

The Sparta Ishmaelite

Wednesday September 30, 2026

CITY OF SPARTA REPORTS MAJOR SEWER SPILL AND COMPLETION OF EMERGENCY REPAIRS

Amanda Martin Akins
Utilities Administrator
City of Sparta
(706) 444-5753

The City of Sparta is notifying the public of a major sewer spill discovered on September 14, 2026 at 9:46 AM. City staff discovered sewage overflowing from a manhole near Heritage Manor on Jamie L Kennedy Blvd. The total spill is estimated at 380,152 gallons. Most of the discharge flowed onto dry land; however, approximately 25 percent, or 95,038 gallons, is estimated to have entered a nearby intermittent creek. The spill stopped at approximately 8:30 a.m. on September 21, 2026. Repair, cleanup, and site-restoration activities continued into the afternoon.

The affected sewer line had been jetted and cleaned with a vacuum truck approximately one month earlier after grease and rags were found in the line. Because the manhole began overflowing again, City staff suspected a larger problem and investigated farther downstream.

During that investigation, staff discovered that an above-ground sewer pipe crossing the creek had sagged at a joint. The sag restricted the flow of sewage, causing it to back up through the sewer line

until it escaped through a manhole farther upstream. Because the damaged pipe was located over a creek, the City coordinated with the Georgia Environmental Protection Division and obtained approval for the necessary excavation, erosion-control, and environmental-protection measures before completing the repair.

City crews raised the sewer line, installed supporting piers beneath it, and cleaned the line using a vacuum truck. Staff also installed erosion-control measures along the creek banks including silt fencing and riprap. After the repair was completed, the disturbed areas were stabilized with seed and straw to reduce erosion and protect the creek. A biological odor-control treatment and lime were applied to the affected ground following the repair.

The City will conduct the environmental sampling and monitoring for a year following the spill and will continue evaluating the affected sewer line and surrounding area.

The City asks the public to avoid contact with the affected creek and spill area while cleanup and monitoring activities continue.

For additional information, please contact the City of Sparta at 706-444-5753, Ext. 1.



Sheppard Visits Sparta

By Karen West,
News Reporter

This past Friday, Trey Sheppard, running for Georgia State House of



Representatives, visited Sparta with his campaign truck and team.

He spent the morning shaking hands and talking with citizens around the Courthouse Square, focusing on our unique chal-

lenges, here in rural Georgia.

Few candidates for office make it to our community, making his visit impressive. So far this year, the only other candidate to visit our community has

been candidate for governor, Keisha Lance Bot-

tombs. Hopefully our citizens will be able to talk with other candidates before casting their all important votes in November.

The Heidelberg Expansion- Tabled Again

By Karen West,
News Reporter

During the regularly scheduled meeting of the Hancock County Board of Commissioners, the vote on the proposed Heidelberg Expansion was once again tabled. This time until October 28. Charles Jackson was the only dissenting vote.

Several months ago, Heidelberg Materials petitioned for a special zoning permit to actually move "the pit" about a mile from its present location in an expansion that would add approximately 100 additional years to the life of the aggregate mine. The move would also locate the mine further away from the Shoals Road neighborhood that has been fighting the



expansion, citing noise and residential vibration damage (although there has only been one complaint made to that effect in the last 20 years.) as their major concerns.

The new expansion plan also includes the building of larger berms, twice the size of the previous ones, to help block noise. Concessions have also been agreed to by Heidelberg in reference to the Shoals Road neighborhood in regard to the facility being closed on additional holidays such as June-teenth, and Martin Luther King Jr Day.

The facility is also looking to add a number of employment opportunities with the expansion and has a good history of hiring locally.

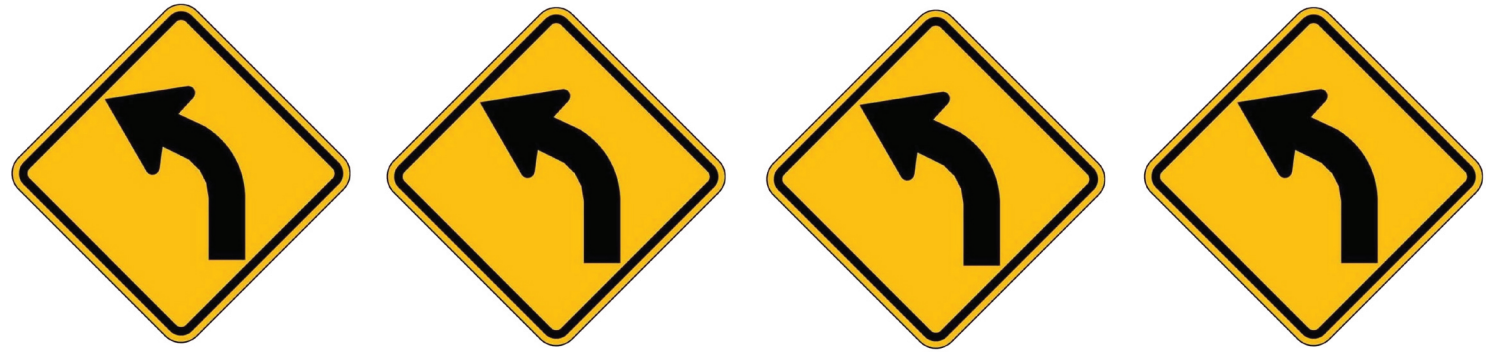
The Shoals Road group is also fighting a 4.5 mile railroad spur being built by a private company utilizing eminent domain. The case has gained national attention. Heidelberg Materials is not a partner in the building of the private railroad spur, but would most likely be a customer if it is completed, to avoid wear and tear and heavy traffic on local roads.

It has been suggested that a 12 consecutive

month stay be put on the vote to document adherence to EPA guidelines, measure blasts, and observe adherence to new schedules relative to holidays.

At the same time, citizens would be charged with learning more about the modern mining operations and becoming aware of Heidelberg's many contributions to the community, as well as research by the commissioners themselves - reading the volume of information provided by Heidelberg, visiting the facility on blast days themselves, and monitoring the seismograph information, as well as asking questions for their constituents.

More study- by all parties - with an open mind, appears to be needed.



DANGEROUS CURVE AHEAD

By Karen West,
News Reporter

You've all heard the phrase, the song, the urban legends, about a stretch of road that becomes infamous for the number of accidents and fatalities that happen within its dangerous curve. "Deadman's Curve" is the nickname given to to many a deceptive curve in many a community in America with a particularly lethal reputation.

Along State Highway 22 between Sparta and

Milledgeville as you travel through the historic community of Devereux, there are several curves that will sneak up on a distracted driver in a split second - the most lethal is the one closest to St. Luke Baptist Church.

The area is known for "abrupt topography and sharp curves" with steep dropoffs on either side of the roadbed. The area's danger is further compounded with heavy industrial traffic, shuffling heavy lumber loads between Devereux and Linton.

This stretch of road has been the site of accidents and fatalities since long before the road was even paved, but especially in the last sixty or more years when the Georgia Department of Transportation began scrutinizing areas with high numbers of accidents. At least 4 deaths have occurring in that one section of road in just the last 5 years. The most recent was popular former high school athlete, Kiamber Janelle Usry whose car went airborne and struck a tree back in May of this

year. Her death started yet another push asking that the Department of Transportation provide safety improvements on the dangerous curve. Several local news stations reported on the area, including Channel 13 WMAZ, that identified the danger spot as "a flat curve with steep dropoffs on the sides giving drivers very little room for error if they drift or over-correct." That report, along with several others made locally sparked yet another

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LOCAL
Hancock County
MATTERS



CHURCH NEWS



Hickory Grove Missionary Baptist Church, Inc

4933 Hickory Grove Church Road/Post Office Box 402 Sparta, Georgia 31087

www.hickorygrovembc.org Reverend Michael Curry, Pastor

Church Announcements/ ALL ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

On Saturday, October 3, 2026 at 1:00 p.m.

the church will observe the naming of it's fellowship hall to be known as the Pastor Micheal Curry Fellowship Hall. The guest speaker will be Pastor Larry Carter of the New Hope Powelton Baptist Church of Sparta GA. All are invited to attend.

On Sunday October 11, 2026 at 11:00 a.m.

the church will observe it's One Hundred Sixty First Church Anniversary Celebration . The special guest will be Pastor Dr. Julius Trawick and the Elbethel Missionary Baptist Church of Milledgeville GA.

PINK OUT DAY will be observed on Sunday October 25th at 11:00 a.m.

in an effort to raise awareness and show support for breast cancer.

Pastor Michael Curry will deliver the message. All are invited to attend and requested to wear something pink.

Frank T. Edwards, Publicity Chair 706-444-3286 Twin922@yahoo.com

Tabernacle Baptist Church Pastor Terry Boone

New St. Sparta, Ga. 706-833-8747

Shivers Grove Community Church

347 Shivers Grove Road Sparta, Ga. 31087

Services every 3rd Sunday Sunday School starts @ 11:00 AM Church Worship @ 12:00 Noon

Reverend Marion Hargrove, Pastor Sister Mary Leslie, Secretary

ZEBULON COMMUNITY CHURCH

7266 BROWN CHAPEL RD. 31087

PASTOR BRO. BILLY CARROLL PHONE 706-829-4403

SERVICES EVERY SUNDAY 11:00-----SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00

WHAT ETERNAL LIFE MEANS

By: EDWARD WILLIAMS - DEACON & Gideon

The Bible teaches that every person is separates from God because of sin. No amount of good woks, religion, human efforts can remove that separation. But because of God's great love, He sent His son Jesus Christ, into the world to die for our sins and rise again.

Through Hin, we are forgiven, restored, and given the gift of eternal life. Eternal life means we are no longer spiritual dead. Before Christ people walked in darkness, and hopelessness, searching for peace in temporary things. But when we receive Jesus' savor with new life, , helping us grow closer to God each day purpose, and hope. The Holy Spirit begins to work in us, helping us to grow closer to God. Eternal life also means security in God's promise the world constantly changes, and life can fill uncertain People experience loss, sickness, disappointment, and fear. Yet believes can live with confidence because their future is secure in Christ. Eternal life is not 'built on our strength, but on God's faithfulness What God promises He will fore fill.

Another beautiful truth about eternal life is the promise of heaven, one day, believers will leave behind pain, sorrow, tears, and death forever. Heaven is the place of perfect peace; of where we will live in the present of God for all eternity. The struggles of this life are temporary, but the joy is eternal life with Christ will never end. Knowing we have eternal life should change the way we live today., It should give us peace in difficult times, courage during trails, and desire to share the love of Christ with others. Life on earth is short, but eternal is forever. Today remember eternal life is not just about where you will spend forever, it is about knowing Jesus personally right now. In Him, there is hope, peace, forgiveness, and everlasting joy.

PRAYER; --Father, thank You for the gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ. Help me live each day with faith, hope, and gratitude for all You have promised. Drau me closer to You and help me share Your love with others. In Jesus Name. Amen

NOW HIRING PRODUCTION TEAM LEAD (SPARTA)

Verescence North America, Inc. (Sparta, GA) seeks **Production Team Lead (Sparta)** to manage safety, environmental hazards, & departmental resources.

Req'd: Bach. in Chemical Eng'g. & 12 mo. supervisory or mgmt exp. in glass manufacturing operations; 12 mo. exp. w/SAP or Inventory Control system; & 12 mo. exp. w/ cGMP- Good Manufacturing Practice.

To apply, send resume to: recruiting@verescence.com



HANCOCK COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS & REGISTRATION

LOGISTICS & ACCURACY (L&A) TESTING

WILL BE HELD
OCTOBER 5TH 2026

@ THE HANCOCK COUNTY YOUTH CENTER
BEGINNING @ 10:00am



The Hancock County Board of Elections & Registration will conduct Logic & Accuracy (L&A) Testing of voting equipment in preparation for the upcoming election.

THE PUBLIC IS WELCOME TO OBSERVE.



HANCOCK COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS & REGISTRATION

9091 E. BROAD ST.
Sparta, GA 31087

706-444-5259

Boer.deputy@hancockcountygga.gov



★ ENSURING ACCURACY • TRANSPARENCY • ELECTION INTEGRITY ★

Mapping the Future

For hundreds upon hundreds of years people used physical maps to find out where they were and where they were going. Many old maps were prized, not only for the knowledge they imparted, but for the beauty of their illustrations and calligraphy, as works of art.

One thing often seen in the unexplored areas of these beautifully rendered maps was the phrase "here there may be dtagons", a warning about the unknown.

For the youth of today, a paper map is nothing more than a novelty of the past. Unneeded and out of date, as long as one has a phone handy and can use their Goggle maps app. With your phone, you don't even have to know where you are, or have any knowledge of your loca-



Karen West,

News Reporter

tion because your phone can pinpoint that for you- so you are never lost. Or are you?

Ever notice when you use GPS and take a wrong turn, the system never says "Now you're lost!", instead it simple says "Recalculating" and gives you an alternative route. But is this really a good thing? What happens to our sense of adventure if we are never lost? What happens to the joy of an unexpected discovery if we always seem to know exactly where we

are?

The wonder of discovering something or someplace that you have never been before and the excitement of learning new things?

Challenge yourself to be more of an explorer - take a turn down an unfamiliar dirt road, explore a nearby community, check out a new restaurant, maybe even just check out a book by an unknown author at the library - try something NEW and not scripted by hour phpne or goggle.

Ignore the old map warning of "Here there may be dragons" and get a little bit lost, look for the fantastic instead, - you may just surprise yourself on what wonderful things that you find!



Remembering Alene

By Karen West,

News Reporter

September, two years ago, a bright shining light of Sparta was extinguished, but not forgotten. Mary "Alene" Jones, who worked as a dispatcher for our Sparta Police Department was killed by a hit and run driver on a Florida interstate.

Alene had been visiting her daughter in Florida and was bringing back a load of furniture to open a consignment store in her beloved Sparta. She apparently had pulled to the side of the road to check the tie downs when a dark colored Ford Explorer with heavily tinted windows and travel-

ing in excess of the speed limit, struck her, killing her instantly.

The vehicle had been reported stolen and was found in a nearby parking lot, abandoned, with the evidence of the hit and run apparent. The driver still has not been found.

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OFTC Respiratory Students



Picture 1: L-R: Myles Bryant (Hancock) and Khadjah "Dee" Miller (Laurens) demonstrate use of a high-frequency chest wall oscillation vest.

Emily G. Raley

Director of Marketing & PR

Oconee Fall Line Technical College (OFTC) Respiratory Care students



Picture 2: Kalia Carlyle (Washington) prepares to perform airway suctioning on an infant patient with a tracheostomy.

Students work with ventilators, oxygen-delivery equipment, nebulizers and airway-care equipment while also practicing emergency response and other clinical skills.

The lab experience

gives students an opportunity to apply what they learn in the classroom and build practical skills they will use in clinical settings and throughout their careers.



OCONEE FALL LINE TECHNICAL COLLEGE

HANCOCK COUNTY LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

H26-042
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
All Creditors of the Estate of Gladys Lamar, late of Hancock 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.

Shongala Madesha Harris
Executrix of the Estate of Gladys Lamar, deceased
6081 Ga Hwy 15
Sparta, Ga 31087
September 23, 30, October 7, 14, 2026

H26-045
DEBTORS AND CREDITORS NOTICE
GEORGIA, HANCOCK COUNTY.
All creditors of the Estate of NANCY CRUMBLEY KENNEDY, deceased, late of Hancock County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned, according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This 25th day of September, 2026.
/s/James B. Kennedy, IV
James B. Kennedy, IV
Executor of the Estate of Nancy Crumbley Kennedy
P.O. Box 190
Sparta, GA 31087
September 30, October 7, 14, 21, 2026

PETITION TO BE APPOINTED

H26-044
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF HANCOCK COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF ADDIE DORA DEAN WARREN, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. E-26-058
NOTICE
To Whom It May Concern: ANGEL WARREN-BARBER have petitioned to be appointed Administrator(s) of the estate of ADDIE DORA DEAN WARREN, deceased, of said County. All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said Petition should not be granted by filing an objection. 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 23, 2026. In addition, all objections must be sworn to before a notary public or before a Probate Court Clerk. Filing fees must be tendered with your objection 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.
Sabrina M. Lamar
Judge of the Probate Court
Jasmine J. Stokes
Deputy Clerk, Probate Court
12630 Broad Street, Sparta, GA 31087
706-444-5343
September 30, October 7, 14, 21, 2026

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER

H26-035
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER, HANCOCK COUNTY
Pursuant to the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by Tyeka C McGuire to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for Ameris Bank, its successors and assigns dated 9/25/2019 and recorded in Deed Book 538 Page 368 Hancock County, Georgia records; as last transferred to or acquired by PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of \$221,128.00, 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 Hancock 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: All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in the 115th GMD, Hancock County, Georgia, described as Lot Five (5), containing 1.250 acres, more or less, more particularly described by that certain plat of survey entitled "Plat of Survey For Omar Harrouck", prepared by Alfred D. Bellew, GRLS No. 2253, dated August 6, 2002, recorded in Plat Book 13, Pages 33, Hancock County Land Records. Said plat of survey and record thereof are by reference made a part hereof for a more accurate description of said property. This is the same property conveyed by warranty deed from Romarion M. Lamar to Tyeka McGuire, dated May 4, 2017, recorded in Deed Book 504, Page 304, said records. SUBJECT TO: 1) Easement in favor of Georgia Power Company recorded in Deed Book WW, Pages 213, said records. 2) Road Right of Way from James Morris Dunn to Hancock County, Georgia recorded in Deed Book 11, Page 254, said records. 3) All other easements, rights-of-way, surveys, protective covenants, limitations and restrictions affecting said property of record, said records 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 2060 Shoals Road, Sparta, GA 31087 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): Estate/Heirs of Tyeka McGuire a/k/a Tyeka C McGuire or tenant or tenants. PennyMac Loan Services, LLC is the entity or individual designated, who shall have full authority to negotiate, amend and modify all terms of the mortgage. PennyMac Loan Services, LLC Loss Mitigation 3043 Townsgate Road #200, Westlake Village, CA 91361 1-866-549-3583 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. PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC as agent and Attorney in Fact for Tyeka C McGuire Aldridge Pite, LLP, Six Piedmont Center, 3525 Piedmont Road, N.E., Suite 700, Atlanta, Georgia 30305, (404) 994-7400. 1120-9057A THIS LAW

FIRM MAY BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. 1120-9057A
September 9, 16, 23, 30, 2026

H26-039
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF HANCOCK
Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in that certain Deed to Secure Debt and Security Agreement from RRS Real Estate Holdings, LLC, a Georgia limited liability company ("Grantor"), to Gecon Leasing LLC ("Grantee"), dated August 30, 2024, and recorded September 4, 2024, in Deed Book 615, Pages 219-226, Hancock County, Georgia Real Estate Records (the "Security Deed"), said Security Deed securing that certain Promissory Note dated August 30, 2024, in the original principal amount of \$1,430,000.00, with the final maturity date having occurred and the indebtedness remaining unpaid, and the holder of the Security Deed having declared the indebtedness secured thereby immediately due and payable, there will be sold at public outcry before the courthouse door of Hancock County, Georgia, or at such other place as is customarily designated for public foreclosure sales in Hancock County, within the legal hours of sale on Tuesday, October 6, 2026, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., to the highest bidder for cash, the property described below:
Property 1:
ALL THAT CERTAIN TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE 112TH DISTRICT, G.M. OF HANCOCK COUNTY, GEORGIA, TOGETHER WITH ANY AND ALL IMPROVEMENTS THEREON, CONTAINING 150.40 ACRES, MORE OR LESS. SAID LANDS ARE FURTHER DESCRIBED AS TO SHAPE, COURSES, METES AND DISTANCES BY REFERENCE TO A PLAT THEREOF BY BYRON L. FARMER, R.L.S. NO. 1679, DATED APRIL 5, 2001, OF RECORD IN PLAT BOOK 12, PAGE 247, HANCOCK COUNTY, GEORGIA REAL ESTATE RECORDS, SAID PLAT AND THE RECORDED COPY THEREOF ARE INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE THERETO. LESS AND EXCEPT: ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE 112TH DISTRICT, G.M. OF HANCOCK COUNTY, GEORGIA, CONTAINING 2.651 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, AND THE EASEMENT DESCRIBED IN PLAT OR SURVEY DELINEATED AS, "BOUNDARY SURVEY OF 2.651 ACRES

FOR MACON SOLAR ENERGIES, LLC" DATED APRIL 25, 2018 BY ANDREW C. TOMBERLIN, GRLS NO. 3160, OF HOFSTADTER & ASSOCIATES, AND ASSOCIATED IN PLAT BOOK 15, PAGE 268, HANCOCK COUNTY, GEORGIA REAL ESTATE RECORDS, SAID PLAT AND THE RECORDED COPY THEREOF ARE INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE THERETO. Property 2:
ALL THAT CERTAIN TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE 112TH DISTRICT, G.M. OF HANCOCK COUNTY, GEORGIA, TOGETHER WITH ANY AND ALL IMPROVEMENTS THEREON, CONTAINING 0.92 ACRES, MORE OR LESS. SAID LANDS ARE SHOWN AS PARCEL "A" ON, AND FURTHER DESCRIBED AS TO SHAPE, COURSES, METES AND DISTANCES BY REFERENCE TO, A PLAT OF SURVEY BY JOHN A MCGILL, GA. REG. LAND SURVEYOR NO. 1753, DATED FEBRUARY 23, 1981, A COPY OF WHICH IS OF RECORD IN PLAT BOOK 7, PAGE 130, HANCOCK COUNTY, GEORGIA REAL ESTATE RECORDS, SAID PLAT AND THE RECORDED COPY THEREOF ARE INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE THERETO. Property 3:
ALL THAT CERTAIN TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE 112TH DISTRICT, G.M. OF HANCOCK COUNTY, GEORGIA, TOGETHER WITH ANY AND ALL IMPROVEMENTS THEREON, CONTAINING 0.56 ACRES, MORE OR LESS. SAID LANDS ARE SHOWN AS PARCEL "B" ON, AND FURTHER DESCRIBED AS TO SHAPE, COURSES, METES AND DISTANCES BY REFERENCE TO, A PLAT OF SURVEY BY JOHN A MCGILL, GA. REG. LAND SURVEYOR NO. 1753, DATED FEBRUARY 23, 1981, A COPY OF WHICH IS OF RECORD IN PLAT BOOK 7, PAGE 130, HANCOCK COUNTY, GEORGIA REAL ESTATE RECORDS, SAID PLAT AND THE RECORDED COPY THEREOF ARE INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE THERETO. ALSO CONVEYED HEREIN IS THAT CERTAIN 20 FOOT WATER EASEMENT CONNECTING PARCEL "B" WITH PARCEL "A" AND WITH THE RIGHT-OF-WAY OF THE MAYFIELD-POWELTON ROAD, SAME BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS TO SHAPE, COURSES, METES AND DISTANCES BY REFERENCE TO A PLAT OF SURVEY BY JOHN A. MCGILL, DATED NOVEMBER 23, 1981, OF RECORD IN PLAT

BOOK 7, PAGE 130, HANCOCK COUNTY, GEORGIA REAL ESTATE RECORDS, SAID PLAT AND THE RECORDED COPY THEREOF ARE INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE THERETO. The above-described property is identified for tax purposes as Hancock County Tax Parcels 237011, 238008A, and 238010. The debt secured by the Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of default, Grantor's failure to pay the indebtedness when due at maturity. The property will be sold subject to all unpaid ad valorem taxes, if any; matters that would be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property; all restrictions, covenants, easements, rights-of-way, and other matters of record superior to the Security Deed; and all other matters to which the Security Deed is subordinate, if any. To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party in possession of the property is RRS Real Estate Holdings, LLC, or tenants or other persons claiming by, through, or under it. This Notice of Sale Under Power is hereby given by Gecon Leasing LLC, as attorney-in-fact for RRS Real Estate Holdings, LLC, by and through such secured creditor's legal counsel, Christopher R. Stovall, Esq., Georgia Bar No. 621780, of Busby & Negin, Inc., 8200 Roberts Dr., Ste. 201, Atlanta, GA 30350, Tel: (470) 275-3051. September 9, 16, 23, 30, 2026

PETITION FOR NAME CHANGE

H26-046
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF HANCOCK STATE OF GEORGIA
In Re: CRIS ALLAN WALKER
Civil Action File No. 2026SUCV90
NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME
GEORGIA, Hancock County
Notice is hereby given that Cris Allan Walker, the undersigned, filed his petition to the Superior Court of Hancock County, Georgia on the 28th day of September, 2026, praying for a change in name of the petition from Cris Allan Walker to Chris Allan Walker. Notice is hereby given pursuant to law for any interested or affected party to appear in said court and to file an objection to said name change. Objections must be filed within said court within thirty (30) days of the filing of said petition. This 28th day of September, 2026.
Cris Allan Walker, Petitioner
September 30, October 7, 14, 21, 2026



DANGEROUS CURVE AHEAD

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study. Just last week, more warning signs were added and CURVE AHEAD was painted in bright white luminous paint in both directions on the pavement itself in an effort to draw attention to the deceptive area.

Lonna Deraney shared, "My cousin was killed in this curve almost 60 years ago. It's about time."

Residents and frequent travelers, as well as families and friends of those who have fallen victim to the curve have besieged the Department of Transportation for safety guard rails, reconstruction of the curve to reduce the possibility of going airborne and straighten it out somewhat, speed zone reductions, the highway signs that alert drivers to their actual speed, and even rumble strips along the edges and down the center of the highway that vibrate the vehicle, making a loud noise when drivers cross them.

According to the DOT, speed probably plays a part in many of the accidents which would logically call for a reduction in the speed zone or way to bring attention to their vehicles actual speed like the "dynamic curve warning system" - a radar activated roadside sign that flashes the vehicle's current speed, with a written warning to slow down if applicable.

Although the gener-

al speed through the area is posted at 55 miles per hour, it is not unusual to see drivers speeding along at 70-75 miles per hour. Increased speed drastically reduces the amount of reaction time a driver has to correct a moment of distraction and massively increases the possibility of a serious accident.

As long time Hancock County resident, Della Smith observed "The problem may not so much be the road, but attention when driving. Let's pay attention to the road, not the cell phone, radio, or other things and stay as safe as possible, especially when it is dark".

The way the road is laid out with a narrow road-base on a curve and steep downward embankments, makes that particular piece of road very dangerous, and extremely unforgiving. So, especially when driving through the curves of Devereux - slow down, pay attention to the road and other drivers in the area, and stay safe.

After much study, input from the community, hours of measuring and countless numbers of photographs, the Georgia Department of Transportation has put up new warning signs and painted CURVE AHEAD directly onto the offending portion of the pavement, but it is up to the drivers themselves to pay heed to the

warnings.

"Hopefully this will be the first of many enhancements made to this section of the road. Too many accidents, injuries, and fatalities have taken place in this location. Thanks to the Georgia DOT for listening to the citizens of this community of Hancock County."

* Special thanks to Frank Edwards and Jimmy Kennedy who supplied background for this article based on their years of observation of this curve. Thank you.



Remembering Alene

...continued from page 2

Alene was so much to our community. Before anyone could finish saying the word "volunteer", she was first in line, ready to help. Whether it was painting community murals, rehoming feral cats, planting a community garden, restocking a Little Really Free Library, dressing up like a pink dragon to help pass out candy at DREAM STREETS / SCREAM STREETS, or selling her delicious jams, jellies, and famous "Cowboy Candy" at Our Sparta FRESH Farmers Market, Alene was always there with great positivity and an infectious smile.

"She always saw the best in everyone - even when you couldn't see it yourself" said one recipient of Alene's generous nature who wished to remain anonymous. "She met me when I was at rock bottom, but somehow convinced me that I had value - when no one else thought so."

Alene was also a foster parent who asked for the toughest cases, the hard to place kids - "because they're the ones that need the most love".

Sometimes she was taken advantage of by less than scrupulous individuals, but even then she kept a positive attitude - "their dishonest behavior is on them, not me. I'll keep trying to help others whenever I can" she was often heard to say.

In addition to being a Sparta Police Department dispatcher, a foster parent, and a busy volunteer, Alene started a t-shirt shop, and was planning on starting a furniture consignment and thrift shop all on her

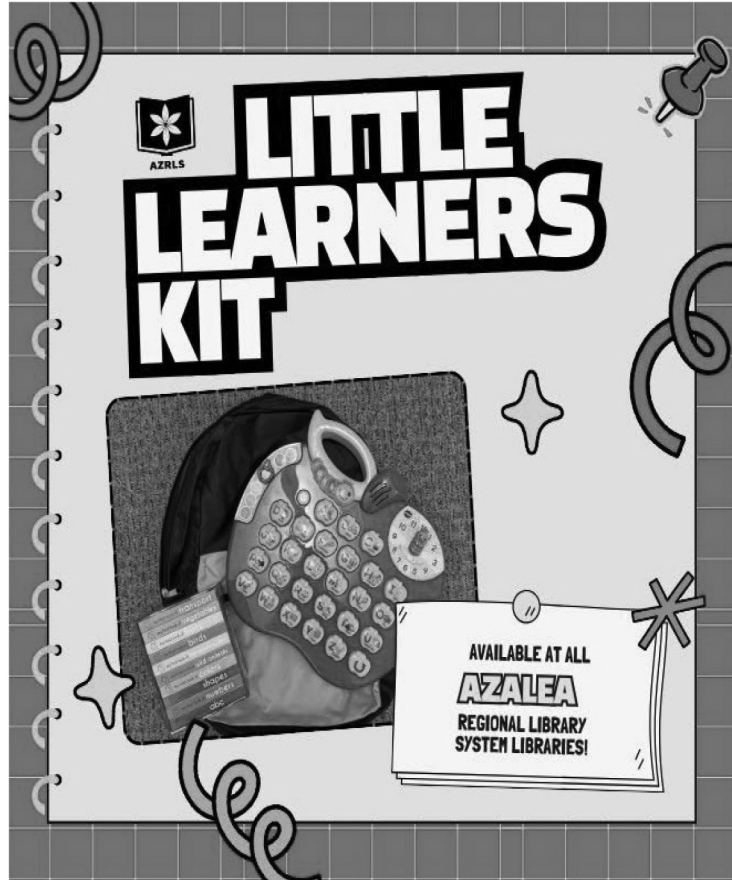


own while also caring for her disabled husband. Her positive energy seemed limitless - until she was taken from us.

Although none of her children live in the area, her son, Dan, followed in her law enforcement footsteps and is an officer with the Winston- Salem Police.

She is greatly missed and never forgotten.

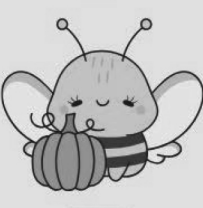
Thank you, Alene, for loving our community so very much and being a shining light and inspiration to us all. We will remember you, always.



OCTOBER 2026

Sparta-Hancock County Library

Azalea Regional Library System
8984 E. Broad Street Sparta, GA 31087 | 706-444-5389
AzaleaLibraries.org | FB @SpartaHancockCountyLibrary
Insta @spartahancockcountylibrary

MON		TUE		WED		THU		FRI		SAT		SUN	
Library Hours: • Monday; Saturday 10am-2pm • Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 10am-5pm • Thursday 10am-8pm						1		2		3		4	
						4pm BINGO for Books		10am Story Time				CLOSED	
5		6		7		8		9		10		11	
Messy Craft Adult Daycare Story & Craft		LEGO Design Day Stay-n-Play 11am Basic Computer Class				4pm BINGO for Books 5pm Music & Movement		10am Story Time		11am STEM/STEAM Program		CLOSED	
12		13		14		15		16		17		18	
		LEGO Design Day Stay-n-Play 11am Basic Computer Class		11am Toddler Music & Movement		4pm BINGO for Books 6pm Lake Country Beekeeper's Association mtg.		10am Story Time		10:30am Saturday Story Time		CLOSED	
19		20		21		22		23		24		25	
Messy Craft Adult Daycare Story & Craft		LEGO Design Day Stay-n-Play 11am Basic Computer Class				4pm BINGO for Books 5pm Music & Movement Beehive Book Club		10am Story Time		Family Board Game Day		CLOSED	
26		27		28		29		30		31			
Messy Craft Adult Daycare Story & Craft		LEGO Design Day Stay-n-Play 11am Basic Computer Class		11am Toddler Music & Movement		4pm BINGO for Books 5pm Music & Movement		10am Story Time		Happy Halloween			