

DUBLIN FARMERS MARKET

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

MARKET ON MADISON

314 West Madison Street
Dublin, GA 31021

Presented by

FarmView Park

Downtown

Pie Competition at the Farmers Market! All entries turned in by 10 a.m. at the information table.

VENDORS FOR SATURDAY
August 15, 2026 (7:30 AM to 12:30 PM)

Sweet Rubys

Cheesestraws

Jos'Pee Berry Farm

Blueberries, Chicken Salad

Backyard Shed

Bread, Jellies, Cakes

Eden Organics

Produce

Shemeka Smith

Hair & Body Care, Juices

Off the Farm Produce

Produce

Boyd's Knives

Handmade Knives

Jordan Farms

Produce

Kaleigh Jordan

Produce

Hot Rod's Ohoopie Grilling Sauce

BBQ Sauce

Grain & Goat Co.

Cutting Boards & Crosses

Farmhouse Bread Co

Baked Goods

Infused & Rooted

Infused Olive Oils

Beasley Farms

Produce

Willhouse Creations

Baked Goods

Riverbend Meadow Market

Produce

Tasty Paws Pets

Dog Treats

Holi Crop Micro Farm

Micro Greens

Moss & Bloom

Sea Moss & Teas

Muddy Cups & Coffee

Iced Coffee

MC Sweets

Cake Pops

Colbey Asbell

Baked Goods & Lemonade

Lord's Coffee

Roasted Whole Bean Coffee

Rustic Edge Woodworks

Handmade cutting boards

Blessed Loaf Bakery

Baked Goods

Break Bread with Winnie

Baked Goods

Bev's Sewing Room

Handmade Accessories

Whisked Away

Homemade Cupcakes

Pigeon Forged Bakery

Soft Pretzels

Beth Wood Natural Guru

Essential oils

From Andrew's Oven

Baked Goods

MGPA

Baked Goods

Fields of Dewy Flowers

Homegrown Flowers

Crown & Spore

Gourmet Mushrooms

We are an authorized SNAP/EBT market.

School officials cite progress ahead of hearing

District says it has addressed findings that jeopardized its accreditation

By RODNEY MANLEY
Staff Reporter

The Dublin City Board of Education made no mention Monday night of its pending suspension hearing, but did continue to make its case with updates on progress toward keeping district accreditation.

The board faces a hearing Wednesday in Atlanta before the state Board of Education, which will recommend to the governor whether local board members should be suspended. The formal hearing is required by law after Cognia,

Interim Superintendent Marcee Pool (right) gives the Dublin school board an update on the district's progress in addressing problems from a recent accreditation review. The school board faced a suspension hearing Wednesday in Atlanta because the district's accreditation was downgraded to the lowest status before revocation/RODNEY MANLEY

the district's accreditation agency, downgraded Dublin City to "accredited with lowest status and a required conditions" – the agency's step toward dropping ac-

creditation altogether. Interim Superintendent Marcee Pool outlined at Monday's workshop some of the steps the district has taken in response to Cognia's findings, including tighter financial controls and reporting, improved personnel recordkeeping and across-the-board reductions in salary supplements and additional-day pay. Other measures have included the hiring of a new chief financial officer, a purchase order review process and monthly reconciliation of credit card activity. Also, all positions now must be approved by the school board.

DUBLIN SCHOOLS
Continued on page 8

BACK TO SCHOOL: COUNTY RETURNS TO CLASSROOM

There was a lot of excitement, many hugs and even a few tears as students across Laurens County returned to the classroom on Tuesday. Parents and pupils queued in the early morning sunlight waiting for the doors to open at Northwest Laurens Elementary. At 7:30 a.m. it was off to the races, or to the circus based on the decorations in the school's common area, as parents dropped off their little ones and went out to start the work day. Across the river, students at East Laurens Primary settled into their first day with breakfast, with most marching orderly on their way to and from the classroom/KYLE DOMINY and RODNEY MANLEY

Oconee EMC recognizes crew members for lifesaving actions

By KYLE DOMINY
Staff Reporter

Oconee EMC has nominated four members of its line crew and support staff for Lifesaving Awards for actions taken over the past year to help get members of the community out of harm's way. The designation, presented by Georgia EMC and awarded during the co-op group's annual meeting, recognizes linemen and other crew members who assisted someone in a life-threatening situation. Oconee EMC has document-

ed two such events in this year's award period, Sept. 1, 2025 to Aug. 31, 2026. "Our line workers and support staff have said many times that the individuals in each situation were someone's family. They did what they hoped anyone would do in their position to help a fellow person in need – it wasn't for recognition," said Jennifer Bryant, Oconee EMC's chief administrative officer. "These instances are another example of that sentiment. Whether it

OCONEE CREW HONORED
Continued on page 8

On June 16, an Oconee EMC crew witnessed a car crash into the woods off of U.S. 80. The workers contacted 911, before locating the car and using equipment to clear a path for paramedics /SPECIAL PHOTO

HELP IS ON THE WAY: SPLOST FUNDS BUY THREE NEW COUNTY AMBULANCES

Laurens County is Georgia's third-largest county in land mass, so that leaves emergency medical technicians, or EMTs, with a lot of ground to cover. The county recently added three new ambulances to its fleet, purchasing the vehicles with proceeds from the special purpose local option sales tax (SPLOST). From left: Campbell Grady and Terry Cobb with the Laurens County Emergency Medical Service, County Administrator Bryan Rogers and County Commissioners Gerad Mathis, Brenda Chain, Jimmy Rogers, Kevin Tanner and Trae Kemp/SPECIAL PHOTO

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1 section, 8 pages • Vol. 112, No. 90, Pub. No. 161860

OBITUARIES



Edsel Parley Padgett

Edsel Parley Padgett, 87, passed away at Fairview Park Hospital in Dublin, Georgia, on Saturday, Aug. 8, 2026. He was born in Reidsville, Ga., on Aug. 21, 1938, to the late Parley and Elma Padgett of Glennville.

In addition to his parents, Edsel was preceded in death by his brothers, Edwin, his twin brother, and Gerald.

He is survived by his daughter, Rhonda (Dewey); two sons, Mark and Brad (Stacy); grandchildren, Brett, Caleb and Clay; great-granddaughter, Josie Rae; and his sister, Ramona Carlile of Pennsylvania. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Mr. Padgett was a member of Jefferson Street Baptist Church. He was a United States Army veteran and retired from the Georgia Department of Transportation, where he worked as a highway engineer.

Edsel enjoyed hunting, fishing and spending time on the land he had purchased for those pursuits. One of his greatest joys was watching the wildlife captured on his trail cameras. He especially enjoyed seeing the animals that visited his property and keeping up with them through his cameras.

A graveside funeral service was held at Memorial Gardens Cemetery on Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2026, at 10 a.m., with Pastor Kyle Giddens officiating.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to Jefferson Street Baptist Church, 209 N. Jefferson Street, Dublin, GA 31021, in memory of Edsel.

Stanley Funeral Home and Crematory/Dublin Chapel has charge of funeral arrangements. To sign the Online Register Book please visit www.stanleyfuneralhome.com.



Stanley Louis Collins

Mr. Stanley Louis Collins, 73, of Eastman, Ga., died Sunday, Aug. 9, 2026.

Funeral services were held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 12, at Empire Pentecostal Holiness Church, with interment in Bowers Cemetery.

He is survived by his wife – Delbra Pruitt Collins; sons – Erik Collins (Kerri) and Kurt Collins (Kaye); grandchildren – Jonas and Anlee, Hannah, Kaylee and Keaton; sister – Robin Parkerson (Ken); brother – Riska Collins (Sue).

The family received friends in Southerland Funeral Chapel on Tuesday, Aug. 11 from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. Stokes-Southerland Funeral Home of Eastman has charge of arrangements.



Eugene Quintin Robinson III

Celebration of life services for Mr. Eugene Quintin Robinson III will be held on Saturday, Aug. 15, 2026, at 11 a.m. Location: Lighthouse Worship Center COGIC – 2201 NW 24th Street Fort Lauderdale, Fla. Public viewing will be held on Thursday, Aug. 13, 2026, from 6 - 7:30 p.m. at Serenity Funeral Home of Dublin.

Eugene Quintin Robinson III was born on Aug. 12, 1959, to the Late Mary Simmons-Jackson and Morgan Eugene Robinson in Hollywood, Fla. He was also preceded in death by his loving grandparents. Quintin lived a life filled with love, laughter, joy and happiness; he was a dedicated hard worker who inspired to be the best at every task at hand.

He had a passion for sports, especially track and field and football, which he excelled at. As we all know, he loved the Miami Dolphins to the end. He also had a passion for modeling at an early age. Quintin was an electrician for over 45 years and worked various projects around the surrounding areas of Broward, Palm Beach and Saint Lucie County. He was well known for his electrical skills and always willing to give a helping hand or teach anyone who was willing to learn the trade.

Quintin accepted Christ at an early age and began his spiritual journey at Gethsemane Baptist Church located in Hollywood, Fla. He later re-dedicated his life to Christ at Greater Destiny Church located in Port Saint Lucie, Fla. Where he served as the chairman deacon and the head of the church treasury department.

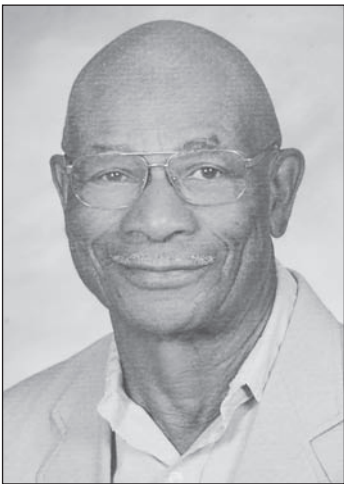
On May 10, 2002, he married the love of his life, his high school sweetheart Mrs. Louise Hall Robinson. For over 24 years this marriage produced extreme happiness and a model marriage that was exemplified in the bible who stated “He that finds a wife found a great thing.”

He leaves to cherish his memory his devoted loving wife Louise Hall Robinson; three daughters: LaQuaysha Washington, Marshaynia Washington, Quintasia Simpkins (Terall); two sons: Ervin Rogers Jr. and Travis Rogers (Tanika); a bonus daughter Alicia Sutherland; three sisters: Pearlana Jackson, Elretea Mack and Sharon Robinson; one sister-in-law: Henrietta Williams (AC Williams) and two bonus sisters: Lashanda Brown and Lisa Marshall; one brother-in-law: Dennis Hall.

He also leaves to cherish his memory, his eight loving grandchildren, three uncles: James Simmons, Louis Robinson, Bennie Robinson; two aunts: Mamie Robinson, Michelle Weaver and a host of nieces, nephews, cousin and a myriad of friends. He also leaves to cherish his memory one dedicated friend Leon Devo, and two special goddaughters: Kiera “Lil Niecy” Poole and Cordelia Boney. And a very special cousin, Sharon Levy.

Those who knew Quintin will remember his warm smile, gentle spirit, quiet strength. His memory will live on in the lives of all he encountered.

Serenity Funeral Home of Dublin has charge of arrangements.



Willie Lee King Sr.

A home-going celebration of life service for Mr. Willie Lee King Sr., 100 years of age, will be held Saturday, Aug. 15, 2026 in the Howard Chapel United Methodist Church, 508 South Washington Street, Dublin, Ga., at 1 p.m. The Rev. John Bratcher will officiate.

Willie Lee King Sr., passed away peacefully at home surrounded by his loving family on Aug. 7, 2026.

He was born on May 25, 1926, in Chester, Georgia, to the late Susie Tillman King and Hershall King Sr. He was raised in Chester and later made Dublin, Georgia, his home.

Willie was united in marriage to the love of his life, Linnie Mae Northcutt, and together they shared 57 years of marriage before her passing in 2008. Willie was a quiet and steady man whose presence spoke louder than words. He was soft-spoken, dependable, hardworking and deeply committed to providing for his family.

Throughout his life, Willie believed in the value of honest work. He worked at R.F. Deed Furniture and later entered federal service, where he spent 20 years working in the canteen at the Dublin VA Medical Center. During his years of federal service, he was recognized for his dedication and work ethic, receiving numerous superior performance awards before retiring.

Willie founded King’s Janitorial Service, a family-owned business that provided cleaning services to businesses throughout Dublin. He also operated a lawn mowing service, taking great pride in his work and in doing each job well. He was a handyman, builder, gardener and problem-solver. He built utility houses in his backyard and was well known for his collection of tools, sheds and lawn mowers.

Music was also an important part of Willie’s life, especially during his younger years. He was musically

gifted and enjoyed singing, playing the guitar and playing the harmonica.

His faith remained an important part of his life. Willie was a faithful member of Howard Chapel United Methodist Church, where he served in many capacities throughout the years. His service included the trustee committee, church council, United Methodist men, pastor parish committee, and finance committee. He gave of his time and talents freely and lived a life of service both inside and outside of his church.

Willie’s greatest legacy was his family, and although many of those closest to him went before him, the love, strength and values he poured into each generation continue to live on through those who remain.

Willie was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Linnie Mae Northcutt King; his children, Louise King, Evelyn King Moore, Willie King Jr., Susie King Mills, and Samuel King; his great-grandchildren, Ayanna Mills and Jamon Mills; and his great-great-grandson, Jam-eir Jackson.

He was also preceded in death by his siblings, Fannie Mae Collins, Katherine Jones, Ethel Mae King, Elizabeth Jones, Dorothy Jackson, Albert King, Jasper King, Herschel King Jr., Sammie King and Robert King.

He leaves to cherish his memory his grandchildren: Kwabene (Wanda) King, Keena King, Jerome Moore, Terrance King, Nairobi Mills, Travis Blash, Annelle (Marlon) Mills and Christian James. He also leaves his great-grandchildren: Janiqua Smith, Essence (Tommy) Lanier, De’Marquis (Perkila) Johnson, Kanisha King, Kobi Todd, Jaidan Moore, James Mills, Nyonna Mills, Kaylin James, Caleb Hubbard, Kinjal Mills and Adora James. His great-great-grandchildren include Khalil Lewis, D’Nylah Johnson, D’Launi Johnson, Jamon Russell, Tameira Smith, Khalil Todd, Asher Lanier, Kelon Lanier, DeMari Johnson and Jaisah Mills.

He also leaves behind a host of loving nieces, nephews, extended family members and friends who will forever cherish his memory.

One hundred years of life cannot be fully captured in words. His legacy lives in the family he built, the lives he touched, the work of his hands, the faith he practiced and the generations who will continue to carry his name, his values and his love forward.

Friends are being received at the family residence, 524 Pine Street, Dublin, Ga. 31021

Arrangements entrusted to Wyche’s Funeral Home. (www.wychesfuneralhomeinc.com).



Rhetta Daniels McCorkle

With love and gratitude, we celebrate the life of Rhetta Daniels McCorkle, who passed away on Aug. 4, 2026.

Raised in Dexter, Georgia, Rhetta was the beloved daughter of John Parks (Bud) Daniels and Nellie Rivers Daniels. She was preceded in death by her parents and brothers Parks "Bubba" Daniels and Robert "Bob" Daniels.

Rhetta was known for her compassion, kindness and vibrant personality. During her career as a flight attendant with Delta Air Lines, she touched countless lives with her warmth and genuine care for others. She was a dedicated member of the Master Gardener community.

She found happiness in tending her beautiful garden, spending time with her beloved pets, and making memories with Bill. Rhett treasured time with her family and friends and her joyful spirit, warm smile, and generous heart brought light to every gathering and made everyone feel welcome.

Rhetta is lovingly remembered by her devoted husband, William "Bill" McCorkle, and by her cherished nieces and nephew Carol Everly (Bobby), Mary Sue Daniels, John Daniels (Sally) and their children, along with cousins and other extended family members.

To honor Rhetta, please consider a donation in her memory to an animal rescue organization of your choice.



Patricia Page Avery

Patricia Page Avery, 81, of Macon, Georgia, passed away on Aug. 5, 2026. A memorial service will be held at 4 p.m., on Thursday, August 13, 2026, in the Chapel of Hart’s Mortuary at the Cupola, with a reception following the service. Rev. Robby Kerr will be officiating. Burial will be private at a later date at Beulah Baptist Church, in Glenwood, Georgia.

In lieu of flowers, please make contributions to the National Breast Cancer Foundation at www.nationalbreastcancer.org, in honor of Mrs. Patricia Page Avery.

Patricia was born in Wrightsville, Ga., on Nov. 11, 1944, to the late Henry Daniel and Betsy Ellen Page. She retired as the office manager for Macon Power after many years of service. Patricia loved to bowl, work on crossword puzzles, playing Rummy, Yahtzee and solitaire on the computer. She also loved traveling. Patricia will be greatly missed.

Patricia is survived by her son, Scott Avery (Brandi) of Gray, Ga.; her daughter, Dr. Kathy L. Avery of Macon; her two grandchildren, Kaitlyn Avery Grubb (Keli) and Zachary Avery, both of Juliette, Ga.; her two great-grandchildren, Layla Grubb and Maya Grubb; her sisters, Grace Marie Sumner of Wrightsville, Ga., Betty Jean Pierce of Rentz, Ga., and Elizabeth “Beth” Page of Macon; and several nieces and nephews.

She is preceded in death by her parents and her siblings, Edward Page and Jeanette Barbee.

Please visit www.harts-mort.com to express your condolences.

Hart’s Mortuary at the Cupola, 6324 Peake Road, Macon, Georgia 31210, has charge of the arrangements.

ANNIVERSARIES

Aug. 12
Charlie & Linda Dassie

Aug. 14
Ted & Cora Pooler

BIRTHDAYS

Aug. 13
Elaine Bass
Pat Brock
Trevor Dominy
Lee A. Duberry
Ari Green
Stevie Stewart
Payton Towns III

Aug. 14
Jaxon Marion
Sonya Orange
Wilhelmina Rozier

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MARK LEWIS
VIOLINIST, GUITARIST, WORSHIPPER
VIOLINIST, GUITARIST, WORSHIPPER

SATURDAY
August 15, 2026
6:00PM

SUNDAY
August 16, 2026
6:00PM

CITY ON A HILL
2778 GA 257 HWY
Dublin, GA

SUNDAY
August 16, 2026
10:30 AM

BATTLEGROUND CHURCH
1300 HWY 29 S.
East Dublin, GA

Pastor Sonny D. & Joanle Wilkes

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OBITUARIES



Gladys Strange Hall

Funeral services for Mrs. Gladys Strange Hall of Dublin, Ga., will be held on Saturday, Aug. 15, 2026, at 11 a.m. at the Spring Hill Baptist Church, 494 Evergreen Road in Dublin. The eulogy will be delivered by Rev. Dr. Winfred L. McCloud. Interment will follow in the church cemetery.

Gladys Strange was born on Saturday, April 24, 1937, to the proud parents, Isaac and Dena Bell Stanley Strange from Toombsboro, Georgia. At an early age, she joined the Jordan Stream Baptist Church where Rev. Jackson was pastor; Rev. Author Gordon is the current pastor. She attended the Rosenwald School located in Toombsboro, Georgia. Prior to her death, she was a current faithful member of the Spring Hill Missionary Baptist Church where Rev. Dr. Winfred McCloud is pastor.

In July 1954, Gladys was united in Holy Matrimony to Milladge “Buck” Hall of Dublin, Ga. To this union, six children were born, Gloria Patricia, Emmett Ronald, Milladge Brennan, Martin Luther, Teresa Karen and Royce Jamieson. After marriage, Gladys joined the Spring Hill Missionary Baptist Church of Dublin, Georgia where she served as a faithful and dedicated member as a missionary and a usher for many years. Gladys also was a hard worker on the family farm and caring for her family faithfully.

In her later years, she took a class to become an official caregiver and sitter. After completing this class, she worked for several families in Laurens County providing care to their loved ones.

Gladys loved preparing delicious sweets: chocolate, pineapple, caramel and pound cakes for family and friends. That must be why everyone always said that she was a sweet lady (LOL!). Gladys had a warm, strong and captivating personality with a special smile that captivated everyone. She wore that beautiful welcoming smile to everyone she met. She was always humble, compassionate and caring to everyone. She loved all her children, her grandchildren, her great grandson, her sisters and brothers, her nieces and her nephews, all her cousins and relatives, and all her friends! *God has smiled on me ... He’s been good to me!*

On Aug. 6, 2026, Gladys Strange Hall received her heavenly wings.

She was preceded in death by her parents, and by her husband, Milladge “Buck” Hall, her sisters: Mable Strange Hall and Dorothy; brothers: L.J. Oscar Crawford (O.C.) and Joe Daniel Sr., in-laws, Napoleon (Rose) Hall, Earl (Willie Mae) Hall, Arthur Hall, Marshall Hall, Emmett Hall, Jr., James (Mildred) Hall, Doretha (Leslie) Lofters, Retha Hall (Thomas Sr) Harris, Pauline Hall, James Green, and son-In-law, Otis Reese.

Gladys leaves to cherish her memories with her children: Gloria Reese, Milladge Brennan Hall, Martin Luther Hall, Teresa (Isaac) Bright and Royce Jamison Hall, sisters: Doris Green, Mazetta Cook, brothers: Wilbert Strange and Elbert (Emma Whip-

ple) Strange, sisters-in-law, Feleshia Hall, Earnestine Walkins Strange, Alice Veal Strange, grandchildren: Lakita Cherelle Reese, Ki-sha Simone Reese, Valeesha (William) Halmon, Derrick Reese, Isaac Bright, Jr., Dana V. Bright, and Zackary O. Bright, great-grandson: Artis J. Halmon, two special cousins: Martha Pearl Strange Whipple and Lillie Marie Lowther, childhood friend: Ethelrene Thomas Bellamy, and she also leaves a host of nieces and nephews, cousins and friends.

Please post your condolences online at Servicesby-Dudley.com.

The family will receive friends on Friday, August 14, 2026, 6-7 PM at the Dudley Funeral Home, 617 East Jackson Street in Dublin.

Services by Dudley Funeral Home and Cremations of Dublin.



Shirleen Osborne Davidson

Shirleen Osborne Davidson, lovingly known as Shirleen, 82, of East Dublin, Georgia, passed away on Aug. 10, 2026, after a life marked by faith, devotion and kindness.

Shirleen was born on Aug. 16, 1943, in Wauchula, Fla., to the late Roy C. Osborne and the late Mary Eunice Spillers Wood and Ira Wood. She was a loving and kind woman whose gentle spirit touched the lives of all who knew her. Her life was centered on her family, her faith and the simple joys that brought her happiness each day.

She was preceded in death by her brothers, Roy Osborne and Buddy Wood; her daughter-in-law, Cindy Davidson; and her great-grandchildren, Kenneth Davidson Jr. and Weston Edge.

She is survived by her devoted husband of 63 years, Jerry Davidson; her children, Tim Davidson of Eatonton, Georgia, Ken Davidson of Ohio, Jeff Davidson and his wife Sue of Dexter, Georgia and Tonya Fulghum and her husband Dale of East Dublin, Georgia; and her sisters, Ann Morton and her husband Mike of Rentz, Georgia and Bessie Asp and her husband Carl of Lenoir, North Carolina.

Shirleen was a cherished grandmother to Tyler Davidson, Miranda Davidson, Crystal Davidson, Christopher Davidson, Hunter Davidson, Sydney York and her husband Cory, Abbey Phillips and her husband Joseph, Mitch Edge and his wife Logan, Misty Edge, Mitch Fulghum and his wife Stacy, Jason Fulghum and his wife Hali, Ashley Fulghum and Harley Fulghum. She was also a proud great-grandmother to Jacob Edge, Drake Edge, Aliyah Edge, Westlyn Edge, Charlie Blake Edge, Preston Davidson, Adden Davidson, Annie Phillips, Avery Phillips, Bailey Phillips, and baby York, who is due in November. Her family was the center of her world, and she treasured every moment spent with them.

Shirleen worked in insurance for many years with Lovett Insurance and later retired from Geico Insurance Company. She was known for her strong work ethic, her dependable nature and the care she showed to those around her. In her later years, she devoted herself to raising her great-grandson, Jacob Edge, a role she embraced with deep love

The et cetera chronicles - vol. 138

NO FAIR! - It was October and almost every city and hamlet was having a fall fair. Trouble was that the country and the world were being invaded by attacks of influenza, one year before the Spanish Flu pandemic in 1919. Dr. W.C. Shellnut, an expert in these matters, wrote a letter to the Macon Telegraph, which was endorsed by many of the leading citizens of the Montrose community to cancel all fairs that year. Sound familiar? Macon Telegraph, Oct. 6, 1918.

WE’RE ALL RED, WHITE & BLUE - President Woodrow Wilson’s declaration of war against Germany in World War I brought out great patriotism in Dublin in April 1917. Twenty African Americans joined the Army instantly. A little less than a year after America declared war on Germany in World War I, the people in Dublin and Laurens began opening their pockets and donating money to the war effort. The African-Americans stepped forward by presenting a rally at the courthouse. Dr. U.S. Johnson, a leading physician and minister in Dublin served as chairman of the event. Invited to speak were M.H. Blackshear and mayor Lucien Q. Stubbs. Three months later, a large group of eighty African-American soldiers assembled at the courthouse in yet another patriotic rally. There were flag waving, cheers, and tearful goodbyes as the train headed west to Macon and the unknown. Macon News, April 19, 1917, April

DID YOU KNOW ...?

By JACK BAGLEY
GTLN

As crass as it may seem, I’m going to do another of those silly book plugs here. I have compiled a second book of tidbits from previous columns, and it is available for sale on amazon.com!

You can get your

and commitment.

A faithful Christian, Shirleen was a member of Mt. Zion Baptist Church. Her faith was an important part of her life and guided the way she loved and served others. She found joy in reading and in watching the Atlanta Braves with her sweet husband, and these quiet pleasures reflected the contentment and warmth that defined her days.

Shirleen will be remembered for her loving heart, her kind spirit, and the steadfast devotion she showed to her family and friends. Her legacy lives on in the many lives she touched in the love, she gave so freely throughout.

The family would like to thank Family Hospice especially, Bekka Dixon, Danee Brooks and Erica Walker.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 13, 2026, at Mary Whitaker Townsend Memorial Chapel burial to follow at Mt Zion Cemetery. Dr. Larry Daniel will officiate. The family received friends on Wednesday, Aug. 12, 2026 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Townsend Brothers Funeral Home.

Pallbearers will be Mitch Fulghum, Jason Fulghum, Mitch Edge, Tyler Davidson, Cory York and Joseph Phillips.

The family may be contacted at the home of Dale and Tonya Fulghum, 737 Fulghum Road, East Dublin, GA.

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

Townsend Brothers Funeral Home has charge of the arrangements.



By SCOTT B. THOMPSON SR.

21, July 29, 1918.

THE OL’ MAN’S FROZEN RIVER - During the 15th to 20th days of January when historically the air temperatures average the lowest, a correspondent of the Macon Telegraph that the Oconee River was frozen solid from one bank to the other. The oldest timer could not remember such a fascinating site. Air temperatures were hovering around the zero mark. The Augusta Canal became a skating rink. It was Jan. 19, 1886, during one of the county’s most damaging freezes. The ice about eleven miles from Dublin was so hard that Captain R.C. Henry’s steamer, The Laurens, lost her rudder. Macon Telegraph, Jan. 19, 1886.

ONE FINE FLOUNDER - One veteran fisher decided to take the easy way to catch some fish for his family so he threw out nets into the Oconee River. He came back a few days later to see what the nets caught. Much to his supreme joy,

he found a fine flounder, some 20-plus inches long just floundering around. Macon Telegraph, Aug. 26, 1885.

TO DRINK OR NOT TO DRINK - A local preacher, as a part of the decision for county residents to be allowed to sell liquor. When the parson asked his congregation to stand up and vote for liquor. Only one person rose. When he asked anyone in the congregation to raise their hand if they were opposed to drinking liquor. No one moved. Frustrated and nervous, the pastor figured that if the liquor folks won, then the prohibitionists won the election by a single vote. Atlanta Constitution, June 27, 1884.

BIG FISH JUMPING - Atlantic sturgeons have been thought to be living fossils. In the 1800s, they were abundant in this area, primarily in the Oconee River from below Milledgeville down to Blackshear’s Ferry and Carr’s Shoals. Today it is considered almost extinct

al trivia note: Huntington also served as governor of Connecticut, and was the first governor in the United States to die in office. (Thanks to Mason for the tip!)

... the sky is a time machine? Go out tonight and look at the stars. You are seeing light that has taken years – sometimes thousands of years – to get to Earth. We do not see things in the sky as they are, we see them as they were back when the light first emanated from them. And it applies even close to home – the Sun in the daytime sky, for instance, shows you what it looked like eight minutes ago. Even the Moon isn’t real-time; its reflected sunlight takes 1.4 seconds to get to Earth. (That’s the kind of stuff that keeps you up at night.)

... the first gasoline-powered “horseless carriage” created by Henry Ford had a rather strange name? When Ford (1863-1947) built his first automobile, he called it the Quadricycle. Ford was working at the time of his 1896 development for his best friend, Thomas Edison (1847-1931), at Edison’s Illuminating Company in Detroit. He used the Quadricycle to begin developing what would become the Ford Motor Company in 1903. (I’m surprised they haven’t re-used the Quadricycle name by now.)

... no one specific aircraft is officially named Air Force One? The designation is used for any U.S. Air Force aircraft on which the President of the United States is traveling. Most people think it means one specific jet, the well-known official aircraft of the President, but it doesn’t. It means any Air Force plane which the leader of the free world is on. If the President is on a civilian aircraft, the call sign for it is Executive One. (Hail to the chief, and all that.)

... science fiction is far older than you might

in this area. Many states have launched programs to protect these ancient fish. In the fall of 1884, observers state that at least 15 jumping out of the water just above the Dublin ferry. Sturgeon generally swim upstream in this area during the late summer months of August and September. In Aug. 18, 1878, Dr. Charles Hicks caught a 188-pound sturgeon some 14 miles north of Dublin. Macon Telegraph, Oct. 1, 1884 and Dublin Post Aug. 21, 1878.

BOSS HOGS - Thomas J. Lewis and Joe M. Mullis, Sr., two farming neighbors of Cadwell, Georgia, were known for raising big hogs. When it came to “hog killing” time in December 1910, the men displayed monster hogs. Lewis killed one hog, which dressed out at 601 lbs. Mullis killed five, which had a combined weight of 1536 pounds. Americus Times, Dec. 11, 1910.

WHERE HAVE ALL THE PREACHERS GONE? - In a town of 7,000 people, four of the city’s main denominations were missing in the pulpit. Rev. R.E. Stephens, of the Christian Church, moved to Lexington, Kentucky. The First Baptist Church’s pulpit was temporarily vacant until a meeting of the membership could be held. The priest position at Christ Episcopal was still vacant after one year. Additionally, there was one more minister not listed. Americus Times, Sept. 22, 1909

think? An ancient Greek writer, Lucian of Samosata (125 AD-180 AD) wrote what is now considered the first true science fiction story, A True History, in the second century AD. In the tale, Lucien writes of a group of travelers who are blown off course and wind up on the Moon. They find themselves involved in war between the King of the Moon and the King of the Sun, and when they return to Earth they are swallowed by a whale. More adventures ensue before the travelers discover a previously-unknown continent on Earth, and the tale ends there. Lucien explains the title of the story in the first portion, where he calls everything that happens afterward “a lie.” (Lucien should have been in politics with that kind of logic.)

... Britain had more than just thirteen colonies in America in 1775? The thirteen that revolted against the Crown and formed the United States were just over half of the actual number of colonies. The British had 23 colonies in North America when the thirteen revolted. (They don’t teach you that in school, do they?)

... economic levels cratered twice during the Great Depression? From the beginning of the Depression in 1929 until 1936 or so, unemployment levels were in the area of near 25 percent, but other indicators were improving each year. By 1936, those other main economic indicators had gotten back to the pre-crash level, so the government decided to cut spending. The idea was that the private sector would step in. They didn’t, and the economy took another sharp downturn, which was not resolved until World War II began for the U.S. in 1941. (Maybe we should call it the Double Depression?)

Now ... you know!

How to grow is a choice; change is not

Data centers are the new boogeyman. Let’s just stipulate that right up front.

The topic has begun to dominate political, economic and social conversations. They’re a placeholder and catch all as a tangible symbol for many things.

A.I., growth, development, tech bros, climate change, electricity rates, water capacity,... The list of concerns surrounding data centers is growing and seems endless.

We’ve touched on a few of these issues in this space before. Today I’m going to encourage you to widen the lens a bit. If we’re really going to address the questions and concerns around “data centers”, perhaps we need to break down what we’re really talking about.

The actual concerns around data centers can be adequately and easily addressed by local authorities. “Does this location fit with our land use plan? Do we have the water and sewer capacity for this development which will still allow for future growth? How will it be powered and is the infrastructure in place to get the electricity here?” Those are some basics as a good starting point.

The state has already stepped in and addressed the cost of additional power infrastructure. Any system upgrades to distribute power to data centers must be charged to the end users, not to the general population of customers regulated by the Georgia Public Service Commission.

The water use problem is widely quoted and usually wrong. Newer systems being installed now are mostly “closed loop” systems where the water used to cool the data centers is recycled within the systems. The actual water that is discharged into the local sewer system



By CHARLIE HARPER

is generally attributed to the facilities used by the office side of the structure – i.e., bathrooms and janitorial services. Even that water is mostly returned to the river system after treatment.

Once you address the real and specific questions about the data center itself, you’re generally left with the same concerns and arguments surrounding any large scale development. People generally fear change, and they will project fears of the unknown onto projects of major change rather than seek answers. Too often, they start with false premises and end up asking the wrong questions to get those answers.

The area where I grew up – South Metro Atlanta – is the epicenter of Georgia’s data center boom. The specific arguments are new. The concerns and general opposition are not.

Many a council and commission meeting have heard citizens’ desires to “preserve our rural nature.” This has been the pattern since the mid-1970s, when my home county grew from just over 12,000 residents to over 100,000 by 2010.

Despite all of that growth there are still large connected tracts, many along the major highways, that allow the county’s residents in

small lot subdivisions to see trees and farmland. They’re convinced they’re part of rural preservation rather than part of the county’s urbanization.

We used to call that “drawbridge mentality”. The last ones in were often the loudest to keep things as they just found them.

The problem with this is math. Newer homes tend to pay more in property taxes than existing homes, as new construction is generally priced more than existing homes. Thus, suburbs can often offer “low taxes” relative to their more urban neighbors so long as growth is rapid.

This often hides the fact that residential homes cost more in services provided than the average homeowner pays. An old rule of thumb from a decades ago urban economics class pegged this at almost \$2 for services for every \$1 paid. Cities and counties that keep homes large and expensive can close that gap somewhat, but usually can’t get it to parity.

Retail is often a net wash in taxes paid for services used. While retail brings in both property and sales taxes, they push demand for police, fire, roads and traffic control.

The money not paid by

residents for services they need is usually made up by the “office/industrial” category. Warehouses are the gold standard here, because they jack up the tax base while using few services. The negative externality they produce is an amazing amount of truck traffic, that counties minimize by zoning them as close as possible to interstates – making the expense a state/federal problem.

When the county stops growing, property tax rates rise as new residents demand new services and the value of older housing stock has to carry the full load. That vacant land is taxed too. The owners that have held it for generational investment are asked to carry the load so that those in subdivisions can see farms and trees.

Eventually, whether it’s for taxes or the families owning the large tracts need to settle estates and move on, the land is sold for a higher and better use. Right now, data centers are often that answer. In some areas it’s solar farms. In others, warehouses.

In growing areas, this is a natural life cycle for open tracts of vacant land. This description now represents a majority of the state.

The question many communities need to be asking themselves – immediately and purposefully – is not if they’re going to grow, but how. Does the current zoning map reflect the community of today and tomorrow? Is there a land use plan in place? Do zoning changes adhere to it? If not, why not?

Growth is a choice. Change is not. It’s up to local leaders and the citizens who elect them to understand the difference and plan accordingly.

his suspicion caused him to report his superiors. The invaders were soon caught. Of the eight saboteurs, six were executed in Washington, D.C. George Dasch, who turned himself into the FBI in Washington, D.C., along with Peter Burger, were given life sentences but, after the war, were deported to Germany.

Ponte Vedra is a place where it is nice to read a book with the rambunctious Atlantic rolling ashore, providing an uplifting roar that makes you feel you have two seashells covering your ears—if you remember those days of yore.

You walk on the beach when the tide is out, comingling with other temporary residents, leashed dogs, and cackling seagulls. Then you head to a favorite restaurant that serves fried shrimp and hushpuppies. You can expect to sleep soundly and pleasantly.

You get up refreshed and there is the ocean again, the beach, and the seagulls. It is like your favorite martini. You never tire of a good thing, and the best of times are those in which you are near a pleasant beach and an ocean that accommodates your desire to feel peaceful. Here’s to Joe and Elizabeth Stehlin for finding the right name for this wonderful beach environment.

And to Vernon and Patricia Brinson for making my day yet again.

Nazis on the beach

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla. – This is a very exciting, unincorporated community that once featured a mining operation (titanium, zircon, and rutile), which brought about the name “Mineral City.” There were not a lot of minerals to unearth, and it took a while before the right guy with the right real estate instincts set the resort on a fast track to glory.

A man by the name of Joseph C. Stehlin arrived in 1929 to take over the mining operation. He wanted to develop the property similar to The Cloister on Sea Island and concluded that the name Mineral City had to go.

Stehlin and his wife went to the library in St. Augustine and found an old Spanish map, saw the name Pontevedra on Spain’s Atlantic coast, and, according to the Internet, learned that the name of the town was derived from a Roman bridge, “pontis vedra” or “old bridge.” He was elated and got the name approved, which was much more marketable for real estate aficionados than “Mineral City.”

From that austere beginning, Ponte Vedra has become one of the most popular luxury resorts there is. Today, the median household income stands at \$150,646. “PV” is an upscale place where you rub

shoulders with elite personalities, including professional golfers and former football players who enjoy the beach, restaurants and championship golfing lay-outs.

Deane Beman, a visionary golf commissioner, wanted to find a permanent home for the Tournament Players Championship and got a head turning offer of 400 acres in 1972 for \$1 from a local developer, Paul Fletcher. That is how the Player’s Championship, which has the richest purse in golf and is the headquarters of the PGA Tour, became located in Ponte Vedra.

I have watched this area grow and prosper over the years. Coming here in the last years of the Wallace Butts era in Athens, you could appreciate the exceptional features at the Ponte Vedra Inn and Club. The Georgia football team conducted Friday workouts on the golf course and there were excellent restaurants, even in those days.

A wonderful friend of many years, Vernon Brinson, who grew up in Macclenny, 30 miles west of Jacksonville, played baseball for Jim Whatley at Georgia and became very successful in the automobile business. He and his wife, Patricia, have been genial hosts many times in the



By LORAN SMITH

past.

Seeing the sun coming up over the Atlantic is one of the extra benefits from a stay at Ponte Vedra, as is lunch at the beach club overlooking a placid lagoon that enhances an outstanding meal. That is one of the most pleasant mealtime settings you can find.

The history of Ponte Vedra includes photos at the Inn that help document how worried Americans were in the early Forties when a German submarine, U-584, surfaced and allowed four saboteurs to come ashore in a small boat. They had large amounts of cash and were able to depart on a train for Cincinnati and Chicago but were soon captured.

Another submarine surfaced near Long Island but were spotted by a Coast Guard seaman on patrol. They tendered a bribe, but

TELL IT!



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

Highland Avenue, Duncan Street, area: What's going on with the neighborhood? It's going down and looks terrible. Houses look terrible, run down with pot holes. What is the city doing?

These landlords don't care about the way their property looks, only care about collecting money. Others home values are dropping because of their neighbors' yard. Can we think about our neighbors?

[Fast food] restaurant employees please stop having half of your hair braided and half sticking straight up. That looks so disgusting working in drive through. Along with pink hair. Do better workers.

I thought the City of Dudley didn't want any new rental property built? They can't get the water and sewage under control as it is.

Can the yard sheriff pay a visit to the Capital City bank on Hillcrest? The grass looks awful. You can tell this is not a community bank.

What's going on with the city shop? So many turnovers and can't get no one to work. Seems it's going downhill.

So how many of Dublin City students transferred to Laurens County and Trinity and how many is left in Dublin City? How many is at the new Magnet school? Just wait until the charter school comes next year. Will Dublin City even have any students?

Question: Why did DCS extend the HR Director Amy Duke's contract

and not pay the coaches and teachers?

The county wants another penny of your money. That would be 9 cents on the dollar they then raise the assessment and it's a zero gain on your property taxes. Pretty soon like the other penny taxes they need more pennies and more pennies. Soon we will be losing 10 to 15 percent of your income to county city taxes and still paying the same end of year property taxes. It is a never ending story. Plus the city keeps raising our water, sewer and garbage costs so add it all up and you are paying a bunch already, with no end in sight, to reduce any of the penny.

Heard a lot of talk about data centers ... It's my understanding that there is already a data center in Laurens County, has been for a while. I guess it has been operating without a license. It was easy to locate on Madison Street.

I'm the one that called in the other day about the speeders. The roads are: Dewey Warnock Road. Bethlehem Church Road and Country Club Road. They need to patrol all the highways instead of sitting out there on that dadblamed interstate. All I want them to do is slow down on these roads.

Mrs. Pool I'm sure is a fine person. However, in the city board of education, she was involved in the decision making and she had to have known about the decision making with the money. *Editor's Note: Mrs. Pool was curriculum director before being named interim superintendent.*

TELL IT! GUIDELINES

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

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

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

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

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

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

The Courier Herald

LOCAL MATTERS



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

DAILY SCRIPTURE...

"Afterward shall the children of Israel return, and seek the Lord their God, and David their king; and shall fear the Lord and his goodness in the latter days"

- Hosea 3:5

THOUGHT FOR TODAY...

"Once you've accepted your flaws, no one can use them against you."

- George R.R. Martin

EVERY DAY'S A HOLIDAY...

August 13, 2026 is...

- International Left-Handers Day
- National Filet Mignon Day
- National Prosecco Day

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Share your opinion on current events, or topics covered in The Courier Herald by emailing us: tchnewsreporter@gmail.com

Twiggs residents push for reduced speed, traffic measures after fatal hit-and-run on Cary Road

By CAROLINE WEATHERSBY
GTLN

In the weeks following a fatal hit-and-run that killed 45-year-old Danville resident Gyrino Stanley, residents are urging the county to take drastic safety measures to reduce speeding on Cary Road.

Stanley was walking along Cary Road in the early morning hours of July 19 when he was struck and killed by an unknown car. Weeks later, law enforcement still have not made an arrest as they wait for the results to come back from the Georgia Bureau of Investigation crime lab.

Henry Simmons, who lives on Cary Road not far from where Stanley was killed, spoke at a county commission meeting last week, urging officials to consider reducing the road’s speed limit and build infrastructure that would force drivers to slow down in high-traffic areas.

He brought with him a petition signed by 36 other residents.

Since Stanley’s death, deputies have increased patrol in that area, but according to Simmons, it’s not enough.

“With the recent hit-and-run fatality, something needs to be done,” he said. “Our deputies are busy enough as it is. They cannot

babysit certain sections of the county 24/7.”

The current speed limit on Cary Road is 45 miles per hour. Simmons suggested the speed be reduced to 25 miles per hour, following other neighborhoods with a similar number of residents.

According to Simmons, the National Homebuilders Association of America recognizes any area with 50 residents as a neighborhood, and neighborhoods generally have a capped speed limit of 25 miles per hour.

He also cited a similar fatality that occurred on Hill-Brown Road in 2020, less than five miles from Cary Road. In that case, a two-year-old girl was hit and killed by a teenage driver. A witness later reported that the driver was driving the posted speed limit.

Sometime later, the speed limit on Hill-Brown Road was reduced to 25 miles per hour.

But children aren’t the only potential victims in the area. According to Simmons, several people in the neighborhood walk Cary Road every day for exercise or out of necessity, especially the elderly.

“We have a lot of children [on Cary Road]. We have a lot of elderly folks in the area who have to cross over Cary Road to get their mail,” Simmons said.



Cary Road residents are urging the county to implement a speed reduction and speed humps in the wake of a hit-and-run that killed 45-year-old Danville resident Gyrino Stanley /CAROLINE WEATHERSBY

Since the hit-and-run, Simmons says people feel unsafe to go on their daily walks. He even told commissioners that he wouldn’t allow his son or his grandchildren to get near the road.

Residents like Simmons are also asking the county

to install speed humps in high-traffic areas to prevent people from speeding.

According to Simmons, the highest concentration for residents throughout Cary Road is from Woodland Park up to 500 block. This would be the best place to install a hump, he sug-

gests.

Though many residents agree with Simmons that something should be done to reduce the speed on Cary Road, others aren’t so sure.

Fellow resident Cassandra Valenta expressed her concern to county commissioners, highlighting potential downsides that could come with reducing speed and installing speed humps.

According to Valenta, she worries her neighbors are “jumping the gun,” and pinpointing speed as a problem when that might not be the case.

“I understand that we’re all reacting with ‘speed,’ but we don’t know speed was a factor,” she told commissioners. “We’re always going to have people that break the speed limit – that’s on every road.”

Valenta told the board that implementing a speed change and installing speed humps could actually do more harm than good, and could potentially be fatal.

“Speed humps wear and tear on even the toughest vehicle,” she said.

She also brought up motorcyclists in the area. A cyclist driving down Cary Road late at night might miss the new signage and hit a hump at full speed, causing a crash.

She also mentioned that speed humps slow emergency response time by up

to three to five seconds, and when multiplied by multiple humps, could become a problem for emergency responders.

Simmons countered her response, saying, “I am sensitive to my neighbor’s concerns, however I think life is more important than wear and tear on a vehicle.”

He also told Valenta that he believes speed was a factor in not only Stanley’s death, but in a similar unsolved hit-and-run that occurred on Cary Road back in 2003.

“If you’re going that fast you cannot recognize a human body in a public road, you’re going too fast – even at 45 miles per hour,” Simmons said.

Though Cary Road is a county road, speed limits are ultimately set by the Georgia Department of Transportation. Commissioners suggested they’d get in contact with GDOT.

Classifieds

Employment

WATER CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT OPERATOR

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

Salary range for this position is \$42,463.67 – \$65,818.68 annually. An extensive fringe benefit package including health, dental and life insurance is also offered.

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could harm him in a general election.

Ossoff is the sole Democratic senator up for election this year in a state won by Republican President Donald Trump in 2024, and the race is expected to be closely watched and expensive.

Amid Collins’ continued bad press, Ossoff has dominated when it comes to fundraising and is leading in most polls. The Center for Politics Sabato’s Crystal Ball, an election prognosticator at the University of Virginia, recently updated Georgia’s rating from “leans Democratic” to “likely Democratic,” reflecting Ossoff’s current advantages.

Ossoff’s campaign has touted recent endorsements from high-profile Republicans, including former U.S. Sen. Jeff Flake of Arizona, Valdosta Mayor Scott James Matheson and Tifton Mayor Julie Smith.

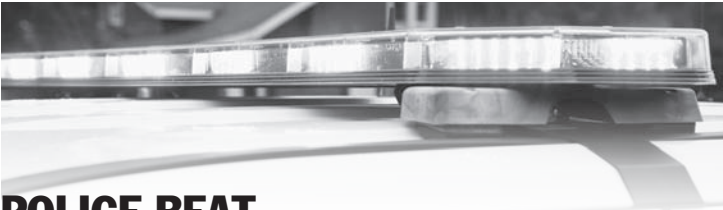
Dublin Police Department

- Paula Anne Evans, 63, and Billie Denise Zepeda, 63, were both charged with theft by shoplifting at Walmart on Highway 80 West at 4:03 p.m. on Aug. 3.

A store employee told an officer that he had detained two women identified as Evans and Zepeda after watching them shoplift from the store. The employee said the women used the self-checkout registers to commit the thefts.

The employee said they scanned and paid for some of the items while placing other items into shopping bags without scanning or paying for them. He said several unpaid items had already been taken to their vehicle.

The women were arrested and escorted to their ve-



POLICE BEAT...

hicle where the additional stolen merchandise was recovered and returned to the store. The total value of the stolen property was \$211.58.

The women were transported to the police department where they were processed and issued citations. They were also served with criminal trespass notices banning them from the Walmart location in Dublin. After all required paperwork was completed, Evans and Zepeda were released without incident.

- Coleman Charles Kimbell, 27, was charged with

disorderly conduct at 1:30 a.m. on Aug. 1 at the Boom Boom Tattoo Shop on East Jackson Street.

An officer responded to the location in reference to a fight. The officer met with Kimbell who was using profane language in a loud and aggressive manner in a public area with the intent to instigate a fight with another individual.

Kimbell was warned about his language, told to cease and refused. He then approached the on-scene officer and continued to use provocative language.

He was arrested and transported to the sheriff’s office.

Laurens County Sheriff's Office

- A deputy responded to Happy Lane in reference to an assault that happened around 4:32 a.m. on July 11, leading to David Allen Morris, 22, of Dexter, and Talor Nariyah Chatman, 22, of Montrose, both being charged with disorderly conduct.

- On July 24, around 10 a.m., a deputy responded to Ga. 29 in reference to property damage.

- At 9:04 p.m. on July 28, a deputy was dispatched to Pecan Street in Dudley in reference to a possible assault.

- On July 27 at 9 a.m. a deputy spoke with a man at the sheriff’s office in ref-

erence to his identity being stolen and someone creating a credit card in his name.

- Around 5:27 p.m. on July 27, a deputy responded to the East Dublin Police Department in reference of a walk-in for an incident that occurred on Salter Square Road.

Editor's note: This information is public record and was taken from reports of local law enforcement agencies. These reports do not reflect guilt or innocence. An "arrest" does not always indicate incarceration. Readers are cautioned that people may have similar names. Police Beat does not identify minor children, victims of sexual assault, suicide attempts or medical conditions. Cases dismissed do not appear if the newspaper is notified before deadline.

Black Georgia lawmakers press Collins on alleged ‘white nationalist’ ties

By ROSS WILLIAMS
Georgia Recorder

More than 50 Black Georgia lawmakers have signed onto a statement condemning Republican U.S. Rep. Mike Collins for associates’ comments and posts that have been widely panned as racist and antisemitic.

Collins is set to challenge Democratic U.S. Sen. Jon Ossoff in November with the endorsement of President Donald Trump.

But since clinching the GOP nomination in a June runoff, Collins has come under fire for online posts by his son-in-law and former chief of staff last month after reports the staffer was in a group chat with white nationalists.

The statement issued by Black Georgia lawmakers this week criticized Collins for not apologizing or offering an explanation.

“We condemn the Georgia congressman and urge our Republican state legislators to join us in demanding answers for his extensive ties to white nationalists,” the statement reads in part.

Collins’ campaign did not respond to requests for comment Monday.

Sen. Nikki Merritt, a Grayson Democrat who

leads the Georgia Legislative Black Caucus, was among the statement’s signers.

“I signed this letter because these are some really concerning allegations,” she said in a phone call Monday.

“We’re talking about ties to people who promote white nationalism, just hate and racist propaganda, and these are targeted specifically at Black people and minorities,” she added.

Son-in-law's posts

The statement refers to David Alan Scheer II, Collins’ son-in-law and a religious and fitness influencer on social media.

As first reported by CNN July 16, Scheer’s accounts contained white supremacist and antisemitic tropes. Posts reviewed by the Georgia Recorder included antisemitic tropes such as that Jews control the media and are responsible for the death of Jesus.

In one video posted in November, Scheer suggested Jews were behind societal ills including pornography and high interest rates as well as high profile political assassinations.

“All we’re told is Germany bad, Hitler evil,” he said. “Don’t ask questions.

Holocaust, Holocaust, Holocaust. Here’s 50 movies every year about the Holocaust and why it’s so bad.”

“Look into your history,” he added. “Realize that the people who’ve been writing the textbooks are on the wrong team. And start to do some digging for yourself.”

Scheer did not respond to requests for comment sent to his social media accounts. An attempt to reach him by phone was unsuccessful.

Collins responded to a question about Scheer at an event in Athens last week.

“No one speaks for me, and I don’t speak for anyone else,” he said. “I condemn all forms of antisemitism. I don’t care what the source is. Any type of hate, I condemn, period. That’s not who I am.”

Collins also pointed to his voting record of support for Israel’s military and emphasized that Scheer has never been part of his campaign.

The Black lawmakers’ statement also references a 2024 video of a pro-Palestinian demonstration at Ole Miss in which white counterprotesters can be seen mocking a Black demonstrator. At least one white participant can be seen and heard imitating a monkey.

Collins reposted the video at the time and wrote “Ole Miss taking care of business” in a caption.

After receiving blowback over his video, Collins wrote that he intended to elevate the negative reaction to pro-Palestinian protests but not the racist behavior.

“Frankly, I did not believe that to be the focal point of the video shared at the time, but I recognize that there certainly seems to be some potentially inappropriate behavior that none of us should seek to glorify,” he wrote.

Former campaign manager tries to get alleged white supremacist out of jail

The letter also references a May 28 Slate report that found now-former chief of staff Kip Talley took part in a group chat with white supremacists. In the chat, he documented his efforts to intervene on behalf of an associate who was jailed for contempt of court. The man Talley was seeking to help was someone who had minimized the extent of the Holocaust and posited that non-whites were genetically predisposed to violence.

Attempts to reach Talley by email were not immedi-

ately successful Monday. In a statement to Slate, Talley said he acted on his own to help an acquaintance.

“I was simply trying to help a suffering inmate connect with counsel,” he said. “I did not act at the direction of Rep. Collins, use official resources, or coordinate with anyone else in the group chat.”

Collins replaced Talley last month. That shake-up came after the candidate let go his previous chief of staff, who was under congressional investigation for allegedly misusing campaign funds, after the aide mocked an alleged rape victim online using a Collins campaign social media account.

Collins apologized for the post, saying it was made without his knowledge and “in no way represents or reflects my values or the values of this campaign.”

Political headwinds

Collins defeated former University of Tennessee football coach Derek Dooley in a June runoff to become his party’s nominee.

Dooley and Gov. Brian Kemp, who supported Dooley’s candidacy, often argued that Collins’ record and history of making controversial statements on social media

Let's get it started: Trinity, state champ Brentwood open regular season Friday

By CLAY REYNOLDS
Sports Editor

Two area GIAA members will get a head start on the rest of the Heart of Georgia as they make their 2026 season debuts with home football games – and some marquee matchups, at that – Friday night.

The local Trinity Crusaders open with a rematch from last year's play-offs against Briarwood (7:30 p.m. at Cleve Warnock Field), while two defending state champions collide in Sandersville with AA's Brentwood taking on AAA's John Milledge (7:30 p.m. at the Eagles Nest).

Trinity, back at full-strength with a healthy quarterback-turned-receiver Asher Evans and lineman Corbin Albritton among its returnees from last year's scourge of season-ending injuries, will take a considerably rejuvenated squad up against the Bucs, who were by far the better one in their last meeting that had a final score of 51-9.

"We open the season the way we ended it," Trinity head coach Bruce Lane said during the Dublin Rota-

ry Club's coaches forum earlier this month. "Hopefully the results are going to be different. We were very shorthanded that game, but we feel excited about the opportunity."

Though the Crusaders lost some big names to graduation and transfer, they're adding some big ones as well with the pickup of Dublin's Will-J Harris and emergence of a promising freshman passer in Jude Evans to join returning tailback Tayt Evans, and receivers Mason and Griffin Lane in leading the attack.

The pass rush of Harris and Tayt Evans complement the tackling of junior inside linebacker Andrew Helton on the defensive side, where any of the three could be headed for a breakout year.

Their strong four-quarter performance may be pivotal Friday in keeping enough contain of Briarwood's senior quarterback Cutler Fleming – who ran for 200 yards with two touchdowns and threw for another 185 with three in last year's rout – to give the young Trinity offense a shot to keep pace.

Though the Bucs, off a nine-win season that concluded with just as one-sided a game against the eventual champs Brentwood the week following the first-rounder, are more than just a one-man show (as top defenders and skill guys Carson Callaway, Caden Johnson and Banks Demore are also back in the fold for a quick lineup), finding a way to defend that top QB play effectively will be of principal importance.

Both Brentwood and Milledge are back, and loaded for bear this fall with plans of contending for it all once again, JMA with Georgia-committed tight end Asa Wall, 1,000-yard rusher Javaris Hurt and defensive stopper Abe Gainous among its highest profile returning standouts.

The Trojans represented Brentwood's only loss – in a close one, 31-28 – of last year's once-beaten run.

For the Eagles, there'll be some big pressure early on a rebooted offensive line, though feared playmakers Baylor Cobb, at QB, and Tristan Robinson, at wingback and receiver, along with nine out of 11 starters on

the other side of the ball, should give them plenty to hang their hat on as they work out some limited inexperience under the gun of several tough games right out of the gate.

"We don't have a whole lot of time to cut teeth," said Brentwood head coach Adam Lord. "We're going to have to go right from the rip, and hopefully our defense can keep us in some games early."

Scrimmage action resumes for the remainder of the GHSA, with exhibitions including Dublin at Jeff Davis, West Laurens at Putnam County, ECI at Johnson County, Toombs County at Dodge County, Washington County at Jefferson County and Bleckley County at Wilkinson County all set for Friday. Wheeler County will also play host to Brantley County and Butler in a jamboree.

Full season previews for each of the above are coming next week in The Courier Herald's award-winning Heart of Georgia Football section, hitting the streets Thursday, Aug. 20.

COUNTDOWN TO KICKOFF...

The Heart of Georgia Football preview section is

7 days away!

SCOREBOARD

SOFTBALL
Monday
East Laurens 4, Jeff Davis 2
Northside 9, Dublin 1

Tuesday
Portal 10, Dublin 9
Thomas Jefferson at Trinity /PPD

PREP SCHEDULE

FOOTBALL
Friday
Briarwood at Trinity
John Milledge at Brentwood/7:30 p.m.

(scrimmages)
Dublin at Jeff Davis
WL at Putnam Co.
ECI at Johnson Co.
Toombs Co. at Dodge Co.
Washington Co. at Jefferson Co.
Bleckley Co. at Wilkinson Co.
Brantley Co./Butler at Wheeler Co.

SOFTBALL
Wednesday
East Laurens at WL/6 p.m.

Thursday
Baldwin at EL (doubleheader)/4 p.m.
Howard at Dublin
Robert Toombs at Trinity /5:30 p.m.
WL at Perry/6:30 p.m.

Saturday
(at Vidalia)
WL vs. Greenbriar/3 p.m.
WL vs. Jeff Davis/5 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL
Thursday
WL at FPD/5 p.m.

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

this work in our coastal environment," she said.

This coverage, courtesy of georgiarecorder.com, was made possible through a partnership between WABE and Grist, a nonprofit environmental media organization.

Conservationists pitch new plan to preserve Georgia’s marshes: Give them space to migrate

By EMILY JONES
For the Georgia Recorder

In coastal Liberty County, a creekside park nestled between the town of Midway and I-95 is losing its battle with high tide.

"If we walk that way, you'll be able to see some of the, well, just plain erosion," said Phil Odom, chairman of Liberty County's Consolidated Planning Commission, on a recent afternoon. "This is how much it has collapsed. We've lost about six, eight feet right here."

Decades ago, in order to build up a solid foundation for the highway, construction crews dug up earth from this spot and left a deep pit. Although the park is over 15 miles from the ocean, the tide washes up the creek and into the man-made basin twice a day. Over time, the salt water has deposited sediment in the pit, turning it into a shallow mud flat with little islands of marsh grass cropping up in the middle.

But the tide has also steadily eaten away at the land. The grasses halt abruptly where they reach the small, muddy cliff of the bank – shorn away sharply where the tide has battered it.

Local leaders like Odom are hoping to fix that erosion at the water's edge, and they're taking a natural ap-

proach, having learned from prior, failed attempts to address the problem.

"We hope for it to replicate nature," said Shannon Marino with Zulu Marine, which builds what are known as living shorelines.

Instead of putting up a wall or using chunks of concrete to hold the soil in place, the county is attempting to restore the marsh grasses that grow here naturally. Their roots will help hold the soil in place.

"When our solutions are done, you should look at it and not really recognize it as a repair or a bulkhead or a solution," Marino said. "It should just look like nature."

It's an increasingly popular way to address coastal erosion in the face of rising seas. Farther down the coast in Brunswick, Zulu Marine is installing a living shoreline along a canal where high tide and an overwhelmed stormwater system regularly flood a nearby recreation path and threaten a local water supply well. While the work is underway, native marsh grasses wait in temporary transport pools; they'll be replanted over the stabilizing mesh.

But as sea levels rise due to climate change, protecting and replanting the existing marsh plants is only one step. Because the marshes

will need to rise along with the tides.

Georgia is home to more than a third of the connected marsh habitat along the coast of the Southeastern U.S. – hundreds of thousands of acres. The salt marsh serves as a critical buffer against storms, and it's broadly protected under state law.

Salt marshes by their very nature are always moving. Odom, an avid fisher, has watched Georgia's dynamic coast change in slow motion over the last 75 years: deep salt water moving into areas that once teemed with marsh grass, marshes in new places, the tide creeping ever higher and leaving the ghostly skeletons of salt-choked trees in its wake.

"Remember Jurassic Park, like nature can always find a way," University of North Carolina wetland scientist Lori Sutter said. "Because of the magic of salt marshes they're able to persist in this environment where they're flooded twice a day, every day."

But that magic of salt marshes only works if they have somewhere to go. Sea level rise driven by climate change is forcing marshes to move faster and farther inland. The sea level on Georgia's coast is projected to rise one to two meters in the next 75 years. If the marshes

can't keep up, the coast will be left that much more vulnerable.

Once a migrating marsh encounters a paved road or a building, it hits a dead end. There's nowhere for new grasses to take root, which means the rising tide can sweep in unabated, swamping the marsh and threatening manmade structures behind it that the marsh once protected.

That's why a new action plan by a coalition of conservation groups, scientists, government agencies, and coastal communities calls for protecting not just the salt marsh itself, but also the adjacent land. The plan from the South Atlantic Salt Marsh Initiative has identified more than 56,000 acres of land in Georgia where marshes will likely migrate that are also currently open to development.

"That creates this really vast area that you're trying to conserve, which can be overwhelming," said Courtney Reich, the coastal director for Georgia Conservancy. Her group is working with Phil Odom and the other stakeholders in Midway and Brunswick and is spearheading the Georgia work under the Initiative, which is a multi-state effort to restore and protect coastal salt marshes.

The origin story of Georgia's famous 'Silver Britches'...

Fall football practice has begun and the natives are restless—not with criticisms but rather anticipation and expectations. This has been the way it was since shoulder pads were invented.

I, too, have the same "can't wait" feelings and have been uplifted by the emotions that come with seeing my favorite team dressed out in red jerseys and silver britches.

You may be interested in how those colors became entrenched, which brings about a flashback to the era of Vince Dooley. The red jerseys date to the early 1900s, but it was Coach Wallace Butts who came up with the silver britches when he became the head coach in 1939.

Those uniform colors remained through 1960 when Butts retired and were kept by Johnny Griffith in his short three-year tenure.

When Vince Dooley became the head coach in 1964, he spent considerable

time sorting out options for the team's uniform. He made two significant changes—one was a red helmet to replace the silver ones of the past, with an eye-catching addition.

He added the classic oval black "G" which would catch on and become one of the classic symbols of college football. The first order of business was when Joel Eaves, the athletic director, called the Green Bay Packers and asked if they were OK with Georgia utilizing the "G," which was similar to the Packers logo, although the original Packer "G" was designed by their equipment manager and looked more like a block as opposed to an oval.

In the process, Vince's backfield coach, John Donaldson, volunteered for his wife, Anne, an artist to come up with an image, which she did. She designed a "G" that fit the oval contours of the helmet, giving UGA one of the classiest decal designs



By LORAN SMITH

in football.

Best I recall, there was not a lot of carping and complaining about the uniform changes amid a deeply troubled time in Athens. UGA alumni were greatly divided as Butts resigned under pressure and Eaves and Dooley kept to themselves, which was more of an issue than uniform changes.

When the new regime settled in, they were not very sociable, mainly because they did not have time. Talk about keeping the nose to the grindstone, no staff ever

was more committed in that sense than the early Dooley staff.

It did not set well with some of the old timers that Vince chose to replace the silver britches with white ones, although they were in a minority. Few out there today would know why he made that decision. It was natural that a popular cheer developed among the fans, which was, "Go, you silver britches!"

Although Athens has never been a bastion of liberalism, and in those days,

there were not a lot of microphones prevalent (and certainly no amplifiers), the students revised the cheer to "Go you sons of (expletive)." You get the message.

The cheer had become popular with a segment of the student body, and Vince was familiar with the cheer from his days as a scout for Auburn in the era when each team sent assistant coaches to scout the opponents as much as three games in advance of their upcoming game with a particular school. Vince and Eaves were the main scouts for Auburn.

He learned about the cheer while scouting Georgia for the annual matchup with the two teams in mid-November each year. By using white pants, it eliminated the opportunity for the negative cheer.

Vince was a man who appreciated tradition, and years later, he later brought back the silver britches, but there was not a lot of fuss

made about it.

However, most traditional Bulldog fans appreciated the good look of the red jerseys and the silver britches which certainly gives UGA one of the classiest uniforms in college football.

At least two National Football League teams modeled their uniforms after Georgia's: the San Francisco 49ers and the Atlanta Falcons.

Buck Shaw, the original coach at San Francisco told Marion Campbell, a former Bulldog defensive lineman, that he thought Georgia's uniforms were the prettiest he ever saw. When he chose the colors for his first 49er team, red was his dominant choice, but he went with khaki pants.

When Georgia alumnus Rankin Smith bought the NFL's newest franchise in Atlanta in 1966, he chose red and black, his alma mater's colors for the Falcons.

DUBLIN SCHOOLS

Continued from page 1

"These are things we are already starting to do," Pool told the board.

She also addressed past transparency issues. All meeting notices are now posted on the district's website on the Friday before each Monday meeting, and the agendas are being sent to The Courier Herald on Thursdays to meet the newspaper's weekend deadline.

"Our meetings are on Facebook Live, and usually our newspaper is here," Pool said.

Accreditation review finds more than money problems

Wednesday's hearing before the state school board was triggered by a Cognia review conducted in February, with the school district mired in a financial crisis.

Parents, teachers, even board members and high-ranking staff told Cognia interviewers they were left in the dark as the district burned through \$4 million in federal COVID funds to cover payroll and other bills from 2021 to 2025.

During that time, the school system employed more than twice as many staff members whose salaries did not qualify for state funding as its peer systems, instead relying on local tax dollars and federal funds to pay for the positions, according to a report on the review team's findings.

Staffing decisions "lacked sufficient transparency," the report said, with pay levels and positions often decided at the top with no input.

The review also revealed "recurring patterns" across multiple areas that appeared to fall short of legal and regulatory requirements. Those problem areas included the conduct and documentation of meetings, financial decision-making processes and personnel management practices.

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

The review found almost no internal controls related to employee compensation. It also found the system spent more on salaries than comparable systems and provided disproportionately high coaching and extended-day supplements.

According to the report, Dublin City Schools paid more than three times what similar school systems paid for extended day supplements and more than double what peer school systems paid for extended year supplements.

A subsequent examination by the state Department of Audits and Accounts revealed a widespread lack of financial controls, patterns of overspending, over-hiring and lax bookkeeping and even personal usage of district credit card. Also, for at least eight months the district withheld insurance and benefit premiums from employees' paychecks, but never paid that money to the state until it got caught.

The district's finance director,

Chad McDaniel, resigned last August, shortly after state officials disclosed the money owed for unpaid health plan contributions. Superintendent Fred Williams then stepped down in September to take an early retirement.

New budget cuts spending

The district could point to its leaner budget for fiscal year 2027 as evidence of its financial progress.

The board on Monday approved a \$41.1 million budget, which marks a significant cut from the \$47.5 million spending plan the board approved last year. The new plan calls for the fiscal year to end with a general fund balance of \$821,314, but the district will still carry over more than \$5.5 million owed for past-due payments to the State Health Benefit Plan.

The school district has struggled financially for years, but its most recent cashflow problems were not revealed until last August when state officials determined the district owed more than

\$6 million in overdue payments to the State Health Benefit Plan. The budget calls for the system to continue its monthly payments of almost \$300,000 to the state.

Last fall, the state projected that the school district would finish FY26 with a \$13.4 million deficit.

State School Superintendent Richard Woods later said that the widespread issues with budgeting and spending controls that officials uncovered had put the district on a "path to insolvency."

The district struggled to survive the past school year, cutting more than 50 teaching and other staff positions, but still had to rely on advances of its monthly allotments of state funding to meet payroll and other expenses during the school year.

In addition to its money and accreditation troubles, the school district faces more challenges on several other fronts – such as pending lawsuits from fired teachers and an ongoing criminal investigation by the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.

SNAPSHOTS: MORE FROM COUNTY'S FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL



OCONEE CREW HONORED

Continued from page 1

be weather-related, in outage situations, home energy audits or everyday circumstances, we (Oconee EMC employees, directors, members and neighbors) are in this together."

The most recent incident occurred on June 16.

On that day, crew members Bubba Oliver and Ryne Neal were traveling towards Dublin on U.S. 80. A vehicle in front of them left the roadway and went into the woods. With no mobile phone signal at the location, Oliver and Neal continued along the road until 911 could be contacted.

The duo then returned to the scene and located the car among the trees, to find the driver still inside and having a medical emergency. Oliver and Neal began clearing limbs and debris to make room for emergency crews. They remained with the driver until paramedics arrived.

The second event took place on Nov. 24, 2025 and also included the quick action of Oliver and Neal.

An Oconee EMC crew was driving along Ga. 338 towards U.S. 441 when it came upon a wreck involving two log trucks. One of the trucks was overturned, the driver trapped with a severely injured arm. With fuel and other fluids leaking from the vehicle, Neal cut the seatbelt, then he, along with Oliver, handed the injured trucker to Cam Burch and Daniel Hall, who carried the victim to safety.

The crew remained on the scene until emergency personnel arrived.

Georgia's EMC annual meeting, where the four will be officially recognized, is set for Nov. 9 in Savannah.

THE FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT OF 1974

Annually, Oconee Fall Line Technical College (OFTC) informs students of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, (FERPA) as amended. The Office of the Registrar will disclose FERPA information by publishing a notice in the OFTC Catalog/Student Handbook and in schedule publication. This annual notice shall prescribe the procedures whereby a student may make a formal request for non-disclosure of directory information, exercise the right to inspect and review education records, request an amendment of education records and obtain a copy of the College's education records policy.

These student rights include:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within forty-five days after the day that the Technical College of Georgia (TCSG) or Oconee Fall Line Technical College (OFTC) receives the request for access. Requests for access to records should be submitted to the technical college registrar listing the records the student wishes to inspect. The registrar will make arrangements for the student to review the requested records.
2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the student believes are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under FERPA. Such requests should be made in writing clearly identifying the part of the record the student wants changed and why the record should be changed. This written request should be given to the OFTC Registrar. If the College decides not to grant the request, the student has a right to a hearing. Details regarding the hearing will be provided with notification of the student's right to a hearing.
3. The right to provide written consent before the College discloses personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. A full list of the disclosures that OFTC may make without consent is at the bottom of this statement.

The TCSG or OFTC may also disclose education records without a student's prior written consent under the FERPA exception for disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the College in an administrative, supervisory, academic or research, or support staff position, including health or medical staff or outside personnel performing work usually performed by college personnel; a person serving on TCSG or the College's board; a person employed by or under contract to TCSG or the College to perform a special task, such as an attorney or auditor; a person who is employed by a TCSG or College law enforcement unit; a student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or who is assisting another TCSG or college official in performing his or her tasks; or a contractor, consultant, volunteer or other party to whom TCSG or the College has outsourced institutional services as provided in 34 CFR § 99.31 (a)(1)(i)(B). For additional information, see TCSG Procedure for Student Records.

4. The right to file a complaint with the United States Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the College to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA is:

Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20202-8520
For additional information: <http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa/index.html>

FERPA allows the release of Directory Information to third parties without the written consent of the student. All other information is considered confidential and will not be released to a third party without prior written consent of the student. All third party requests must be made in person or in writing.

The College has designated the following information as "Directory Information":

- Full name of student
- Address(es)
- Telephone number(s)
- Email address(es)
- Major and field(s) of study
- Degrees and awards including nature and date received
- Dates of attendance
- School or division of enrollment
- Enrollment status (i.e., full or part-time, undergraduate, graduate)
- Name of institution last attended
- Participation in official sports and activities
- Photograph(s)

Students who wish to prohibit the release of directory information should file a written notification at the Technical college registrar's office.

Upon receiving a request for non-disclosure of directory information, the College will not release any directory information without the student's prior written consent, except to the extent otherwise authorized or required by FERPA or other laws. The College will not be liable for any negative actions due to the non-disclosure request or for the release of directory information prior to the submission of the non-disclosure form.

Questions concerning this law and the College's procedures regarding release of academic information may be directed to the OFTC Registrar's Office at 478-240-5161 (North Campus in Sandersville) and 478-274-7761 (South Campus in Dublin).

www.OFTC.edu



Dublin-Sandersville-Louisville-Online

OFTC is a Unit of the Technical College System of Georgia and an Equal Opportunity Institution.

Do I Qualify to be a Foster Parent?

Do I have to be married, rich or have any particular religion to qualify as a foster parent? These are some of the common questions asked by those individuals interested in fostering. The answer is "No". You do not have to be married, you must be able to support your own family, but you certainly do not have to be rich, nor have a particular religious belief to foster. If you are one of the individuals wanting answers to your question, please call Anna Stone at 478-275-6747. Open your heart to a child in need of a home and a little happiness.

"Be A Foster Parent"

Public Notice to Interested Bidders
East Laurens - Elementary School & Middle School Athletic
Complex Project
Laurens County School District
East Dublin, Georgia

Lentile Construction Company is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified trade partner contractors for the East Laurens Elementary School & Middle School Athletic Complex Project for the Laurens County School District.

Bid Documents Available: August 7, 2026
Pre-Bid Conference (Non-Mandatory)

- Date: August 12, 2026
- Time: 9:30 am
- Location: East Laurens Middle School Gym (House of Gold) 920 US-80 E, East Dublin, GA 31027
- Deadline for Requests for Information (RFIs): August 19, 2026

Bid Deadline: September 2, 2026, 1:00 pm

Bid documents will be available through Building Connected. To request bid documents, confirm attendance at the pre-bid conference, or submit Requests for Information (RFIs), contact Matt Chambers
Email: mchambers@garbuttconstruction.com

"Lentile Construction Company will be totally responsible for all aspects of the build, but to further enhance our proposal we have asked Garbutt Construction Company to consult with us by providing the latest technology to produce scheduling, estimating, and trade packages for bidding."