

Suggs named new Courier Herald editor/publisher

By SHANNON HOLFOTH
For the GTLN

Donnell Suggs fell in love with newspapers as soon as he could read.

Growing up in Brooklyn, New York, Suggs was carrying around a newspaper by age 10, relishing in the stats and news captured in the sports pages.

"I knew I wanted to be a newspaper reporter from a very young age," Suggs said. "I had no idea how to do it, but I knew I wanted to do it."

Now, after 20 years as a journalist, Suggs will bring his passion and experience to Dublin as editor and publisher of The Courier Herald, a publication of the Georgia Trust for Local News. In this role, Suggs will lead The Courier Herald's dedicated team, set its

journalistic vision, grow the reach of its journalism and strengthen community relationships across Laurens County.

Suggs said his approach includes delivering multi-platform, hyperlocal coverage to maximize the reach of each story and focusing on in-person community engagement to bolster civic life.

"My goal is to capture the hard work that's already being done and elevate it," Suggs said. "We can take local reporting and change the impact with enhanced use of social media, photography, video and more features on people who make a real difference in the community."

"I also want to be visible around town. That means going to church, eating at local restaurants and host-

ing regular events. We can save this business if we make news extremely local and surround our community."

That commitment to local journalism has been a guiding force for Suggs.

With a firm conviction about his career path as a young man, Suggs attended the New York City College of Technology in Brooklyn, majored in English and wrote for the school's newspaper. After graduating, he wanted to dive into the journalism field right away. Recognizing the ultra-competitive media landscape in New York City, Suggs moved to Georgia to work with The Atlanta Voice and The Atlanta Daily World, two of several Black



Donnell Suggs shown outside Atlanta's Mercedes-Benz Stadium during a match at this summer's FIFA World Cup/SPECIAL PHOTO

NEW EDITOR
Continued on page 12

Constitution Day celebrated with bells ringing, cannons blasting

By RODNEY MANLEY
Staff Reporter

The John Laurens Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution brought in the big guns for this year's Bells Across America celebration.

Members of the Skunk Brigade, a Sons of the American Revolution artillery group, joined the gathering at Railroad Park on Thursday, dressed as Revolutionary War patriots, complete with skunk-skin caps. Brigade members fired off several thundering blasts from a pair of cannons, pausing to reload the blackpowder

guns as smoke hung heavy in the air and some children plugged their ears before the next "boom!"

The annual Bells Across America is held across the country on Sept. 17 to commemorate the signing and first public reading of the U.S. Constitution in 1787.

Thursday's program featured patriotic songs from the Southwest Singers, the chorus from Southwest Laurens Elementary. Chorus member Madi Tanner then rang the park's bell 13 times to honor the original



Dess Smith and Lee Herron, members of the Skunk Brigade, a living history group of the Georgia Society of Sons of the American Revolution, fire cannons at Thursday's Bells Across American program/RODNEY MANLEY

BELLS ACROSS AMERICA
Continued on page 12

Local group leads effort to keep people out of prison

By PAYTON TOWNS III
Senior Reporter

A local organization wants to not only help adults when they leave prison, but hopefully also keep young people from becoming part of the system in the first place.

This was the message

during the second annual Restoring the Broken Workshop, held by The Compassionate Advocate, Inc., on Aug. 29 at City on a Hill. The event brought together faith leaders, community organizations and others involved in law enforcement and the legal system, with the goal of preventing crime before it happens by addressing the issues that lead people to becoming incarcerated.

"It's good to see so many people have the heart and desire to come out and hear about prison re-entry ministry and how we can try to prevent crime from happening because it affects all of our families," said Melisha L. Johnson, executive director of the Compassionate Advocate Inc. "Re-entry (from prison) is one thing, but we are trying to reach them before bad things happen. A lot of our young people are getting in trouble. We want to show them that we aren't here to judge them."

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Pastor Christopher Watkins began the workshop discussing youth and discipleship/PAYTON TOWNS III

Johnson wants youth to realize that going to prison is not a badge of honor. And she knows from experience.

"I was one who was caught before and went back in," Johnson said. "When I went back, I knew I had to have a heart change. I was tired and I was getting older. I was missing my family, and my grandmother died while I was in prison. I knew I had to make a stop and a change."

She saw so many young people in prison, so she began to mentor them. Johnson got tired of seeing so many of them.

"I asked the Lord to help me to help them," she said. "It started in prison and came out with me."

Johnson was happy to have Dublin Circuit District Attorney Harold McLendon at the event.

"It's amazing that I am a former incarcerated person and I have the DA here on my side,"

Johnson said. "He was here because we are all about the same thing. Just because he's a prosecutor, he doesn't want to send so many people to jail. So, let's figure out what we can do to keep them from going into the system. To be able to work together and be able to collaborate and help others is a good thing."

One of the speakers, Pastor Christopher Watkins, said everyone has been through some tough things in life, especially young people.

"They don't know which way to go," Watkins said. "They are looking for someone to tell them which way to go. Youth need to know the word of God and the church provides sound doctrine."

He said it was important to have youth at events like the

PRISON PROGRAM
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Emergency badge accidentally triggers lockdown at WLHS

By PAYTON TOWNS III
Senior Reporter

A staff member's emergency badge triggered an alarm, causing students and staff to go into a brief lockdown at West Laurens High School Wednesday morning.

WLHS principal Lyn Long released a statement on the school's Facebook page that one of the staff member's CENTEGIX badge was in a gym bag and went off, forcing the school to go on hold.

"This was a false alarm and has been cleared," Long wrote in the post that was published around 10 a.m. Wednesday. "The school staff and students are all safe, and there was no danger or perceived threat of any kind."

A CENTEGIX badge is used to alert staff to any incidents in school buildings. Laurens County School Superintendent O.J. Hall said the badge was in a small, air-tight bag.

"It was pressing against the button on the badge," he said. "The coach was not aware it was being pressed and that set it off. They went into (a lockdown), but got out of it pretty quick. There was no fight or anything like that."

Hall received the notification about the alarm and talked to the county's safety director around 8:01 a.m.

"By 8:03 a.m., I knew it was a false alarm," Hall said. "It all happened very quick."

Hall said this incident was like a pop quiz. "Unfortunately, we live in a world where we have to consider these type of things," he said. "By having an unplanned false alert, it created an opportunity for us to look at and review our procedures and protocols. Not to have a plan for an emergency is foolish. An (active shooting) event is something we all cringe about, but it's a reality in the world we live in."



OBITUARIES



Ree E. Davis

Memorial services for Ree E. Davis will be held on Monday, Sept. 21, 2026, at 11 p.m. at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah’s Witnesses, 2424 US Hwy 441 South in Dublin.

Ree E. Davis was born on Oct. 6, 1946 to the late Ben Franklin and Lillie Mae King. She was born and raised in Warren County, Warrenton, Georgia. She worked at Thomson Company in Thomson, Georgia and retired in the mid 90’s. She was a Jehovah Witness for 30 plus years. Ree passed away on Tuesday, Sept. 15, 2026. She was preceded in death by her mother, daddy, husband and siblings.

Ree leaves to cherish her memories her children – two sons, Terry King of York, PA, Leroy (Juanita) King of Matthews, Ga., three daughters, Gloria Gaines of Dublin, Angela (Kentrell) Mills of Augusta, and Melanie (David) Sims of Columbia, S.C.; 12 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; four great-great-grandchildren; host of nieces, nephews; spiritual sisters, Julie Gilreath who was always there when she needed her; niece, Betty Brown who was always trying to fee her or take her out somewhere; and friends.

Please post your condolences online at Servicesby-Dudley.com

Services by Dudley Funeral Home and Cremations of Dublin.

George Linder

Mr. George Linder of Wrightsville, Georgia passed away on Friday, September 18, 2026. Funeral arrangements are incomplete at this time.

www.ServicesByDudley.com

BIRTHDAYS

Sept. 19

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Georgette Coleman
Amie Lumley Ward

Sept. 20

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Joshua Rozier

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COUCH THEATRE

By DEMI TAVERAS
King Features

"The 78th Primetime Emmys" (TV-PG) -- It's time for the night of the year where prime-time television gets its flowers! Premiering live on Sept. 14, the Emmys was hosted by Mariska Hargitay ("Law & Order: Special Victims Unit"), and the categories were stacked with nominees from multiple HBO shows like "The Pitt," "Hacks," "A Knight of the Seven Kingdoms," and "Euphoria." Netflix scored with nominations for shows like "Beef," "The Beast in Me," and "Black Rabbit." Not to mention Apple TV's "Widow's Bay" and "Pluribus" with 19 and 18 nominations, respectively! In addition, Michael J. Fox was be honored during the ceremony with the Bob Hope Humanitarian Award for his charitable efforts toward Parkinson's disease research. (Peacock)

"Monster: The Lizzie Borden Story" (TV-MA) -- This could be just me, but I do enjoy seeing a nepo baby flourish in the TV and film industry every once in a while, especially when their parents are as iconic as Ella Beatty's ("Feud: Capote vs. The Swans"). Daughter of acting legends Annette Bening ("Lucky") and Warren Beatty ("Rules Don't Apply"), Ella takes on the lead role of Lizzie Borden in the fourth season of the crime-drama anthology series "Monster." Starring opposite her are Charlie Hunnam, who played the titular role of Ed Gein in the third season of "Monster," as well as Billie Lourd and Sarah Paulson of "American Horror Story" fame. This season follows Lizzie in 1892 Massachusetts, as she becomes a primary suspect after her parents are found murdered in their home with a hatchet. All eight episodes released Sept. 17. (Netflix)

"Dancing with the Stars: Season 35" (TV-PG) -- Thirty-five seasons is an unbelievable feat for any television show, and with the



Ella Beatty stars in "Monster: The Lizzie Borden Story"/Photo courtesy of MovieStillsDB

buzz surrounding its new cast of contestants, "DWTS" still seems far from facing cancellation. (I'm not complaining, though!) "Summer House's" Ciara Miller, who just came out of a recent scandal as a reality TV darling, was one of the first of the 16 contestants to be announced, along with "Love Island" presenter Maura Higgins. But the cast announcements that have truly rocked the world of "DWTS" fans were regarding to actress Julia Stiles from "10 Things I Hate About You," actress/dancer Jenna Dewan from "Step Up" (get ready for all the "Wait, she can dance!" comments), and "Glee's" Harry Shum Jr. The season's set for a two-night premiere, beginning Sept. 15! (Disney+)

"Jay-Z in 8" (TV-14) -- "Allow me to rein-

roduce myself," teases Jay-Z in the trailer for this new eight-part docuseries. Sitting down with record producer/co-founder of Def Jam Recordings Rick Rubin, Jay-Z partakes in intimate discussions about his career, music, life experiences and creative processes. The black-and-white series was shot over the span of two days in a stunning and quiet hall in Paris, with Jay-Z recounting how he started writing music from the age of 9 and leading into how he produced iconic songs like "No Church in the Wild," "99 Problems," and "4:44." The first two episodes premiere on Sept. 18, with new episodes coming every Friday. (HBO Max)

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DID YOU KNOW ...?

Was the first solo crossing of the Atlantic really dangerous?

By JACK BAGLEY
GTLN

By the time we get together again, summer will have come to an end.

Autumn (or fall, if you prefer) begins at 8:05 p.m. (Eastern time) on September 22. It's the second day in the year when the time of daylight and darkness are roughly equal, and from then until some time in December the days will be getting shorter and the nights longer.

In other words, it will be getting late early out there.

Console yourselves with the trivia which follows, especially on those long autumn nights.

Enjoy!
Did you know ...
... a chewing gum magnate got his start with an entirely different product? William Wrigley, Jr. (1861-1932), best known today as the man who started the Wrigley's Chewing Gum™ empire, initially was a soap salesman. In 1891, while trying to make a living selling soap in Chicago, Wrigley would give samples of gum to his customers. The gum quickly became more popular than the soap, so Wrigley decided to switch from making soap to making gum, and a multi-billion dollar business was born. (The rest, as they say, is very tasty gum.)

... you might know someone who practices perissology? In fact, you may be a practitioner yourself. Perissology is the use of more words than necessary to describe something. (No wisecracks about the writer of this column, please.)

... some people can be parsimonious even unto

death? For instance, take a look at the case of actor and comedian Joe E. Ross (1914-1982). Ross, famous as the man whose trademark "Oooh! Oooh!" exclamation was featured in television shows such as Car 54, Where Are You? and It's About Time, was performing in the clubhouse at his apartment building in Los Angeles on August 13, 1982. He died of a heart attack during the performance, and later his widow was only given half of the fee he charged for the show by the organizer of the program, since Ross did not perform the full show. (I suppose there's a good reason, but I doubt Mrs. Ross appreciated it at the time.)

... mosquitoes love smelly feet? Scientists say that the little buzzbombs are really attracted to foot odor, especially if the skeeter is infected with the bacteria that cause malaria. According to Mental Floss, one study found that malaria-infected mosquitoes are three times more likely to be attracted to you if your feet don't smell good. (Phew!)

... the first solo crossing of the Atlantic was not as death-defying as history has indicated? Charles Lindbergh (1902-1974) took off from Roosevelt Field, Long Island, New York on

May 20, 1927, in the Spirit of St. Louis to try to win the Orteig Prize for the first non-stop flight across the Atlantic Ocean. He landed at Le Bourget Aerodrome in Paris 33½ hours later, and the stories began to circulate that he was dangerously low on fuel when he landed. Those stories were false – Lindbergh's plane still had enough fuel to fly another 500 miles if he had wished to. But the Orteig Prize specified a flight from New York to Paris, so that's where he landed. The prize would have been won had someone flown from Paris to New York instead, but Lindbergh won the \$25,000 prize that had first been offered in 1919. Additional trivia note: The Orteig Prize did not specify that the flight had to made solo; just that it had to be non-stop. Lindbergh flew alone, but many other attempts to claim the prize were made by pairs or teams of aviators. (History being made was secondary.)

... Alaska was a bargain for the United States? Purchased from Russia in 1867, the U.S. paid \$7.2 million for Alaska, which was then called "Russian America." With a total land area of 665,400 square miles, that equates to about two cents an acre for the big state. It is so large that if you add

the land area of the next three largest states – Texas, California and Montana – you would still not equal Alaska's size. (A bargain, indeed.)

...an insect's flying speed has been slightly exaggerated? For many years, it was generally believed that the deer botfly was the fastest flying insect – or the fastest moving anything – in the world. Legend had it that this little guy could reach 818 miles per hour; could cross 400 yards in one second; could make 13 miles in a minute. Well, not so fast – literally. In 1938, Irving Langmuir (1881-1957), Nobel laureate in chemistry, brought the deer botfly back under the speed limit, and then some. Langmuir discovered that in order to maintain a velocity of 800 or more miles per hour, the insect would have to consume 1½ times its body weight in food every second. There would be a sonic boom – or at the very least a sonic pop – when the little fellow zipped past, because the speed of sound is about 750 miles per hour.

And if a deer botfly hit you while moving that fast, you would suffer the same impact trauma as a gunshot wound. Langmuir's research gave the deer botfly a much more reasonable (but still impressive) speed of 25 miles per hour. (Rumors fly fast!)

... an actress actually tied herself in balloting for a "Razzie" award? The Razzies, or Golden Raspberry awards, are actually parodies of shows like the Oscars or the Emmys, and they "honor" the worst in movies. In 2008, actress Lindsay Lohan (born 1986) received two Razzie nominations for Worst Actress for the same movie. Lohan played two roles in I Know Who Killed Me and was "recognized" for both roles in the nominations. Lohan actually won the award (awards?) for both of her roles, and took home an additional Razzie in the special category of Worst Excuse for a Horror Movie. (I haven't seen that movie, but if you have, you already know.)

Now ... you know!

The Courier Herald

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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.

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Being bad at mathematics comes back to haunt me

If there is ever a situation where I am helping you do math in my head, let me go ahead and confess that I'm just pretending.

The brain meat rattling in my perfectly sculpted head bones is not capable of doing that out of thin air. In spur-of-the-moment mathematics, you are completely on your own. And don't even think about introducing a fraction to the equation. That kind of function will require paper, pencil and a pot of coffee, possibly call in a professional.

It's a curse, I know, but you can't be good looking and smart - it's just not natural.

My family likes to play this little game where a math problem is proposed and they all watch me sweat trying to figure out the answer. Eventually, after the rusty gears of my noggin spin too long, I naturally give the wrong answer and am ridiculed by people more gifted with numbers than I.

The joke's on them though; I'm the only one who knows how to change the wifi password.

So I was shocked when I was recently tasked to help with some math homework. Apparently they teach advanced calculus to grade schoolers now? It might as well have been advanced calculus.

I once failed a calculus class in college. Why was I, a

Straight C student

THE NEW SOUTHERN DAD



By KYLE DOMINY

future prattler of words, taking high level mathematics? By taking the advice of a terrible advisor, and poor judgement on my part, that's why. I was also enrolled in physics for some reason.

The short version of this story is that I almost became a college flunky. The long version is I dropped the science course out of necessity, but was forced to maintain enrollment in the calculus course to remain a full-time student. I confessed my plight to the professor, a friendly, old man who assured me that if I at least came to class and tried my best he would pass me with a C.

And we all know Cs get degrees.

To my horror the jolly, understanding instructor who gave out passing grades for attendance disappeared by Christmas break. He was replaced by his academic opposite - a shrewd doctor of numbers who demanded precision and conceptual understanding, not to mention that all work be shown.

So I got what I deserved, an F, and was forced to enroll in night school at the community college to get my grades up. And no more math. It was all humanities studies for this guy.

What of my child who besought my assistance? To be honest, I thought I actually understood the material and delivered some grade A parenting. However, that assignment was doomed to be repeated, and I think I owe a math teacher an apology card.

I don't think I'll be asked to do math any time soon.

By JACK BROWN



Public schools and faith

My how things have changed in our public schools during the past 60 years!

During my early school days God was acknowledged in many of our activities and in my homeroom schedule. I can remember my homeroom schedule every school day morning;

1. the reading of a Psalm by one of the students
2. the recitation of the Lord's Prayer by the class
3. the Pledge of Allegiance
4. the singing of one verse of "My Country 'Tis of Thee"
5. school announcements

A number of the patriotic songs of America acknowledge God in the lyrics, songs such as The Star-Spangled Banner (verse 2), "and this be our motto, in God Is Our Trust ..."; My Country, 'Tis of Thee (verse 4), "Our fathers' God, to Thee, Author of liberty, to Thee we sing; Long may our land be bright with freedom's holy light; protect us by Thy might, Great God, our King!"; America The Beautiful (verses 1, 2,3 and 4), "God shed His grace on thee ... God mend thine every flaw ... May God thy gold refine ... God shed His grace on thee"; God Bless America

(This song is a prayer ... the whole song!). These four national songs are songs of faith, and they are sung regularly in public places and in our public schools. Also, how about God Of Our Fathers and Mine Eyes Have Seen The Glory (The Battle Hymn of the Republic)?

America's public schools and religious faith have an inseparable link, and both have been together throughout our history, and both will remain together so long as these national songs are played and sung in our public schools. God is plainly acknowledged in all of the above songs. Even when we just hear the music, we think about the words.

Public prayer may be prohibited in many of our public schools, but whenever these songs are sung, God is being acknowledged and God is being praised.

In closing this short essay, on "America's Public Schools and Religious Faith," and with a smile, we need to know that so long as there are tests and examinations in our public schools, many of our fine students will pray on school property ... right there at their desks.

Peace!

DIVA ON A DIME

Flavor bases that run the world and rescue dinner

By PATTI DIAMOND
King Features

Nearly every cuisine relies on a traditional combination of aromatic vegetables to create its distinctive foundation of flavor. The French have mirepoix. Many Latin and Caribbean kitchens have sofrito. Across several East Asian cuisines, ginger, garlic and scallions provide the opening notes.

These aromatics may not be the stars of the show, but they are indispensable supporting players. Cooked together, they give meals the distinctive flavors we associate with cuisines around the world.

The only drawback is that they require chopping precisely when we are hungry, tired and considering cereal for dinner.

Why not prepare several batches now and freeze them in meal-size portions? You will create your own homemade convenience foods: little cubes of concentrated flavor ready to jump-start dinner.

Make one batch for tonight and one for the freezer. Cool cooked bases promptly, spoon into silicone muffin cups or ice-cube trays and freeze until solid. Transfer to labeled freezer bags, press out excess air and use within three months for optimal quality.

There is no need to thaw. Drop a portion directly into a hot pan, soup pot or slow cooker and proceed as though you had just

chopped the ingredients. Look at you, starting dinner before you even knew what it was.

First, mirepoix traditionally contains approximately two parts onion to one part each carrot and celery. Use it to begin soups, stews, sauces, potpies, casseroles or braised dishes.

CLASSIC MIREPOIX
Yield: 6 cups or 12 (1/2-cup) portions
Total time: 30 mins., plus cooling

2 tablespoons oil or butter
4 cups diced onion
2 cups diced carrots
2 cups diced celery

Heat oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Add vegetables and cook, stirring occasionally, for 10 to 15 minutes, until softened but not browned. Cool and freeze in 1/2-cup portions.

Sofrito varies wonderfully by country, region and family. This versatile version lends rich flavor to beans, rice, soups, stews, ground meat and tomato sauces.

TOMATO-PEPPER SOFRITO
Yield: 2 1/2 cups or 10 (1/4-cup) portions

1/2 cup peeled, chopped

Total time: 30 mins., plus cooling

2 tablespoons olive oil
1 large onion, chopped
1 red or green bell pepper, chopped
4 garlic cloves, minced
1 teaspoon dried thyme
1 teaspoon dried oregano
1 teaspoon paprika
1 can (14.5 ounces) diced tomatoes, drained
1 bay leaf
large pinch of salt

Heat oil over medium heat. Add onion and pepper; cook until tender, about 8 minutes. Add garlic, thyme, oregano and paprika; cook 1 minute. Stir in tomatoes, add the bay leaf and cook until the mixture is thick and most of the liquid has evaporated, 10 to 15 minutes. Cool and freeze in 1/4-cup portions.

This Asian inspired blend is not intended to represent all Asian cooking, but it is a handy beginning for stir-fries, brothly soups, fried rice, noodles and marinades.

fresh ginger
1/2 cup peeled garlic cloves
1 cup chopped green onion
2 tablespoons neutral cooking oil

Pulse everything in a food processor until finely chopped but not liquefied. Freeze uncooked in 1-tablespoon portions.

With a few fragrant cubes tucked into the freezer, you're never starting dinner from scratch. You are starting with an advantage, and on a busy evening, that is worth its weight in onions.

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

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Moment of Inspiration

Be of Good Cheer

"Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid." - Matthew 14:27

The disciples were frightened in the middle of the storm, but Jesus came walking toward them with words of comfort: "Be of good cheer." He did not promise there would be no storm; He reminded them that they were not alone.

We may face storms, uncertainty, and difficult days, but Jesus is still with us. When fear says, "You cannot make it," faith says, "Jesus is here."

So today, lift your head, trust the Lord, and take courage. The storm may be strong, but our Savior is stronger.

Be of good cheer - Jesus is still with you!

Dr. Curt Lysaker, Pastor Shady Grove Baptist Church, East Dublin, GA

Pastors if you would like to share a devotional please email to: advertisingtch@gmail.com



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Student in custody after Bleckley Co. school threat

By CAROLINE WEATHERSBY
GTLN

A student is in custody after officials say he “expressed intentions of carrying out a school shooting” at Bleckley County Middle School.

The arrest was made following an investigation involving both the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Bleckley County Sheriff’s Office.

The sheriff’s office confirmed they received information on Thursday that a student at Bleckley County Middle School made violent threats against the school. Law enforcement worked to identify the student and shortly after, the male student was located and taken into custody.

The juvenile, who was confirmed to be a student attending the middle school, has not been publicly identified by law enforcement.

No other information was disclosed about the student or the threats made against the school.

Bleckley County Sheriff Daniel Cape responded to the situation on social media Thursday afternoon.

“We believe the actions taken by law enforcement today prevented a potentially devastating act of violence against our children, educators, and community,” Cape wrote. “There is no greater responsibility we have than protecting our children. When information involving a threat to one of our schools is received, we will treat it exactly as

it should be treated... seriously, immediately, and with every resource available to us.”

School administration also spoke on the matter via a post on social media, with one official writing, “[W]e were notified by law enforcement of threatening comments allegedly made by a student. Law enforcement immediately began investigating the matter, identified the individual involved, and has taken appropriate action.

“The safety and security of our students and staff remain our highest priority,” the post continued. “We do not tolerate threats, violence, or any behavior that disrupts the safe learning environment our students deserve. Any report of threatening behavior is taken seriously and investigated thoroughly in partnership with law enforcement.”

While the post stated that no students or staff were ever in danger, they reiterated that threatening comments against the school are “not jokes” and “can result in significant consequences, including criminal charges and school disciplinary action.”

The school confirmed that while privacy laws keep them from identifying any other information about the student, they write that he was met with action from both law enforcement and the school system.

The situation is still under investigation by the sheriff’s office and the FBI.

According to Sheriff Cape, law enforcement will release additional information when doing so won’t interfere with the investigation.

Artificial intelligence raising questions about who writes the rules

By TY TAGAMI
Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA — Some worry artificial intelligence could one day rule humanity.

Robots have not taken over yet, but AI may be helping with a core function of democracy in Georgia’s largest county: writing ordinances and resolutions.

A Fulton County commissioner used an online tool to analyze legislation introduced by a couple of her colleagues and found that four proposals, including two that would change ethics policies and procedures, were likely written by AI.

“The idea that we’re going to have machines write what humans should be doing ethically ... it opens a can of worms for me,” said Commissioner Dana Barrett, who did the review.

She said the two commissioners behind the legislation, Marvin Arrington Jr. and Bob Ellis, might be exposing the public to unintended consequences because, she said, in her experience AI tends to go overboard on details.

Capitol Beat ran the legislation through the same online tool, called GPTZero, and got similar results. The tool determined it was 100% likely that a proposed ordinance and two proposed resolutions were generated by AI, and it assigned another proposed resolution a 90% likelihood of AI authorship.

The tool cited qualities such as a lack of creativity, “robotic formality,” impersonal tone and mechanical precision.

The company behind GPTZero does not go into much detail on its website about how it works, except to say that it collects raw data, looks for similarities and draws a line between what it considers to be human- versus AI-generated text.

Ellis said in a statement that he, “like the rest of the world,” used “technology tools” to research his ideas and to refine his thoughts. He said he also asked the county attorney’s office to review his work.

He did not say whether he had outsourced the writing of his proposed ethics resolution to AI. He placed the 32-page document on the agenda for the commission’s meeting this week.

Arrington, who also had his legislation on the agenda, said AI use was widespread.

“Artificial intelligence is already being used throughout government, business, education, law, medicine, and nearly every other profession,” he said in a statement. “Learning officials who are not public how to use this technology responsibly are behind the ball. They need to catch up or get left behind.”

Arrington did not say AI had written his propos-

als, but, like Ellis, he said he had used technology “tools” and that those tools did not diminish or replace his judgment informed by 30 years as a lawyer and 12 years as a county commissioner.

“Suggesting that responsible AI assistance invalidates legislation or policy is like claiming that someone cheated because they used a computer instead of a typewriter,” he said.

Ellis, a Republican, accused Barrett, a Democrat, of launching a “juvenile” attack.

Arrington, a Democrat, said Barrett was taking “cheap political shots.” Arrington also found hypocrisy in Barrett having used an AI tool to sniff out AI writing.

Barrett said she used AI but only to confirm what she already suspected after reading the legislation and noting unusual language and formatting. She said she used AI with her own policy proposals, but she said she only used it for analysis and for editing of her original writing.

Barrett said she sympathized with her fellow commissioners’ desire to amend ethics policies and procedures but could not support their legislation as written.

She characterized her colleagues’ new proposals as “very extreme, especially where there is potentially not as much critical thinking or thoughtful law-making as there should be because of the use of AI.”

One of Arrington’s three proposals — about food insecurity and community gardens — did not pass in a vote Wednesday evening. He then held his other two items for a future meeting. One was about abolishing the county ethics board and the other was about limiting public comment at commission meetings.

Ellis also decided to hold his own ethics resolution.

Barrett and Arrington will leave office in a few months. In the meantime, Arrington said he planned to introduce a comprehensive county policy for AI use.

'Pause and reboot': Montgomery Co. delays ordinance to curb data centers

By LOGAN REYNOLDS
GTLN

The Montgomery County Board of Commissioners decided against moving forward with a discussed land use ordinance, instead opting to broaden the ordinance’s scope before implementation.

“We might need to pause and reboot on that ordinance, go over that thing real good,” said Vice Chair Clarence Thomas. “Sometimes you [get] hasty, you mess up, and I don’t want to end up coming back and having to redo some stuff that should have been done the first time.”

The ordinance in question — aimed at implementing regulations against data centers in Montgomery County — began life in May, following discussions about the potential construction of a data center reported by Commissioner Amie Vassey. County Attorney Ron Daniels drafted the ordinance, and the board approved the first of two required readings of it on Aug. 10.

The discussion to halt the readings was held during the board’s monthly work session on Sept. 10, spurred by Commissioner Leland Adams. He reiterated his stance, which he has maintained for several months, that the proposed ordinance would only provide “hurdles” against data centers.

Adams instead proposed the ordinance be tabled for further revisions to make the legislation more generic rather than focusing solely on the issue of data centers.

“I would like to create this thing to cover more than just data centers,” said Adams. “It’s to make it generic enough that you could put solar panels and any other large industrial complex that could come to the county.”

He called for revisions specifically to the type of complex specified in the ordinance, but took no issue with most of the requirements and regulations listed, such as community review boards. He did ask for changes to certain spacing and setback requirements, instead suggesting those requirements be left up to the board’s discretion.

Adams cited the advancing technology of data centers as a reason to make the ordinance more generic, as he claimed newer, smaller data centers were less impactful on their surrounding environments.

“From what I can read, a small to medium sized data center is using less water than a golf course,” said Adams.

He also cited the lack of advertisements and hearings for the ordinance as a reason to halt the readings and revise.

In prior meetings, Adams suggested the county could implement a zoning board to combat the issue of data centers. This solution would avoid both of his primary concerns with ordinance — specificity and difficulty — by giving the board more direct control over county land use. However, the board came to an informal consensus that Montgomery County residents would not be in favor of implementing a zoning board, so the ordinance was



Commissioner Jimmy Sharpe during the meeting/LOGAN REYNOLDS

selected instead.

Commissioner Vassey, who could not attend the Sept. 10 meeting, asked during the Sept. 14 meeting if the board could still place the issue on the November ballot for resident input, a potential avenue discussed in prior meetings. According to both Attorney Daniels and County Manager Heather Scott, the window to place the question on the

ballot passed in August.

The decision to halt the readings did not require a vote from the board. Daniels said he would make the revisions to the ordinance and make the draft available to the commissioners the following week.

“I think we just need to pause what we’ve got and go back to the drawing board,” said Adams.

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Porter's
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Email it to: tchsports77@gmail.com
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Dublin Police Department

- Omari M. Williams, 28, was charged with driving while license suspended or revoked and seatbelt violation at the intersection of East Jackson Street and North Union Street at 7:11 a.m. on Sept. 6.

An officer initiated a traffic stop based on a seat belt violation on a silver Toyota Prius. The officer met with the driver, identified as Williams. The officer ran his license and it came back suspended due to a failure to appear. The officer informed Williams that his license was suspended.

Williams was arrested, transported to the police department and fingerprinted.

- Latasha Roshay Woodward, 41, and Bianca Brown, 36, were both charged with theft by shoplifting at Dollar General on Hillcrest Parkway at 10:04 a.m. on Sept. 6.

One woman was described as wearing a maroon shirt and blue pants and was pregnant. The other woman was described as wearing a black-long sleeve shirt and multi-colored pants.

While en route to the location, the officer saw the two women at the intersection of Hillcrest Drive and Church Street. The women were walking through the woods in the direction away from Dollar General. The officer made contact with the women and asked if they had come from Dollar General. They did not provide a response.

Both women were arrested for shoplifting and transported back to Dollar General. The store manager said both women matching the description provided walked out of the store without paying for several items.

The officer opened a gray backpack that was found in Woodward's possession. Several household items were found inside the backpack. The total value was \$44.81.

Officers reviewed the store's surveillance footage that showed both women entering the store with the backpack.



POLICE BEAT...

They walked through several aisles and selected items before going to a back corner of the store where no camera was visible.

The women then walked to another aisle with the backpack. The officers saw that they left the store with what appeared to have been a fuller backpack than when they had entered. The officer ran both women's information through 911. Woodward had one additional shoplifting-related charge from 2015. No additional shoplifting history was found for Brown.

Both were transported to the police department where they were cited. Both were barred from Dollar General indefinitely. They were both fingerprinted and released on summons. The officer provided copies of the trespass forms to all parties involved.

- At 1:39 p.m. on Sept. 7, officers responded to the area of Palmer Street in reference to an intoxicated man with tattoos who tried to fight dogs and push the owner.

An officer found the man matching the description at Harry's Package Shop on Telfair Street. Officers met with Andrew Michael Heitzman, 38, who appeared to be highly intoxicated, stumbling and almost falling over. The officer could smell the odor of an alcoholic beverage on the man.

A woman approached an officer and stated that she almost hit him as she was pulling into the store. While offi-

cers were there, one talked with the caller, who was also intoxicated. He and Heitzman had been drinking alcoholic beverages.

Because Heitzman was highly intoxicated, and almost being hit by a vehicle at least once, the officer believed he was a hazard to himself and others if allowed to walk away from the scene.

Heitzman was arrested for pedestrian under the influence and transported to the sheriff's office and released to booking staff.

Laurens County Sheriff's Office

- On Sept. 6 at 5:45 p.m. a deputy talked with a person on Southern Pines Road about an incident that happened on Preston Lane.

- A vehicle was damaged on Honeysuckle Road around 8:46 p.m. on Sept. 5.

- On Sept. 5 at 9:34 p.m., a deputy responded to the area of Wade Hampton Road in reference to an attack.

- A deputy responded to Old Airport Road in reference to an assault that happened at 11:34 p.m. on Sept. 4.

- A deputy heard about an identity theft that occurred on Whittle Road in Cadwell between Aug. 3 and Sept. 4.

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.

FROM THE RECORD

Marriages: Cameron Alex Carrier to Nacolle Ashley Carrier; Kristopher Karle Arnold Bjorkman to Chakira Latice Allen; Avery Lee Nobles to Rebekah Lynn Maness; James Kenneth Jewell to Carolyn Denise Jewell; Daniel Jackson Cameron III to Leslie Leighann Warren; Shekana Collida Davis to Feadric Deon Jackson

Divorce: Tory N. Padgett v Mitch W. Padgett

Contempt: Ellen L Culpepper v Reginald C Culpepper

Petition for Motion for Contempt: Marquisha Scruse v Derek Davis

Complaint for Divorce: Tara Leigh Dennis v Randy Shane Dennis; Victoria Hay v Justin Hay; Amber Blash v Corey Blash; Kelly Mullis v Mary Magluilo

Modification of Custody & Child Support: Alicia Beck v Jonathan Marshall

Complaint for Forfeiture: State of Georgia v Alexandria Vann, Glenn Register & Anytime Bail Bonding of Spalding, Inc

Contract: Jefferson Capital Systems v Brandi Reynolds; U.S. Bank Na-

tional Association v Kimberly Bracewell; Onemain Financial Group v Kwame J Phillips; PCA Acquisitions v Zarion ONeal; Ashley Black v Curry Management Corporation; Bank of America v Milladge Hall; Bank of America v Daisy Tapley

Affidavit for Garnishment: Midland Credit v Heather Kemp & Easter Seals of Middle Georgia, Inc; Onemain Financial Group v Mary E Nelms & Georgia First Bank; US Auto Credit v Felicia Hill & Cochran Bros Company, Inc; Republic Finance LLC v Alexander Arline & Steelfab, Inc.

Garnishment: Mariner Finance v Bradley C Davidson & K&H Environmental Services, LLC; Midland Credit v Samantha Levert & Warehouse Home Furnishing Distributors; Inc

Automobile Tort: Amanda Watson v M.A.D.E. Trucking, LLC & Bobby L Morris; Tecola Lee v Yvonne Sanders; Salah Adaani v Dream Transportation, Inc & Sergi Korobov; William Erwin v Eliray & Wendy Bland

General Tort: Denny Keen v Gerald & Sandra Ad-dis

Modification—Child Support: GA DHS EX REL Aubrey Edmond vs Damon-ta Edmond

Contempt—Child Support: GA DHS EX REL Trinity Green ET AL vs Terrence Green; GA DHS EX REL Braylin Green vs Terrence Green; GA DHS EX REL Tri Guin ET AL vs Richard Guinn; GA DHS EX REL Faran Young ET AL vs Chyenne Young; GA DHS EX REL Kade Rutherford vs Sherwin Rutherford

Complaint—Child Support: GA DHS EX REL Skylar Brown ET AL vs Shaun Brown; GA DHS EX REL Kye Stanley vs Keonn Stanley; GA DHS EX REL Sabali Lenton vs Brady Linton

Leins: Jasmine Balcom to Cascade Capital Funding LLC; Brittany N Taylor to Georgia United Credit Union; Donna Barwick to Spring Oaks Capital SPV, LLC; Heaven Stone to Mariner Finance, LLC

Security Deed: Meridian Property, LLC to Citizens Bank of Laurens County x2; KMCR Properties, LLC to Vallant Bank; Joann Walker to Mortgage Research Center, LLCDBA Veterans United Home Loans; Travis H Spivey to Farmers State Bank; Lois A Branson to Rapid Home Lending Inc; Joshua & Ajshane Castellaw

to Planet Home Lending, LLC; Thomas Mathew & Celia Renee Dykes to Vallant Bank; JJ Southern Investments, LLC to Community Bank of Dublin-Laurens County; Jeffery Smith to Vallant Bank; Cutting Edge Salon of Dublin, LLC to Bank of Dudley; Clique Properties, LLC to Farmers State Bank; James & Evelyn W Faircloth to Community Bank of Dublin-Laurens County; Melinda C Hargis to Georgia United Credit Union; Kenneth & Callie Ricks to Banksouth; Derek Jackson Investments, LLC to Ally Bank; Dorothy Rozier to Guild Mortgage Company, LLC x2; AM-PM Holdings, LLC to Vallant Bank; Wiley Scrutchins to Farmers State Bank; James Jones Jr & Vickie N Jones to Guild Mortgage Company x2

Warranty Deed: Benjamin Harris Wood to Ben-

jamin Harris Wood and Sheryl Ann Wood Trustees of The Wood Family Revocable Living Trust Dated September 2, 2026; James H Shoptaw Jr & Margaret Rose McQuaig to White-tail Ridge of Georgia, LLC; American Tractor and Farm, LLC to Joann Walker; Country Lots, LLC to Travis H Spivey; Ronald Walter Graham Jr to Parks Family Construction, LLC; Jacquelyn P Couey AKA Jacquelyn Payne Couey to Jacquelyn Payne Couey, as Trustee of The Jacquelyn Payne Couey Revocable Living Trust Dated September 2, 2026; Bennie L & Brenda Lagail Avery to Bennie L & Brenda Lagail Avery; Lisa M & Paul Clute to William J & Kimberly L Dixon; Gordon D Thigpen to Gordon D Thigpen & Clinton Travis Thigpen; Rod Von Flasch AKA Rod V Flasch and Vickie Raye Flasch, AKA Vicki R Flasch to Ja-

son Robert Pirdy, Trustee of The Flasch Family Irrevocable Trust, Dated September 4, 2026; JDE Rentals, LLC to Clique Properties, LLC; JSM Enterprise LLC to Derek Jackson Investments, LLC; Glenda Green to Dorothy Rozier; Lana Malone Alligood to Lana Malone Alligood, Trustee of The Lana Malone Alligood Irrevocable Trust Dated September 9, 2026; Melinda Wilkes AKA Millie Wilkes Executor Under The Last Will and Testament of Bobby Clyde Couey to Geraldine H & Wesley Joby Martin; Tosha Renea Pickle to Dalton Glen Herndon & Haileigh Renate Herndon; Holly Russell AKA Holly Warnock Russell to Clarissa Monique Flanders; Gwendolyn Renee Shepherd FKA Renee C McNeal to Gwendolyn Renee Shepherd & Kailey Sawyer; Kathryn Courtney Hudgens to James Jones Jr & Vickie N Jones

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NOTICE

The City of Montrose Council does hereby announce that the City of Montrose millage rate will be set at its Tuesday meeting, September 15, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall, 1090 First Street, Montrose, Georgia 31065. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. Sec 48-5-32, as amended, the Council hereby publishes the following presentation for the current year's tax digest and proposed levy.

In accordance with Georgia law, all taxable property shall be assessed at forty percent of its fair market value, which will be determined by the Tax Commissioner of Laurens County. The taxable property shall then be taxed by the City at a millage rate of 5 mills. By way of an example:

The average home in Montrose, Georgia has a fair market value of \$200,000. The property owner of the \$200,000 home would pay \$400 in property taxes, as calculated below:

40% of said value is \$80,000. Considering the millage rate to be 5 mills, the property owner shall pay \$5 per \$1,000 taxable value:

\$80,000 x (5/1,000) = \$400.00 taxes owed.

All concerned citizens are invited to attend the three public hearings regarding this tax implementation, millage rate adoption, and the tax increase to be held at 1090 First Street, Montrose, Georgia 31065 on:

1. Tuesday September 8, 2026 at 6:30 PM,
2. Saturday September 12, 2026 at 9:00 AM, and
3. Saturday, September 12, 2026 at 6:00 PM.

All concerned citizens are invited to join these public meeting.

Please take further notice that the City of Montrose is hereby moving its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, September 8, 2026 from 7:00 PM to 6:00 PM.

Please take further notice that the City of Montrose is hereby setting a specially set meeting to adopt the millage rate and tax levy implementation for Tuesday September 15, 2026 at 7:00 P.M. at 1090 First Street, Montrose, Georgia 31065.

City Council will render its final vote regarding the implementation of ad valorem property taxes and the proposed millage rate of 5 mils at 7:00 P.M. on September 15, 2026.

Falcons' flag football debut filled with positives, but Telfair takes 2-TD victory

By CLAY REYNOLDS
Sports Editor

The East Laurens Falcons took the field Thursday for their first-ever regular season flag football game with open minds, and a healthy sense of anticipation measured by not only the understanding that this was their first experience playing a brand new game, but that they'd also be going up against a well-established program whose returning team is projected to be one of the best in the area.

All those things considered, they performed quite well in a debut that, win or lose, was going to be a positive learning experience. The result, an 18-8 loss to Telfair County, wasn't wholly satisfying, but Falcon coaches and players still walked away encouraged by the takeaways: Though there are a lot of ways they can improve in the games to come, they also learned they've got what it takes to compete in a sport that won't be unfamiliar for long.

"We knew that Telfair was going to be a challenge, and it's fine," said East Laurens head coach Shumara Carswell. "They're ranked like No. 9 in the state right now, and we only (lost to them by) 10 points. This is our first year, that's not an excuse. We are willing to take those losses, get back to the drawing board and learn. Now we know what we need to do."

Getting a feel for the mechanics of their offense was a slight challenge. But the Falcons came to play on defense, standing tall for three big red zone stops that made it tough on the Trojans to put away an early lead.

Telfair, after hitting a deep pass to score on their opening drive, kept a shutout intact until the final few minutes, but did add some second-half insurance as it struck again early in the third and took advantage of an East Laurens turnover for a third touchdown late.

East Laurens quarterback Zahmaria Robinson found towering receiver Garyunna Mitchell over the middle for a roughly 45-yard catch and run touchdown that finished the Falcons' afternoon on a high note.

"It was like a breath of fresh air, really," Robinson said of the first-ever fast-break assist involving the two basketball teammates on the gridiron, where their chemistry will carry over from the hardwood this fall. "We already have a bond, so we're kind of connected in a way."

Not much else really opened up through the air, though Robinson ran for a good bit on scrambles that picked up double-digits to get several drives moving after their first two went three plays and out. But most, before the final score, eventually stalled out due to penalties and other issues that simply come with the territory for a first-



Several Falcons try to capture the flag as they converge on Telfair ball-carrier Hennessy Livingston. They were successful at making the pull to help key one of two stops late in the first half that kept the Trojans in only a 6-0 lead at the break/CLAY REYNOLDS



Falcon wideout Garyunna Mitchell turns and burns after the catch on a roughly 45-yard touchdown that got East Laurens on the board late in the game/CLAY REYNOLDS



Quarterback Zahmaria Robinson leaves a diving defender in her wake on a scramble for two points after the Eastside TD/CLAY REYNOLDS

year team. "The girls were kind of shaken up, that first half especially. They were nervous," Carswell said. "It wasn't the same as (our) away game Tuesday. Today, it was here on a big stage as they would call it, and they were kind of shaken up. But we know what we need to do. We know what we need to improve and we're just gonna get better every game."

Mitchell, with a number of key flag pulls over the course of the afternoon, had the unofficial lead in "tackles" for a defense that made its share of plays to keep Telfair in check.

The Trojans, whose short-to-intermediate passing game wasn't much more in sync, ventured into midfield on both their remaining first-half possessions, but were held at the East Laurens 19 on a first that relied on Mitchell's third-down stop. Time and a fourth-and-goal got the best of them from a few yards away as time expired on a 6-0 lead at the end of the sec-

ond quarter.

Telfair doubled it after Hennessy Livingston's sack forced a quick Falcon punt on their first chance of the third quarter. Bryce Eady hit Tee Jones on a couple-yard bubble screen to punch it in, though a conversion was once again denied to leave the deficit a manageable 12-0.

Mitchell contributed to a goal-line stand with one of back-to-back saves less than a yard from the plane as the Trojans threatened to score again off of Tryn Newson's interception of a deep ball.

But they'd get to the end zone again after what was only a short holdup.

Livingston got into the backfield, and seized an attempted handoff to wrest back possession, and Eady found Jones again for the score to make it 18-0.

"I feel like we did good, but we need to improve more on defense," Mitchell said. "We know what we need to work on for the



Telfair County wide receiver Tee Jones makes the catch from a few steps open on the Trojans' final touchdown/CLAY REYNOLDS

next game. We're looking for the win."

Getting a feel...

Pretty much everything about this new adventure, except for the guidance of some neighboring programs and coaches, is uncharted for East Laurens, which has had time this summer to work on becoming familiar with the rules, procedures and basics of flag football.

But executing everything they've learned in a real game situation, which they were only exposed to for a first time in a scrimmage at Treutlen two days earlier, will take some time to do effectively.

"They didn't have the opportunity to play this in rec. Now they have it, so the girls are having to learn it at the high school level," Carswell said.

Handling of the football and snap mechanics, as well as issues aligning presnap and adjusting to specific game situations, seemed

to give the Falcons the most trouble.

Their first two offensive series, from deep in their own territory, were beset by miscommunication, and some Telfair pressure right up the middle to stop the plays that did get off cleanly before they could get started.

But East found its footing, and some things to hang its hat on offensively as the afternoon went along.

What's been the biggest learning process?

"Us working together," Mitchell said. "Communication."

As things got going, they were also plagued by some simple details like keeping the ball tucked high and tight... not to protect against fumbles, but rather to avoid penalties for "flag-guarding," which can be called when the ball is held low enough, or swinging the arms, to become an

FALCONS FLAG
Continued on page 7

On returning to Arkansas, and memories of the great Frank Broyles...

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. – It still is a little strange when I come here to think of Arkansas being a member of the Southwest Conference, which they were for 76 years.

The Razorbacks' best years in football were when they played in the old SWC, where they were a member from 1914 to 1991. It was Frank Broyles who orchestrated the move to the SEC. The Razorbacks won 13 football titles in the old SWC, with Broyles winning seven of those championships.

Broyles, a native of Decatur and a graduate of Georgia Tech, had a reputation for being a coach who would promote his assistants for head coaching positions.

More than 25 of his former assistants landed head jobs in college coaching, and two—Raymond Berry (New England Patriots)

and Joe Gibbs (Washington Redskins)—wound up as head coaches in the NFL. Two former Georgia assistants who coached under Broyles and became head coaches were Billy Kinard (Ole Miss) and Bill Pace (Vanderbilt).

Headlining the "Broyles list" were Barry Switzer, Jimmy Johnson, Johnny Majors, Hayden Fry, Doug Dickey, and Danny Ford.

You may remember when Joe Kines was interim head coach at Arkansas in 1992? The head coach that season was Jack Crowe, but Arkansas lost its opening game to The Citadel, which prompted Broyles to fire Crowe and give the job to Kines, albeit on an interim basis.

Kines, who was the defensive coordinator, needed to replace himself. He reached out to his old friend Danny Ford who had re-



By LORAN SMITH

signed at Clemson a couple of years prior.

When Georgia played Arkansas in Fayetteville in 1992, Ray Goff was in his fourth year and would enjoy his best season with the Bulldogs. Friday night before the game, which Georgia won without a lot of stress, Broyles had several of us over to his house for dinner.

He and I spent time talking about the Masters

since he was a member of Augusta National and played a lot of golf. When the topic turned to football, he said, "You know Danny Ford really has a head coach's presence."

Ford's success at Clemson, where the Tigers won a national title in 1981, had gotten Broyles's attention, and Ford also had gotten Broyles's attention.

I thought privately that Joe Kines, a fine football

coach, was likely not going to get the Razorback job at the end of the season, which is the way things turned out. Goff hired him at Georgia and came to appreciate him as a coach and wished that he had gotten a head coaching opportunity. I believe if he had gotten a good job, he would have developed a winning program.

Broyles owned the state of Arkansas when he became entrenched in Fayetteville. He worked for nine years with Georgian Keith Jackson on the ABC weekly broadcast of college football, two Georgia boys spreading the good word of the greatest of games, which we seem to be headed to destroying.

In September 1982, ABC executives called Vice Doolley and set in motion a plan to have Clemson and Georgia playing before the nation in a matchup of the last

two national champions of 1980 and 1981.

Boy, was that a blockbuster pairing. Keith and Broyles were as excited as I have ever seen them, and ABC went all out to showcase their best talent.

In addition to the play-by-play announcer and the color commentator, they sent Jack Whitaker and Jim Lampley to pitch in, and nobody enjoyed being in Athens more than Whitaker, an erudite essayist who loved the Lumpkin Street scene with the comingling of students and fans (both schools) and the pageantry.

They all had dinner at our house, and following dinner, they all gathered on our back porch for conversation. I have never heard greater story telling by any group of sports celebrities. We did not want the evening to end.

"Whoa Nellie."

SCOREBOARD

SOFTBALL

Wednesday

Dublin 9, Northside 4
West Laurens 4, Perry 2

Thursday

Jefferson Co. 10, Dublin 8
Pinewood 16, Trinity 3
East Laurens 3,
Swainsboro 1

FLAG FOOTBALL

Thursday

Telfair Co. 18, EL 8

PREP

SCHEDULE

FOOTBALL

Friday

East Laurens at Metter
Monroe Area at
West Laurens
Wilcox Co. at Johnson Co.
Brentwood at
Lake Oconee Academy
Dodge Co. at Dooly Co.
Treutlen at
Montgomery Co.
Wheeler Co. at Taylor Co.
7:30 p.m.

SOFTBALL

Monday

Trinity at David Emanuel
/5 p.m.

Tuesday

Southeast Bulloch at WL
/5 p.m.
Bleckley Co. at Dublin/5:30
p.m.
ACE Charter at EL/6 p.m.

Thursday

Briarwood at Trinity
/4:30 p.m.
WL at Harlem/5 p.m.
EL at Dodge Co./5:30 p.m.
Dublin at Vidalia/6 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL

Tuesday

WL, Southeast Bulloch at
Harlem/5 p.m.

FLAG FOOTBALL

Tuesday

EL at Fitzgerald/5:30 p.m.

Thursday

WL, Glenn Hills, ARC at
Harlem/5:30 p.m.

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

FALCONS FLAG

Continued from page 6

obstacle impeding access to the flags.

"We lost, but we just know we've gotta improve," Robinson said.

Going forward, its biggest adjustment from the atmosphere of practices to games will be getting comfortable with the flow... in particular the transitions between phases when it frequently took a little too long to get plays called, and the right folks into the game.

"Once these girls get acquainted and get familiar with the game and get that just confidence about just knowing the game, then that little swagger that they have just being an athlete period, that'll come," Carswell said. "But I think right now, they're just not familiar with the game of flag football. For this first season, it's definitely going to be them getting acquainted with the game, and just learning through playing these really good teams."

Thursday's opener is one the Falcons were glad to have out of the way, though the performance – considering what they hope to do a lot better the next time out – went about as well as it could have for a first time.

"I was nervous, I think I still am," Carswell said. "But just like the kids, I just see where they need to improve, and as a coach, I know where I need to improve. I'm going to get better. The coaching staff, we're going to get better. And we're going to keep rolling."

RACING THIS WEEK...

O'REILLY RECAP

• **Saturday's** NU WAY 225 Powered by Bobcat, Sauced by Blues Hog, WWT



WINNER: JESSE LOVE

In a race that kindled the rivalry between Corey Day and William Sawalich to full flame, Jesse Love showed the form that made him a O'Reilly Series champion last year.

Wresting the lead from Carson Kvapil with a gentle rub on Lap 165 of 180, Love held the top spot the rest of the way in winning Saturday night's Nu Way 225 Powered by Bobcat Sauced by Blue Hog at World Wide Technology Raceway at Gateway.

Love crossed the finish line 0.896 seconds ahead of last week's Darlington winner, Sheldon Creed, who moved into first place in the Chase standings by three points over top-seeded Justin Allgaier.

Kvapil, who faded to fifth in the closing laps, is third in the standings, nine points behind Allgaier. Love climbed two positions to fourth, 16 points back. Chase drivers Sam Mayer and Taylor Gray came home third and fourth, respectively, in Saturday's race.

Parker Retzlaff, Brent Crews, Sammy Smith, Kyle Sieg and Jeb Burton completed the top 10.

Love was convinced a chance for his first victory of the season would come if he maintained his grit and work ethic.

The win was Love's first at Gateway and the fourth of his career.

Love avoided the pitfalls that eventually hurt other Chase drivers—specifically, a blockaded pit road and the latest in a violent string of incidents between Day and Sawalich.

After a restart on Lap 133, Day and Sawalich were racing side-by-side, with Day to the inside, when Allgaier made a move to the bottom of the track with a push from Gray's Toyota.

With Gray on his bumper, Allgaier moved Day up the track into the driver's side of Sawalich's Toyota. Sawalich turned left into Day's Chevrolet, knocking it down the track into a spin that ended with hard contact with the inside wall.

The accident knocked Day out of the race in 33rd place and left him eighth in the standings, 69 points behind Creed.

The pyrotechnics between two drivers, who also sparred last week at Darlington, followed a bizarre pileup as drivers tried to access their pit boxes.

On Lap 49, during the Stage 1 break, a chain-reaction wreck just beyond the entrance to pit road scrambled the field and damaged several Chase cars.

With Day already in the first pit stall after the entrance, Rajah Caruth's No. 88 Chevrolet turned off the bumper of Nick Sanchez's No. 87 Chevy as the field compressed behind them.

Sanchez's car slid toward the No. 19 Toyota of Brent Crews, as the pit crew already was servicing Crews' vehicle. The 10-car melee blocked pit road and trapped Day's Chevy in its pit stall. No crew members were hurt.

Allgaier escaped the accident on pit road, only to leave his stall with a loose wheel. A return trip to the pits left the Chase's top seed 19th in the running order; Allgaier had clawed his way back to ninth. By the end of Stage 2, won by Love, he had worked his way up to sixth. But Allgaier sustained damage to the right front of his Camaro, and his 13th-place finish cost him the series lead.

ENJOY ILLINOIS 300

Holding off pole winner Joey Logano and Hendrick Motorsports teammate Alex Bowman on a succession of late restarts, Kyle Larson won in two overtimes Sunday to affirm his status as a contender for a third series championship.



Kyle Larson, driver of the #5 HendrickCars.com Chevrolet, takes the checkered flag to win the Cup Series Enjoy Illinois 300 at WWT Raceway in Madison, Illinois, on Sunday. (Jeff Curry/Getty)

Larson emerges from the chaos with big Playoff win

MADISON, Ill.—In a cauldron of chaos, with Chase drivers wrecking and brake rotors exploding through the bodies of Cup Series cars, Kyle Larson's 51-race winless streak ended Sunday at World Wide Technology Raceway at Gateway.

Holding off pole winner Joey Logano and Hendrick Motorsports teammate Alex Bowman on a succession of late restarts, Larson won the Enjoy Illinois 300 in two overtimes to affirm his status as a contender for a third series championship.

With top seed Denny Hamlin running ninth after a problematic pit stop on Lap 199 of 247, Larson, defending series champion, gained five positions to second in the Chase standings, nine points behind Hamlin.

The victory was the first for the driver of the No. 5 Chevrolet since May 11, 2025, at Kansas Speedway. Larson, who led 80 laps and won the second stage, prevailed for the first time at WWT Raceway and for the 33rd time in his career.

In a race that featured a track-record 18 cautions for 87 laps, Larson passed Logano to the inside moments after a Lap 228 restart that followed a four-car wreck involving Chase drivers Bubba Wallace, Christopher Bell and Tyler Reddick.

Three more cautions and two attempts at overtime later, Larson took the checkered flag 0.333 seconds ahead of Bowman, who grabbed the second position from Logano on a Lap 242 restart.

Larson had superior speed at the end of the race, thanks to a four-tire call by Larson himself on the team's final stop on Lap 203. Logano's crew chief, Paul Wolfe, opted for right-side tires on the No. 22 Ford's last trip to pit road, and Larson's tire advantage, along with strong pushes from Bowman on consecutive restarts, proved decisive.

"Just proud of my team for working so hard, being so patient through all the tough times, the winless streak, all that," said Larson, who ended a nine-race drought for Chevrolet. "Thanks to the fans, my fans, for also being patient with us, letting us get it figured out.

"How about Hendrick Motorsports? Alex Bowman, can't ask for a better teammate than him. Gave me the pushes I needed to get clear. Want to dedicate this win to him—and his dog just passed away a couple days ago."

Bowman, who will retire from full-time Cup racing after next season, executed a

solid race, avoiding the pitfalls that caused consternation among other competitors.

"Yeah, super happy for Kyle. Was a really hard weekend just to get on the plane and be here," Bowman said. "So, yeah, ready to go home. But proud of everybody on this Ally 48 team for helping me through the weekend. Yeah, life is hard sometimes.

"Yeah, I lost my best friend, so just ready to go home."

Logano, who led a race-high 96 laps and finished third, had mixed feelings about the outcome for the No. 22 Team Penske Ford.

"The restart where Larson took the lead—that's where I lost it obviously," Logano said. "He just rolled the bottom really good and cleared me, which is really surprising.

"His first, like, three laps of every run was pretty spectacular. You had a bunch of three-lap runs there at the end. Once he got there, then the 48 (Bowman) got there. Had no homies with me. No more friends. On my own..."

Logano, who won the first stage and finished second in Stage 2, leaves Greater St. Louis seventh in the Chase standings, having trimmed his deficit to Hamlin from 72 points to 51.

William Byron recovered from a Lap 141 accident to finish fourth, with Ross Chastain in fifth posing his second top five of the season. Austin Dillon was sixth, followed by Connor Zilisch, Carson Hocevar, Hamlin and Austin Cindric.

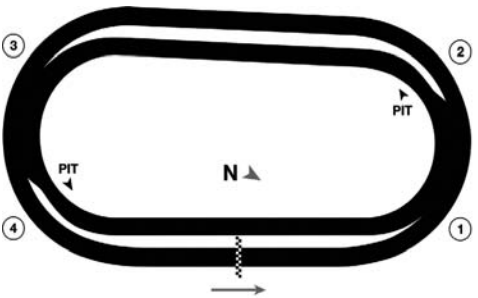
If Logano was somewhat disappointed with his third-place result, his dissatisfaction paled in comparison with the calamities that befell a succession of Chase drivers. Ryan Blaney blew a brake rotor and fell out in 35th place, falling 33 points behind Hamlin.

Five Chase drivers—Blaney, Daniel Suarez, Chris Buescher, Chase Elliott and Chase Briscoe—had gone to the garage before the race ended. Buescher and Elliott both suffered from exploding rotors, with Elliott collecting Briscoe after his No. 9 Chevrolet spiraled out of control.

Bell, last Sunday's winner at Darlington Raceway, finished 19th and fell one spot to third in the standings, 18 points behind Hamlin.

The bottom five drivers in the Chase standings—Byron, Cindric, Buescher, Ryan Preece and Suarez—all are more than 100 points out of first place and losing touch with the top contenders, although there are eight races left before the title is decided.

PLAYOFF 3: BASS PRO NIGHT RACE



Bristol Motor Speedway
7:30 p.m. ET Sunday, USA

- **Location:** 151 Speedway Boulevard, Bristol, Tennessee
- **Capacity:** 146,000
- **Owner:** Speedway Motorsports (January 1996–present)
- **Opened:** July 23, 1961
- **Course:** Oval (1961-present)
- **Surface:** Concrete
- **Length:** 0.533 mi (0.858 km)
- **Turns:** 4
- **Banking:** Turns, 24–28°; Straights, 4–8°
- **Fastest Cup lap:** 0:14.945; Kyle Larson, Chevrolet SS, 2018
- **Nicknames:** World's Fastest Half-Mile
The Last Great Colosseum
Thunder Valley
Holy Grail of Short Tracks



Earlier this year at Bristol, Ty Gibbs beat Ryan Blaney to the finish line by 0.055 seconds to claim his first career Cup Series victory and celebrated with JGR team owner Joe Gibbs. (Getty)



2026 CUP SERIES STANDINGS			
Top 30 w/ <i>Playoff 16 as of Sept. 13</i>			
Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Denny Hamlin #11	2168	16 Daniel Suárez #7	2049
2 Kyle Larson #5	2159	17 Shane v. Gisbergen #97	630
3 Christopher Bell #20	2150	18 Brad Keselowski #6	591
4 Ryan Blaney #12	2135	19 Ross Chastain #1	560
5 Tyler Reddick #45	2126	20 Michael McDowell #71	554
6 Ty Gibbs #54	2117	21 Erik Jones #43	544
7 Joey Logano #22	2117	22 Todd Gilliland #34	502
8 Chase Briscoe #19	2109	23 AJ Allmendinger #16	499
9 Carson Hocevar #77	2080	24 Austin Dillon #3	474
10 Bubba Wallace #23	2078	25 Zane Smith #38	468
11 Chase Elliott #9	2075	26 Josh Berry #21	463
12 Austin Cindric #2	2060	27 Alex Bowman #48	454
13 Chris Buescher #17	2057	28 John H. Nemechek #42	453
14 Ryan Preece #60	2055	29 Ricky Stenhouse Jr. #47	443
15 William Byron #24	2054	30 Riley Herbst #35	412

2026 O'REILLY AUTO PARTS STANDINGS			
Top 20 w/ <i>Playoff 12 as of Sept. 12</i>			
Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Sheldon Creed #00	2175	11 Taylor Gray #54	2089
2 Justin Allgaier #7	2172	12 Rajah Caruth #88	2057
3 Carson Kvapil #1	2166	13 Brent Crews #19	668
4 Jesse Love #2	2159	14 William Sawalich #18	638
5 Austin Hill #21	2114	15 Ryan Sieg #39	612
6 Sam Mayer #41	2114	16 Anthony Alfredo #96	574
7 Sammy Smith #8	2111	17 Brennan Poole #44	491
8 Corey Day #17	2106	18 Dane Thompson #26	479
9 Brandon Jones #20	2099	19 Jeremy Clements #51	422
10 Parker Retzlaff #99	2092	20 Harrison Burton #24	419

NEXT RACE: FOOD CITY 300, Bristol Motor Speedway, 7:30 p.m. ET Friday, CW

2026 CRAFTSMAN TRUCK STANDINGS			
Top 20 w/ <i>Playoff 10 as of August 22</i>			
Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Layne Riggs #34	2100	11 Stewart Friesen #52	408
2 Kade Honeycutt #11	2075	12 Jake Garcia #98	404
3 Chandler Smith #38	2065	13 Brenden Queen #12	364
4 Christian Eckes #91	2060	14 A. Perez De Lara #44	355
5 Gio Ruggiero #17	2055	15 Justin Haley #16	352
6 Ty Majeski #88	2050	16 Tanner Gray #15	351
7 Grant Enfinger #9	2045	17 Corey Heim #5	346
8 Daniel Hemric #19	2040	18 Dawson Sutton #27	283
9 Ben Rhodes #99	2035	19 Cole Butler #13	268
10 Tyler Ankrum #18	2030	20 Mini Tyrell #14	255

NEXT RACE: UNOH 250, Bristol Motor Speedway, 8 p.m. ET Thursday, FS1

BONUS O'REILLY PIC

Jesse Love, driver of the #2 Whelen Chevrolet, drapes an "8" flag in honor of the late Kyle Busch on his car after winning Saturday's Nu Way 225 Powered by Bobcat and Sauced by Blues Hog at WWT Raceway in Madison, Illinois. **G. Graythen/Getty**

WWT WINNER QUOTE

"Just proud of my team for working so hard, being so patient through all the tough times, the winless streak, all that. Thanks to the fans, my fans, for also being patient with us, letting us get it figured out,

— Kyle Larson, who grabbed his first Cup win of the season in Sunday's Playoff race at WWT Raceway

Kyle Larson in Victory Lane Sunday at WWT Raceway.

AMY KONTRAS/GETTY

2026 CUP SCHEDULE & WINNERS			
FEB. 4, 3 PM, FOX: Cook Out Clash at Bowman Gray (R. Preece)	MARCH 22, 3 PM, FS1: Goodyear 400 at Darlington (T. Reddick)	JUNE 14, 3 PM, PRIME: Great American Getaway 400 at Pocono (D. Hamlin)	PLAYOFFS ROUND OF 16
FEB. 12, 7 PM, FS1: America 250 Florida Duel 1 at DAYTONA (J. Logano)	MARCH 29, 3:30 PM, FS1: Cook Out 400 at Martinsville (C. Elliott)	JUNE 21, 4 PM, PRIME: Anduril 250 at Naval Base Coronado (C. Heim)	SEPT. 6, 5 PM, USA: Southern 500 at Darlington (C. Bell)
FEB. 12, 8:45 PM, FS1: America 250 Florida Duel 2 at DAYTONA (C. Elliott)	APRIL 12, 3 PM, FS1: Food City 500 at Bristol (T. Gibbs)	JUNE 28, 3:30 PM, TNT: Toyota/Save Mart 350 at Sonoma (S. v. Gisbergen)	SEPT. 13, 3 PM, USA: Enjoy Illinois 300 at World Wide Tech (K. Larson)
FEB. 15, 2:30 PM, FOX: DAYTONA 500 (T. Reddick)	APRIL 19, 2 PM, FOX: AdventHealth 400 at Kansas (T. Reddick)	JULY 5, 6 PM, TNT: eero 400 at Chicagoland Speedway (C. Briscoe)	SEPT. 19, 7:30 PM, USA: Bass Pro Shops Night Race at Bristol (C. Bell)
FEB. 22, 3 PM FOX: Autotrader 400 at Echopark Atlanta (T. Reddick)	APRIL 26, 3 PM, FOX: Jack Link's 500 at Talladega (C. Hocevar)	JULY 12, 7 PM, TNT: Quaker State 400 at Echopark Atlanta (R. Blaney)	PLAYOFFS ROUND OF 12
MARCH 1, 3:30 PM, FOX: Duramax Grand Prix at COTA (TX) (T. Reddick)	MAY 3, 3:30 PM, FS1: Würth 400 at Texas (C. Elliott)	JULY 19, 7 PM, TNT: Window World 400 at North Wilkesboro (J. Logano)	SEPT. 27, 3 PM, USA: Hollywood Casino 400 at Kansas (C. Elliott)
MARCH 8, 3:30 PM, FS1: Straight Talk Wireless 500 at Phoenix (R. Blaney)	MAY 10, 3 PM, FS1: Go Bowling at the Glen at Watkins Glen (S. v. Gisbergen)	JULY 26, 2 PM, TNT: Brickyard 400 at Indianapolis (C. Heim)	OCT. 4, 5:30 PM, USA: South Point 400 at Las Vegas (D. Hamlin)
MARCH 15, 4 PM, FS1: Pennzoil 400 at Las Vegas (D. Hamlin)	MAY 17, 3 PM, FS1: NASCAR All-Star Race at Dover (D. Hamlin)	AUG. 9, 3:30 PM, USA: Iowa Corn 350 at Iowa (T. Gibbs)	OCT. 11, 3 PM, USA: BoFA ROVAL 400 at Charlotte (S. v. Gisbergen)
	MAY 24, 6 PM, PRIME: Coca-Cola 600 at Charlotte (D. Saurer)	AUG. 15, 7 PM, USA: Cook Out 400 at Richmond (J. Logano)	PLAYOFFS ROUND OF 8
	MAY 31, 7 PM, PRIME: Cracker Barrel 400 at Nashville (D. Hamlin)	AUG. 23, 3 PM, USA: Dollar Tree 301 at New Hampshire (R. Blaney)	OCT. 18, 3 PM, USA: Freeway Insurance 500 at Phoenix (New)
	JUNE 7, 3 PM, PRIME: FireKeepers Casino 400 at Michigan (D. Hamlin)	AUG. 29, 7:30 PM, NBC: Coke Zero Sugar 400 at Daytona (R. Preece)	OCT. 25, 2 PM, NBC: YellaWood 500 at Talladega (C. Briscoe)
			NOV. 1, 2 PM, NBC: Xfinity 500 at Martinsville (W. Byron)
			PLAYOFFS CHAMPIONSHIP 4
			NOV. 8, 3 PM, NBC: Championship at Miami (K. Larson title; R. Blaney race)

2025 winners in parenthesis; 2026 winners in bold as the schedule unfolds; times ET

Classifieds

Yard/Estate Sales

Yard Sale: Fri 1-6pm, Sat 8a - 2pm. 326 Champion Dr. Lights, X-mas Decor, HH Misc

Real Estate

For Rent/Lease

For Rent: 2 and 3 Bedroom. Located in East Dublin. No Pets! 478-272-8090

Legals

Legals

26-428
State of Georgia
County of Laurens
Notice is hereby given that the property of each and all persons listed below will be sold at public auction, separately and individually, on Monday, October 5, 2026 starting at 10 AM. In case of inclement weather, sale will be held on Tuesday, October 6, 2026 at 10 AM.

Mark Collins, Unit W-06;
Dale R Colman, Unit L-10;
David Deese, Unit F-11;
Lorisa Ferren, Unit G-03;
Kenneth Lewis, Uit Y-22.

Property is located at Garner’s U Store, Incorporated, 1321 North Jefferson Street, and 1687 Highway 441 North, Dublin, Georgia, 31021. Each unit, starting first at 1321 N Jefferson Street, will be sold at public auction to the highest and best bidder for cash at 10AM on above date, at the above premises. All contents of each and every person and every unit will be sold as a unit. The contents are personal items such as, but not necessarily limited to household items, personal items, furniture, and other items. You may call 478-272-3724 for more detailed information.

September 12, 19, 2026

26-408
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
State of Georgia
County of Laurens
All creditors of the Estate of Jack Ralph Spearing, deceased, late of Laurens County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the Estate of Jack Ralph Spearing.
This 25th day of August, 2026.
Bradley Kyle Spearing
Administrator of the Estate of Jack Ralph Spearing
Darley Law Firm
121 W. Jackson Street, Ste 101
Dublin, Georgia 31021
September 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026

26-387
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF Laurens COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE of Anne Whiddon Kirkland, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 26-153
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE
TO: James Jeffrey Kirkland III and Kristen Blair Kirkland Rutherford and to whom it may concern:
Douglas Randolph Kirkland and John Owen Kirkland has petitioned to be appointed administrator(s) of the estate of Anne Whiddon Kirkland 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. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
Genola O. Jackson
Judge of the Probate Court
By: CWarren
Clerk of the Probate Court
PO Box 2098
Dublin GA 31040
478-272-2566
September 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026

26-434
TANYA ROGERS, CLERK
LAURENS COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
TRADE NAME REGISTRATION
PERSONALLY APPEARED THE UNDERSIGNED WHO ON OATH DEPOSES AND SAYS THAT:
D. Least, Lost & Left Out
244 Chase Drive
478-595-2091
and
Live, Lost, Learn
244 Chase Drive
478-595-2091
IS/ARE DOING BUSINESS IN LAURENS COUNTY, GA., UNDER THE NAME OF:
D. Least, Lost & Left Out
244 /chase Drive East Dublin, GA 31027
AND THAT THE NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE CARRIED ON AT SUCH ADDRESS IS:
244 Chase Drive East dublin, GA 31027
Person making declaration
SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME THIS 15 DAY OF Sept, 2026.
Eloise Rainey Phillips
NOTARY PUBLIC
September 19, 26, 2026

26-430
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF LAURENS
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF SAID STATE AND COUNTY
In Re: ESTATE OF TERESA LYNN ROLAND
NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS
All creditors of the estate of TERESA LYNN ROLAND deceased, late of Laurens 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 9th Day of September, 2026
Cole Porter, Esq.
Attorney for the Estate of TERESA LYNN ROLAND Kight Law, LLC
306 Academy Ave., Ste. 200 Dublin, Ga. 31021

September 12, 19, 26, October 3, 2026
26-397
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF LAURENS
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF SAID STATE AND COUNTY
IN RE: ESTATE OF JOHN W. HICKS
NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS
All creditors of the estate of JOHN W. HICKS deceased, late of Laurens 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 20th Day of August, 2026
Emily F. Kight
Attorney for the Estate of JOHN W. HICKS
Kight Law, LLC
P.O. Box 2056
Dublin, Ga. 31040
August 29, September 5, 12, 19, 2026

26-424
NOTICE OF SALE
Pursuant to the official Code of Georgia Annotated Section 10-4-210 there will be a public sale at Little House Self Storage, 1854 Marion Street Dublin, on Wednesday, October 7, 2026 beginning at 10:00 A.M. The proceeds of said sale will be used first to satisfy the storage fee and expenses of the auction. Any other proceeds will be used to satisfy such creditors as present their claims in advance of sale.
#244 Joseph Sperzel
#186 Latondra Brown
#319 Quantasia Rozier
Little House Self Storage
1854 Marion Street
Dublin
478-272-6892
September 19, 2026

26-416
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF LAURENS
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
Pursuant to the power of sale contained in the Security Deed executed by ROBERT E. BOYD to BANK OF DUDLEY in the original principal amount of \$55,500.00 dated May 30, 2000, and recorded in Deed Book 1121, Page 51, Laurens County records, said Security Deed being last transferred to U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCAF ACQUISITION TRUST in Deed Book 3673, Page 236, Laurens County records, the undersigned will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, before the Courthouse door in said County, or at such other place as lawfully designated, within the legal hours of sale, on 10/6/2026, the property in said Security Deed and described as follows:
ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOT 36 OF THE FIRST LAND DISTRICT OF LAURENS COUNTY, GEORGIA, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS LOT 5 CONTAINING 1.05 ACRES OF THE CARRINGTON HEIGHTS SUBDIVISION, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED ACCORDING TO A PLAT OF SURVEY PREPARED BY BILLY FLANDERS, LAND SURVEYOR, DATED 1/23/98, AND RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 7, PAGE 627, OFFICE OF THE CLERK, LAURENS SUPERIOR COURT, WHICH PLAT IS INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE FOR A MORE PARTICULAR DESCRIPTION.
Said property being known as: **250 CARRINGTON HEIGHTS DR, DUBLIN, GA 31021**
To the best of the undersigned’s knowledge, the party or parties in possession of said property is/are ROBERT E. BOYD or tenant(s).
The debt secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due and payable because of, among other possible events of default, failure to pay the indebtedness as provided for in the Note and said Security Deed. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of sale, including attorney’s fees (notice of intent to collect attorney’s fees having been given).
Said property will be sold subject to the following: (1) any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, whether or not yet due and payable); (2) the right of redemption of any taxing authority; (3) any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property; and (4) any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above.
Said sale will be conducted subject to the following: (1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code; and (2) final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed.
The name, address, and telephone number of the individual or entity who has full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the mortgage is as follows:
Selene Finance LP
3501 Olympus Boulevard, 5th Floor,
Suite 500
Dallas, TX 75019
877-768-3759
Note that pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2, the above individual or entity is not required by law to negotiate, amend, or modify the terms of the mortgage.
THIS LAW FIRM IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED MAY BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCAF ACQUISITION TRUST,
as Attorney-in-Fact for
ROBERT E. BOYD
Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC
13010 Morris Rd., Suite 450
Alpharetta, GA 30004
Phone: 470-321-7112
Firm File No. 25-307327
September 12, 19, 26, October 3, 2026

26-419
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF BRIAN HUGH JOHNSON DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 26-157
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE
TO: whom it may concern:
Grady Hugh Johnson has petitioned to be appointed administrator(s) of the estate of Brian Hugh Johnson 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 Oct 5, 2026.

26-418
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF TIMOTHY R. MADDOX, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 26-162
All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
Genola O. Jackson
Judge of the Probate Court
By: CWarren
Clerk of the Probate Court
PO Box 2098
Dublin GA 31040
478-272-2566
September 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026

BE NOTIFIED FURTHER: All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
Genola O. Jackson
Judge of the Probate Court
By: CWarren
Clerk of the Probate Court
PO Box 2098
Dublin GA 31040
478-272-2566
September 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026

26-437
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: Monserrate Caban Vializ
CIVIL ACTION NO.: 26-CG-0696-WT
NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME
Notice is hereby given that Monserrate Caban Vializ filed a Petition to Change Name in the Superior Court of Laurens County, State of Georgia, on the 17th day of, August 2026 requesting that his name be changed from **MONSERRATE CABAN VIALIZ** to **MONTY CABAN VIALIZ**. Any interested or affected party has the right to appear and file objections to the Petition. Any objections shall be filed with the Clerk of the Superior Court of Laurens County within thirty (30) days of the filing of the Petition.
This 16th day of September, 2026.
/s/Ralph N. Jackson
RALPH N. JACKSON
Attorney for Petitioner
State Bar No. 387629
The Jackson Law Firm
1101 Bellevue Avenue
Dublin, GA 31021
Phone (478) 272-7607
Fax: (478) 272-0946
ralph@gga-laws.com
September 19, 26, October 3, 10, 2026

26-405
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER, LAURENS COUNTY
Pursuant to the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by Donnie W Barwick and Donna Barwick to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for Ally Bank Corp. f/k/a GMAC Bank, its successors and assigns, dated 8/25/2009 and recorded in Deed Book 2131 Page 179 and modified at Deed Book 3387 Page 186, and further modified at Deed Book 3534 Page 51 Laurens County, Georgia records; as last transferred to or acquired by Onity Mortgage Corporation f/k/a PHH Mortgage Corporation, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of \$131,669.00, 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 of Laurens County, Georgia (or such other area as designated by Order of the Superior Court of said county), within the legal hours of sale on October 6, 2026 (being the first Tuesday of said month unless said date falls on a Federal Holiday, in which case being the first Wednesday of said month), the following described property: The land referred to in this policy is situated in the State of Georgia, County of Laurens, City of East Dublin, and described as follows: ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE 1412TH G.M. DISTRICT OF LAURENS COUNTY, GEORGIA, BEING PART OF PARCEL NO. 3 OF THE DIVISION OF V.E. WOODARD LANDS CONTAINING 5.00 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED ON A PLAT OF SURVEY PREPARED BY MARVIN D. CLEMENTS, LAND SURVEYOR, DATED MARCH 20, 1995, AND RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 7, PAGE 255, IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY, GEORGIA, APN# 244-031 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 of intent to collect attorney’s fees having been given).
Said property is commonly known as **678 Vernon Woodard Rd, East Dublin, GA 31027** together with all fixtures and personal property attached to and constituting a part of said property, if any. To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party (or parties) in possession of the subject property is (are): Donnie W Barwick and Donna M Barwick or tenant or tenants. Onity Mortgage Corporation is the entity or individual designated, who shall have full authority to negotiate, amend and modify all terms of the mortgage. Onity Mortgage Corporation 1661 Worthington Rd Suite 100 West Palm Beach, FL 33409 (800) 750-2518 Note, however, that such entity or individual is not required by law to negotiate, amend or modify the terms of the loan. Said property will be sold subject to: (a) any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), (b) unpaid water or sewage bills that constitute a lien against the property whether due and payable or not yet due and payable and which may not be of record, (c) the right of redemption of any taxing authority, (d) any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, and (e) any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above. 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. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 9-13-172.1, which allows for certain procedures regarding the rescission of judicial and non-judicial sales in the State of Georgia, the Deed Under Power and other foreclosure documents may not be provided until final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan as provided immediately above. Onity Mortgage Corporation f/k/a PHH Mortgage Corporation as agent and Attorney in Fact for Donnie W Barwick and Donna Barwick Aldridge Pite, LLP, Six Piedmont Center, 3525 Piedmont Road, N.E., Suite 700, Atlanta, Georgia 30305, (404) 994-7400. 1017-8197A THIS LAW FIRM MAY BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. 1017-8197A
September 5, 12, 19, 26, October 3, 2026

26-405
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER, LAURENS COUNTY
Pursuant to the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by Donnie W Barwick and Donna Barwick to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for Ally Bank Corp. f/k/a GMAC Bank, its successors and assigns, dated 8/25/2009 and recorded in Deed Book 2131 Page 179 and modified at Deed Book 3387 Page 186, and further modified at Deed Book 3534 Page 51 Laurens County, Georgia records; as last transferred to or acquired by Onity Mortgage Corporation f/k/a PHH Mortgage Corporation, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of \$131,669.00, 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 of Laurens County, Georgia (or such other area as designated by Order of the Superior Court of said county), within the legal hours of sale on October 6, 2026 (being the first Tuesday of said month unless said date falls on a Federal Holiday, in which case being the first Wednesday of said month), the following described property: The land referred to in this policy is situated in the State of Georgia, County of Laurens, City of East Dublin, and described as follows: ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE 1412TH G.M. DISTRICT OF LAURENS COUNTY, GEORGIA, BEING PART OF PARCEL NO. 3 OF THE DIVISION OF V.E. WOODARD LANDS CONTAINING 5.00 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED ON A PLAT OF SURVEY PREPARED BY MARVIN D. CLEMENTS, LAND SURVEYOR, DATED MARCH 20, 1995, AND RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 7, PAGE 255, IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY, GEORGIA, APN# 244-031 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 of intent to collect attorney’s fees having been given).
Said property is commonly known as **678 Vernon Woodard Rd, East Dublin, GA 31027** together with all fixtures and personal property attached to and constituting a part of said property, if any. To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party (or parties) in possession of the subject property is (are): Donnie W Barwick and Donna M Barwick or tenant or tenants. Onity Mortgage Corporation is the entity or individual designated, who shall have full authority to negotiate, amend and modify all terms of the mortgage. Onity Mortgage Corporation 1661 Worthington Rd Suite 100 West Palm Beach, FL 33409 (800) 750-2518 Note, however, that such entity or individual is not required by law to negotiate, amend or modify the terms of the loan. Said property will be sold subject to: (a) any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), (b) unpaid water or sewage bills that constitute a lien against the property whether due and payable or not yet due and payable and which may not be of record, (c) the right of redemption of any taxing authority, (d) any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, and (e) any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above. 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. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 9-13-172.1, which allows for certain procedures regarding the rescission of judicial and non-judicial sales in the State of Georgia, the Deed Under Power and other foreclosure documents may not be provided until final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan as provided immediately above. Onity Mortgage Corporation f/k/a PHH Mortgage Corporation as agent and Attorney in Fact for Donnie W Barwick and Donna Barwick Aldridge Pite, LLP, Six Piedmont Center, 3525 Piedmont Road, N.E., Suite 700, Atlanta, Georgia 30305, (404) 994-7400. 1017-8197A THIS LAW FIRM MAY BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. 1017-8197A
September 5, 12, 19, 26, October 3, 2026

26-405
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER, LAURENS COUNTY
Pursuant to the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by Donnie W Barwick and Donna Barwick to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for Ally Bank Corp. f/k/a GMAC Bank, its successors and assigns, dated 8/25/2009 and recorded in Deed Book 2131 Page 179 and modified at Deed Book 3387 Page 186, and further modified at Deed Book 3534 Page 51 Laurens County, Georgia records; as last transferred to or acquired by Onity Mortgage Corporation f/k/a PHH Mortgage Corporation, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of \$131,669.00, 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 of Laurens County, Georgia (or such other area as designated by Order of the Superior Court of said county), within the legal hours of sale on October 6, 2026 (being the first Tuesday of said month unless said date falls on a Federal Holiday, in which case being the first Wednesday of said month), the following described property: The land referred to in this policy is situated in the State of Georgia, County of Laurens, City of East Dublin, and described as follows: ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE 1412TH G.M. DISTRICT OF LAURENS COUNTY, GEORGIA, BEING PART OF PARCEL NO. 3 OF THE DIVISION OF V.E. WOODARD LANDS CONTAINING 5.00 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED ON A PLAT OF SURVEY PREPARED BY MARVIN D. CLEMENTS, LAND SURVEYOR, DATED MARCH 20, 1995, AND RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 7, PAGE 255, IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY, GEORGIA, APN# 244-031 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 of intent to collect attorney’s fees having been given).
Said property is commonly known as **678 Vernon Woodard Rd, East Dublin, GA 31027** together with all fixtures and personal property attached to and constituting a part of said property, if any. To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party (or parties) in possession of the subject property is (are): Donnie W Barwick and Donna M Barwick or tenant or tenants. Onity Mortgage Corporation is the entity or individual designated, who shall have full authority to negotiate, amend and modify all terms of the mortgage. Onity Mortgage Corporation 1661 Worthington Rd Suite 100 West Palm Beach, FL 33409 (800) 750-2518 Note, however, that such entity or individual is not required by law to negotiate, amend or modify the terms of the loan. Said property will be sold subject to: (a) any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), (b) unpaid water or sewage bills that constitute a lien against the property whether due and payable or not yet due and payable and which may not be of record, (c) the right of redemption of any taxing authority, (d) any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, and (e) any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above. 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. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 9-13-172.1, which allows for certain procedures regarding the rescission of judicial and non-judicial sales in the State of Georgia, the Deed Under Power and other foreclosure documents may not be provided until final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan as provided immediately above. Onity Mortgage Corporation f/k/a PHH Mortgage Corporation as agent and Attorney in Fact for Donnie W Barwick and Donna Barwick Aldridge Pite, LLP, Six Piedmont Center, 3525 Piedmont Road, N.E., Suite 700, Atlanta, Georgia 30305, (404) 994-7400. 1017-8197A THIS LAW FIRM MAY BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. 1017-8197A
September 5, 12, 19, 26, October 3, 2026

26-398
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF LAURENS
NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS
All creditors of the Estate of Betty Jean Brown, deceased, late of Laurens County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned Administrators.
This the 19th day of August, 2026.
Henry Lee Brown and Aretha Brown, Co-Administrators of the Estate of Betty Jean Brown
Verna L. Smith
Attorney for Estate
P.O. Box 2014
Dublin, Georgia 31040
August 29, September 5, 12, 19, 2026

26-435
All creditors of the Estate of Betty Jean Brown, deceased, late of Laurens County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned Administrators.
This the 19th day of August, 2026.
Henry Lee Brown and Aretha Brown, Co-Administrators of the Estate of Betty Jean Brown
Verna L. Smith
Attorney for Estate
P.O. Box 2014
Dublin, Georgia 31040
August 29, September 5, 12, 19, 2026

PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE
TO: Ashlie Maddox and to whom it may concern:
Lisa Robin Schrader has petitioned for Lisa Robin Schrader to be appointed administrator(s) of the estate of Timothy R. Maddox 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. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
Genola O. Jackson
Judge of the Probate Court
By: CWarren
BILL TO” Atty. Jackson Dixon
Clerk of the Probate Court
Post Office Box 2098
Dublin, GA 31040
478-272-2566
September 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026

26-426
10076073
Notice of Sale Under Power.
State of Georgia, County of Laurens. Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Deed to Secure Debt given by Grace Simmons to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., As Grantee, As Nominee For Morris Bank, Its Successors And Assigns , dated 10/31/2016, And Recorded on 11/01/2016 as Book No. 02735 and Page No. 00250, As Affected By Modification Agreements Book 2955, Page 270, Book 3295, Page 194 And Book 3425, Page 47-55, Laurens County, Georgia records, as last assigned to Pennymac Loan Services, LLC (the Secured Creditor), by assignment, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note of even date in the original principal amount of \$195,252.00, with interest at the rate specified therein, there will be sold by the undersigned at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash at the LAURENS County Courthouse within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in October, 2026, the following described property: All That Tract Of Land, Containing 1.28 Acres, More Or Less, Being Lot 9 Of Northwood Of Dudley Subdivision, Phase II, Section I, As Shown On A Plat Of Survey By Billy Flanders, Land Surveyor, Dated October 3, 2003, And Recorded In Plat Book 8, Page 455, Laurens County Records, Which Plat Is By This Reference Incorporated. Said Lot Lies At The Corner Of The Intersection Of The Northwestern Margin Of Turner Lane In The Southeastery Margin Of Northwood Trail. The Above Property Is Conveyed Subject To Protective Covenants Which Are Recorded In Deed Book 954, Page 244, Deed Book 1380, Page 173, Deed Book 1383, Page 11, And Deed Book 1385, Page 71, Laurens County Records. This Is A Portion Of That Property Conveyed To Thomas M. Veal In A Warranty Deed From Milrock Farm, Inc. And Recorded In Deed Book 1691, Pages 34, Aforesaid Records. The debt secured by said Deed to Secure Debt has been and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of default, failure to pay the indebtedness as and when due and in the manner provided in the Note and Deed to Secure Debt. Because the debt remains in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, as provided in the Deed to Secure Debt and by law, including attorney’s fees (notice of intent to collect attorney’s fees having been given).
Pennymac Loan Services, LLC holds the duly endorsed Note and is the current assignee of the Security Deed to the property. Pennymac Loan Services, LLC, acting on behalf of and, as necessary, in consultation with Pennymac Loan Services, LLC (the current investor on the loan), is the entity with the full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the loan. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2, Pennymac Loan Services, LLC may be contacted at: Pennymac Loan Services, LLC, 3043 Townsgate Road, Suite 200, Westlake Village, CA 91361, 866-549-3583. Please note that, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2, the secured creditor is not required to amend or modify the terms of the loan. To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party/parties in possession of the subject property known as **303 West End Lane, Dudley, Georgia 31022** is/are: GRACE SIMMONS or tenant/tenants. Said property will be sold subject to (a) any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), (b) any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, and (c) all matters of record superior to the Deed to Secure Debt first set out above, including, but not limited to, assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, easements, restrictions, covenants, etc. The sale will be conducted subject to (1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code; and (2) final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the security deed. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 9-13-172.1, which allows for certain procedures regarding the rescission of judicial and nonjudicial sales in the State of Georgia, the Deed Under Power and other foreclosure documents may not be provided until final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan as provided in the preceding paragraph. Pennymac Loan Services, LLC as Attorney in Fact for Grace Simmons. This Law Firm Is Acting As A Debt Collector Attempting To Collect A Debt. Any Information Obtained Will Be Used For That Purpose. 00000010076073 Barrett Daffin Frappier Turner & Engel, LLP 4004 Belt Line Road, Suite 100 Addison, Texas 75001 Telephone: (972) 341-5398
September 19, 2026

26-427
10364222
Notice of Sale Under Power.
State of Georgia, County of Dougherty. Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Deed to Secure Debt given by Tracy R Sapp to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., As Grantee, As Nominee For Homestar Financial Corp, Its Successors And Assigns , dated 08/26/2016, And Recorded on 08/29/2016 as Book No. 4348 and Page No. 108-19, As Affected By Modification Book 4580, Page 146-157, Dougherty County, Georgia records, as last assigned to Pennymac Loan Services, LLC (the Secured Creditor), by assignment, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note of even date in the original principal amount of \$87,362.00, with interest at the rate specified therein, there will be sold by the undersigned at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash at the Dougherty County Courthouse within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in October, 2026, the following described property: All That Tract Or Parcel Of Land Lying And Being In Dougherty County, Georgia And Being More Particularly Described As Follows: All Of Lot 113 Of Westwood Subdivision, Section Three According To A Map Or Plat Of Said Subdivision As Recorded In Plat Book 4, Page 88 (Plat Cabinet 1, Slide B-30) In The Office Of The Clerk Of Superior Court Of Dougherty County, Georgia. The debt secured by said Deed to Secure Debt has been and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of default, failure to pay the indebtedness as and when due and in the manner provided in the Note and Deed to Secure Debt. Because the debt remains in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, as provided in the Deed to Secure Debt and by law, including attorney’s fees (notice of intent to collect attorney’s fees having been given).
Pennymac Loan Services, LLC holds the duly endorsed Note and is the current assignee of the Security Deed to the property. Pennymac Loan Services, LLC, acting on behalf of and, as necessary, in consultation with Pennymac Loan Services, LLC (the current investor on the loan), is the entity with the full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the loan. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2, Pennymac Loan Services, LLC may be contacted at: Pennymac Loan Services, LLC, 3043 Townsgate Road, Suite 200, Westlake Village, CA 91361, 866-549-3583. Please note that, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2, the secured creditor is not required to amend or modify the terms of the loan. To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party/parties in possession of the subject property known as **303 West End Lane, Dudley, Georgia 31022** is/are: GRACE SIMMONS or tenant/tenants. Said property will be sold subject to (a) any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), (b) any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, and (c) all matters of record superior to the Deed to Secure Debt first set out above, including, but not limited to, assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, easements, restrictions, covenants, etc. The sale will be conducted subject to (1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code; and (2) final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the security deed. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 9-13-172.1, which allows for certain procedures regarding the rescission of judicial and nonjudicial sales in the State of Georgia, the Deed Under Power and other foreclosure documents may not be provided until final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan as provided in the preceding paragraph. Pennymac Loan Services, LLC as Attorney in Fact for Grace Simmons. This Law Firm Is Acting As A Debt Collector Attempting To Collect A Debt. Any Information Obtained Will Be Used For That Purpose. 00000010076073 Barrett Daffin Frappier Turner & Engel, LLP 4004 Belt Line Road, Suite 100 Addison, Texas 75001 Telephone: (972) 341-5398
September 12, 19, 26, October 3, 2026

26-398
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF LAURENS
NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS
All creditors of the Estate of Betty Jean Brown, deceased, late of Laurens County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned Administrators.
This the 19th day of August, 2026.
Henry Lee Brown and Aretha Brown, Co-Administrators of the Estate of Betty Jean Brown
Verna L. Smith
Attorney for Estate
P.O. Box 2014
Dublin, Georgia 31040
August 29, September 5, 12, 19, 2026

26-435
All creditors of the Estate of Betty Jean Brown, deceased, late of Laurens County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned Administrators.
This the 19th day of August, 2026.
Henry Lee Brown and Aretha Brown, Co-Administrators of the Estate of Betty Jean Brown
Verna L. Smith
Attorney for Estate
P.O. Box 2014
Dublin, Georgia 31040
August 29, September 5, 12, 19, 2026

26-435
All creditors of the Estate of Betty Jean Brown, deceased, late of Laurens County, Georgia, are

"...Every personal representative shall, within 60 days from the date of qualification, publish a notice directed generally to all of the creditors of the estate to render an account of their demands. The notice shall be published once a week for four weeks in the official newspaper of the county in which the personal representative qualified..."

September 12, 19, 26, October 3, 2026

26-401
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF
Laurens County
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF John W. Hicks
DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 26-756
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINIS-
TRATION NOTICE

TO: whom it may concern:
Rickey Montford has petitioned to be appointed administrator(s) of the estate of **John W. Hicks** 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 October 5, 2026.

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

Genola O. Jackson
Judge of the Probate Court
By: CWarren
Clerk of the Probate Court
PO BOX 2098
Dublin, GA 31040
478-272-2566

September 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026

26-429
State of Georgia
County of Laurens.

Notice to Debtors and Creditors
All creditors of the Estate of Donald R. Fordham, Sr., late of Laurens County, Georgia, deceased, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law; and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.
This 9th day of September, 2026, Estate of Donald R. Fordham, Sr. Richard Lee Fordham, Executor
PO Box 1534
Dublin, GA 31040

Margaret Greer Evans

Attorney at Law

State Bar No. 488189
(478) 272-2885
September 12, 19, 26, October 3, 2026

26-371
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER IN
SECURITY DEED
GEORGIA, LAURENS COUNTY.

By virtue of the power of sale contained in the SECURITY DEED given by **RICKY ALAN RICKS, JR. to CITIZENS BANK OF LAURENS COUNTY** dated July 16, 2024, and recorded in Deed Book 3495, Page 187, in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Laurens County, Ga., conveying the below-described property, to secure that certain Promissory Note given by Ricky Alan Ricks, Jr. to Citizens Bank of Laurens County in the original principal amount of \$113,028.00 with interest thereon as set forth therein, there will be sold by the undersigned at public outcry to the highest bidder before the Courthouse Door at Laurens County, Georgia, within the legal hours of sale, on the first Tuesday in October, 2026, the following described property:

Property 1:
All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in Land Lot 20, in the 1682nd G.M. District, in the City of Cadwell, in the 17th Land District of Laurens County, Georgia, described as containing 0.35 acres, more or less, as more particularly described by reference to a plat of survey made by Brent E. Tanner, Registered Land Surveyor, Tanner & Associates, dated April 20, 2024, and recorded in Plat Book 12, Page 935, Laurens County Records. Said plat and the description are by reference incorporated herein and made a part hereof for a more accurate description.
Subject to covenants, restrictions, reservations and easements of record.
For Information Only:
Property Address: 2768 Walnut Ave., Cadwell, GA 31009
Map/Parcel: A Portion of 060D/064
Property 2:
All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in the Town of Cadwell, Laurens County, Georgia, located on the northern margin of Burch Drive, and more particularly described as follows;

BEGINNING at an iron pin on the northern margin of Burch Drive a distance of 225.0 feet southeasterly from the center of Dexter Street; thence running in a northeasterly direction a distance of 206.7 feet to an iron pin; thence running in a southeasterly directions a distance of 88.0 feet to an iron pin; thence running in a southeasterly direction a distance of 207.0 feet to an iron pin located on the northern margin of Burch Drive a distance of 88.0 feet to an iron pin, the point of beginning. Said property is improved with a one story residence and is further described and delineated on a plat of survey prepared by Jack C. Brantley, Land Surveyor, dated March 4, 1961, recorded in Deed Book 190, Page 219, records of the Clerk of Superior Court of Laurens County, Georgia, which plat is incorporated herein for a more particular description of the property.
Subject to covenants, restrictions, reservations and easements of record.
For Information Only:
Property Address: 1000 Burch Street, Cadwell, GA 31009
Map/Parcel: 060D/080
THE ABOVE PROPERTY IS LOCATED AT: 2768 WALNUT AVE., CADWELL, GA 31009 AND 1000 BURCH STREET, CADWELL, GA 31009.
To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the person or persons who may be in the possession of such property is Ricky Alan Ricks, Jr.
The debt secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of default, failure to make payments in accordance with the terms of said Promissory Note. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same, and all expenses of sale, including attorney's fees.
Said property will be sold subject to all outstanding ad valorem taxes and/or assessments and/or restrictions and/or zoning ordinances and/or covenants; matters that may be disclosed by an accurate survey and/or inspection of the property; and matters of record superior to the Security Deed.

Notice has been given of intention to collect attorney's fees in accordance with the terms of the Promissory Note secured by the property.
Additionally, this sale will be conducted subject to (1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U. S. Bankruptcy Code and (2) final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed.
THIS LAW FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. The name, address, and telephone number of the individual or entity who shall have full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the Security Deed is Mr. Kory Tokar, Senior Vice President, Citizens Bank of Laurens County, 101 West Jackson Street, Dublin, Georgia 31021, 478-272-7775.

Citizens Bank of Laurens County
Attorney-in-Fact for
Ricky Alan Ricks, Jr.

Edward B. Claxton III
Attorney at Law
P. O. Box 16459
Dublin, Georgia 31040
478-272-9965
ebcatty@bellsouth.net
September 12, 19, 26, October 3, 2026

26-406
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
GEORGIA, Laurens County

By virtue of a Power of Sale contained in that certain Security Deed from NELSON E AMMERMAN to BANK OF DUDLEY dated 06/27/2005, recorded 06/28/2005 in Book 1672 at page 162, and Loan Modification Agreement recorded on 04/06/2016 in Book 2686 at page 219, Laurens County, Georgia Records, said Security Deed having been given to secure a Note of even date in the original principal amount of One Hundred Sixty-Seven Thousand Three Hundred Seventy-Five and 00/100 Dollars (\$167,375.00), with interest thereon as provided for therein, said Security Deed having been last sold, assigned and transferred to Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, as Trustee for the benefit of the Freddie Mac Seasoned Loans Structured Transaction Trust, Series 2020-2, there will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash at the Laurens County, **During the legal hours of sale before the door of the courthouse of Laurens County, Georgia, or at such place as may be lawfully designated as an alternative,** within the legal hours of sale on the **10/06/2026**, all property described in said Security Deed including but not limited to the following described property:

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOT 32 IN THE 1ST LAND DISTRICT OF LAURENS COUNTY, GEORGIA, CONTAINING 1.264 ACRES, DESIGNATED AS LOT 13 OF PINEGROVE SUBDIVISION, AS DESCRIBED BY THAT PLAT OF SURVEY PREPARED BY BILLY FLANDERS & ASSOCIATES, SURVEYORS, DATED MARCH 20, 2002 AND RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 8, PAGE 256, IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY, GEORGIA, WHICH PLAT IS INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE FOR MORE COMPLETE DESCRIPTION. SAID TRACT IS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: TO FIND THE POINT OF BEGINNING, COMMENCE AT THE INTERSECTION OF THE NORTH-EASTERLY RIGHT OF WAY OF PINEHILL ROAD WITH THE NORTHWESTERLY RIGHT OF WAY OF COUNTY ROAD 474, AND RUN THENCE ALONG THE RIGHT OF WAY OF PINEHILL ROAD IN A NORTHWESTERLY DIRECTION A DISTANCE OF 505.29 FEET TO AN IRON PIN AND THE POINT OF BEGINNING; RUN THENCE ALONG THE RIGHT OF WAY OF PINEHILL ROAD, NORTH 64 DEGREES 46 MINUTES 59 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 205.06 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; RUN THENCE NORTH 28 DEGREES 00 MINUTES 16 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 265.52 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; RUN THENCE SOUTH 49 DEGREES 00 MINUTES 00 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 88.64 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; RUN THENCE SOUTH 49 DEGREES 00 MINUTES 00 SECONDS EAST A DISTANCE OF 186.13 FEET TO AN IRON PIN; RUN THENCE SOUTH 45 DEGREES 59 MINUTES 37 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 203.72 FEET TO AN IRON PIN AND THE POINT OF BEGINNING. SAID TRACT IS BOUNDED, NOW OR FORMERLY AS FOLLOWS: NORTHWEST BY LOT 14; NORTHEAST BY LOTS 11 AND 12; SOUTHEAST BY LANDS OF ROY AND ELMA WILLIAMS (SHOWN AS "OUT" ON THE SUBDIVISION PLAT); AND SOUTHWEST BY PINEHILL ROAD. THIS IS A PORTION OF THE LANDS CONVEYED FROM MRS. ROBERTA VEAL BURCH AND BEN C. BURCH TO JAMES ROY MALONE, SR., BY DEED DATED JANUARY 17, 1973, AND RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 306, LAURENS COUNTY RECORDS. SAID TRACT IS SUBJECT TO THAT DECLARATION OF PROTECTIVE COVENANTS DATED DECEMBER 16, 1993, AND RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 733, PAGE 345-347, LAURENS COUNTY DEED RECORDS.

Said legal description being controlling, however the property is more commonly known as **290 PINEHILL RD, DUBLIN, GA 31021.**

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

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

To the best of the knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the owner and party in possession of the property is NELSON E AMMERMAN, or tenants(s).

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

The entity having full authority to negotiate, amend and modify all terms of the loan (although not required by law to do so) is: Select Portfolio Servicing, Inc., Loss Mitigation Dept., PO Box 65250 Salt Lake City, UT 84165-0250 Telephone Number: (888) 818-6032. Nothing in O.C.G.A. Section 44-14-162.2 shall be construed to require a secured creditor to negotiate, amend, or modify the terms of the mortgage instrument.

Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, as Trustee for the benefit of the Freddie Mac Seasoned Loans Structured Transaction Trust, Series 2020-2

as Attorney in Fact for
NELSON E AMMERMAN
THE BELOW FIRM MAY BE HELD TO BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR, UNDER FEDERAL LAW. IF SO, ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Contact: Premium Title Services, Inc.,
114 Mesa Park Drive, Suite 100, El Paso, TX 79912
Telephone Number: (866) 337-7097 Case No. TS No.: 2026-00056-GA-SPS
https://www.altisource.com/LoginPage.aspx

September 12, 19, 26, October 3, 2026

26-438
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF LAURENS
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF SAID STATE AND COUNTY
IN RE: ESTATE OF KAY F. HUTCHESON SMITH
NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS

All creditors of the estate of KAY F. HUTCHESON SMITH deceased, late of Laurens 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 16th day of September, 2026
Emily F. Kight
Attorney for the Estate of
KAY F. HUTCHESON SMITH Kight Law, LLC
P.O. Box 2056
Dublin, Ga. 31040

September 19, 26, October 3, 10, 2026

26-433
Request for Proposals for Coordinated Transportation Services
The Heart of Georgia Altamaha Regional Commission (HOGARC) is accepting proposals for DHS Coordinated Transportation services for Appling, Bleckley, Candler, Dodge, Emanuel, Evans, Jeff Davis, Johnson, Laurens, Montgomery, Tattnall, Telfair, Toombs, Treutlen, Wayne, Wheeler, and Wilcox counties. The transportation services will involve transporting Department of Human Services clients to various destinations within the DHS Service Delivery Region 9. The average volume per year is approximately 80,648 trips, and transportation providers interested in submitting proposals for this project must have the resources on hand to accommodate this trip load. To obtain the Request for Proposal Package, visit the HOGARC website at (<https://www.hogarc.org>) and navigate to Opportunities. All proposals are due to the Heart of Georgia Altamaha Regional Commission no later than 4:00 p.m. on November 13, 2026.

September 19, 26, 2026

26-390
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: Brian Keith Dyar, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 26-155
NOTICE OF PETITION TO FILE FOR YEAR'S SUPPORT

The petition of Julie Stewart Dyar, for a year's support from the estate of Brian Keith Dyar, deceased, for decedent's surviving spouse, having been duly filed, all interested persons are hereby notified to show cause, if any they have, on or before October 5, 2026, why said petition should not be granted.

All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed on or before the time stated in the preceding sentence. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed the petition may be granted without a hearing.
Genola O. Jackson
Judge of the Probate Court
By: CWarren
Clerk of the Probate Court
PO Box 2098 Dublin, GA 31040
478-272-2566

September 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026

26-417
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF JACOB BLAKE WILKERSON, DECEASED
ESTATE NO.
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO: JERRY WILKERSON and to whom it may concern:
JAN CORBIN has petitioned to be appointed administrator(s) of the estate of JACOB BLAKE WILKERSON 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 Oct 5, 2026.

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

Genola O. Jackson
Judge of the Probate Court
By: Cwarren
Clerk of the Probate Court
PO BOX 2098
Dublin GA 31040
478-272-2566

September 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026

26-432
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF SELENA VICTORIA POPE, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 26-148
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO: and to whom it may concern:
MATTHEW STEVEN POPE has petitioned to be appointed administrator(s) of the estate of SELENA VICTORIA POPE 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 October 19 2026

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

Genola O. Jackson
Judge of the Probate Court
By: C Warren
Clerk of the Probate Court
PO Box 2098
Dublin, GA 31040
478-272-2566

September 19, 26, October 3, 10, 2026

26-412
re: kenneth hunter
210 washington street
dublin, ga 31021
map/parcel:d16b 134
Notice of Foreclosure of Rights to Redemption

Take notice that:
The right to redeem the following described property, to wit:

All and only that parcel of land designated as D16B 134, in the 1st Land District, City of Dublin, Laurens County, Georgia, containing 0.12 acre, more or less, being a portion of Lot 15, Section 14, Block 32, described in Deed Book 3369, Page 119, the description contained therein being incorporated herein by this reference, known as 210 Washington Street.
will expire and be forever foreclosed and barred on and after the 30th day of October, 2026.

The tax deed to which this notice relates is dated the 5th day of August, 2025, and is recorded in the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Laurens County, Georgia, in Deed Book 3622, at page 64.

The property may be redeemed at any time before the 30th day of October, 2026, by payment of the redemption price as fixed and provided by law to the undersigned at the following address:
Dublin-Laurens Land Bank
Attn: Cole Porter, Esq.
306 Academy Avenue
Suite 200
Dublin, GA 31021
Cole Porter, Esq.
Attorney for the Dublin-Laurens Land Bank

September 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026

26-413
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER CONTAINED IN SECURITY DEED STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY OF LAURENS Pursuant to a power of sale contained in a certain security deed executed by CARRIE A SASNETT and TIMOTHY E SASNETT, hereinafter referred to as Grantor, to The United States of America acting through the Rural Housing Service or successor agency, United States Department of Agriculture, its successors and assigns, dated July 29, 2021, and recorded on July 29, 2021 in Deed Book 3192, beginning at page 222, of the deed records of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Laurens County, Georgia, and by virtue of a default under the terms of said security deed, and the related note, the undersigned attorney-in-fact for the aforesaid Grantor (which attorney-in-fact is the present holder of said security deed and note secured thereby) will sell at public outcry before the door of the courthouse in Laurens County, Georgia, or at such place as has or may be lawfully designated as an alternative location, within the legal hours of sale, for cash, to the highest bidder on the first Tuesday in October, 2026, all property described in said security deed including but not limited to the following described property: All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in the 1309th G.M. District of Laurens County, Georgia, containing 0.96 acre, more or less, and being more particularly described according to a plat of survey prepared by Marvin D. Clements, Land Surveyor, dated August 19, 2005, and recorded in Deed Book 8, Page 815B, Laurens County Records. The courses and distances of said plat are incorporated herein and made a part hereof. Said property may more commonly be known as **1519 OLD LOVETT ROAD, E DUBLIN, GA 31027** Said property will be sold on an "as-is" basis without any representation, warranty or recourse against the above-named or the undersigned. The sale will be subject to the following items which may affect the title: any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien but not yet due and payable); any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property; any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, and all other matters of record superior to the said Security Deed. The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed.

United States of America, acting through the Rural Housing Service, its successors and assigns, United States Department of Agriculture is the entity with full authority to negotiate, amend and modify the terms of the Note and Security Deed, and it may be contacted at: Address: P.O. Box 66889, St. Louis, MO 63166 Phone: 1-800-414-1226 To the best of the undersigned's knowledge and belief, the party in possession of the property is believed to be CARRIE A SASNETT and TIMOTHY E SASNETT, or tenant(s).
United States of America, acting through the Rural Housing Service, its successors and assigns, United States Department of Agriculture, as Transferee, Assignee, and Secured Creditor As attorney-in-fact for the aforesaid Grantor Please note that if any borrower or obligor has received a discharge in a bankruptcy case filed under Title 11 of the United States Code, no personal liability will arise from this foreclosure action against that individual. This foreclosure action is being pursued solely against the real property to enforce the lien created by the Security Instrument. Respectfully, Marinosci Law Group, P.C. 16415 Addison Road, Suite 725 Addison, TX 75001 (401) 234-9200 (401) 398-2594 THIS LAW FIRM MAY BE HELD TO BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR, UNDER FEDERAL LAW. IF SO, ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE A-4884814

September 12, 19, 26, October 3, 2026

26-388
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF Laurens County
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF Joshua Austin Wynn, DECEASED
ESTATE NO.26-154
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO: James Anthony Wynn, Sr and to whom it may concern:
Vicki S. Wynn has petitioned for Vivki S. Wynn to be appointed administrator(s) of the estate of Joshua Austin Wynn, 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 October 5, 2026.

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

Genola O. Jackson
Judge of the Probate Court
By: CWarren
Clerk of the Probate Court
PO BOX 2098
Dublin, GA 31040
478-272-2566

September 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026

26-403
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF LAURENS
IN RE: ESTATE OF LEWIS KENNON SMITH, J.R.

All creditors of the estate of **LEWIS KENNON SMITH, JR.**, deceased, late of Laurens County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned Executor, Kenneth Ray Smith, under the Last Will and Testament of said Decedent.
This 24th day of August, 2026.
S. Ryan Dixon

Nelson & Dixon, LLC
125 North Franklin Street

Dublin, Georgia 31021
478-272-3545
KENNETH RAY SMITH
Executor of the Estate of
LEWIS KENNON SMITH, JR.
3875 Georgia Hwy 338

TO: James Anthony Wynn, Sr and to whom it may concern:

Vicki S. Wynn has petitioned for Vivki S. Wynn to be appointed administrator(s) of the estate of Joshua Austin Wynn, 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 October 5, 2026.

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

Genola O. Jackson
Judge of the Probate Court
By: CWarren
Clerk of the Probate Court
PO Box 2098
Dublin GA 31040
478-272-2566

September 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026

26-414
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: Brittany Kay Sealy
CIVIL ACTION NO.26-CD-0742-JG
NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

Georgia, Laurens County
I, Brittany Kay Sealy, filed a petition to the Superior Court of Laurens County, Georgia on the Aug 5, 2026, to change my name from Brittany Kay Sealy to Maven Harmony Lofrie.
Any interested has the right to appear in this case and file objections.
Signed this 5th day of August, 2026.
Brittany Kay Sealy
848 WoodVale Drive
Dublin, GA 31021
239-207-4079
Petitioner

September 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026

26-391
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF MICHAEL STEWART MANNING, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 26-152
PETITION BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR WAIVER OF BOND AND/OR GRANT OF CERTAIN POWERS
NOTICE

Laura Michelle Manning-Hudson has petitioned for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, waiver of statements, and/or for the grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. § 53-12-261 in regard to the above estate. 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 October 5 2026.

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

Genola O. Jackson
Judge of the Probate Court
By: CWarren
Clerk of the Probate Court
P.O. BOX 2098
Dublin, GA 31040
478-272-2566

September 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026

26-420
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF ISAIAH FREEMAN, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 260-149
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO: whom it may concern:
Vivian Mariuena has petitioned for Vivian Mariuena to be appointed administrator(s) of the estate of Isaiah King Freeman 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 October 5, 2026.

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

Genola O. Jackson
Judge of the Probate Court
By: CWarren
Clerk of the Probate Court
PO BOX 2098
Dublin, GA 31040
478-272-2566

September 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026

26-403
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF LAURENS
IN RE: ESTATE OF LEWIS KENNON SMITH, J.R.

All creditors of the estate of **LEWIS KENNON SMITH, JR.**, deceased, late of Laurens County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned Executor, Kenneth Ray Smith, under the Last Will and Testament of said Decedent.
This 24th day of August, 2026.
S. Ryan Dixon

Nelson & Dixon, LLC
125 North Franklin Street

Dublin, Georgia 31021
478-272-3545
KENNETH RAY SMITH
Executor of the Estate of
LEWIS KENNON SMITH, JR.
3875 Georgia Hwy



DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

Double dreamer struggles to get by

DEAR ABBY: I am a person with a million-dollar heart and a 5-cent bank account. I have big dreams that I know could change lives. I want to write a book about my experience with emotional abuse so I can help others heal. I also dream of starting a soda stand to build something tangible with my kids.

The problem is that my current life is exhausting. I'm raising kids and step-kids, navigating co-parenting drama and working a job I hate just to survive. By the time I finish the daily grind, I'm broke and bone-tired. I know there is more out there for me, but I'm struggling to stay focused when my reality feels like a trap. How can I start these projects when I'm just trying to keep my head above water? I don't want to escape into my dreams; I want to build them. -- SODA STAND DREAMER

DEAR SODA STAND DREAMER: If you try to write a book and start a business on top of everything else, you may not do any of it well. Choose one dream and put the other on hold for now. If you choose the book, set aside some time each day (or week) and dedicate yourself to writing during that time -- no excuses. If you choose the soda stand, get a part-time job at a similar business where you can learn the ropes and earn some startup money. Either dream will require a lot of work and perseverance, but don't give up!

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have a blended family. When he received child support for his daughters, I didn't think it was any of my business what he did with the money. When I received child support for my sons, he thought I should tell him what I spent it on. I don't think it's any of his business. Who's right? Please advise me, as this has been an ongoing argument in our relationship for 20 years. Mind you, our children are grown now with children of their own, and it's time to put this to rest. Who is right? -- HAPPILY MARRIED EXCEPT FOR THIS

DEAR HAPPILY MARRIED: You are right. You are also entitled to some privacy if it's important to you. In light of the fact that the child support money your husband received was not a subject of discussion, I see no reason why he should feel he has the right to know how you spent yours. What matters in both cases is that the money went toward caring for the children. I truly hope that's what happened.

DEAR ABBY: I was invited to my nephew's wedding in a small town. Without my knowledge, the mother of the groom verbally offered my hotel room to the mother of the bride of a different wedding! (The connection is that they both used the same wedding planner.) When she approached me, I declined to give up my room and move to a different hotel. Subsequently, she unilaterally withdrew my wedding invitation. Am I obligated to send a gift? -- TOTALLY STUNNED

DEAR STUNNED: What the groom's mother did is appalling, but don't take it out on your nephew unless you have reason to believe he was complicit in these shenanigans.

SUDOKU

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

Level: Advanced

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

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

ANSWER:

Fun By The Numbers

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

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTIKOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Menu is shorter. 2. Pad is longer. 3. Finger is moved. 4. Curtain is not as wide. 5. Apron strap is moved. 6. Tie is missing.

THE Daily Commuter Puzzle by Stella Zawistowski

ACROSS

- 1 Perhaps
- 6 Holy city of Islam
- 11 River blocker
- 14 Once more
- 15 Old piano key material
- 16 Amazement
- 17 Feeling of friendship and goodwill
- 19 Male sheep
- 20 Sarcastic works
- 21 Prefix with "drome"
- 22 Explosive stuff. Abbr.
- 25 Car's fuel
- 26 Charitable undertakings
- 28 Wandered about
- 30 Baseball and tennis, e.g.
- 32 Under the covers: 2 wds.
- 33 Slightly damage
- 34 Nautical map
- 37 Become liquid
- 38 Need to repay
- 39 Aglio e ___ (pasta dish)
- 40 Head of cattle
- 42 Sales agent
- 43 "Singles" cheese brand
- 44 Saw the sights
- 46 Discounted: 2 wds.
- 47 Become known
- 49 Couple
- 50 Rx drug, for short
- 51 Negative reviews
- 52 Sovereign ruler
- 56 B&B
- 57 Lake sport
- 61 Film image tech: Abbr.
- 62 Legal proclamation
- 63 Mistake
- 64 "Help us!"
- 65 Classroom furniture
- 66 John ___ (tractor brand)

DOWN

- 1 ___ and cheese

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14						15				16		
17						18				19		
				20						21		
22	23	24		25				26	27			
28			29			30	31					
32						33			34		35	36
37						38				39		
40					41		42			43		
47	48							49			50	
51					52	53	54			55		
56					57					58	59	60
61					62				63			
64					65					66		

Created by Stella Zawistowski

- 2 Ottoman official
- 3 Sweet potato
- 4 Prejudice
- 5 Extremely angry
- 6 Some computer sound files
- 7 At any time
- 8 Apple's center
- 9 Shortening brand
- 10 Yes, at sea
- 11 Tanzanian city: 3 wds.
- 12 In the know
- 13 Office notes
- 18 Tiny bit: 2 wds.
- 21 Novel writers
- 22 Removes fat from
- 23 Group of nine
- 24 Ping-pong: 2 wds.
- 27 Circle section
- 29 Parts of a sky "shower"
- 30 Cut, as wood
- 31 Get ready
- 33 "The ___ you know..."
- 35 Hunter's weapon
- 36 Carried

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

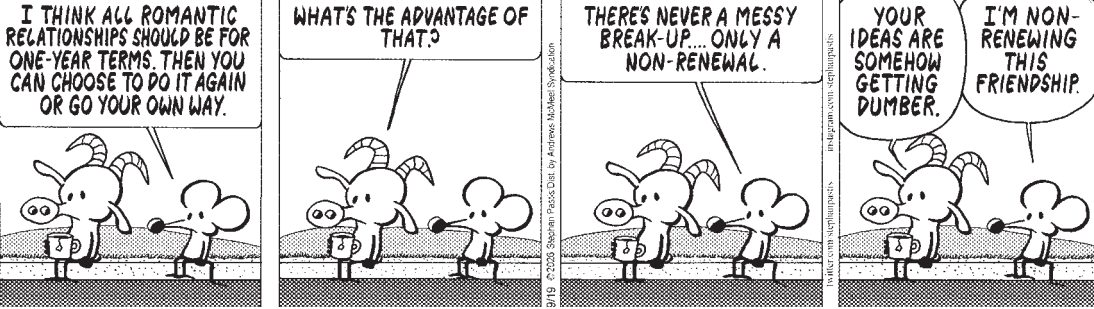
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- 41 Floor covering
- 43 Rapped
- 45 Did a new version of
- 46 Yours and my
- 47 Big-budget films
- 48 Lassi fruit
- 49 Pub projectiles
- 53 Singer Redding

- 54 Part of a guitar
- 55 Bring on staff
- 57 Marry
- 58 Anger
- 59 Neither here ___ there
- 60 College senior's test: Abbr.

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

BY STEVE PASTIS



GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS



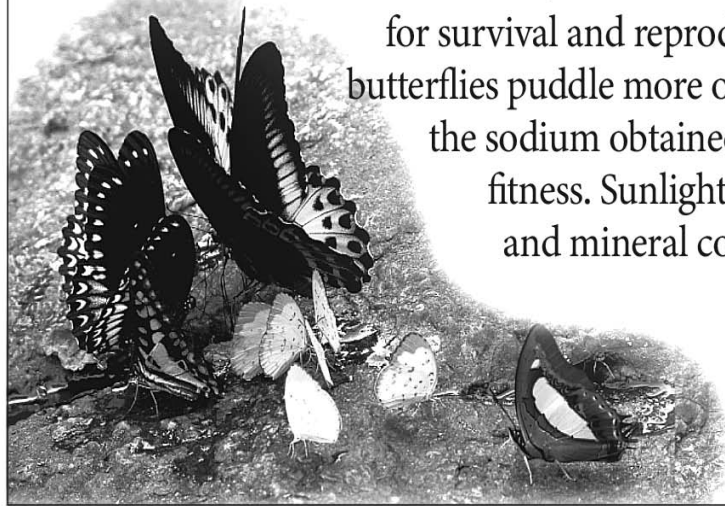
OVERBOARD

BY CHIP DUNHAM



DEFLOCKED

BY JEFF CORRIVEAU



This behavior, where butterfiles and other insects gather to feed at sandy puddles, moist soil, or on dung, carrion or animal secretions, enables them

Puddling

to supplement their diet with amino acids, sodium and nitrogen necessary for survival and reproductive success. Male butterflies puddle more often than females, as the sodium obtained enhances offspring fitness. Sunlight, moisture, humidity and mineral concentration strongly affect site selection.

- Brenda Weaver

Source: Vigyan Varta 6

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Saturday, September 19, 2026

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH BOB JONES

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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q 1 - Neither vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ J 10 5 2 ♥ Q ♦ K J 10 6 5 ♣ A Q 3

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

Q 2 - North-South vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ J 6 5 ♥ A Q J 8 3 2 ♦ 2 ♣ A Q J

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

Q 3 - East-West vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ A K 5 4 ♥ 5 4 ♦ K J ♣ A 9 5 4 2

As dealer, what call would you make?

Q 4 - Both vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ Q 7 ♥ K 10 9 ♦ Q 10 7 6 3 ♣ A Q 6

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

Q 5 - Neither vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ A 7 ♥ K J 5 4 ♦ A K J 6 5 ♣ 10 3

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
1♦ Pass 3♦* Pass
? *5-7 points, usually 5-plus card support
What call would you make?

Q 6 - East-West vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ A K Q 9 4 ♥ 8 6 4 ♦ A Q J ♣ 4 2

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST
1♠ Pass 1♠ Pass
INT Pass ?
What call would you make?

Look for answers on Monday.
(Bob Jones welcomes readers' responses sent in care of this paper.)

Daughters of 1812 supports Wounded Warrior Retreat

SPECIAL TO THE COURIER HERALD

The State of Georgia Society United States Daughters of 1812 held their Fall Board Meeting at River North Country Club on Friday, Sept. 11, 2026. The Thomas McCall Chapter, USD 1812, organized in Dublin was represented by Pat Mercer, chapter president; Connie Page, state chairman-credentials committee and chapter first vice-president; Sarah Williams, state chairman-veteran affairs voluntary service (VAVS) committee and chapter second vice-president; and Tonya Donaldson, state page and chapter treasurer, Trish Thompson, associate member of Thomas McCall Chapter and Jane Durden, guest of the local chapter were also in attendance.

A highlight of the meeting was a presentation from Terry Reynolds of Swainsboro who serves as President of Wounded Warriors Retreat, a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization. Reynolds shared the mission of the organization and their vision for the construction of an overnight facility to house the Wounded Warriors who are accepted to receive help and healing. Reynolds emphasized that the organization is composed of volunteers, and no person receives a salary. He talked about the importance of mental and spiritual healing for these veterans and their need to make positive memories.

After Reynolds concluded his presentation, the lineage society donated a first installment of \$500 in support of the Wounded Warriors Retreat. The check was presented by Julie Hes-



From left to right: Julie Hesler, State of Georgia President USD1812; Terry Reynolds, President of Wounded Warriors Retreat; Mary Turner, State Chairman, Service to Veterans Committee/SPECIAL PHOTO

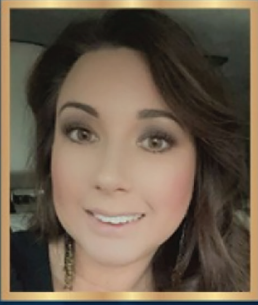
ler, State of Georgia Society President. Explaining the reason that she chose Wounded Warriors Retreat as her State President's Project, Hesler shared that her son-in-law received help from Wounded Warriors Retreat. He and his son did experience a "making memories" moment when her grandson was able to shoot his first deer on one of the Wounded Warriors hunts. She has a personal connection to and deep gratitude for the work Reynolds and other volunteers in the organization do.

Additionally, Mary Turner, State Chairman of the Services to Veterans Committee gave Mr. Reynolds an envelope containing almost \$800 in gift cards to be shared with the veterans to whom the project ministers.

Joining the National So-

ciety United States Daughters of 1812 is a great way to honor your ancestor's heroic deeds of the civil, military, and naval life of those who molded this government between the close of the American Revolution in 1783 and the close of the War of 1812 with the signing of The Treaty of Ghent in 1815. Members participate in historical preservation, patriotism, and fellowship. Membership is available to women age eighteen and over who can offer satisfactory proof that they are lineal descendants of an ancestor who, during the period of 1784-1815 inclusive, rendered civil, military, or naval service to our country, rendered material aid to the U.S. Army or Navy, or participants in the many expeditions during the era like The Lewis and Clark Expedition.

2025 Auto-Owners President's Club Member



Congratulations Ashley Wilds!

Out of over 28,000 agents, Ashley was recognized as one of the top 25 life, disability income & annuity producers.

Auto-Owners
LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

“We're excited to announce that **Ashley Wilds of Sammons Bracewell Insurance** has been added to the 2025 President's Club by Auto-Owners Life Insurance Company! Out of more than 28,000 agents nationwide, she ranked #18 among the top 25 in life, disability, and annuity production. The agency owner, Mr. Dwain Sammons, is very proud of Ashley's hard-working accomplishment. This accomplishment is a prime example of the integrity and morals that our agency thrives to provide, not only to each other, but to our clients, and the community. We are incredibly grateful to have Ashley at our agency, and we are also grateful to our clients for trusting us to help protect not only their families but their future as well. If you are thinking about life insurance or annuities, please stop by or give us a call at 478-272-6120 to discuss your future. We are located at 201 E Jackson St. Dublin, GA 31021. Thank You!”

A LEADER FOR DUBLIN

A Voice for Community Banking Across Georgia

Jeremy Ragan

Named to Community Bankers Association Board of Directors





Georgia First
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BELLS ACROSS AMERICA

Continued from page 1

colonies. Some in the crowd rang handheld bells and later joined in reading the Preamble of the Constitution.

The Skunk Brigade was invited as special guests to commemorate America's 250th birthday.

Lee Herron and Steve Burke, members of the Brier Creek Chapter of the Georgia Society of Sons of the American Revolution in Sylvester, were joined by Dess Smith of the Wiregrass Chapter in Swainsboro. Smith carried out his patriotic duties despite having a heart attack just three weeks ago.

"They said there was no blockage," Smith said. "They gave me two new pills and took two pills away."

DAR Constitution Week chairwoman Diane Clark spoke briefly on the historical significance of the bell-ringing program.

"During colonial days, bells were used to call people together," Smith said, noting that bells called the people of Philadelphia to hear the first



Schoolmates from Southwest Laurens Elementary look on as Madi Tanner rings the bell 13 times to honor America's original colonies/RODNEY MANLEY

public reading of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776.

"Then 11 years later, on Sept. 17, bells were used to call people together for the first reading of our Constitu-

tion."

Constitution Week began on Thursday, Sept. 17, known as Constitution Day, and will be observed through Wednesday, Sept. 23.

NEW EDITOR

Continued from page 1

newspapers in the area at the time.

"They both immediately gave me opportunities to cover the NBA and to cover local news," Suggs said. "Moving to Georgia gave me an opportunity to be a young person and immediately work in the business — and take off running."

Over the course of his rich and varied career, Suggs has worked in both corporate and news roles. From Houston County to Savannah, he has covered sports, politics, business and faith. Four years ago, he returned to The Atlanta Voice to serve as editor in chief.

"Local newspapers have always been the best place for me to feel like I'm getting the most use of my career and my skills," he said.

The editor and publisher role in Dublin is one of several new positions the Georgia Trust for Local News has created to accelerate efforts to expand the reach and impact of its newsrooms' journalism.

"I'm excited to welcome Donnell to the Georgia Trust and to Dublin," said Cynthia DuBose, executive director of the Georgia Trust for Local News. "His work in this industry and his passion for building community amplify the Georgia Trust's promise to be real, relevant and committed to rebuilding."

PRISON PROGRAM

Continued from page 1

Restoring Broken Workshop.

"We have got to help them before the cycle begins," Watkins said. "Mommy and daddy have to be together whether they are in the same house or not. I am divorced, but (my son) never saw bitterness between us."

It is important to have people invested in young people. It is also important for young people to take responsibility when they make a mistake.

"I was lost as a youth, but I was trained and came back (to the church)," Watkins said. "The kids need to know that I did somethings, but they need to hear that I put those things away and I'm with Jesus now. I'm high with God!"

Pastor Nate Dudley mentioned he saw dark cultures and violence when he worked in Texas before

moving to Dublin to lead Liberty Church. He agreed with Watkins in that youth need the Bible.

"If you give me the Gospel, I'll reach the next generation," Dudley said. "We need to be relational. Jesus did life with people. Sixty percent of leadership is presence. Just show up. That will change relationships."

He admitted to also doing some crazy things when he was a youth. In fact, things he probably should have been arrested for.

"I was an idiot as a kid," Dudley said. "Therefore, I'm going to love them where they are and be relatable. That creates connection. That gives truth to voice. Be the real Jesus. Be who God called you to be. Kids have plenty of friends. They need leaders."

And the adults need to share Jesus.

"If your foundation is built on anything other than

the Bible, it will crumble," Dudley said.

The Compassionate Advocate will soon be working with the Angel Tree program to help young people in Dublin receive Christmas gifts.

"We give gifts from the incarcerated parents to their children," she said. "Last year we had 135 children who had parents or grandparents who were incarcerated and there is probably more. We are looking to be a blessing to them."

Johnson works with community leaders, correctional institutions, churches and government agencies, with her sights set to help people re-enter society and to keep others from going in.

"There is a need. This is a real need," she said. "Everybody needs someone to talk to. The goal is for people not to go to jail or prison. Whatever we can do to try to help them, that's what we do."



Liberty Church Pastor Nate Dooley talks about the church engaging the next generation/PAYTON TOWNS III

For people seeking more information about the Compassionate Advocate can reach out to Johnson at (706) 631-6389.

"We have so many calls coming in so please leave a message or number and we'll get back to them," Johnson said. "We'll hear what they need and we'll try to go find it for them."

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