

'Pause and Reboot': MoCo land use ordinance delayed for revisions

BY LOGAN REYNOLDS
STAFF REPORTER

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. "Some-

times 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 Dan-

iels 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

ORDINANCE
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Commissioner Jimmy Sharpe reads off a list of EMA Director Tristan Willis' various certifications and accomplishments as congratulations during the Board of Commissioners' monthly meeting on Sept. 14/LOGAN REYNOLDS



Dot Foods Vidalia Distribution Center delivered \$36,000 in products to six local food pantries on Sept. 15 and Sept. 17, including the Mount Vernon Food Pantry which serves approximately 150 households per month/LOGAN REYNOLDS



Dot Foods delivers supplies to local food pantries

BY LOGAN REYNOLDS
GTLN

The Dot Foods Vidalia Distribution Center donated \$36,000 in food and supplies to six local food pantries, delivered on the mornings of Sept. 15 and Sept. 17.

"Dots' donation will help us to continue to support seniors, working families, children and other individuals experiencing financial hardship," Bread of Heaven's Jennifer Stephens. "This gives them reassurance that their community cares."

The six organizations selected in the Vidalia area include Evergreen True

Vine Church, God's Storehouse, Vidalia Church of God, Southeast GA Community Projects, Bread of Heaven and Mount Vernon Food Pantry.

The donations were made through the company's Neighbor to Neighbor program, an annual donation program the company began in 2014. Since then, the program has donated \$2.5 million in products to local food pantries, with the program donating \$626,000 in products to 120 pantries in 2025 alone.

"Dot Foods' Neighbor to Neighbor program is especially meaningful because it gives our employees the opportunity to support the

communities where they live and work," Dot Foods' corporate charitable committee director Suzie Parn said in a press release. "Our employees get to know the local food pantries through the delivery process, while each pantry can request the food and essential products that will best meet the needs of the people they serve."

Each pantry selected for donation was allowed to select the supplies to be delivered in order to best cater to the needs of the people they serve. According to Mount Vernon Food Pantry's Mike O'Quinn, he was given \$3,000 worth of credit in an online por-

tal to make his selection, which he spent "almost to the penny."

The Mount Vernon Food Pantry has relied on Savannah's Second Harvest Food Bank as its main supplier for food, so O'Quinn said Dot Foods' involvement is a welcome addition.

"To date, all of our food has been purchased from the Second Harvest Community Food Bank in Savannah," O'Quinn said. "We are very excited to have Dot Foods as a new resource and partner! Dot's generosity will enable our food pantry to offer a wider variety of foods to those in need in our community."

Mount Vernon Food Pantry was Dot Foods' final delivery on September 17, when they brought various sauces, noodles, canned goods and other shelf stable products to the First Baptist Church where the pantry has been based for 18 months. In exchange, the pantry's volunteers offered the Dots Foods representatives goodie bags as thanks. The representatives also shared a prayer with the volunteers before they left, led by Andrew O'Neil.

According to O'Quinn, the Dots Foods donation will help the pantry during November and December, the two months when the

pantry sees the most traffic due to Thanksgiving and Christmas.

"While some of Dot's contribution will be distributed immediately, we expect a large part of it will be used to help our neighbors facing food insecurity at Thanksgiving and Christmas," O'Quinn said. "November brought our highest demand last year, so it will be a blessing to have extra shelf-stable food on hand this time around. We are so thankful that Dot Foods will be helping us respond to those in need in Montgomery County and surrounding areas."

The Mount Vernon Food Pantry distributes food on the third Thursday of every month from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Treutlen Vikings take down MoCo Eagles

Periodical — Mail Label



The Montgomery County Eagles and the Treutlen County Vikings in action on September 18 on Brogdon Field in Mount Vernon. The Vikings won 21-7/LOGAN REYNOLDS : See more photos 8A.



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DID YOU KNOW...?

Has anyone ever been appointed a general officer in the U.S. Army with no previous military experience?

By JACK BAGLEY
GTLN

Holy mackerel! Do you know what this Saturday is?
Yes, I know it's Saturday. Sheesh.
Seriously, though ... it's my birthday. Another trip around the Sun completed.
On Saturday, I will turn 68 years old ... and believe me, I feel every single day of those 68 years.
Happy birthday to me, I guess ... and I'm sure of happy trivia to you! Here's my gift. Enjoy it!

Did you know ...
... who was credited as the narrator in the 1960s TV series Batman? Not mentioned in the credits, the narrator was identified as Desmond Doomsday. The only problem was, Desmond Doomsday did not exist. The name was a pseudonym for William Dozier (1908-1991), the producer of the show. Dozier had auditioned several voice actors for the part of the series narrator, but none of them met his approval ... so he did the job himself. (Holy multiple jobs, Batman!)
... what the collective word for a group of bullfinches is? It's called a bellowing. And if you don't know what bullfinches are, they're birds, and they sing ... a lot. (Loudly.)
... the creator of The Hunger Games once wrote for a children's television show? Suzanne Collins (born 1962) wrote the classic dystopian novel series beginning in 2008, and it was made into a series of blockbuster movies. But before Collins wrote that bleak outlook on the future, she was a writer for the Nickelodeon children's series Clarissa Explains It All. (Working on a kids' show can make one dystopian. I'm just saying.)
... Venus has rainbows? On the second planet from the Sun, such phenomena are called "glories" and are perfect concentric circles of colored rings. (There's no place for a pot of gold, it seems.)
... the disappearance of an Australian pilot has never been solved? On the evening of October 21, 1978, Fredrick Valentich (1958-1978) was piloting his Cessna airplane on a 125-mile training flight over Bass Strait, south of Australia. During the flight, Valentich radioed that he he was being accompanied by an aircraft that was about a

DID YOU KNOW...?
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Being bad at math 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 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,



By KYLE DOMINY

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 de-

served, 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 sought 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.

COUCH THEATER

By DEMI TAVERAS

"Unabomber" (R)
One young actor who never came to play and is always up for a more mature role than his peers is Jacob Tremblay ("Sovereign"). Tremblay leads this crime drama as Unabomber Ted Kaczynski, opposite none other than the prolific Russell Crowe ("The Get Out") and recent Emmy winner Shailene Woodley ("Paradise"). The film alternates between two timelines, with the first spanning Kaczynski's time at Harvard University starting in 1958, where he engages in psychological experiments. Meanwhile, the second be-

gins in 1994, catapulting viewers to the FBI's pursuit of him for his crimes as a domestic terrorist. The two timelines work together to show Kaczynski's descent into becoming the Unabomber and to also provide some insight as to his motives. Look out for it on Sept. 25. (Netflix)
"American Horror Story: 13" (TV-MA)
Thirteen seasons of "American Horror Story"! Can you believe it? It seems like only yesterday that "Murder House" (2011) became a phenomenon within the horror community. Over the years, we've come to love Ryan Murphy's chic and chaotic

horror series, as well as its recurring cast of actors -- including the magical Sarah Paulson ("Monster: The Lizzie Borden Story"), Evan Peters ("Tron: Ares"), Billie Lourd ("Love Language"), and the incredible Jessica Lange ("Long Day's Journey into Night"). In this 13th season, Murphy's pulling off what he's described as an "Avengers-style crossover," with characters from his previous 12 seasons recurring to face the ultimate evil tied to the number 13. Make sure to look for characters from "Murder House," "Asylum," "Coven," "Freak Show," "Hotel" and more. The season's three-episode premiere kicks off on Sept. 24. (Hulu)

Important safety information from Atlanta Gas Light

Safety, you play a part!

Underground pipelines safely transport natural gas to homes and businesses throughout the country. Atlanta Gas Light operates, secures and maintains the pipelines in our service territories. We adhere to state and federal pipeline safety regulations, perform extensive quality control checks, educate the public on how to recognize and prevent natural gas leaks, and work closely with officials to develop emergency response plans.

You can help prevent natural gas pipeline incidents!

Excavation work, including digging or plowing around a home or business, is the most common cause of natural gas emergencies. Before digging, state law requires you contact **811** to have your utility lines professionally marked for free. After calling, you must wait the required amount of time before digging, so that underground utility lines can be located and marked.



Pipeline security depends on all of us

If you see any of the following related to pipeline facilities, please call **877.427.4321**.

- Holes in fences or open gates
- Suspicious or illegally parked vehicles on property
- Persons on or near property taking pictures
- Drones above company properties
- Unattended bags or packages
- Suspicious equipment left in open areas or hidden, such as placed in buckets or cans

See something, say something.

Pipeline markers and right of way

A pipeline right of way is a defined piece of land where pipelines are installed above or below ground. They can be identified by a wide, cleared strip of land with pipeline markers. If a pipeline right of way is adjacent to your property, you have a responsibility to ensure no new installations or physical structures are placed in the right of way. These encroachments interfere with our ability to monitor and maintain safe pipelines, as required by federal and state safety regulations. If you have a question about activity which might affect the pipeline right of way, please contact Atlanta Gas Light at **877.427.4321**.

Pipeline markers, like the one pictured, indicate the general area of the pipeline, but not its exact location or depth. A pipeline may not always be marked in all areas, so it is important to always "Call Before You Dig." If you think there is a pipeline emergency, call us at **877.427.4321**.

Information about transmission pipelines operating in your community can be accessed online at **https://www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov**, courtesy of the National Pipeline Mapping System (NPMS).

Pipeline integrity management is a process for assessing and mitigating pipeline risks to reduce the likelihood and consequences of incidents.

Our comprehensive plan that fully addresses these processes, especially for locations deemed high-consequence areas, is available at **atlantagaslight.com/integritymanagementplan**.



Stay alert and stay safe!

Natural gas pipeline incidents are uncommon, and you can help prevent them, even if you are not an Atlanta Gas Light customer. Below are tips to identify and respond to a possible natural gas leak.

LOOK for blowing dirt, discolored vegetation or continued bubbling in standing water.

LISTEN for hissing or roaring near a natural gas appliance or line.

SMELL for the distinctive, rotten-egg odor associated with natural gas. Natural gas is colorless and odorless, so we add a chemical odorant called mercaptan for easy detection. If you detect even a small amount of this odor, act immediately.

Note: "Odorant fade," while uncommon, occurs when a physical or chemical process reduces the level of odorant. This can happen in both existing natural gas pipelines and new installations. Additionally, some individuals may not be able to detect the odorant because they have a diminished sense of smell or because the scent is being masked by other odors in the area. The odorant might also diminish so that it is not detectable. Some gas lines, due to their unique function, may not have odor at all.

If you detect even a small amount of this odor in the air:

Do not try to identify the source or to stop the leak yourself.

Leave the area immediately, and move a safe distance away,

Avoid using any sources of ignition, such as cellphones, cigarettes, matches, flashlights, electronic devices, motorized vehicles, light switches or landlines, as natural gas can ignite from a spark or open flame, possibly causing a fire or explosion. While natural gas is non-toxic, in confined spaces it can displace oxygen, potentially leading to asphyxiation.

Call us at 877.427.4321 or 911 once you are safely away from the leak area.

For more information, visit **atlantagaslight.com/safety** or call **800.427.5463**.

Para solicitar una copia de esta información en español, llame al **800.427.5463** o visite **atlantagaslight.com/safetyspanish**

Emergency/Leak line: 877.427.4321



Online Survey

Please take a moment to complete a survey about natural gas safety by scanning the QR code or visiting **surveymonkey.com/r/P67VMXZ** to help us make sure we are keeping our communities safe.

George Harwood

George Harwood is a retired schoolteacher who knows much about many things. That’s because he reads a lot, has an interest in history, and thinks nothing of heading off to far-off places. He and his wife, Rita, have sojourned to Tanzania a few times, where they explored the wilds of Africa and conversed with the local folk, with a curious and empathetic bent—getting such an emotional uptick from these excursions that he is likely to outlive his friends and neighbors.

He is an introspective sports fan who loves searching for the inside story on an athlete or the performance of an accomplished star. He is a professional cooking on his grill, is fascinated with Greek mythology, and has become an expert photog-

rapher. His enthusiasm for life is a reminder that he is in step with the view of the remarkable Michelangelo, who said on his 87th birthday, “Ancora imparo,” which translates to, “I am still learning.”

One of the pleasures of George’s daily life is the hummingbird feeder on his porch, where he often stands, staring in awe of the hummers who come calling. He wanted still photos of these amazing creatures in reverent pause and set about setting his shutter speed to accommodate his objective. He shared the photos with his friends, along with such insights that hummingbird wings beat at 80 times per second. (If there is anything more startling than that, it is that when males are courting, their wings flap at 200



LORAN SMITH

times per second.) George has encyclopedic knowledge of many subjects. He reads; he keeps up. His daily intake goes beyond the nightly headlines. For example, he delights in sharing with his friends that people in Africa are beginning to realize that killing off the animals is a bad practice. They want poachers to be rendered invalid.

For example, the Maasai tribes in Kenya and Tanzania no longer condone the long-time tradition of expecting their young sons to confirm their manhood by killing a lion outfitted with only a spear and a shield.

Many communities realize the value of tourism. They realize that conservation practices are important in the face of declining lion populations with the aim of protecting wildlife. One alternative to the traditions of the past is that there are the Maasai Olympic games.

The Harwoods will be making their third trip to Africa after the first of the year. They were introduced to “The Motherland” by joining a tour organized by a well-known minister in Gwinnett County, James Merritt.

With a deep and abiding interest in history, George remains enthralled by Greek mythology. When he visits ancient sites, he makes sure

he knows as much as possible about where he spends time. When he and Rita went to Ephesus, they were armed with a detailed study of Ephesians and the works of the Apostle Paul.

At the temple of Artemis, George was overwhelmed, as most visitors are, by one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. When he visited Istanbul and saw the Bosphorus Strait, he photographed this fascinating body of water where giant tankers and fishermen dinghies ply its waters side by side. He was armed with facts about the 19-mile Bosphorus and knew more about this natural strait than the tour guide.

I got to know George via his father-in-law, Billy Bryant, longtime postmaster in Lexington, a man who was gifted at grilling chicken halves for a popular fall dove shoot, hosted by William Porterfield and John

“Kid” Terrell. While George has an intellectual curiosity, he also has affection for downhome lifestyle and an appreciation for flower and vegetable gardens and the outdoors. He knows about herbal medicine, which he experienced in Tanzania when an acacia thorn became embedded in his right forearm. He dined for over a week with a Hadzabe tribe, one of the last group of hunter-gatherers remaining in the world and raved about the food. Perhaps George will write a book about his many travels and insights for us to enjoy and refer to. My guess is that we can clap our hands thrice in a second while the hummingbirds on his porch come with 240 flaps of their wings in tribute to a retired teacher who, like Michealangelo, is with each passing birthday still learning.

Georgia Politics: “Affordability” Meets The Cost Of State Government

We’re less than a month out from statewide elections that will determine Georgia’s leadership for the next four years. Regardless which party wins, there will be new people sworn in as Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Attorney General. Those positions alone are enough to change the tone, tenor, and trajectory of the state before you factor in changes that will occur in the composition of the state legislature.

Candidates are mostly emphasizing what they will change. It’s equally important to understand where they will be starting from.

Campaigns are fueled by vibes. Actual decisions made once winners are sworn in are rooted in data.

While the Tea Party has morphed into MAGA, the general sentiment of the right is that voters are Taxed Enough Already. The left, meanwhile, likes to promise unlimited spending for virtually any and every cause, if only “the billionaires” would pay for it.

The reality is that most of the tax burden at the state level falls to the broadest section of the middle class. There are pledges to cut tax-



CHARLIE HARPER
GEORGIA POLITICS

es. Both income and property taxes are frequently mentioned. Both present real expenses to everyday Georgians.

“Affordability” is the new buzzword to discuss inflation, that was off limits from most major news sources as an issue during the 2024 campaign cycle. Now it’s among the top issues.

Republicans want to point out that the rate of inflation was higher under President Biden. Democrats want voters to blame tariff policies and war with Iran as the reasons items cost more.

There’s evidence to support both side’s claims.

These are macroeconomic issues that bring voter angst into state elections. State leaders can’t fix the national and international economic issues nor monetary climate. They are responsible, however, for setting state policies that maximize the local economy’s potential, protect the quality of life, provide for a quality education, and provide for common infrastructure.

All of these responsibilities which fall to state and local leaders cost money. They too have “affordability” issues. Inflation causes the cost of government to go up too. The goods government must buy – from construction materials to build roads, equipment for offices, cars for the State Patrol, and generally all other items the state buys costs a lot more than it did a decade ago. Likewise, the salaries of those who work on behalf of us in government roles also increases with inflation to keep wages competitive.

Voters noticing that a pound of ground beef can cost \$9 or more are in no

mood to be told the cost of government is also going up. They want tax cuts. That’s natural.

It’s also natural to be told that you’re taxed too much. Even the party that wants to increase taxes won’t tell their voters they want to tax THEM more. They just say someone else will pay.

That’s the rhetoric. The Urban Institute gives us a place to start a real discussion with some facts.

They compare all fifty states. They then combine all local and state government spending, and divide that by the state’s population. The result is the amount each state pays per capita for government services. Their most current data is compiled through 2023’s data.

In a prior report 2 years ago, Georgia was the state with the lowest cost of state and local government. The most current report shows spending increasing slightly faster than others, but Georgia still coming in with the 4th lowest cost per person, at \$9,960.

The three states that beat Georgia are Tennessee (\$9,221), Idaho (9,422), and

Nevada (\$9,514). For comparison, other neighboring states in order of spending are Florida (\$10,484), Alabama (\$10,947), North Carolina (\$10,955), and South Carolina (11,121).

A state many wish Georgia could emulate on tax policy, Texas, spends \$10,777 per person. They fund this with oil extraction revenues Georgia doesn’t have, and roughly double the property taxes that Georgia’s local governments have, but the state does not.

Two states often the deserved targets for fiscal derision rank 48th for California (\$17,527) and 49th for New York (\$18,450). The highest is somewhat of a structural anomaly, with Alaska having a very low population base over a very widely dispersed geography spending \$20,472, with much of their burden also offset by oil extraction fees rather than personally paid taxes.

So Georgia is almost as lean as any other state, and a lot more efficient than the worst. But again, notice this is state AND local spending. The state has actually been actively rolling back income

tax rates. State gas taxes no longer rise with the price of gasoline. The state no longer collects property taxes.

Quite a few Georgians are noticing local governments advertising hearings on increasing property taxes. Many of these entities are promoting millage rate rollbacks, despite the fact that increased tax assessments are increasing revenues to local governments.

Much of what the state collects flows directly back to local governments. Education Funds are chief among them, but many other programs have dedicated local government funding components.

Legislators have grown tired of getting beaten up for the increasing cost of government, then watching local governments take their payouts and turn around and increase taxes through local assessments.

The takeaway here today is likely going to be friction in January. Georgia remains lean, but the costs relative to other states is going up. Legislators will assert the blame lies with local commissions, councils, and school boards.

Niece searching for uncle missing in action in Vietnam finds him elsewhere

You have read my accounts of my fraternity brother at UGA, Pat Boggs, a Marine Corps pilot who went missing in action during the Vietnam War. One of my columns wondering what had happened to him made it to Monterey, California, where his brother-in-law, Ron Breuch, filled me in on the details. Maj. Boggs had been killed on a bombing mission in North Vietnam when his plane hit a karst, a limestone formation prominent on the coast. Total devastation. Nothing found but harnesses and a pistol.

Pat’s niece, Aileen Wetzel, who never got to meet her uncle, recently went to Vietnam and visited the site where his plane had crashed. She shared her mystical and spiritual experience with me. I feel compelled to share it with you. It is about being lost and found. Here is her story:

“In my early 20s, a business trip took me to Washington, D.C. My mother asked me to visit the Vietnam Wall and bring home a pencil rubbing of her brother’s name.

“As I started to walk the length of the black granite wall, my gaze lifted from the flowers and mementos left on the ground and the



DICK YARBROUGH

first name I read was Major Paschal G. Boggs, my Uncle Pat. I still can’t explain it. It felt like a tap on the shoulder. A reminder: I’m here.

“When I decided to go to Vietnam in August, I carried that experience with me. I believed that if I had felt him at the Wall, then surely I would feel him here.

“Eventually, I found myself on Ha Long Bay, a two-hour drive from Hanoi and a mere 8 kilometers from the crash site.

“As I stood on the boat, the water was calm beneath us, interrupted by those extraordinary limestone karsts rising almost impossibly from the sea — immense, ancient shapes. Some stood alone. Others appeared one behind an-

other through the haze, fading into shades of gray until it was difficult to tell where the stone ended and the sky began.

“It was breathtaking. Somewhere above this water, Pat had flown. On his last mission, he would have looked down upon this same landscape. The thought stopped me.

“Nearly sixty years separated us, and yet for a moment we occupied the same geography — the same sea, the same impossible limestone formations, perhaps even the same horizon.

“I tried to imagine what he had seen from the cockpit. Had he noticed the beauty beneath him? Had the karsts looked small from the air, scattered across the water like stones? Was the bay clear that night, or hidden beneath clouds? Did he know these would be among the last mountains, the last water, the last pieces of earth he would ever see?

“I watched the limestone cliffs pass slowly beside me. And I waited. I waited for what had happened before. For the coincidence. For the sudden certainty that something had shifted. For that familiar tap on my shoulder. I’m here.

“But nothing came.

There was only the water, the mountains, the sky. And silence. What overwhelmed me on Ha Long Bay was not Pat’s presence. It was his absence. He wasn’t there.

“And there it was. An epiphany that nearly knocked me to my knees. Maybe the dead do not stay where they die. Maybe they stay where they are loved.

“I thought about the Wall. I thought about Pat’s name carved into the black granite. I thought about the hands that have touched those names. The flowers left beneath them. The photographs. The letters. The people who stand silently before more than fifty-eight thousand names searching for a loved one.

“And perhaps that is why I could feel Pat at the Wall but could not feel him in Ha Long Bay. Vietnam could show me the water he flew over. It could show me the mountains he saw. But it could not tell me where he went. Perhaps there was nothing of Pat left for me to find in Vietnam because he had not been left behind.

“As our boat moved quietly through Ha Long Bay, another limestone

karst emerged through the haze. I looked up and a hawk, a Black Kite to be specific, was gliding effortlessly through the air. Mom passed away years ago, but she frequently comes to me in the form of a hawk. She was there. And maybe that was the

tap on the shoulder I had traveled so far to find.”

Maj. Pat Boggs is not in Vietnam. Once lost. He has been found. His spirit is here. He is at home, where he belongs. Well done, good and faithful servant.

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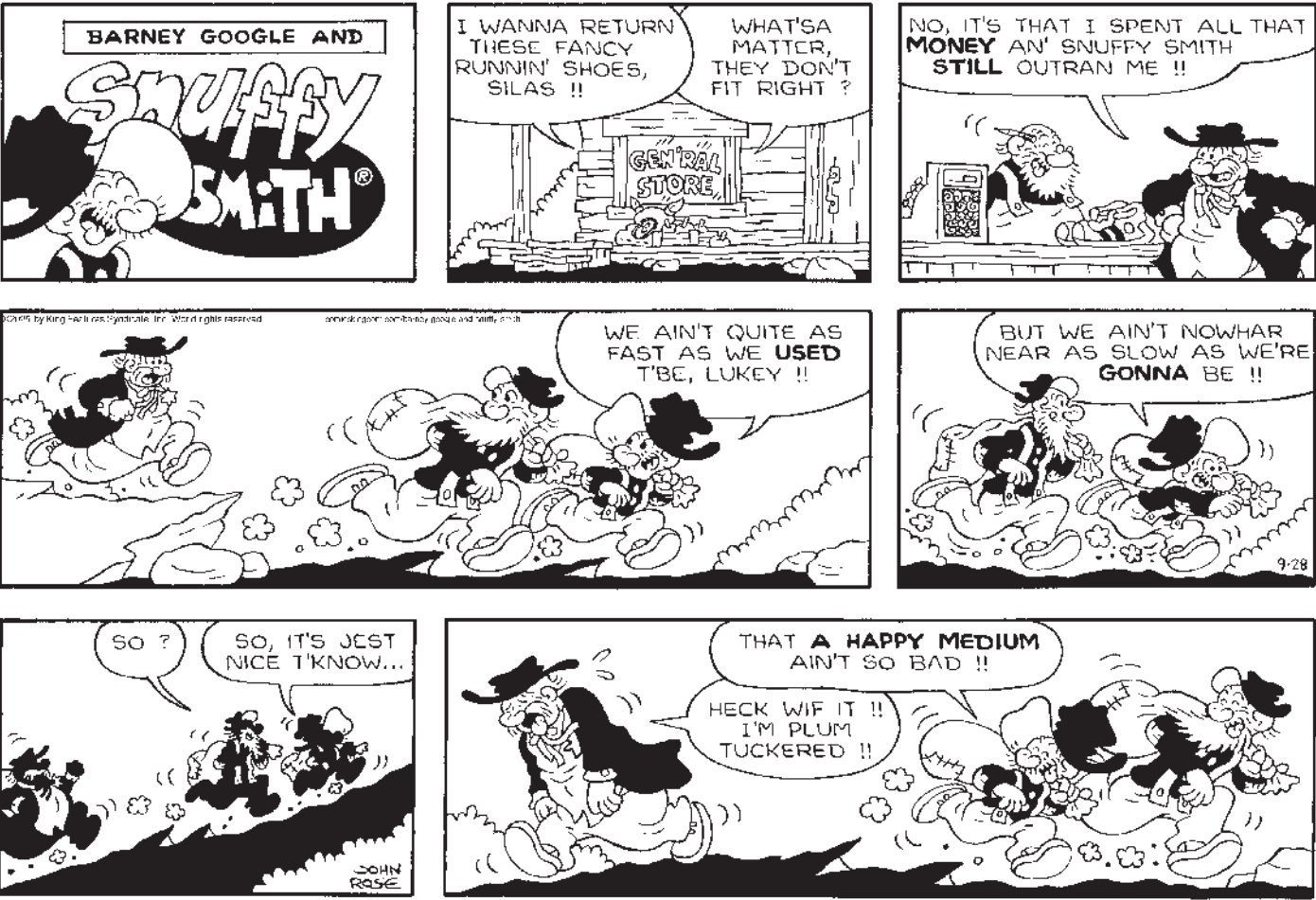
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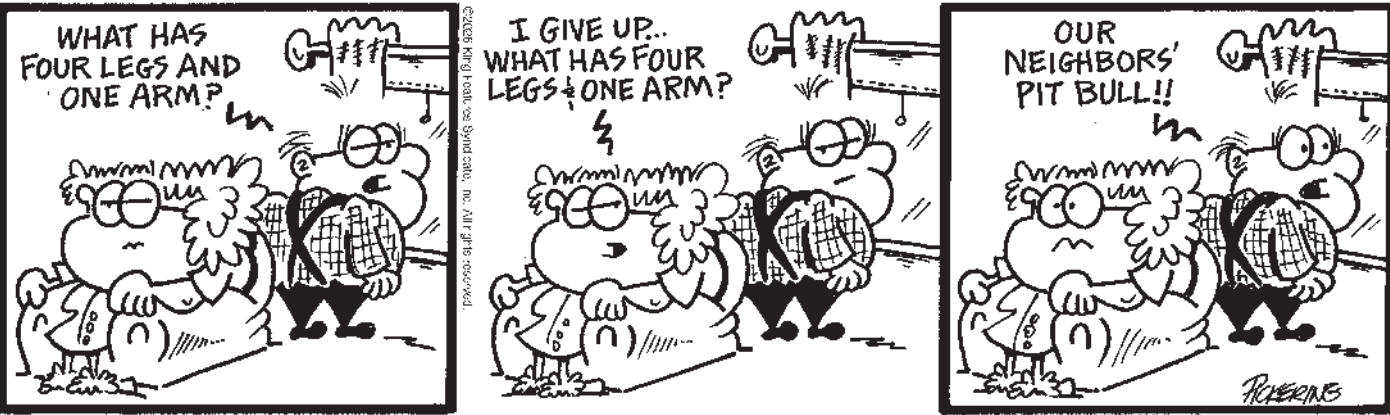
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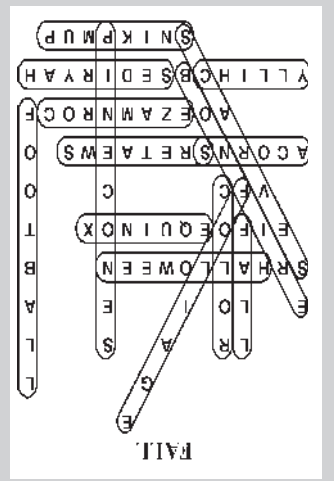
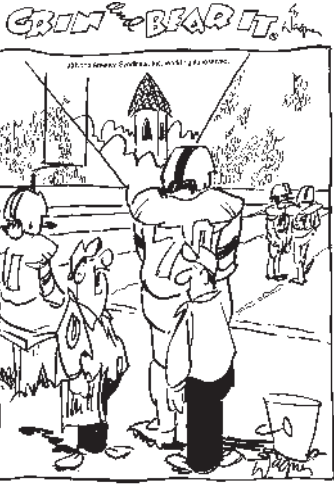
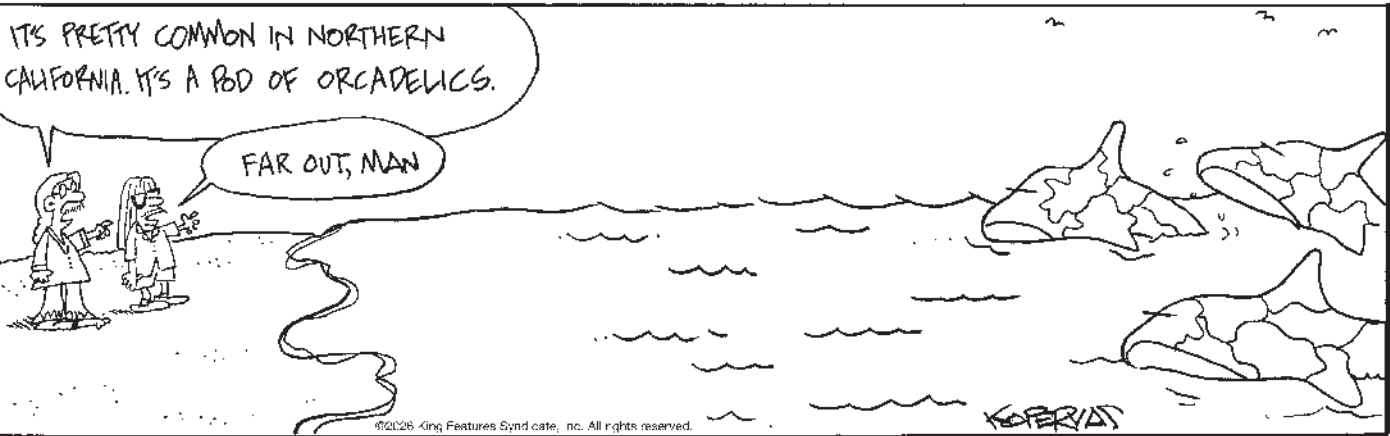
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The Spats



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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
Unlisted clue hint: THE YIELD FROM CROPS

- Acorns
Bonfire
Chilly
Color
- Corn maze
Equinox
Fall
Foliage
- Football
Halloween
Hayrides
Pine cones
- Pumpkins
Scarves
Sweaters

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Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



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.



WIGGINS FOOT & ANKLE ASSOCIATES, P.C.
Specializing in Diabetic Foot Care • Corns Callouses • Hammer Toes • Bunions • Warts Ingrown Toe Nails • Aching Feet • Heel Pain
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LEGALS

TREUTLEN CO. LEGALS

S26-048

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF
STATE OF GEORGIA
TREUTLEN COUNTY

IN RE: ESTATE OF CHARLENE MARIE
FOSKEY, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 26-P-41

PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINIS-
TRATION NOTICE

TO: WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

PAMELA RICHARDSON HAS PETI-
TIONED FOR PAMELA RICHARDSON,
TO BE APPOINTED ADMINISTRATOR(S)
OF THE ESTATE OF CHARLENE MARIE
FOSKEY

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 16, 2026.

BE NOTIFIED FURTHER: ALL OBJEC-
TIONS 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 OB-
JECTIONS ARE FILED, A HEARING WILL
BE SCHEDULED AT A LATER DATE.
IF NO OBJECTIONS ARE FILED, THE
PETITION MAY BE GRANTED WITHOUT
A HEARING.

TIFFANY W. MCLENDON
JUDGE OF THE PROBATE COURT

BY:
CLERK OF THE PROBATE COURT
650 SECOND STREET, SUITE IO I SOP-
ERTON, GA 30457 ADDRESS
912-529-4320

SEPTEMBER 24, OCTOBER 1, 8, 15,
2026

S26-044

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF
TREUTLEN COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: ESTATE OF AMANDA LAVON
NEWKIRK, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 26-P-37

PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINIS-
TRATION NOTICE

TO: WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

HANNAH MARIE POWELL HAS PETI-
TIONED FOR HANNAH MARIE POWELL
TO BE APPOINTED ADMINISTRATOR(S)
OF THE ESTATE OF AMANDA LA-
VON NEWKIRK DECEASED, OF SAID
COUNTY. (THE PETITIONER HAS ALSO
APPLIED FOR WAIVER OF BOND, WAI-
VER OF REPORTS, WAIVER OF STATE-
MENTS, 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 SEPTEMBER 25, 2026.

BE NOTIFIED FURTHER: ALL OBJEC-
TIONS 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 OB-
JECTIONS ARE FILED, A HEARING WILL
BE SCHEDULED AT A LATER DATE.
IF NO OBJECTIONS ARE FILED, THE
PETITION MAY BE GRANTED WITHOUT
A HEARING.

TIFFANY W. MCLENDON
JUDGE OF THE PROBATE COURT

BY:
CLERK OF THE PROBATE COURT
650 SECOND STREET, SUITE 101
SOPERTON, GA 30457
912-529-4320

SEPTEMBER 3, 10, 17, 24, 2026

S26-045

DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAX SALE
UNDER AND BY VIRTUE OF CER-
TAIN TAX FI. FA.'S ISSUED BY THE
TAX COMMISSIONER OF TREUTLEN
COUNTY,
GEORGIA, IN FAVOR OF THE STATE
OF GEORGIA AND COUNTY OF
TREUTLEN COUNTY, AGAINST THE
FOLLOWING NAMED PERSONS AND
THE PROPERTY AS DESCRIBED NEXT
TO THEIR RESPECTIVE NAME(S).
THEY WILL BE SOLD FOR CASH
OR CERTIFIED FUNDS AT PUBLIC
OUTCRY, BEFORE THE COURTHOUSE
DOOR IN SOPERTON, TREUTLEN
COUNTY, GEORGIA, BETWEEN THE
LEGAL HOURS OF SALE, ON THE
FIRST TUESDAY IN OCTOBER 2026,
THE SAME BEING OCTOBER 6TH,
2026, AND CONTINUING ON OCTOBER
7TH, 2026, IF NECESSARY, BETWEEN
THE LEGAL HOURS OF SALE, 10:00
AM AND 4:00 PM. THE BELOW LISTED
AND DESCRIBED PROPERTIES, OR
AS MUCH THEREOF AS WILL SATIS-
FY THE STATE AND COUNTY TAX
EXECUTION ON THE RESPECTIVE
INDIVIDUAL AND PROPERTY. THE
PROPERTY (IES) HEREINAFTER DE-
SCRIBED HAVE BEEN LIEVED ON AS
THE PROPERTY OF THE PERSONS
WHOSE NAMES IMMEDIATELY PRE-
CEDE THE PROPERTY DESCRIPTION.
EACH OF THE RESPECTIVE PARCELS
OF PROPERTY ARE IN TREUTLEN
COUNTY, STATE OF GEORGIA.
THE YEARS FOR WHICH SAID FI.
FA.'S ARE ISSUED AND LEVIED ARE
STATED OPPOSITE THE NAME OF
THE OWNER IN EACH CASE. EACH
DEFENDANT AND TENANT IN POS-
SESSION, IF APPLICABLE, HAS BEEN
NOTIFIED OF LEVY TIME AND PLACE
OF SALE. PURCHASER SHALL PAY
FOR TITLE, ALL TRANSFER COSTS,
ALL TAXES, ADVERTISING COSTS
AND RECORDING FEES.

MAP & PARCEL: 007023A
DEFENDANT IN FI-FA: DAVIS, SIDNEY SHANE
CURRENT RECORD HOLDER: DAVIS, SIDNEY SHANE
CRH ADDRESS: 2293 RED BLUFF
CHURCH ROAD
SOPERTON, GA 30457
AMOUNT DUE: \$ 2,256.59
TAX YEARS DUE: 2025, 2024, 2023
DEED BOOK: 136/605

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: ALL
THAT TRACT OF LAND BEING IN THE:
STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY OF
TREUTLEN, 1687TH
GMD, BEING 21.97 ACRES, MORE
OR LESS. AS SHOWN IN PLAT BOOK
4, PAGE 363, OR AS FURTHER DE-
SCRIBED IN DEED BOOK 136, PAGE
605. LESS & EXCEPT: 46.05 ACRES,
19.03 ACRES & 4.9 ACRES. BEING
KNOWN AS TAX MAP & PARCEL
007023A, TREUTLEN COUNTY,
GEORGIA.

MAP & PARCEL: 009040
DEFENDANT IN FI-FA: JACK-
SON, WILLIE FRANK
CURRENT RECORD HOLDER: JACK-
SON, WILLIE FRANK & MISTY P.
CRH ADDRESS: 2982 ROSEMONT
CHURCH ROAD
SOPERTON, GA 30457
AMOUNT DUE: \$ 3,536.31
TAX YEARS DUE: 2025, 2024, 2023
DEED BOOK: 146/10
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: ALL
THAT TRACT OF LAND BEING IN THE:
STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY OF
TREUTLEN, 1221ST
GMD, BEING 0.443 ACRES, MORE
OR LESS. AS SHOWN IN PLAT BOOK
10, PAGE 333, OR AS FURTHER DE-
SCRIBED IN DEED BOOK 146, PAGE
10. BEING KNOWN AS TAX MAP &
PARCEL 009040, TREUTLEN COUNTY,
GEORGIA.

MAP & PARCEL: 015010A
DEFENDANT IN FI-FA: SINGLETARY, JR. ANTONY MAURICE
CURRENT RECORD HOLDER: SINGLETARY, ANTONY MAURICE, JR. & SINGLETARY, ASIA MICHEL-LE
CRH ADDRESS: 7233 GA HIGHWAY 29
SOPERTON, GA 30457
AMOUNT DUE: \$ 594.97
TAX YEARS DUE: 2025, 2024, 2023
DEED BOOK: 130/64
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: ALL
THAT TRACT OF LAND BEING IN THE:
STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY OF
TREUTLEN, 1687TH GMD, BEING 1.17
ACRES, MORE OR LESS. AS SHOWN
IN PLAT BOOK 7, PAGE 287. OR
AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN DEED
BOOK 130, PAGE 64. BEING KNOWN
AS TAX MAP & PARCEL 015010A,
TREUTLEN COUNTY, GEORGIA.

MAP & PARCEL: 017062A
DEFENDANT IN FI-FA: JACK-
SON, KEELAN M.
CURRENT RECORD HOLDER: JACK-
SON, KEELAN M.
CRH ADDRESS: 218 WATERFORD
TRAIL
DUBLIN, GA 31021
AMOUNT DUE: \$ 1,572.68
TAX YEARS DUE: 2025, 2024, 2023
DEED BOOK: 170/616
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: ALL
THAT TRACT OF LAND BEING IN
THE: STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY
OF TREUTLEN, 1221ST GMD, BEING
13.86 ACRES, MORE OR LESS. BEING
TRACT 1. AS SHOWN IN PLAT BOOK
20001, PAGE 10. OR AS FURTHER
DESCRIBED IN DEED BOOK 170,
PAGE 616. BEING KNOWN AS TAX
MAP & PARCEL 017062A, TREUTLEN
COUNTY, GEORGIA.

MAP & PARCEL: 022061
DEFENDANT IN FI-FA: DEN-
HAM, JONATHAN
CURRENT RECORD HOLDER: DEN-
HAM, JONATHAN
CRH ADDRESS: 5705 GA HIGHWAY
221 SOPERTON, GA 30457
AMOUNT DUE: \$ 774.01
TAX YEARS DUE: 2025, 2024, 2023
DEED BOOK: 166/293
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: ALL
THAT TRACT OF LAND BEING IN THE:
STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY OF
TREUTLEN, 1386TH GMD, BEING 1.21
ACRES, MORE OR LESS. AS SHOWN
IN PLAT BOOK 5, PAGE 291. OR
AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN DEED
BOOK 166, PAGE 293. BEING KNOWN
AS TAX MAP & PARCEL 022061,
TREUTLEN COUNTY, GEORGIA.

MAP & PARCEL: 023016A
DEFENDANT IN FI-FA: SWEARINGEN, JOSEPH G.
CURRENT RECORD HOLDER: HEIRS
KNOWN & UNKNOWN OF SWEARIN-
GEN, JOSEPH G., DECEASED
CRH ADDRESS: 586 VIOLET HILL
ROAD
SOPERTON, GA 30457
AMOUNT DUE: \$ 994.80
TAX YEARS DUE: 2025, 2024, 2023
DEED BOOK: 132/201
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: ALL
THAT TRACT OF LAND BEING IN
THE: STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY
OF TREUTLEN, CITY OF SOPERTON,
1386TH GMD, BEING 3.7 ACRES,
MORE OR LESS. AS SHOWN IN PLAT
BOOK 7, PAGE 99. OR AS FURTHER DE-
SCRIBED IN DEED BOOK 132, PAGE
201. BEING KNOWN AS TAX MAP &
PARCEL 023016A, TREUTLEN COUN-
TY, GEORGIA.

MAP & PARCEL: 023037B
DEFENDANT IN FI-FA: JACK-
SON, TYRICA DENISE
CURRENT RECORD HOLDER: JACK-
SON, TYRICA DENISE
CRH ADDRESS: 1024 FLORIDA AVE-
NUE
SOPERTON, GA 30457
AMOUNT DUE: \$ 551.57
TAX YEARS DUE: 2025, 2024, 2023
DEED BOOK: 170/116
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: ALL
THAT TRACT OF LAND BEING IN
THE: STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY
OF TREUTLEN, CITY OF SOPERTON,
1386TH GMD, BEING 1.5 ACRES,
MORE OR LESS. AS SHOWN IN PLAT
BOOK 5, PAGE 351. OR AS FURTHER DE-
SCRIBED IN DEED BOOK 170, PAGE
116. BEING KNOWN AS TAX MAP &
PARCEL 023037B, TREUTLEN COUN-
TY, GEORGIA.

MAP & PARCEL: 023058
DEFENDANT IN FI-FA: VES-
SELL, LISA
CURRENT RECORD HOLDER: VES-
SELL, LISA
CRH ADDRESS: 63 CASCADE CIRCLE
SOPERTON, GA 30457
AMOUNT DUE: \$ 594.97
TAX YEARS DUE: 2025, 2024, 2023
DEED BOOK: 148/295
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: ALL
THAT TRACT OF LAND BEING IN THE:
STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY OF
TREUTLEN, CITY OF
SOPERTON, 1386TH GMD, BEING
0.97 ACRES, MORE OR LESS. BEING
LOT 5. AS SHOWN IN PLAT BOOK
6, PAGE 493. OR AS FURTHER DE-
SCRIBED IN DEED BOOK 148, PAGE
295. BEING KNOWN AS TAX MAP &
PARCEL 023058, TREUTLEN COUNTY,
GEORGIA.

MAP & PARCEL: 024048C
DEFENDANT IN FI-FA: MANN, JONATHAN SCOTT
CURRENT RECORD HOLDER: MANN, JONATHAN SCOTT

CRH ADDRESS: 698 GEIGER STREET
WEST
MOUNT VERNON, GA 30445
AMOUNT DUE: \$ 464.53
TAX YEARS DUE: 2025, 2024, 2023
DEED BOOK: 165/645
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: ALL
THAT TRACT OF LAND BEING IN THE:
STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY OF
TREUTLEN, 1386TH GMD, BEING 1.00
ACRE, MORE OR LESS. AS SHOWN
IN PLAT BOOK 7, PAGE 333. OR
AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN DEED
BOOK 165, PAGE 645. BEING KNOWN
AS TAX MAP & PARCEL 024048C,
TREUTLEN COUNTY, GEORGIA.

MAP & PARCEL: 024071
DEFENDANT IN FI-FA: MANN, JONATHAN SCOTT
CURRENT RECORD HOLDER: MANN, JONATHAN SCOTT
CRH ADDRESS: 698 GEIGER STREET
WEST
MOUNT VERNON, GA 30445
AMOUNT DUE: \$ 482.14
TAX YEARS DUE: 2025, 2024, 2023
DEED BOOK: 165/647
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: ALL
THAT TRACT OF LAND BEING IN THE:
STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY OF
TREUTLEN, 1386TH GMD, BEING 1.00
ACRE, MORE OR LESS. AS SHOWN
IN PLAT BOOK 7, PAGE 123. OR
AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN DEED
BOOK 165, PAGE 647. BEING KNOWN
AS TAX MAP & PARCEL 024071,
TREUTLEN COUNTY, GEORGIA.

MAP & PARCEL: 031028D
DEFENDANT IN FI-FA: KIGHT, WOODROW R JR
CURRENT RECORD HOLDER: HEIRS
KNOWN & UNKNOWN OF KIGHT, W.R.
JR. A/K/A KIGHT, WOODROW R. JR.,
DECEASED
CRH ADDRESS: 2695 OLD LOUISVILLE
ROAD
SOPERTON, GA 30457
AMOUNT DUE: \$ 831.42
TAX YEARS DUE: 2025, 2024, 2023
DEED BOOK: 139/525
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: ALL
THAT TRACT OF LAND BEING IN THE:
STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY OF
TREUTLEN, 1386TH
GMD, BEING 1.00 ACRE, MORE OR
LESS. AS SHOWN IN PLAT BOOK
7, PAGE 322. OR AS FURTHER DE-
SCRIBED IN DEED BOOK 139, PAGE
525. BEING KNOWN AS TAX MAP &
PARCEL 031028D, TREUTLEN COUN-
TY, GEORGIA.

MAP & PARCEL: 041016E
DEFENDANT IN FI-FA: GILLIS, ALTON JR.
CURRENT RECORD HOLDER: GILLIS, ALTON JR.
CRH ADDRESS: 206 NORTH JEFFER-
SON STREET
LYONS, GA 30436
AMOUNT DUE: \$ 829.61
TAX YEARS DUE: 2025, 2024, 2023
DEED BOOK: 21001/68
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: ALL
THAT TRACT OF LAND BEING IN THE:
STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY OF
TREUTLEN, 1764TH
GMD, BEING 3.978 ACRES, MORE
OR LESS. AS SHOWN IN PLAT BOOK
21001, PAGE 1. OR AS
FURTHER DESCRIBED IN DEED
BOOK 21001, PAGE 68. BEING
KNOWN AS TAX MAP & PARCEL
041016E, TREUTLEN COUNTY, GEOR-
GIA.

MAP & PARCEL: 041025A
DEFENDANT IN FI-FA: PHIL-
LIPS, BOBBY L.
CURRENT RECORD HOLDER: HEIRS
KNOWN & UNKNOWN OF PHILLIPS,
BOBBY L., DECEASED
CRH ADDRESS: 615 HORSESHOE
BEND
SOPERTON, GA 30457
AMOUNT DUE: \$ 519.04
TAX YEARS DUE: 2025, 2024, 2023
DEED BOOK: 20001/227
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: ALL
THAT TRACT OF LAND BEING IN
THE: STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY
OF TREUTLEN, 1763RD GMD, BEING
0.57 ACRES, MORE OR LESS. AS
SHOWN IN PLAT BOOK 5, PAGE 319.
OR AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN
DEED BOOK 20001, PAGE 227. BEING
KNOWN AS TAX MAP & PARCEL
041025A, TREUTLEN COUNTY, GEOR-
GIA.

MAP & PARCEL: S004002I
DEFENDANT IN FI-FA: JOHNSON, CHARLIE B.
CURRENT RECORD HOLDER: CB
JOHNSON CONSTRUCTION & MASO-
NARY, INC.
CRH ADDRESS: 735 JW WARREN
ROAD
EAST DUBLIN, GA 31027
AMOUNT DUE: \$ 594.97
TAX YEARS DUE: 2025, 2024, 2023
DEED BOOK: 133/548
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: ALL
THAT TRACT OF LAND BEING IN THE:
STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY OF
TREUTLEN, CITY OF
SOPERTON, 1386TH GMD, BEING
0.74 ACRES, MORE OR LESS. BEING
LOTS 9 & 10, OF WINDY HILLS
SUBDIVISION. AS SHOWN IN PLAT
BOOK 6, PAGE 541. OR AS FURTHER
DESCRIBED IN DEED BOOK 133,
PAGE 548. BEING KNOWN AS TAX
MAP & PARCEL S004002I, TREUTLEN
COUNTY, GEORGIA.

MAP & PARCEL: S004035
DEFENDANT IN FI-FA: JOHNSON, CHARLIE
CURRENT RECORD HOLDER: JOHNSON, CHARLIE
CRH ADDRESS: 1455 FOREST AVE-
NUE
SOPERTON, GA 30457
AMOUNT DUE: \$ 1,027.84
TAX YEARS DUE: 2025, 2024, 2023
DEED BOOK: 155/471
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: ALL
THAT TRACT OF LAND BEING IN
THE: STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY
OF TREUTLEN, CITY OF SOPERTON,
1386TH GMD, BEING 0.723 ACRES,
MORE OR LESS. BEING PART OF
PARCEL 2B. AS SHOWN IN PLAT
BOOK 4, PAGE 192 & PLAT BOOK
4, PAGE 367. OR AS FURTHER DE-
SCRIBED IN DEED BOOK 155, PAGE
471. LESS & EXCEPT: 0.28 ACRES
IN MAP & PARCEL S004036. BEING
KNOWN AS TAX MAP & PARCEL
S004035, TREUTLEN COUNTY, GEOR-
GIA.

MAP & PARCEL: S004036
DEFENDANT IN FI-FA: JOHNSON, CHARLIE
CURRENT RECORD HOLDER: JOHNSON, CHARLIE
CRH ADDRESS: 1455 FOREST AVE-
NUE
SOPERTON, GA 30457
AMOUNT DUE: \$ 447.33
TAX YEARS DUE: 2025, 2024, 2023
DEED BOOK: 155/471
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: ALL
THAT TRACT OF LAND BEING IN
THE: STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY
OF TREUTLEN, CITY OF SOPERTON,
1386TH GMD, BEING 0.28 ACRES,

MORE OR LESS. BEING PART OF
PARCEL 2B. AS
SHOWN IN PLAT BOOK 8, PAGE 192.
OR AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN
DEED BOOK 155, PAGE 471. BEING
KNOWN AS TAX MAP & PARCEL
S004036, TREUTLEN COUNTY, GEOR-
GIA.

MAP & PARCEL: S004054
DEFENDANT IN FI-FA: JOHNSON, CHARLIE B
CURRENT RECORD HOLDER: JOHNSON, CHARFLIE, A/K/A JOHN-
SON, CHARLIE B
CRH ADDRESS: 1455 FOREST AVE-
NUE
SOPERTON, GA 30457
AMOUNT DUE: \$ 607.34
TAX YEARS DUE: 2025, 2024, 2023
DEED BOOK: 133/789
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: ALL
THAT TRACT OF LAND BEING IN THE:
STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY OF
TREUTLEN, CITY OF
SOPERTON, 1386TH GMD, BEING
0.16 ACRES, MORE OR LESS. OR
AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN DEED
BOOK 133, PAGE 789. BEING KNOWN
AS TAX MAP & PARCEL S004054,
TREUTLEN COUNTY, GEORGIA.

MAP & PARCEL: S004055
DEFENDANT IN FI-FA: JOHNSON, CHARLIE
CURRENT RECORD HOLDER: JOHNSON, CHARLIE
CRH ADDRESS: 1455 FOREST AVE-
NUE
SOPERTON, GA 30457
AMOUNT DUE: \$ 625.56
TAX YEARS DUE: 2025, 2024, 2023
DEED BOOK: 134/694
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: ALL
THAT TRACT OF LAND BEING IN
THE: STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY
OF TREUTLEN, CITY OF SOPERTON,
1386TH GMD, BEING 0.16 ACRES,
MORE OR LESS. OR AS FURTHER
DESCRIBED IN
DEED BOOK 134, PAGE 694. BEING
KNOWN AS TAX MAP & PARCEL
S004055, TREUTLEN COUNTY, GEOR-
GIA.

MAP & PARCEL: S006004
DEFENDANT IN FI-FA: BAK-
ER, FREDERICK D
CURRENT RECORD HOLDER: BAK-
ER, FREDERICK D.
CRH ADDRESS: PO BOX 211
SOPERTON, GA 30457
AMOUNT DUE: \$ 608.18
TAX YEARS DUE: 2025, 2024, 2023
DEED BOOK: 62/550
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: ALL
THAT TRACT OF LAND BEING IN
THE: STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY
OF TREUTLEN, CITY OF SOPERTON,
1386TH GMD, BEING 0.66 ACRES,
MORE OR LESS. BEING LOTS 6 & 7
OF ERNEST HODGES SUBDIVISION.
AS SHOWN IN PLAT BOOK 4, PAGE
64. OR AS FURTHER DESCRIBED AS
TRACT ONE IN DEED BOOK 62, PAGE
550. BEING KNOWN AS TAX MAP &
PARCEL S006004, TREUTLEN COUN-
TY, GEORGIA.

MAP & PARCEL: S006005
DEFENDANT IN FI-FA: BAK-
ER, FREDERICK D
CURRENT RECORD HOLDER: BAK-
ER, FREDERICK D.
CRH ADDRESS: PO BOX 211
SOPERTON, GA 30457
AMOUNT DUE: \$ 377.89
TAX YEARS DUE: 2025, 2024, 2023
DEED BOOK: 62/550
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: ALL
THAT TRACT OF LAND BEING IN
THE: STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY
OF TREUTLEN, CITY OF SOPERTON,
1386TH GMD, BEING 0.57 ACRES,
MORE OR LESS. BEING TRACT 2. AS
DESCRIBED
IN DEED BOOK 62, PAGE 550. BEING
KNOWN AS TAX MAP & PARCEL
S006005, TREUTLEN COUNTY,
GEORGIA.

MAP & PARCEL: S010013
DEFENDANT IN FI-FA: RICH-
ARDS, EARNEST & SPENCE
CURRENT RECORD HOLDER: RICH-
ARDS, EARNEST & SPENCE
CRH ADDRESS: 56 LAKESIDE TRAIL
TALLASSEE, AL 36078
AMOUNT DUE: \$ 361.41
TAX YEARS DUE: 2025, 2023
DEED BOOK: 87/388
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: ALL
THAT TRACT OF LAND BEING IN
THE: STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY
OF TREUTLEN, CITY OF SOPERTON,
1386TH GMD, BEING 13. ACRES,
MORE OR LESS. AS SHOWN IN PLAT
BOOK 1, PAGE 53. OR AS FURTHER
DESCRIBED IN DEED BOOK 87, PAGE
388. BEING KNOWN AS TAX MAP &
PARCEL S010013, TREUTLEN COUN-
TY, GEORGIA.

MAP & PARCEL: S010018
DEFENDANT IN FI-FA: RICH-
ARDS, EARNEST
CURRENT RECORD HOLDER: HEIRS
KNOWN & UNKNOWN OF RICHARDS,
EARNEST, DECEASED
CRH ADDRESS: 56 LAKESIDE TRAIL
TALLASSEE, AL 36078
AMOUNT DUE: \$ 401.29
TAX YEARS DUE: 2025, 2023
DEED BOOK: 35/160
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: ALL
THAT TRACT OF LAND BEING IN
THE: STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY
OF TREUTLEN, CITY OF SOPERTON,
1386TH GMD, BEING 0.33 ACRES,
MORE OR LESS. OR AS FURTHER
DESCRIBED IN DEED BOOK 35, PAGE
160. BEING KNOWN AS TAX MAP &
PARCEL S010018, TREUTLEN COUN-
TY, GEORGIA.

MAP & PARCEL: S010025
DEFENDANT IN FI-FA: WRIGHT, WILLIAM L & MICHAEL
CANADY
CURRENT RECORD HOLDER: HEIRS
KNOWN & UNKNOWN OF WRIGHT,
WILLIAM L., DECEASED
CRH ADDRESS: 727 MILLER LANE
EAST DUBLIN, GA 31027
AMOUNT DUE: \$ 395.30
TAX YEARS DUE: 2025, 2024, 2023
DEED BOOK: 66/25
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: ALL
THAT TRACT OF LAND BEING IN
THE: STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY
OF TREUTLEN, CITY OF SOPERTON,
1386TH GMD, BEING 0.11 ACRES,
MORE OR LESS. OR AS FURTHER
DESCRIBED IN DEED BOOK 66, PAGE
25. BEING KNOWN AS TAX MAP &
PARCEL S010025, TREUTLEN COUN-
TY, GEORGIA.

MAP & PARCEL: S010030
DEFENDANT IN FI-FA: WRIGHT, WILLIAM L & MICHAEL
CANADY
CURRENT RECORD HOLDER: HEIRS
KNOWN & UNKNOWN OF WRIGHT,
WILLIAM L., DECEASED
CRH ADDRESS: 727 MILLER LANE
EAST DUBLIN, GA 31027
AMOUNT DUE: \$ 672.50
TAX YEARS DUE: 2025, 2024, 2023
DEED BOOK: 35/569

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: ALL
THAT TRACT OF LAND BEING IN
THE: STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY
OF TREUTLEN, CITY OF SOPERTON,
1386TH GMD, BEING 0.11 ACRES,
MORE OR LESS. AS SHOWN IN PLAT
BOOK 1, PAGE 52. OR AS FURTHER
DESCRIBED IN DEED BOOK 35, PAGE
569. BEING KNOWN AS TAX MAP &
PARCEL S010030, TREUTLEN COUN-
TY, GEORGIA.

MAP & PARCEL: S010060
DEFENDANT IN FI-FA: CB
JOHNSON CONSTRUCTION & MASO-
NARY, INC
CURRENT RECORD HOLDER: CB
JOHNSON CONSTRUCTION & MASO-
NARY, INC
CRH ADDRESS: 1455 FORREST AVE-
NUE
SOPERTON, GA 30457
AMOUNT DUE: \$ 2,452.41
TAX YEARS DUE: 2025, 2024, 2023
DEED BOOK: 133/399
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: ALL
THAT TRACT OF LAND BEING IN THE:
STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY OF
TREUTLEN, CITY OF SOPERTON, BE-
ING 0.32 ACRES, MORE OR LESS. BE-
ING LOTS 5 & 6. AS SHOWN IN PLAT
BOOK 6, PAGE 440. OR AS FURTHER
DESCRIBED IN DEED BOOK 133,
PAGE 399. BEING KNOWN AS TAX
MAP & PARCEL S010060, TREUTLEN
COUNTY, GEORGIA.

MAP & PARCEL: S011045
DEFENDANT IN FI-FA: JOHNSON, CHARLIE B
CURRENT RECORD HOLDER: JOHNSON, CHARLIE A/K/A JOHNSON,
CHARLIE B.
CRH ADDRESS: 1455 FOREST AVE-
NUE
SOPERTON, GA 30457
AMOUNT DUE: \$ 490.83
TAX YEARS DUE: 2025, 2024, 2023
DEED BOOK: 133/690
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: ALL
THAT TRACT OF LAND BEING IN
THE: STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY
OF TREUTLEN, CITY OF SOPERTON,
1386TH GMD, BEING 0.59 ACRES,
MORE OR LESS. BEING LOTS 4, 5, &
6. AS
SHOWN IN PLAT BOOK 1, PAGE 55.
OR AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN
DEED BOOK 133, PAGE 690. BEING
KNOWN AS TAX MAP & PARCEL
S011045, TREUTLEN COUNTY, GEOR-
GIA.

MAP & PARCEL: S012036
DEFENDANT IN FI-FA: JOHN-
SON, JOHNNIE B & EULIA PEARL
JOHNSON
CURRENT RECORD HOLDER: JOHNSON, JOHNNIE B.
CRH ADDRESS: 2508 BARWICK AVE-
NUE
SOPERTON, GA 30457
AMOUNT DUE: \$ 1,794.07
TAX YEARS DUE: 2025, 2024, 2023
DEED BOOK: 69/669
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: ALL
THAT TRACT OF LAND BEING IN
THE: STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY
OF TREUTLEN, CITY OF SOPER-
TON, 1386TH GMD. BEING LOT 2.
AS SHOWN IN PLAT BOOK 4, PAGE
10. OR AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN
DEED BOOK 69, PAGE 669. BEING
KNOWN AS TAX MAP & PARCEL
S012036, TREUTLEN COUNTY, GEOR-
GIA.

MAP & PARCEL: S012041B01
DEFENDANT IN FI-FA: SNEAD, GEORGE L
CURRENT RECORD HOLDER: SNEAD, GEORGE L.
CRH ADDRESS: 907 SECOND STREET
S
SOPERTON, GA 30457
AMOUNT DUE: \$ 1,288.34
TAX YEARS DUE: 2025, 2024, 2023,
2022
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: BUILDING ONLY

MAP & PARCEL: S016042
DEFENDANT IN FI-FA: TROUPE, MILDRED
CURRENT RECORD HOLDER: HEIRS
KNOWN & UNKNOWN OF TROUPE,
MILDRED, DECEASED
CRH ADDRESS: 1576 GEORGIA HIGH-
WAY 29
EAST DUBLIN, GA 31027
AMOUNT DUE: \$ 412.32
TAX YEARS DUE: 2025, 2023, 2022
DEED BOOK: 74/352
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: ALL
THAT TRACT OF LAND BEING IN
THE: STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY
OF TREUTLEN, CITY OF SOPERTON,
1386TH GMD, BEING 0.11 ACRES,
MORE OR LESS. OR AS FURTHER
DESCRIBED IN DEED BOOK 74, PAGE
352. BEING KNOWN AS TAX MAP &
PARCEL S016042, TREUTLEN COUN-
TY, GEORGIA.

MAP & PARCEL: S017016
DEFENDANT IN FI-FA: FUQUA, BEYONKA M & TODDRICK A
CURRENT RECORD HOLDER: FUQUA, BEYONKA M. & FUQUA, TOD-
DRICK A.
CRH ADDRESS: 3639 CEDAR GROVE
ROAD
SOPERTON, GA 30457
AMOUNT DUE: \$ 1,158.99
TAX YEARS DUE: 2025, 2024, 2023
DEED BOOK: 168/666
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: ALL
THAT TRACT OF LAND BEING IN
THE: STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY
OF TREUTLEN, CITY OF SOPERTON,
1386TH GMD, BEING 0.10 ACRES,
MORE OR LESS. OR AS FURTHER
DESCRIBED IN
DEED BOOK 168, PAGE 666. BEING
KNOWN AS TAX MAP & PARCEL
S017016, TREUTLEN COUNTY,
GEORGIA.

MAP & PARCEL: S017021
DEFENDANT IN FI-FA: FUQUA, BEYONKA M
CURRENT RECORD HOLDER: FUQUA, BEYONKA M.
CRH ADDRESS: 3639 CEDAR GROVE
ROAD
SOPERTON, GA 30457
AMOUNT DUE: \$ 808.00
TAX YEARS DUE: 2025, 2024, 2023
DEED BOOK: 168/600
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: ALL
THAT TRACT OF LAND BEING IN
THE: STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY
OF TREUTLEN, CITY OF SOPERTON,
1386TH GMD, BEING 0.12 ACRES,
MORE OR LESS. OR AS FURTHER
DESCRIBED IN DEED BOOK 168,
PAGE 600. BEING KNOWN AS TAX
MAP & PARCEL S017021, TREUTLEN
COUNTY, GEORGIA.
MAP & PARCEL: S026047
DEFENDANT IN FI-FA: WILCHER, SARA
CURRENT RECORD HOLDER: HEIRS
KNOWN & UNKNOWN OF WILCHER,
SARA, DECEASED
CRH ADDRESS: 19 CASCADE CIRCLE
SOPERTON, GA 30457
AMOUNT DUE: \$ 718.28
TAX YEARS DUE: 2025, 2023
DEED BOOK: 69/337

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: ALL
THAT TRACT OF LAND BEING IN THE:
STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY OF
TREUTLEN, 1386TH GMD, BEING 0.78
ACRES, MORE OR LESS. AS SHOWN
IN PLAT BOOK 6, PAGE 246. OR
AS FURTHER DESCRIBED IN DEED
BOOK 69, PAGE 337. BEING KNOWN
AS TAX MAP & PARCEL S026047,
TREUTLEN COUNTY, GEORGIA.

Juvenile in custody after allegedly planning a shooting at Bleckley County Middle School

By CAROLINE WEATHERSBY GTLN

A juvenile was arrested today after law enforcement 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.

DID YOU KNOW...?
Continued from page 3

thousand feet above him. The mysterious aircraft had four bright lights and was moving at a very high rate of speed. It then approached his plane from the east, and at first Valentich thought another pilot was having fun with him. He then reported that the other aircraft was “orbiting” above him. Radar at area airports only registered Valentich’s aircraft, not the bogey he was reporting. Valentich’s last transmission was, “It’s not an aircraft,” and then a sound like a metallic scrape was heard. A search was mounted almost immediately, but no trace of Valentich or his Cessna were ever found. Was he kidnapped by a UFO? Did he crash into Bass Strait? No one knows. (Cue Rod Serling to step into the picture.)

... a man with no military experience whatsoever was appointed a three-star general during World War II? William S. Knudsen (1879-1948) was an executive at General Motors when the war broke out and the U.S. joined the effort in 1941. After meeting with President Franklin D. Roosevelt (1882-1945), Knudsen was appointed Chairman of the Office of Production Management to increase production of war materiel – and he did, tripling the number of tools and exponentially increasing the number of aircraft built. Knudsen’s direction also astronomically increased the number of cargo and Navy ships. When he was appointed Director of Production under the Secretary of War, Knudsen was commissioned a lieutenant general in the Army – despite having never served before. He was later named Director of the Air Technical Service Command, and resigned his commission on June 1, 1945. To date, Knudsen holds the highest initial appointed rank ever in the history of the U.S. armed forces. Additional trivia note: Despite having no military background, Knudsen received the Dis-

tinguished Service Medal on two occasions during the war.

... the measurement known as the “yard” was based on the length of a king’s arm? King Henry I of England (1068-1135) fixed the measurement of a yard as the distance between his nose and the thumb of his outstretched arm. This measurement was 36 inches. He then decreed that the measurement known as the foot would be 1/3 of this, or 12 inches. Historical side note: Had Henry’s arm been six inches longer, a foot would be 14 inches, not 12. (I wonder if this is where “yardarm” came from?)

... the internal-combustion engine for automobiles was invented in 1885? Karl Benz (1844-1929) installed the engine in his first automobiles. The first cars by Benz had three wheels; later the engineer upgraded to four wheels. But Benz’ automobile, while the first with an internal combustion engine, was not the first actual car. That distinction goes to some steam-powered contraptions designed in Britain in the late 1860s. (But I’m glad he invented it!)

... Hawaii has its own time zone? Hawaii-Aleutian Standard Time operates two hours behind Pacific Standard Time, one hour behind Alaska Standard Time, and five hours behind Eastern Standard Time. Hawaii also does not observe Daylight Savings Time. (Smart!)

... the nearest galaxy to our own is getting closer every day? The Andromeda galaxy is currently about 2,500,000 light-years away and is moving toward our own galaxy, the Milky Way at a speed of 68 miles per second. Astronomers say that about four billion years from now, the two galaxies will “collide” – which sounds really bad but won’t actually amount to all that much, as there is some serious distance between stars in each galaxy. The end result will be one massive galaxy comprising more than 1.5 trillion stars. (That will be impressive!)

Now ... you know!

Democrats and Republicans find common ground in affordable housing debate: Curb corporate landlords

By MAYA HOMAN Georgia Recorder

It’s not often these days that candidates from across the political spectrum find common ground. But on the subject of how to create more affordable homes, both Democrats and Republicans running for higher office in Georgia this year can agree on one thing: It’s time to address the rise of corporate-owned housing.

In a year where affordability issues are top of mind for many voters, the cost of everyday necessities like housing, gas and health insurance may be a key factor motivating Georgia residents at the polls this year.

Housing in particular is the largest expense for most Americans, with data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics showing that housing accounts for about 33% of the average consumer’s annual spending. Experts say there are a variety of reasons that housing prices are rising, including increased costs for labor and materials and strict zoning laws.

But in Georgia, the role that institutional investors play in the housing market may also be a key factor. A 2024 report from the U.S. Government Accountability Office showed that a quarter of all single family rental homes in Atlanta were owned by institutional investors, which studies say may have contributed to increased rent and home prices.

“We are the epicenter of corporate investment in housing nationwide,” said Taylor Shelton, an associate professor of geography at Georgia State University who studies corporate-owned housing.

“Here in Atlanta, it’s [an issue] that is impossible to ignore, given how large a share of the housing market these companies have come to control.”

And as the November midterm elections grow nearer, candidates up and down the ticket and on both sides of the aisle have shown a willingness to combat the proliferation of corporate-owned housing. U.S. Sen. Jon Ossoff, a Democrat who is running for reelection, launched an investigation into the issue last year, and voted to pass a bipartisan housing bill that caps

the number of single-family homes an institutional investor can own at 350. His rival, Republican Congressman Mike Collins, also voted in favor of the bill.

In the race for governor, Democrat Keisha Lance Bottoms has emphasized the need for limits on corporate-owned housing. But her opponent, Republican Rick Jackson, said he would leave regulation of corporate-owned housing up to the federal government and has instead proposed freezing property taxes and eliminating regulations that he says are driving up the cost of home construction and ownership.

In the lieutenant governor’s race, very little connects the two candidates in terms of policy. On housing, Democratic nominee Josh McLaurin, a state senator from Sandy Springs, has promised to address restrictive zoning laws that he says make it hard to build smaller houses, townhomes and accessory dwelling units that could be more affordable for Georgia residents.

His Republican counterpart in the race, Sen. Greg Dolezal of Cumming, said he wants to reduce building and permitting regulations to make it easier and cheaper for developers to build housing, as well as expand a state-run program that provides financing options for first-time homebuyers.

But both have pledged to tackle the issue of corporate-owned housing. During the 2026 legislative session, Dolezal introduced a bill that would prevent institutional investors from owning more than 500 single-family homes and ban international private investors from buying rental property. The bill passed the Senate in a 49-3 vote, but did not make it to a vote in the House. Still, Dolezal said the bill was an important step in raising awareness about the issue.

“There was, I think, a universal recognition of the need to address that,” he said.

McLaurin said he has witnessed issues his constituents have experienced with corporate-owned housing firsthand, and is “willing to pursue every available option” to limit their presence in Georgia.

“Large corporations who buy up a lot of housing tend

not to see the purchase as anything other than a financial investment,” he said. “They tend not to keep the human concerns of their residents at the front of their mind, and you see that even in places like my district.”

And though members of both parties have taken steps to elevate the issue of corporate-owned housing, experts say that addressing what they say are weak landlord-tenant protections in Georgia may be a key part of the solution. Part of the reason that Atlanta has become such a hub of corporate ownership is because there are fewer guardrails protecting those who live in corporate-owned property in Georgia compared to other states, Shelton said.

“These large corporations are able to come in and act with almost total impunity in the way that they raise rents and fees, the kind of neglect of maintenance that they’re known for, how often they file for eviction as a core part of their business model,” he said. “All of these things are really not possible in many other parts of the country.”

Natalie Keiser, the executive director of HouseATL, said she was disappointed that housing issues haven’t been a more prominent campaign issue this year, citing a 2025 survey from the Atlanta Regional Commission in which a plurality of residents said housing affordability was Atlanta’s biggest issue. Roughly 35% of residents said investors buying up rental housing was contributing to affordability issues.

“We had the survey from the Atlanta Regional Commission saying that it’s the number one issue for metro Atlanta residents,” she said. “To not see it be at the top of the list for our candidates is very concerning.”

Policies that protect renters, in particular, are often missing from candidates’ platforms on both sides of the aisle, she added.

“Tenant protections are a huge issue, especially when we talk about institutional investment,” she said. “Institutional investors come to Georgia not just because we have a lack of housing supply and a population growth, so there’s a clear market, but also because we have very weak tenant protections.”

Allowing local municipalities to establish rental registries and policies that require landlords to disclose all fees and rental costs upfront, she said, could also help address the issue.

“There should be some truth in advertising around fee transparency, which I think would go a long way towards addressing the large investor-owned business model,” she said.

Georgia

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Former business executive to lead Georgia's public colleges and universities

BY TY TAGAMI
CAPITOL BEAT NEWS SERVICE

ATLANTA — It took five months to find a successor to University System of Georgia Chancellor Sonny Perdue, and after looking far and wide the Board of Regents picked someone close to home.

The new university system leader already has a building named after him at Georgia Tech and served on the Tech Foundation board.

Thomas A. Fanning will come out of retirement to be the next leader of Georgia's 25 public colleges and universities.

He comes to the job with a grounding in business, having led Southern Company for 13 years and chaired the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta

board.

The Regents named him the sole finalist for the job on Wednesday.

“Our university system’s strong reputation brought us exceptional candidates from across the country, but Tom Fanning stood out immediately,” Board Chair David B. Dove said in a statement. “With four decades of experience running one of the largest energy companies in the nation, Tom knows how to manage complex operations, solve big problems and lead people. He cares deeply about Georgia, understands the power of higher education and has the proven leadership to guide USG forward.”

Southern Company serves about 9 million

electric and gas customers in Georgia and eight other states. Fanning started there in 1980 as a financial analyst.

The Tech grad, who also earned a master’s degree in industrial management from the Institute, rose through 15 roles at Southern Company before being named chairman, president and CEO in 2010, a position he held until his retirement in 2023.

On the way, he served in management, finance, technology and strategy roles.

He has also served as inaugural chair of the federal Cybersecurity Advisory Committee when it first met in 2021. The group advised the Cybersecurity and Infrastruc-

ture Security Agency.

Fanning was awarded an honorary doctorate by Tech, where the new Student-Athlete Performance Center is named in his honor.

“The University System of Georgia is second to none when it comes to keeping a top-tier college education affordable and connecting students directly to great careers,” he said in a statement. “Having earned my degrees here and worked alongside these campuses throughout my career, I know how much this system means to Georgia families.”

Fanning succeeds Perdue, who announced his retirement in April, after leading the university system for four years. Before that, Perdue served as Agriculture Secretary for President Donald Trump during his first term in the White House and as Georgia’s first Republican governor since Reconstruction starting in 2003.

SNAPSHOTS: MORE FROM TREUTELN AT MOCO



Mt. Vernon Garden Club welcomes Henry Price

SPECIAL TO THE TRI-COUNTY CONNECTOR

Members of the Mt Vernon Garden Club met on Tuesday, Sept. 8, for their first meeting of the new season. As many of us are looking forward to cooler weather that Fall brings, it's not here in South Georgia just yet, but we know it's coming. After all, school started back last month and football has resumed. Now we can look forward to fall festivals and the orange and yellow colors of fall flowers.

Vice President Kathy McCall called the meeting to order. She informed the members that the flowers

for September are the aster, which symbolizes patience, and the morning glory, which symbolizes beauty. The tables in the Garden Room of the Student Center of Brewton Parker Christian University were artfully decorated by hostesses Gail McDaniel and Susan Fountain with all things school related, pencils, crayons, etc. Gail McDaniel gave a very moving devotional in remembrance of the 25 year anniversary of 9/11. She also noted that our country celebrated its 250th anniversary in 2026. A buffet lunch, prepared by Chartwell's followed, before guest speaker Henry Price was introduced.

Henry is well known in

our area as he is a man who wears many hats. Most of us know that he is a member of the Montgomery County School Board and has been since 2008, and he spoke to the garden club previously about all things related to raising honey bees. On this particular day, however, he came to share with the members his position with the Plant Protection Division of the Georgia Department of Agriculture, that is responsible for inspection of all live plants coming into the state, in addition to inspection of nurseries and greenhouses within the State of Georgia. They are also responsible for inspection of exports, such as

cottonseed, peanuts, pecans, lumber and sod. However, of extreme concern are the invasive insects found in Georgia, such as the yellow-legged hornet (first discovered in 2023 in Savannah GA), which could threaten the honey bees. The spotted lantern fly and the brown-winged planthopper are two additional invasive insects who are of major concern. Henry also brought along a picture of a hive belonging to the yellow-legged hornet. The size of it is very impressive or you might say, SCARY!!! Members appreciated the time that Henry took to share with the club some of the work that the Department of Agriculture does in our



state on a daily basis.

Miranda Simmons from BPCU spoke to the club members about the Opening Ceremony of the Smithsonian's Exhibit Voices & Votes that will be held on Monday, Sept. 14 at 3:30 p.m. This exhibit ends Oct. 1, however it will return on Feb. 5 and remain until March 19.

Various committees reported updates. According to Jennifer Sikes, the community house is waiting for an architect before any plans can be made to rebuild the Community House. The District Meeting will be held on Oct. 21 in Swainsboro. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

ORDINANCE

Continued from page 1

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 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.

While the land use ordinance has not yet entered into county law, its deliberation has spurred other considerations for the board. Adam Craft, who has spoken during several meetings in favor of the ordinance, approached the board during the Sept. 14 meeting asking the board to consider similar action against Sharia Law.

Sharia Law is a framework of religious law based on the Islamic faith practiced in whole or in part primarily in the Middle East, northern and eastern Africa, and parts of Oceania. The framework has gained notoriety due to conflicting views on the nature of human rights held by western democratic

countries, with the European Court of Human Rights ruling Sharia as “incompatible with the concept of democracy” in 2003.

Craft presented the board with a translated copy of an alleged plan made by the Muslim Brotherhood, a transnational Sunni Islamist organization founded in Egypt, to “infiltrate the United States.”

“Y’all can take this home and read it, and compare what’s going on right now..., it’s an exact description of what is going on,” said Craft.

He cited seeing a family in Vidalia wearing “hardcore Islamic garb” as evidence of the potential encroachment of Sharia into local communities, and expressed concerns the encroachment would “use our laws against us.” According to Craft, his position is not against Islam as a religion, but rather against Sharia as a “forceful ideology.”

While the issue of Sharia has been discussed in Congress as recently as February, no communities in the United States have implemented Sharia.

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NOTICE							
The Montgomery County Board of Education does hereby announce that the millage rate will be set at a meeting to be held at the Montgomery County Board of Education on October 2, 2026 at 12:00 P.M. and pursuant to the requirements of O.C.G.A. § 48-5-32 does hereby publish the following presentation of the current year's tax digest and levy, along with the history of the tax digest and levy for the past five years.							
CURRENT PROPERTY TAX DIGEST AND 5 YEAR HISTORY OF LEVY							
BOARD OF EDUCATION		2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
V A L U E	Real & Personal	206,997,256	210,057,435	212,789,778	220,363,694	219,167,266	311,293,277
	Motor Vehicles	3,196,440	2,937,270	3,025,750	3,028,810	3,003,310	2,944,250
	Mobile Homes	2,189,406	2,553,727	2,881,608	3,077,171	3,019,170	3,778,915
	Timber - 100%	6,028,189	7,959,928	5,973,209	6,032,146	6,004,235	6,618,536
	Heavy Duty Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Gross Digest	218,411,291	223,508,360	224,670,345	232,501,821	231,193,981	324,634,978
	Less Exemptions	32,805,670	29,561,056	28,644,383	28,026,792	28,249,676	68,831,502
NET DIGEST VALUE		185,605,621	193,947,304	196,025,962	204,475,029	202,944,305	255,803,476
R A T E	MILLAGE RATE (Maintenance & Operation)	15.0000	15.0000	14.7500	14.7500	14.7460	13.7260
TAX	TOTAL M&O TAXES LEVIED	\$2,784,084	\$2,909,210	\$2,891,383	\$3,016,007	\$2,992,617	\$3,511,159
	Net Tax \$ Increase	\$277,156	\$125,125	(\$17,827)	\$124,624	(\$23,390)	\$518,542
	Net Tax % Increase	11.06%	4.49%	-0.61%	4.31%	-0.78%	17.33%