving the stems. Tie the parsley stems and several sprigs of thyme and rosemary into a bundle; drop the bundle into the pot. Chop the remaining thyme and rosemary; set chopped herbs aside.

5. Return the meat to the pot. Add the potatoes, barley and enough stock to cover the meat and vegetables. Bring to a boil over medium heat. Reduce heat to very low and simmer for 2 to 3 hours, or until meat is fork tender. Stir occasionally, adding remaining stock as necessary.

6. Check seasoning; adjust to taste. Stir in chopped parsley, thyme and rosemary. Mix cornstarch in water and stir. Add to stew, stirring to incorporate. Cook over low heat for 5 to 10 minutes or until stew thickens. Ladle into bowls. Serve with crusty bread and of course more Guinness if desired.

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

AGRICULTURE
AGRONOMY
ANIMALS
ANNUAL
APIARY
BIODIVERSITY
BIODYNAMIC
CAPACITY
COVER
CROPS
CULTIVATION
DEADHEADING
DRAINAGE
DRILLING
ECOLOGY
EROSION
FARMING
HARVEST
HUSBANDRY
IRRIGATION
LIVESTOCK
ROTATION
SOIL
TILLAGE

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
				39	40	41		42	43				
		44	45					46					
	47						48						
49					50				51		52	53	54
56					57				58				
59					60					61			
62					63					64			

1. Unsheared sheep
5. Rock TV channel
8. Streetcar
12. Concerning
14. Expression of recognition
15. Greek goddess of youth
16. An iPad is one
18. Adult beverage
19. Manning and Wallach are two
20. Makes a petty verbal attack
21. Tyrion Lannister's nickname
22. Pointed ends of pens
23. Wristwatches
26. Body part
30. Made a mistake
31. Adjusted
32. Turkish honorific title
33. Yell

1. Works of body art
2. Abba __, Israeli politician
3. A desert in Asia
4. Eat greedily
5. Doomed French queen
6. Beat
7. One who survives on blood
8. As a consequence
9. Counted on
10. Acquired Brain Injury
Behavior Science
11. Unclean
13. One who does not drink
17. Wild ox of the Malay
Archipelago
24. __ student, learns healing
25. Bacterial skin infection
26. Expresses surprise
27. What one says on a
wedding day
28. Crony

34. Historic Alabama city
39. Cub
42. Type of sea bass dish
44. To call (archaic)
46. Unfortunate
47. Separate oneself from others
49. Hero sandwiches
50. Former OSS
51. Open spaces in a forest
56. Innermost brain membranes
57. Fortune
58. Hunting expedition
59. Doomed queen Boleyn
60. Peyton's little brother
61. Type of wrap
62. Scottish tax
63. Soviet Socialist Republic
64. An increase in price or value

I am an actor born in Florida on March 13, 1950. I helped found the St. Nicholas Theater Company. I've appeared in many movies that showcase my versatility. I was nominated for an Academy Award for my work in a dark comedy about a Minnesota city.

Answer: William H. Macy

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to agriculture.

DEF E

--	--	--	--

Answer: Feed

Solve the code to discover words related to agriculture.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 22 = O)

A. 5 18 20 10
Clue: Growing operation

B. 3 20 18 6 3 22 20
Clue: Farm equipment

C. 3 17 6 4 11 22 26 22 12 21
Clue: Scientific tools

D. 6 20 22 19 14
Clue: Plants

Answers: A. farm B. tractor C. technology D. crops

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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

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MGA headed to NAIA hoops tournament for the first time

Micah Johnston
For the TJP

The Middle Georgia State Knights punched their ticket to the NAIA National Tournament last week despite a loss in the Southern States Athletic conference championship game.

The Knights were a top team in the SSAC all season, winning eight of their final 10 regular season games and making it all the way to

the conference title game. MGA lost to the Life University Running Eagles 85-78 in the championship, failing to avenge a pair of tight losses to Life during the regular season.

The 19-8 record on the season with a 13-5 conference mark was still enough to earn the Knights the No. 9 seed. They will face the No. 8 Nelson University Lions out of Waxahachie, Texas, in the first round.

Jamal Taylor and Trashawn Wilson will need to stay hot after putting on great performances in the SSAC tournament, both earning all-tournament team honors.

The game is in Alexandria, Louisiana, at the site of host school LSU-Alexandria, the tournament's No. 1 seed. Should Middle Georgia State win, it will play the winner of No. 1 LSU-Alexandria vs. No. 16 Still-

man College on the other side of the bracket.

The game begins at 6:30 p.m. and will be streamed live on LSU-Alexandria's YouTube channel. The final site for the tournament after the first two rounds is Kansas City, Missouri.

The university foundation began a campaign to raise funds for the basketball team to travel to the tournament. When the Times Journal

Post went to print, they had raised \$1,660 of the \$2,000 goal from 17 donors. To learn more, text "MGAKnights" to 71777.

"This is a monumental milestone for the program, and it's thanks to the hard work,

dedication and commitment of both the players and coaches," the foundation wrote on Facebook. "Your contribution will go the team to ensure that our players have everything they need to compete at the highest level."



Photo courtesy of MGA
Middle Georgia State players celebrate from the bench during the Knights' 77-66 win over Dalton State in the second round of the Southern States Athletic Conference tournament at the end of February. MGA's run in the tournament earned them a spot in the NAIA National Tournament for the first time.

Bleckley baseball rolls past Southwest, Wilkinson struggles against GSIC

Micah Johnston
For the TJP

The Bleckley County Royals kept pace with the ACE Gryphons to stay atop Region 2-A Division I last week, defeating the Southwest Patriots in a pair of blowouts to remain undefeated against region opponents.

The Royals defeated the Patriots 10-0 in the first leg of a doubleheader March 4 before winning 15-1 in the nightcap.

William Boatright drove things from the leadoff spot for Bleckley County, getting three base knocks including a pair of doubles to drive in two runs. Braeden Cravey also had a pair of hits and two RBIs.

Josh Dillard got it done on the mound in game one, striking out 11 Patriots across five hitless innings in a shutout.

The second game was more of the same as the Royals got 10 hits in four innings, including two more from

Boatright, who also pitched five innings and struck out 13 batters while allowing three hits and two walks.

While Southwest took the lead 1-0 in the first inning, Bleckley County tied it and got off to the races in the second inning. After an RBI double from Brody Fleming made it 1-1, a hit batter and a walk set the table for a bases-clearing, 3-RBI two-bagger by Clayton Beck.

It was a romp from there for the Royals, as they scored nine runs in the inning on five hits to bury the Patriots.

Southwest's fielding helped Bleckley County across the doubleheader, as the Patriots had a combined nine errors in 10 innings.

The wins brought Bleckley County to 6-4 overall with all six victories coming against region foes. The Royals remain tied for the Region 2 lead with ACE, which is also 6-0 in region play.

Right behind that pair are Dublin and Washington County, each 5-1 in the re-

gion after splitting two games last week.

Bleckley County faced Washington County at home Tuesday after the Times Journal Post went to print. The two teams meet again Friday in another crucial game.

The Golden Hawks are 8-4 overall and led mostly by their hitting, with three players batting above .300 with more than 30 plate appearances. Ty Mobley is a threat at the dish, hitting .382 with a 1.318 OPS thanks to four home runs already this year. Mobley is also a solid pitcher for Washington County.

Wilkinson County saw less success last week. The Warriors lost three games against the Georgia School for Innovation and Classics, two at home Tuesday and Friday and one on the road Thursday in Hephzibah.

Wilkinson County lost 13-4, 18-4 and 18-3 in the three games. Mistakes doomed the Warriors more than any pitching woes, as they committed 11 errors in six in-

nings in the first game. They actually outhit the GSIC Patriots, four to three, but could not recover from the fielding issues.

Wilkinson County committed seven errors in the second tilt and 10 in the series finale, bringing similar results and dropping its record on the year to 0-4-1.

Roosevelt Coats offered a silver lining during the sweep, getting two hits in each of the first two games to bring his batting average above .500 through about 20 plate appearances on the season. Coats has driven in three runs and scored three runs this year.

The Warriors played a doubleheader against Glascock County on the road Tuesday after the Times Journal Post went to print. They host Glascock County at 4 p.m. Friday.

The Bleckley County Board of Education is accepting applications for the District 2 board seat due to Ms. Dianne Lester's resignation. In accordance with state law, the board members will appoint someone to serve until a Special Election is held in conjunction with the next non-partisan General Election in May 2026.

Applications may be picked up at the Superintendent's Office at 259 E. Peter Street, Cochran, GA 31014. All applications are due by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, March 21, 2025, and the new member is expected to assume duties on or around April 15, 2025. The application may also be downloaded from the Bleckley Schools website: bleckley.k12.ga.us.

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WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PUBLIC NOTICE
WEATHERIZATION CONTRACTORS needed for HVAC and Weatherization Services

Overview, Inc. is requesting quotes/proposals from Georgia licensed general, mechanical, and electrical contractors to provide labor and materials for its Weatherization Assistance Program in the following counties: Baldwin, Hancock, Johnson, Jasper, Putnam, Washington, and Wilkinson. Work may include installing or servicing heating and air conditioning equipment, plumbing repairs, and weatherization measures (e.g., adding insulation). The program is funded by the Department of Energy and the Department of Health and Human Services and administered by the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority. The agency encourages M/W/SBE and Labor Surplus Area Firms to apply. To be eligible for consideration, applicants must have appropriate licenses, insurance, and have no active exclusion records in the federal System for Award Management (SAM.gov). Please contact LaToya Kitchens at (478) 453-4111 lwipple@overviewinc.com to request an application and submission and instructions.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CITY OF GORDON
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROJECT (CDBG)
CDBG GRANT #21p-x-158-2-6216

The City of Gordon has completed its FY 2021 CDBG project, CDBG 21p-x-158-2-6216.

The following activities were completed:

The City constructed Water Improvements on Hillcrest Street, N. Main Street, Maple Street, Shinholster Street, Weaver Street, Brooks Street and Gordon Boulevard. A total of 156 residents were served by this project, with 74.36% being low to moderate income.

Notice is being given that a Public Hearing will be held on March 25, 2025 at 12:00 PM at City Hall, 115 College Street, Gordon, GA 31031. The purpose of the hearing is to inform citizens of the availability of the final quarterly report, to review project accomplishments, final Section 3 Report and to receive citizen comments. All citizens are invited to attend this hearing to discuss the project.

The City of Gordon is committed to providing all persons with equal access to its services, programs, activities, education and employment regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, disability or age. For reasonable accommodation or if you need an alternative format or language, please contact Towana Brown, City Clerk at 478-628-2222 or towana@cityofgordonga.org.

The City of Gordon has reviewed the Department of Community Affairs' Analysis of Impediments and is providing the following link for review
<https://www.dca.georgia.gov/hud-planning/analysis-impediments-2016/download>

Persons with hearing disabilities may contact the Georgia Relay Service, at (TDD) 1.800.255.0056 or (voice) 1.800.255.0135 if they require assistance.

REPUBLICAN PARTY TO HOLD CAUCUS AND COUNTY CONVENTION

On Saturday, March 22, 2025, at 9:00 a.m., the Wilkinson County Republican Party will convene Precinct Caucuses to elect Delegates and Alternate Delegates to the Wilkinson County Republican Party Convention. The County Convention will convene at 10:00 a.m. on March 22, 2025, at the same location for the purpose of electing county party officers and Delegates and Alternates to the Congressional District Convention and the State Convention. Additionally, the Convention will conduct all other business as necessary.

Both the Precinct Caucuses and the County Convention will be held at New Hope Fellowship, 1740 Mount Carmel Church Road, McIntyre, Georgia. The County Convention will convene at 10:00 a.m.

All Wilkinson County residents who are legally registered to vote and believe in the principals of the Republican Party are urged to participate in this process. There is no fee collected of anyone to participate in either the caucus or the County Convention.

The 8th Congressional District Convention will convene at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 19, 2025, at Hawkinsville, Georgia. The District Convention will be electing officers for the district and State Committee members for the next biennial. Delegates and Alternates will be required to pay a fee in an amount which will be announced by the date of the County Convention, which is to cover the cost of the Convention.

The Georgia Republican Party State Convention will convene at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, June 6, 2025, in Dalton, Georgia, and will elect state party officers for the next biennial, in addition to conducting all other business as necessary.

Delegates and Alternates to the State Convention will be required to pay a fee, which is to cover the cost of the Convention.

For further information, contact Konreid Etheredge, Acting Chairman of the Wilkinson County Republican Party, by telephone at (478) 454-7446 or by email at konreid@windstream.net.