

The Courier Herald

\$1

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2026

COURIERHERALDTODAY.COM

Laurens County early voting begins next week

By RODNEY MANLEY
Staff Reporter

Laurens County voters can get a jump on Election Day when advance voting begins next week.

Several key federal and state races are on the ballot, including governor, U.S. Senate and state representative, as well as a local referendum on a new

sales tax aimed at reducing property taxes.

Early voting begins on Tuesday at the Board of Elections office at the county annex and continues through Oct. 30. Weekday hours will run from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday. Voters can also cast advance ballots on Saturdays, Oct. 17 and 24, from

9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

"We are open during lunch," said Chief Deputy Registrar Susan Rooks.

Residents planning to vote by absentee have until Oct. 23 to request a ballot.

"The ballot application has to be in our hands by that day. You can file it online, but it has to be in our office," Rooks said.

As of Thursday, the Board of Elections had received 680 absentee ballots.

"We usually have more than that for a governor's race. We usually have 800 or 900 by now," Rooks said.

Only advance voting will be held at the elections office, located in Suite A at

117 E. Jackson St. On Election Day, Nov. 3, voters must cast their ballots at their respective precincts.

"They can contact us to find out where to go," Rooks said.

She reminded voters that cellphones and other electrical devices are not allowed at polling places.

"You can't use your

phone, your Apple Watch or ear buds in the precincts. If you want to write something down to take with you to vote or take a sample ballot in, you can."

For more information about voting, call the board of elections office at (478) 272-2841 or visit www.laurensco.ga.org and click on My Voter Page.



Survivors walk behind a banner for the opening lap of the event/PAYTON TOWNS III

Local sorority brings community together to unite, walk against breast cancer

By PAYTON TOWNS III
Senior Reporter

"United we walk, together we fight" was the motto a local sorority encouraged during its annual walk aimed to beat breast cancer.

The 17th annual Breast Cancer Walk For The Cure, held by Dublin-Laurens Alumnae Chapter Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., was held on Oct. 3 at the Fairview Park Hospital walking track.

"It's not hot here because it's cloudy and I'm glad the rain has held off so far," said Tammy Howard, who co-chair's the event along with Lillie Hobbs. "I'm so glad to see so many individuals

come out every year to make this such a great event. The number of survivors that we have always inspires me. There are people who we know who have survived this horrible disease. All we have to do is be patient and wait for a cure."

Early detection of breast cancer with women having their mammograms is a big key, said Liz Green, director of marketing and communications at FPH. The stats show that 92 percent of people who are diagnosed with breast cancer survive. That number increases to 99 percent when breast cancer is caught early through mammograms.

"The survival percent-

age goes down the longer it is undetected," Green said. "That is why we recommend an annual mammogram. If you have one each year, you can look back to the prior year and they always have a point of reference."

Women with family history should start having mammograms at 35. If they do not have family history, or felt a lump, women are encouraged to start having mammograms when they turn 40.

"One in eight women have or are fighting breast cancer," Green said. "Breast cancer touches us in ways we never know."

FPH's Imagining Center has played a big part

in fighting breast cancer. Green said they try to make it as easy as possible by taking walk-ins.

"Our purpose here is to walk each other home," she said. We're all going through something. We are here to support you through the good and the bad."

More than 400 people registered for the walk. Sorority member Jacqueline Copenny welcomed everyone to the walk by reminding them that breast cancer has touched so many lives.

"We are not alone," she said. "Whether walking in memory of loved ones, in

CANCER

Continued on page 12

Dublin school board proposes tax increase

By RODNEY MANLEY
Staff Reporter

The Dublin City Board of Education voted Monday to advertise a 3.9 percent tax increase, but stressed the tax hike is far from a done deal.

Board members were presented with three options – including leaving the millage rate as is or rolling it back to offset inflationary growth – but both would result in a decrease in tax revenue from last year. Instead, the board opted for the increase until it can hold public hearings and get more information on pending property appeal settlements.

"If we advertise the higher rate, we can always go down. If we advertise the lower rate, we can't vote to go up," said board member Doug Eaves.

Although the city's gross tax digest grew by \$39.3 million – to \$963 million – exemptions increased by \$46 million. That left the net tax digest – the official list of all taxable properties – at about \$791 million, about \$8.9 million decrease from a year ago. At least some of the additional exemptions

are from a senior citizen homestead exemption on city school taxes passed by voters last November.

As a result, the 3.9 percent increase would generate a net increase of just \$40 in taxes levied from a year ago.

On the other hand, at the rollback rate needed to avoid a tax increase – 18.067 mills – the district would lose \$557,923 in tax revenue from last year, Chief Financial Officer Teresa Lounder told the board. The third option – keeping the millage at the current rate of 18.564 – would result in a loss of \$164,802, even as a 2.75 percent increase.

For homeowners, the proposed 3.9 percent tax increase for a home with a fair market value of \$125,000 is about \$34, and the proposed tax increase for non-homestead property with a fair market value of \$100,000 is approximately \$27.

The school board's budget for fiscal year 2027 has the district finishing with

TAX

Continued on page 12



Cognia's interim Chief Accreditation Officer Andre Harrison discusses the monitoring review process with the new members of the Dublin City Board of Education/ RODNEY MANLEY

Commissioners approve extended warranty on cardiac monitors

By PAYTON TOWNS III
Senior Reporter

The Laurens County Commissioners want to make sure the cardiac monitors in ambulances and other emergency vehicles work when they are needed.

That is why they approved a maintenance agreement to extend the warranties on them during a regular board meeting Tuesday evening.

"When people are having chest pains, these cardiac monitors with an EKG are used, just like you would have at a doctor's office or the hospital," said Laurens County Administrator Bryan Rogers. "The warranties are getting ready to run out and those things are very expensive. I was looking at it the other day and one little knob or piece



Commissioners Kevin Tanner, Jimmy Rogers and Trae Kemp raise their hands to vote yes during Tuesday's meeting/ PAYTON TOWNS III

on it was like \$38 hundred. These can run up a lot of money in a hurry.

"Emergency services is the No. 1 focal point of services that commissioners feel like we need to provide to the public," he added. "We are never going to skimp on that. We're

going to continue to find ways to improve the highest level of service that we can provide."

Rogers said the cost will be more than \$14,000, for two years.

"If they will save lives, it is worth every penny," said county commission chairman Jimmy Rogers.

Rogers said the cardiac monitors are strategically placed around the county. They help medical workers diagnose patients.

"So much of the work that they do is relayed to the emergency room physicians and

they give orders and meds that the paramedics and EMTs need to push and how to even start treating the patient even before they get to the hospital," Rogers said.

After all, time is of the essence during an emergency.

"We are a very large county so we can't snatch grab like we're in a small geographic area," Rogers said. "A person may be down in Cedar Grove or Montrose and possibly 30 or more minutes away. It's so important that our guys are capable of starting the treatment on the scene and continuing that treatment while the patient is being transported to the hospital. We want to be able to start treatment as soon as we can and not wait until we get a patient to the hospital."

Earlier, the commissioners approved the Laurens County Board of Education millage rate of 14 mills. The county commissioners recently moved their part of the millage rate to 7.

During citizens comments, Vonda Morton returned to talk to the commissioners

about data centers. She said it is the hyperscale data centers used to train AI models that she opposes.

"It's my understanding that this body is exploring options for a data center ordinance," Morton said. "One would hope that such an ordinance would make Laurens County totally unattractive to data centers. We do not want to roll out the welcome mat to data centers. A county is run like a business, correct? A business has the right to refuse service for anybody they choose for any reason or for no reason at all. I remember signs that would say, 'No shirt, no shoes, no service.'"

She urged the commissioners to refuse these types of data centers, which contributes to the bad health of those who live nearby.

"I would suggest that any ordinance that you consider should state very simply that AI data centers are banned in Laurens County, period and end of discussion," Morton said.



Trump and accusations of extremism were dominant themes in Georgia's U.S. Senate debate

By **TY TAGAMI**
Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA — The first debate between Democratic U.S. Sen. Jon Ossoff and U.S. Rep. Mike Collins, the Republican nominee challenging him, centered on President Donald Trump.

It was also an opportunity for the two opponents to paint each other as dangerous extremists.

The matchup, hosted by Atlanta News First on Thursday night, featured television journalists peppering the two with questions about the economy, healthcare, the Iran war, immigration and other issues.

Unlike Republican gubernatorial candidate Rick Jackson, who tacked more toward Gov. Brian Kemp than the president in a similar clash with Democrat Keisha Lance Bottoms on Tuesday, Collins hewed closely to Trump, defending the president's policies.

Collins, who represents a district between Atlanta and Augusta, painted Ossoff as a liberal extremist who sides with U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders and supports transgender athletes while opposing tax cuts.

"He wants to take control of this country with these weird and dangerous ideas with his radical friends," Collins said.

Ossoff attacked Collins over Collins' son-in-law, who lives on Collins' property and has been posting social media content that promotes white supremacy and borrows from Nazi propaganda.

Ossoff also pointed to reports about former Collins congressional staffers' links to white supremacists, saying Collins had "hired half the Third Reich" and had himself amplified neo-Nazi content online.

When moderator Rick Folbaum asked Collins what he had said to his son-in-law about his online posts and whether Collins would "once and for all denounce white supremacy," Collins blamed Ossoff's attacks for a recent death threat against Collins and his son-in-law that led to the arrest of a man in New York.

Then, Collins said he had "condemned racism, antisemitism, hate. I don't care where the source is and I tell him that too. It's wrong."

Ossoff called Collins a "bigot" and said his proximity to white supremacists should disqualify him from office.

"Imagine running for the U.S. Senate while neo-Nazi propaganda is disseminated to an audience of millions from your home," Ossoff said. "That's Mike Collins."

Ossoff started the debate by criticizing Collins for his ties to white nationalists and also for his "pathetic, child-like devotion" to Trump.

Collins tried to tie Ossoff to Abdul El-Sayed, the Democratic Senate nominee in Michigan who has been critical of Israel's military campaign in Gaza and, as Collins put it, "hates Israel, loves Iran."

When Folbaum asked Ossoff whether he believed Israel had committed genocide, Ossoff, who is Jewish and

said he had family in Israel, deferred judgment to the International Criminal Court. But he said he believed Israeli forces in Gaza had "violated the law of armed conflict and international humanitarian law."

Ossoff attacked Collins over the war in Iran, blaming rising fuel costs on Trump and on Collins' support for the president's policies. Collins said Trump had to stop Iran's nuclear ambitions.

Ossoff also attacked Collins over tariffs and their effect on the cost of living.

Collins said he supported an "America first" policy and that the country had "bowed down" to other countries and their tariffs. American "tariffs now are making it fair," he said.

Ossoff shot back: "You just heard Mike Collins say the tariffs are working. Go buy groceries."

The debate also touched on the rising cost of fertilizer, a concern for farmers.

Ossoff blamed the war and tariffs. Collins blamed a reliance on imported fertilizer.

Collins pivoted to Democrats' role last year in the government shutdown, blaming Ossoff for delaying

Hurricane Helene relief funding to farmers. Ossoff said he had helped Georgia farmers by meeting repeatedly with India's ambassador to get that country to reduce its tariff on pecans.

Collins criticized Ossoff and Democrats on immigration policy, saying his Laken Riley Act — the first bill signed by Trump in his sec-

ond term — had secured the borders. Ossoff blamed the Trump administration's aggressive deportation enforcement for the deaths of American citizens.

Collins blamed Democrats for rising healthcare costs. Ossoff blamed Republicans for cutting Medicaid and for allowing enhanced Affordable Care Act subsidies to expire, saying that a hospital in Collins' district had closed its labor and delivery unit partly due to Medicaid cuts. Ossoff said the Congressional Budget Office had warned that service cuts at rural hospitals could result from passage of Trump's One Big Beautiful Bill Act.

Collins blamed the subsidies. "The only people getting rich on these subsidies are our health insurance carriers out there," he said.

In a rare instance of agreement, both suggested that more price transparency could help restrain rising healthcare costs.

BIRTHDAYS

Oct. 10
*Aaron James
Valarie Payne
Betty Pitts
Barbara Wolfe*

Oct. 11
*Jetty Plummer
Gladys Rozar*

Oct. 12
Justice Haynes

OBITUARIES



Lucile Branham Ledbetter

Home-going celebration of life service for Mrs. Lucile Branham Ledbetter will be held, Monday, Oct. 12, 2026 at 11 a.m. in the First Seventh-Day Adventist Church, 605 South Decatur Street Dublin, GA 31021. Pastor Roberto Guerrero will officiate and the interment will follow in the Laurens Memorial Cemetery, East Dublin, Ga.

Lucile Branham Ledbetter, born on Jan. 7, 1934, in the charming town of Dublin, Georgia, is a beloved matriarch whose life story is a testament to resilience, love, and unwavering faith. She was the cherished daughter of Elijah and Caroline Branham, who instilled in her the values of compassion and community service that have guided her throughout her life. Lucile's early years were spent in Georgia, where she attended Dock Kempt School. Her commitment to education was evident as she later pursued and proudly received her GED. A woman of many talents, Lucile became a licensed cosmetologist, sharing her creativity and skill with many clients over the years. Her professional journey also led her to roles at Weequahic High School and Schering Plough, where her dedication and warmth left a lasting impact on colleagues and friends alike. On August 21, 1960, Lucile married the love of her life, John Gilbert Ledbetter, affectionately known as Buster. Together they built a beautiful life and family, sharing 48 wonderful years of marriage. From their union came two cherished daughters, Carol Smith (Aubrey) and Karen Green

(Eugene, Jr.). Lucile's legacy of love extends to her grandchildren, Chantre` Kingwood (Berkeley), Austin Smith, Alexander Smith, Avery Smith, Kaila Quarles, Al-Malik Walker (Natalie), Monique Ingram, Geneeque 'Gee-Gee' Allman (Michael), Genil Ingram, Jahneeta Bishop (Dorian) as well as her great-grandchildren, Jawaan Morgan-Kingwood, Iylan Kingwood, Maya Kingwood, Alaric Smith, and Aluna Smith. Lucile is also survived by close friend Annette Bellamy and caregiver, Jessica Richard, and a host of other great-grandchildren, nieces, and nephews. Lucile's faith journey began as a young girl when she accepted Christ as her Savior. Her devotion led her to serve as a deaconess at Calvary Gospel Church, a role she embraced with grace and dedication. After moving back to Georgia, she continued her service as a Sabbath teacher and Deaconess in her new church community. Lucile is remembered by her surviving siblings, Mattie Jean Carrow, Mildred Branham, and Lillian Wright (James), sisters-in-law Betty Brahnam, Eleanor Bowser, Betty James (Thomas), Geraldine Byrd, and brother-in-law Johnny Ledbetter (Sedalia). Her family and friends will always cherish her generous spirit and the joy she brought into their lives through her love of visiting and helping those in need.

Preceded in death by her parents, her beloved husband John and her siblings Layron Branham (Dorothy), Herbert Branham (Audrey), Migidel Branham, Doris Branham Dupree, Harvey Branham and Elijah Branham Jr., Lucile continues to live on in the hearts of those who love her. In honor of Lucile's enduring spirit, contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association at alz.org or a charity in support of the blind, celebrating her legacy of kindness and service. Lucile Branham Ledbetter's life is a beautiful tapestry of love, faith and commitment that will forever inspire those who had the privilege to know her.

Arrangements entrusted to Wyche's Funeral Home. www.wychesfuneralhomeinc.com.

COUCH THEATRE

By **DEMI TAVERAS**
King Features

Spider-Man: Brand New Day (PG-13) -- The fourth installment in Tom Holland's "Spider-Man" film series is finally out to rent on Oct. 6 after its legendary run in theaters, where it became the third-highest-grossing film of all time! (Luckily, Marvel isn't holding back with on-demand streaming of the film, like Universal is with Christopher Nolan's "The Odyssey.") Zendaya ("The Odyssey") and Jacob Batalon ("The Wrecking Crew") are back in their roles from the previous three films, while Jon Bernthal's Punisher makes his first appearance in the series. More newcomers include Florence Pugh ("Thunderbolts"), who joins the cast as her MCU character Yelena Belova, and Sadie Sink ("Stranger Things") makes her debut in the MCU as Jean Grey. The film picks up four years after Dr. Strange's spell wipes Peter's (Holland) existence off the face of the planet. (Amazon Prime Video)

Animals (R) -- After teaming up with his longtime buddy Matt Damon for action-thriller film "The Rip," Ben Affleck is back on Netflix with this crime thriller, co-starring Kerry Washington ("Wake Up Dead Man") and Gillian Anderson ("The Julia Set"). "Animals" follows Los Angeles mayoral candidate Mark Kimball (Affleck), whose son suddenly gets kidnapped during his political campaign. The kidnapper demands a ransom, but with all his money spent on his campaign, Mark is forced to resort to more dangerous methods of getting his child back. In turn, amid the chaos,

secrets from his and his wife's past emerge that they never expected to come to light. Steven Yeun ("The Rip") and Adriana Paz ("A Mouthful of Ash") round out the rest of the cast. Stream it on Oct. 9! (Netflix)

Avatar: Seven Havens (TV-PG) -- If you have any Zillennials in your home, you know the chokehold that "Avatar: The Last Airbender" still has on them. It's long regarded as one of the best animated fantasy series of all time and introduced us to beloved characters like Aang, Katara, Zuko, Appa and more. Shortly after the original "Avatar" series ended, a sequel series, "The Legend of Korra," aired from 2012 to 2014. Now, 12 years later, a third series is set to premiere on Oct. 9, following Korra's Avatar successor, Pavi, who's also a reincarnation of Korra. Taking place 225 years after "Korra," Pavi and her twin sister, Nisha, team up to save the Seven Havens before an apocalyptic event destroys their world. (Paramount+)

Matchbox: The Movie (PG-13) -- After the \$1 billion feat that "Barbie" (2023) achieved in theaters, Mattel had no choice but to wonder, "What if we made movies about every iconic toy we have?" However, because "Masters of the Universe" bombed, they decided to go for a streaming-only release for this action-comedy film based on the Matchbox toy cars. John Cena ("Coyote vs. Acme") leads the film as spy and former soldier Sean Walker, who reconnects with the childhood friends he used to play cars with. But while they're at the bar, the entire group gets drugged and kidnapped by a group of criminals who are searching for a nuclear warhead; and even though his past almost gets his old friends killed, they decide to help Sean in an attempt to steal the bomb and clear their names. Check it out on Oct. 9. (Apple TV)

(c) 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

The Courier Herald

LOCAL MATTERS  **Judged a newspaper of General Excellence 2024**

COURIERHERALDTODAY.COM
Phone: (478) 272-5522 • Fax: (478) 272-2189
115 S. Jefferson St., Dublin, GA 31021-5146

Office hours are 8 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays
News: tchnewsreporter@gmail.com
Subscription: courtney@courierheraldtoday.com
Advertising: advertisingtch@gmail.com
Sports: tchsports77@gmail.com
Obituaries: tchobits77@gmail.com

Periodicals Postage Paid at Dublin, Georgia
(USPS 161-860) - Published Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday
POSTMASTER: Send address change to:
The Courier Herald, 115 South Jefferson Street, Dublin, GA 31021

GEORGIA TRUST

— for Local News —

Cynthia DuBose/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Danyale Starley/DEPUTY DIRECTOR
Donnell Suggs/EDITOR & PUBLISHER
DuBose Porter/PUBLISHER EMERITUS
Pam Burney/GENERAL MANAGER
Courtney Vessell/CIRCULATION MANAGER

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



**Middle Georgia
Mechanical
Heating & Air**

(478) 275-4530
702 East Jackson Street, Dublin
CN211108

JM Enterprises & More

**478-234-6632**

Land / Lot Clearing
Tree Removal / Clean Up
Privacy / Farm Fencing
Basement Excavation
Pond Clearing and
Restoration Under Brush
Mowing Landscaping

Building Demolition
Driveway Installation
Grading
Road Building
House Pads
Food Plots Excavation /
Trenching

Call For Free Estimate
478-234-6632
Owner/Operator: James G. Moss - Sparta, GA.

Rock Springs Baptist Church
will be having
Homecoming @ 10:30am
celebrating 178 years of service
and fellowship
Sunday October 11, 2026
Music by Jennifer Warren
Guest Speaker: Kevin Tanner

Pastor: Richard Wyatt
Covered Dish Luncheon to Follow
Everyone Invited - Nursery Provided

2075 Rock Springs Rd. - Dublin, GA

VIETRI
IRRESISTIBLY ITALIAN

Event

**OCTOBER
15, 16, 17**

Save 20% off all Vietri



**\$100 Vietri Vase
Door Prize!**

**Spend \$250 & receive a
free Santa Ornament!
\$40 Value**

**Special Orders
Welcome!**

**Colleen's China
& COLLECTIBLES**
(478) 272-6767 | 1801 Rice Ave Suite C, Dublin, GA 31021

Sunday scaries and dorveille: Two short dad stories

For a lot of folks Sunday is a day of rest. Whether taking a long nap after church or vegging out on the sofa watching football, most people spend the day relaxing.

This, of course, doesn't apply to retail workers whose schedule can creep into any day of the week, even nights; or the retired, depending on their health and mobility, who may be homebound. For example, my nonagenarian grandfather is probably taking a nap right now.

I have it on great authority that some of the rudest customers come to town on Sunday afternoons. You are just as likely to get a cussing from someone with Reverend in front of their name as from anyone else. Everyone has their bad days, but you can really get to know people standing in line at restaurants and grocery stores.

But Sundays can bring on other, more unpleasant emotions. Called the Sunday scaries, the slow paced afternoon of the Sabbath day can evoke feelings of anxiety and dread. Neck deep in the school year, the Sunday scaries are a real thing in my house.

Sunday afternoons are often met with an impending sense of doom, mainly from my son, as a new week creeps closer and closer. For some reason he thinks he must cram a lifetime's worth of relaxation and thrill seeking in one and half days and having to return to the classroom resets everything. We're working on some coping mechanisms, because, as I've told him, it only gets worse as you get older. Many days I'd rather go back to school, as bad as I hated it, than go to work.

In Colson Whitehead's famed crime novel "Harlem Shuf-

STRANGE BUT TRUE

By LUCIE WINBORNE
King Features

* In ancient Egyptian mummification, onions were sometimes used to fill body cavities, even serving on occasion as false eyes.

* About 90% of all harvested olives are turned into olive oil.

RELIGION DIGEST

Future Keys LTD is sponsoring a Women in recovery for Christ group this Saturday, Oct. 10, 2026 from 2 to 3 p.m. at 112C Rowe St. Reference, "Women in the Bible," This is a nonprofit facility and donations are accepted at the end of the study.

Voice Within A Voice presents its 21st Domestic

* Fijian war chief Ratu Udre Udre holds the rather dubious distinction of being the most active cannibal in recorded history, with a reported consumption of between 872 and 999 people during his lifetime.

(c) 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

Violence Awareness Night on Oct. 16 at 7 p.m. There will be guest panel speakers - Therapist Shawn Farnsworth, CSBMG of Dublin, Evangelist Joann Gillis from Free Vision Dom in Dublin, Sonya Norris from Lifestyle Deliverance Ministries in Dublin, Melissa McElman and Katie Farley from Rise Up from Dublin.

THE NEW SOUTHERN DAD



By KYLE DOMINY

file," the main character is pulled between two worlds.

The protagonist is trying to be a legit businessman, running a furniture store in the historic New York neighborhood.

However, making ends meet on the up and up isn't easy, and past connections and serendipitous encounters take him down shady paths.

These less than upright endeavors, as a lot of criminal activity does, occur after nightfall. To juggle his priorities, the character, Ray Carney, takes up the practice of dorveille, or second sleep. The idea comes from pre-electricity days, when people went to bed at dark. After a few hours of rest they got up and took care of tasks like record keeping, accounting and the like before going back to bed to rise with the sun and go back to work.

To keep his family in the dark, Carney "settles his accounts" in the dark, rising the midnight hour to orchestrate his schemes. The second sleep becomes a major theme of the book. You should read it sometimes.

I was reminded of the passages recently when I was awakened by a rattling pipe. The noise only sounded at night, and it took me a couple of days to pinpoint the source. It was a leaky toilet valve.

I haven't fixed it yet, but I plan on doing it in the daytime.

SKINCARE BY TERRI MOORE

20+ YEARS EXPERIENCE WITH FACIALS, DIAMOND DERMABRASION, DERMAPLANING, NANO NEEDLING, RED LIGHT THERAPY & MUCH MORE!

www.facebook.com/skincarebyterrimoore

912-230-3185
306 ACADEMY AVE
SUITE 101
DUBLIN, GA



LOCATED IN DOWNTOWN DUBLIN INSIDE THE FRED ROBERTS BUILDING. By appointment only



Swing By The FAIR

Dublin Civitan Club's

Fall Fair

COMING SOON!

Wednesday, October 21st - Saturday, October 24th

For Booth Spaces call 478-595-6821 and leave message.

CASH PRIZES: 1ST \$500 • 2ND \$250 • 3RD \$150 • PEOPLE'S CHOICE \$100

4TH ANNUAL Chili COOKOFF & FALL FESTIVAL

OCTOBER 17 @ 12-4

MARKET ON MADISON
DUBLIN, GEORGIA

CHILI COMPETITORS

Future Keys LTD RU Bored Chili Sweet P's Smoking Chili Boone Docks Buckin' Good Chili Collision Chili McLeod's Brew	Roz's Slow Burn HD 155 Ari's Twisted Homestyle Chili Buckeyed Preferred George's Best Chili, Chili, Bang, Bang	Roots Done Wright Smokehouse Chili Wave's OG Chili-2 Granny Mac Chili Victory Venison Chili 4 Secret Ingredients Chili Crooked Finger
--	---	---

VENDORS

Fields of Dewy Flowers Jewelry by Keen Emerald Health & Rehab Colbey's Christian Confectionary Bursting Flavored Lemonade Grandpa Jerry's Cookie Co Cluck and Stitches Life of the Party Willhouse Creations Visit Dublin Hercules Smokehouse Fanny's Monograms Tre'Sean Victrum My Cheley's Designs	Main Squeeze Lemonade Frost Bites Oh My Goodies Peachtree Oven The Whimsical Cottage Big Dawgs BBQ Paparazzi Making Magic Daily Scoops & Chill MC Sweets Brew Babes Coffee Co Tropical Smashers Finish Line Nutrition Backyard Shed	Simply Magnolia DP Wings Crown & Spore Farm House Bread Co Nana's Tater Pies Four Hearts Crafts Pretty & Posh, LLC Citrus Social Grain & Goat The Slime Shack Ruby's Cheese Straes Hall's Happy Hollow Jordan Farms/Ohopee Grilling Sauce
---	--	--

WHAT:

Chili tasting, arts & crafts, local food vendors, cake walk, pumpkin decorating, face painting, Rock Wall, Axe Throwing, Hi-Striker Ride, inflatables, Brandon Chain DJ and Y96 on-site.

WHERE: Market on Madison • Downtown Dublin

FREE TO ATTEND

Chili tickets: \$1 each • 7 for \$5
12 for \$10

PRESENTED BY

VALLANT BANK

SUPPORTING SPONSORS

FAMILY FUN

ROCK WALL • AXE THROWING • HI-STRIKER
INFLATABLES • FACE PAINTING • PUMPKIN DECORATING

Mahjong? Yes, Please

Last week, while I was inside Smith’s jewelry store on W. Jackson Street to celebrate its 115th anniversary in business, I overheard a woman ask one of the sales associates if the Mahjong set she ordered was ready. I immediately thought of how much I used to enjoy watching people play the tile-matching, four-player game in Union Square Park in New York City.

That woman, Denise Jacob, a Dublin girl through and through, noticed my interest, and we began to talk about the game. I asked her what she enjoyed about Mahjong, and Jacob, smiling while she thought about her answer, said, “I find Mahjong relaxing, and I enjoy making organization out of chaos.”

Ms. Jacob is not alone in her pursuit of just the right tiles to play Mahjong with. The popularity of the centuries-old game has grown immensely in Dublin. There are Mahjong groups at local churches like Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, and private teaching groups led by Laurens County residents like Meg Greer Evans and Elise Stevens.

If you have never seen Mahjong played in real time, it can look like a mess, but it is a controlled chaos that includes 144 tiles (an American set comes with 152 tiles), various symbols on the tiles (dots, jokers, Chinese characters), and, of course, numbers. Think Spades meets Pokemon Go, except with less yelling and no need for smartphones. Mahjong can be played at a card table



EDITOR'S NOTES...

By DONNELL SUGGS



One of the many Mahjong sets on sale at Smith's jewelry in downtown Dublin/**DONNELL SUGGS**

and is equally mind-stimulating like chess and strategic like checkers. It’s a great way to fellowship, said Evans.

“Mahjong is a great way to bring people together,” said Evans, an estate attorney by day and Mahjong instructor by night. “The game is challenging, but also approachable. I love Mahjong because it can be played by children and adults, so it is a wonderful way to connect multiple generations of family and friends together.”

Evans says she gets “joy” from teaching the game to people in town. She said she feels there is a sense of accomplishment from players as they get better lesson after lesson. For me, a newbie in

every sense of the word, I am enjoying learning a new game at the age of 48. After decades of covering high school, collegiate, and professional sports and national and statewide politics, it’s fun to be less informed about something. I like feeling like a kid again. Evans understands.

“It is fun to see it start to click for someone who is a newer player,” she explained. “Even if they don’t win a game during the lesson, they are excited that they are making progress. Mahjong is a great way to have fellowship while challenging your brain.”

On Tuesday, October 13, I will take a seat at the table. Quite literally in fact. I have been invited to a regularly scheduled Mahjong group lesson session at Ms. Jacob’s home. I’ll bring my own tiles (I ordered a set from the TikTok shop) and my listening ears. I have no idea what’s going on. This must be how my wife Chia feels when I try to explain the offside rule in soccer to her.

NEWS DIGEST...

The next regular meeting of the East Dublin Mayor and Council will be held at city hall in the Terrie E. Drew Council Chambers on Monday, Oct. 12 at 5:30 p.m. with pre-council beginning at 5:30 p.m. The agenda follows:

- Call to order
- Invocation
- Pledge to Flag
- Old business
- New business
- Recognition of citizens

- Welcome of guests
- Approval of minutes
- Approval of financial statement
- Old business
- Vote on new millage rate
- Christmas parade
- Nuisance ordinance
- Council comments
- Executive session (if needed)
- Meeting adjourned

The City of Dudley will meet at 6 p.m. on Oct. 13 at the Dudley Fire Station. The agenda follows:

- Call to order
- Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll call
- Approval of agenda
- Approval of previous

- minutes
- Approval of bills
- Old business
- Update on projects
- Second reading and hearing on an ordinance to abandon the Northeast end of Third Street from US Highway 80 to Chappell Street
- Consideration of an agreement with Oconee Electric Membership Corporation concerning the abandonment of the northeast end of Third Street.
- New business
- Discussion of speed breaks
- Citizens comments
- Council comments
- Executive session (if needed)
- Adjourn

ROWLAND SWORN IN AS NEW ATTORNEY



Jolie Anne Rowland was sworn in by Laurens County Clerk of Court Tanya Rogers, during a ceremony for admission to the bar on Thursday, Oct. 1 with family watching in the third floor courtroom of the Laurens County Courthouse. Rowland, who graduated from Mercer University School of Law, is employed with the Kight Law Office. Chief Judge Jon F. Helton presided over the ceremony/**PAYTON TOWNS III**

Moment of Inspiration

Finding True Strength

“He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.” - Isaiah 40:29

There are times when we feel tired, discouraged, and unable to keep going. But God never asks us to face life in our own strength. When our strength runs out, His strength never does.

God gives power to the weary and strength to those who feel they have none left. True strength is not found in ourselves - it is found in trusting the Lord and depending upon Him.

When you feel weak today, don't give up. Look to God. He is able to renew your strength, lift your spirit, and give you what you need for the journey ahead.

Prayer: Lord, when I am weak, help me to remember that You are strong. Give me strength for today and faith to trust You for tomorrow. Amen. Remember: When your strength is gone, God's strength is just beginning.

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

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

Dublin

Roche
FARM & GARDEN
803 E. Jackson St.,
Dublin
478-272-3340

These merchants and The Courier Herald take pride in presenting this message and encourage you to attend the church of your choice.

NOTICE

The Town of Dexter Council does hereby announce that the Town of Dexter millage rate will be set at its Tuesday, October 13, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall located at 101 East Main Street, Dexter, Georgia, 31019. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. Sec 48-5-32, as amended the Council hereby publishes the following presentation for the current year’s tax digest and proposed levy.

In accordance with Georgia law, all taxable property shall be assessed at forty percent of its fair market value, which will be determined by the Tax Commissioner of Laurens County. The taxable property shall then be taxed by the City at a millage rate of 4 mills. By way of example:

The average home in Dexter, Georgia has a fair market value of \$200,000. The property owner of the \$200,000 home would pay \$320 in property taxes, as calculated below:

40% of said value is \$80,000. Considering the millage rate to be 4 mills, the property Owner shall pay \$4 per \$1,000 taxable value:

\$80,000 x (4/1,000) = \$320.00 taxes owed.

All concerned citizens are invited to attend the three public hearings regarding this tax implementation, millage rate adoption, and the tax increase to be held at **101 East Main Street, Dexter, Georgia 31019** on:

1. Tuesday, October 6, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.
2. Thursday, October 8, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.
3. Tuesday, October 13, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.

All concerned citizens are invited to join these public meetings.

City Council will render its final vote regarding the implementation of ad valorem property taxes and the proposed millage rate of 4 mills at 6:00 p.m. on October 13, 2026.

NOTICE

The Town of Dexter does hereby announce that the millage rate will be set at a meeting to be held at Dexter City Hall located at 101 East Main Street, Dexter, Georgia, 31019, on October 13, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. and pursuant to the requirements of O.C.G.A. 48-5-32 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

INCORPORATED	V A L U E	202120222023202420252026						
		Real & Personal	Motor Vehicles	Mobile Homes	Timber - 100%	Heavy Duty Equipment	Gross Digest	Less Exemptions
A R E A	T A X	8,244,874	199,720	128,318		18,975	8,591,887	79,515
		8,970,884	176,770	237,406			9,385,060	79,660
		9,473,267	151,020	257,045			9,881,332	174,436
		12,080,724	159,420	173,355			12,413,499	176,616
		14,725,072	159,310	197,262			15,081,644	998,535
		15,807,710	132,660	297,887			16,238,257	2,213,794
T o t a l	T A X	8,512,372	12.3940	9.7340	2.6600		9,305,400	8,512,372
		9,305,400	12.5810	9.9210	2.6600		9,706,896	9,305,400
		9,706,896	13.1240	10.4640	2.6600		12,236,883	9,706,896
		12,236,883	11.4770	8.8170	2.6600		14,083,109	12,236,883
		14,083,109	10.7850	8.1250	2.6600		14,024,463	14,083,109
T o t a l	T A X	12.6100	Less Rollback (Local Option Sales Tax)	8.6100	4.0000		12,610.00	12.6100
		8.6100			4.0000		8,610.00	8.6100
		8,610.00			4.0000		8,610.00	8,610.00
		8,610.00			4.0000		8,610.00	8,610.00
		8,610.00			4.0000		8,610.00	8,610.00
T o t a l	T A X	\$22,643	\$24,752	\$25,820	\$32,550		\$37,461	\$56,098
		\$22,643	\$24,752	\$25,820	\$32,550		\$37,461	\$56,098
		\$25,820	\$32,550	\$37,461	\$56,098		\$56,098	\$56,098
		\$56,098	\$56,098	\$56,098	\$56,098		\$56,098	\$56,098
		\$56,098	\$56,098	\$56,098	\$56,098		\$56,098	\$56,098
T o t a l	T A X	\$2,109	\$1,068	\$6,730	\$4,911		\$18,637	\$2,109
		\$1,068	\$6,730	\$4,911	\$18,637		\$18,637	\$1,068
		\$6,730	\$4,911	\$18,637	\$18,637		\$18,637	\$6,730
		\$4,911	\$18,637	\$18,637	\$18,637		\$18,637	\$4,911
		\$18,637	\$18,637	\$18,637	\$18,637		\$18,637	\$18,637
T o t a l	T A X	9.32%	4.31%	26.06%	15.09%		49.75%	9.32%
		4.31%	26.06%	15.09%	49.75%		49.75%	4.31%
		26.06%	15.09%	49.75%	49.75%		49.75%	26.06%
		15.09%	49.75%	49.75%	49.75%		49.75%	15.09%
		49.75%	49.75%	49.75%	49.75%		49.75%	49.75%

A mind is a terrible thing to waste.

To support minority education, please visit us at uncf.org or call 1-800-332-UNCF.





POLICE BEAT...

Dublin Police Department

- On Oct. 4, around 2:17 a.m., officers were monitoring a crowd of people at the Hop In on East Jackson Street. An officer saw two women physically fighting in the parking lot of the store.

The officers entered the parking lot and approached the women. The officer took control of one of the women, later identified as Ky'Riyana Brown, 17, and arrested her. The second woman, Arieana Lynn Neda, 20, was also arrested. Neda refused to walk to the patrol car and officers had to assist her.

Once Neda got to the patrol vehicle, she began pulling away from the officer's grips. She then began kicking at the officers. While they attempted to place Neda inside the car, she kicked two officers. They were able to place Neda inside the vehicle without injury.

After the back door was closed, Neda began kicking the rear driver's side window in an attempt to damage or break the window. An officer retrieved his restraint device from his vehicle to secure the woman's legs and prevent her from causing further damage to the vehicle or herself.

The officers opened the rear door and Neda tried to get out, but an officer prevented her from doing that. While the officer attempted to gain control of her legs in order to apply the restraint device, Neda kicked him. The officer pulled her from the vehicle and applied the restraint device to her legs. Neda was then placed back inside the patrol vehicle without injury. Both Brown and Neda were transported to the Laurens

County Jail and turned over to jail staff.

While at the jail, Brown said Neda had entered the bathroom at the Hop In and attempted to fight her over an incident Neda had previously had with one of Brown's family members. Brown said they both walked outside the store where Neda continued making statements about beating her and also made comments about her mother, who had recently suffered a stroke. Brown said that she told Neda that she had one more time to say something about her mother. Brown said that both women ran toward each other and began fighting.

Brown was charged with one count of affray while Neda was charged with one count of affray and two counts of obstruction of a law enforcement officer.

- At 1:14 p.m. on Oct. 4, an officer saw a seat belt violation on Claxton Dairy Road at Sunset Lane on a silver Honda Accord and initiated a traffic stop at 1:15 p.m. at the intersection of West Moore and North Calhoun Street.

The officer met with Tygel Towns and was informed of the reason he was stopped. The tag number of the vehicle was run through the officer's mobile, and the registered owner came back as wanted. The registered owner was Je'nina A'yanni Brown who was located in the passenger seat of the vehicle.

Towns' drivers license came back as suspended for failure to appear. Brown's information was run and she was wanted for failure to appear through Houston County. Towns was arrested

and placed into a patrol car. After the hit was confirmed through Houston County for Brown, she was arrested and transported to the Laurens County Jail.

Towns was transported to the police department where he was fingerprinted for the charge of driving while license suspended and cited for the seat belt violation.

- William Cook, 60, was charged with public drunkenness at the intersection of Industrial at Fairview Park Drive at 3:40 p.m. on Sept. 28.

An officer responded to the location in reference to a welfare check, callers were advising that a man wearing a red shirt, dark pants was having trouble standing and kept falling down. He appeared intoxicated and was staggering down the sidewalk.

The officer met with Cook who appeared to be asleep. Cook was asked to stand up. That is when the officer detected a strong odor of an adult beverage coming from him. Cook appeared to be having a tough time standing on his own and used a pole to assist himself in standing. When asked to walk, Cook barely stood up.

Cook was arrested and transported to the sheriff's office where he was turned over to jail staff.

Laurens County Sheriff's Office

- On Sept. 20 at 2:28 p.m., a deputy was dispatched to Brantley Road regarding a burglary.

- On Sept. 17 at 3:56 p.m., a deputy responded to the Bank of Dudley on Second Street in Dudley for a check fraud report.

- A deputy was dispatched to Elmwood Drive in reference to a trespass at 1:20 a.m. on Sept. 22.

- Brandon Ray Jones, 44, of Cadwell, was charged with possession of methamphetamine and possession of firearms by convicted felons at the intersection of Coleman Farm Road and Coleman Register Road around 10:07 a.m. on Sept. 22. A deputy re-

sponded to the location in reference to a suspicious person.

- On Sept. 22 at 5:52 p.m. a deputy was dispatched to Main Street in Dudley in reference to property damage.

- At 7:30 p.m. on Sept. 16, a deputy responded to Barron Lane in Dexter in reference to identify theft.

- A deputy received a call in reference to a 911 hang up on Chase Drive in East Dublin

around 9:10 a.m.

- On Sept. 18, around 9:30 a.m., a deputy met with a woman at the sheriff's office in reference to credit card fraud on Addie Trail. A report was done to document the incident.

Editor's note: This information is public record and was taken from reports of local law enforcement agen-

cies. These reports do not reflect guilt or innocence. An "arrest" does not always indicate incarceration. Readers are cautioned that people may have similar names. Police Beat does not identify minor children, victims of sexual assault, suicide attempts or medical conditions. Cases dismissed do not appear if the newspaper is notified before the deadline.

You can help us find a home for “Chase”.



Chase is a boy who loves his toys.

Chase has lived here at the Dublin/Laurens County Humane Society for more than a year.

We took in Chase from the married couple who adopted him years ago when he was a puppy. Unfortunately, the husband passed on and the wife had to go into a nursing home.

Chase is a Redbone Coonhound. This breed is known for its ability to track and tree raccoons. Because of their size and toughness, these hounds also can take on big game such as bears and cougars.

Chase is one of the heaviest and tallest dogs currently at the shelter. He weighs around 70 pounds. Despite his size, Chase acts like a puppy when it comes to his squeak toys and chew toys. He absolutely loves playing with his toys.

Chase would be an excellent guard dog for an animal herd or his owners' property, as long as he has frequent access to the indoors.

Chase would be happiest in a home with a family who appreciates his size and energy. Despite that energy, Chase sleeps like a baby at night.

You can come see Chase Mondays through Fridays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The shelter is located at 618 Firetower Road, just east of Hwy. #441 where it crosses I-16.

Help us find the home Chase so richly deserves. He is truly a sweet, loving, wonderful dog!

O'Neal crowned Miss Black Dublin

SPECIAL TO THE COURIER HERALD

On a magical awe-inspiring evening seven contestants performed before an audience that was filled with anticipation as they claimed the stage amid thunderous applause to compete for the title of Miss Black Dublin Scholarship Queen. Miss Dealdria O'Neal, the daughter of Alecia Crafton and current senior at West Laurens High School, successfully claimed the title.

Miss O'Neal's Awards for the evening included the Director's Award, The Citizenship Award, Miss Congeniality, Mamye (Tommie) Thomasenor Dudley Pearson Legacy Award, and the Most Talented Award.

The first runner-up was awarded to Sydney Howard, a junior at West Laurens High School. Howard was also recognized as the winner of "Most Photogenic."

The second runner-up went to Madison Jones, a senior at Dublin High School. Jones was also awarded the Take It To Paris Home Care award.

Other foundation award winners included: Director Award - Aquene Coleman, freshman, West Laurens High School; People's Choice Award - Chelsi Denard, sophomore, West Laurens High School; Kendall Chapman, senior, Dublin High School, Take It to Paris Home Care LLC.

This scholarship pageant

is under the directorship of Mrs. Brenda Smith and Mrs. Breanna Smith Chaney.

NOTICE OF PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

The Dublin City Schools Board of Education has tentatively adopted a 2026 millage rate which will require an increase in property tax by **3.90%** percent.

All concerned citizens are invited to the public hearing on the tax increase to be held at Board of Education Office located at 207 Shamrock Drive, Dublin, Georgia on **Friday October 16th, 2026 at 11:45 am.**

Times and places of additional public hearings on this tax increase are to be held at the Dublin High School Auditorium, 1127 Hillcrest Parkway, Dublin, Georgia on **Monday October 19th, 2026 at 5:00 PM** and **Monday October 26th, 2026 at 6:00PM.**

This tentative increase will result in a millage rate of **18.772** mills, an increase of **.705** mills. Without this tentative increase, the millage rate will be no more than **18.067** mills. The proposed tax increase for a home with a fair market value of **\$125,000** is approximately **\$35** and the proposed tax increase for non-homestead property with a fair market value of **\$100,000** is approximately **\$28.**

NOTICE

The Dublin City School Board does hereby announce that the millage rate will be set at a meeting to be held at the Dublin Highschool Auditorium located at 1127 Hillcrest Pkwy, Dublin, Georgia on Monday, October 26th, 2026 at 6:00 PM., and pursuant to the requirements of O.C.G.A. Section 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 2026 TAX DIGEST AND 5 YEAR HISTORY OF LEVY

CITY SCHOOL	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Real & Personal	616,972,559	682,117,656	718,535,007	887,148,445	918,150,500	958,002,801
Motor Vehicles	4,873,380	4,301,940	4,198,830	4,065,710	3,486,160	3,245,650
Mobile Homes	1,230,962	1,678,254	1,915,230	2,139,710	2,105,990	1,918,163
Timber - 100%	0	0	0	0		
Heavy Duty Equipment	700,133	35,200	1,976,116	148,792	59,920	0
Gross Digest	623,777,034	688,133,050	726,625,183	893,502,657	923,802,570	963,166,614
Less M&O Exemptions	114,948,828	139,965,708	155,651,382	123,696,559	123,936,593	172,178,150
Net M&O Digest	508,828,206	548,167,342	570,973,801	769,806,098	799,865,977	790,988,464
State Forest Land Assistance Grant Value						
Adjusted Net M&O Digest	508,828,206	548,167,342	570,973,801	769,806,098	799,865,977	790,988,464
Gross M&O Millage	19.705	19.250	19.250	18.564	18.564	18.772
Net M&O Millage	19.705	19.250	19.250	18.564	18.564	18.772
Total School Taxes Levied	\$10,026,460	\$10,552,221	\$10,991,246	\$14,290,680	\$14,848,712	\$14,848,752
Net Taxes \$ Increase	-\$422,684	\$525,762	\$439,024	\$3,299,435	\$558,032	\$40
Net Taxes % Increase	-4.05%	5.24%	4.16%	30.02%	3.90%	0.00%



Miss Dealdria O' Neal (above, center), the daughter of Alecia Crafton and current senior at West Laurens High School, successfully claimed the title of Miss Black Dublin 2026/SPECIAL PHOTO



TOP DODGE: WARRIORS WEAR DOWN EAST LAURENS TO WIN MGMSAA REGION CHAMPIONSHIP

This season's lone loss for the East Laurens Middle School Falcons was against the Dodge County team that came calling for Wednesday's region championship game at the new Falcon Field. The Warriors, a winner by 28-26 heartbreaker on coach John Peacock Field just two weeks earlier, had East's number again as they knocked off the top seed, 18-6, to win it all in the MGMSAA for the first time in 15 years. Dodge's multiple quarterbacks needed to do very little passing, as the running back tandem of Jekel Prince and Baheem Carr provided steady yardage running behind a strong offensive front, and multiple key fourth-down conversions that kept drives late in each half on the move, on the way to Prince's first touchdown to get the Warriors on the board with a minute or two left to the half, and to seal the game on a roughly 70-yard death march that consumed the entire eight-minute fourth quarter. Carr broke a big one, and Prince punched in his second (bottom left), to extend the visitors' lead in the third quarter. The Falcons, whose rushing attack was unable to get enough going, had to rely on the deep ball for a breakthrough. They struck for their only touchdown in between Dodge scores in the third as Lee Mack (top right) hit Braylon Bigham (top left) to cut the Warriors' 12-0 lead in half. Christian Mapp (bottom right) leapt to intercept one of multiple others that didn't find their intended target/CLAY REYNOLDS



Everybody's win:
Team effort takes
Falcons over top in
tight game to clinch
region title at Vidalia

By CLAY REYNOLDS
Sports Editor

"It takes all of us" – a phrase that East Laurens softball coaches and players adopted as their team motto for 2026 – rang especially true this past Tuesday as the Falcons won an intense star-down at Vidalia, 2-0, to clinch the region 2-AA championship.

Both the shutout, and two-run sixth inning that was the only departure from the same for the Indians' evenly-matched ace on the other side, were a team effort that illustrated their reliance not on any handful of players, but the whole group of 10 on the lineup card, and others in the dugout.

"It takes all of us," East Laurens head coach Danielle Lowther said. They understand and believe in that."

"Everybody's as important as everybody when you're leaning on everyone to do a certain job in a certain moment," assistant coach Dwayne Lowther added.

The win left East (18-9 overall) and Vidalia (20-10) with identical 10-2

region records. But the Falcons, who defeated their co-frontrunner 7-5 earlier in the season, had both head-to-head victories that served as the tiebreaker to bring them a third league title in four seasons.

East had spent most of September in first place after coming from behind to nail down the first one in its own park on Sept. 10. But some subsequent stumbles on that same home field in a 5-3 loss to ACE Sept. 22, and 1-0 to Bleckley Oct. 1, dropped them just behind the Indians in second, making Tuesday's rematch a must-win.

"We told them it was going to be a tough game," Danielle Lowther said. "We told them that it was going to come down to the wire, and that it was going to be the team that kept their composure and did their jobs."

Seniors DeAndrea Lowther, Reagan Sasser, Jayden Foskey and Brynne Moody were the team's go-tos all season, and played a significant role in the game – and larger late-season run – as the



The East Laurens Falcons will finish on top of their region for a third time in four seasons after Tuesday's clinching win at Vidalia/SPECIAL PHOTO, courtesy East Laurens Softball

returning cornerstones of this year's roster.

"It's just really special," Moody said. "We've been working since we were sixth graders. We've all been playing together, and it's all actually coming together now."

But the Falcons' success down the stretch of the season has relied equally as much on some newer faces, besides those four core leaders, that have stepped up in notice-

able ways.

"They've done a lot of stuff together," Danielle Lowther said. "They just need that extra help from the rest of their teammates, and they've been rising to the occasion."

Never was that more apparent than in the top of the sixth inning, when most in a series of hitters who buckled down in the quality at-bats needed to produce the two critical runs were underclassmen.

Freshman Maddie Rogers got the rally started with a single. Freshman Jordan Kimsey drew a walk to put runners on first and second and DeAndrea Lowther reached on an error to set up both of the above to score on the two-out double – carrying two clutch RBIs – by sophomore Avery Smith.

From there, it was up to the Falcons' pitching and fielding, which proved to be some of the most elite

in a region where multiple teams, Vidalia in particular, were strong in the same areas.

Of East's 70 runs allowed on the season, ahead of Thursday's home finale against Johnson County, it gave up only 17 to region opponents.

"We already knew we had the best defense in the region," Danielle Lowther

FALCONS
Continued on page 7

SCOREBOARD

SOFTBALL
Wednesday
West Laurens 10, Houston Co. 6
Dublin 6, Hawkinsville 1

FLAG FOOTBALL
Tuesday
East Laurens 28, Hawkinsville 0

PREP
SCHEDULE

SOFTBALL
Thursday
Trinity at Thomas Jefferson /4 p.m.
Dublin at Treutlen /5:30 p.m.
Johnson Co. at East Laurens/6 p.m.

FLAG FOOTBALL
Tuesday
Statesboro at EL/5 p.m.

FOOTBALL
Thursday
ACE Charter at Bleckley Co./7 p.m.
Treutlen at Wheeler Co. Washington Co. at Hephzibah /7:30 p.m.

Friday
Harlem at WL Dodge Co. at EL Swainsboro at Dublin Twiggs Co. at Johnson Co. Wilkinson Co. at GMC /7:30 p.m.

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

FALCONS
Continued from page 6

said. "We've been telling the girls that. Our defense, pitching, catching and stuff, and our girls backing up pitching and catching kind of helped us."

The matchup of top-flight pitchers on either side of the matchup was also a reunion of longtime friends and travel teammates in East Laurens' DeAndrea Lowther and Vidalia's Tori Polke, who both play for the Thomson YardDawgs during the offseason.

Each, allowing an identical four hits, were sharp in the duel that saw Lowther strike out eight against only one walk, and Polke fan 11, striking out the first-inning side and not allowing an East Laurens baserunner until Sasser got to second in the scoreless fifth.

The Falcons had to deal with some earlier situations, as Lowther pitched around a Tenley Blewett double with two Ks in the second inning. She struck out two, then got Blewett to ground out, to retire the side in the bottom half of their go-ahead sixth.

In the seventh, her defense took care of a ball on the ground and a pop fly for two early outs. The third was a bit more stubborn, as Vidalia's Britleigh Sharpton and Jacquelin Mezquititla extended the game with singles to put the tying runs at the corners.

But Lowther was able to put Aubrey Jones away swinging on a full count to close the game.

Coming up in the clutch

With neither pitcher blinking through five scoreless frames, somebody had to make something happen to get a run on the board. East Laurens managed to scratch a couple out, as Danielle Lowther sagely predicted preseason, "somehow, some way."



Remember Don Sells Carswell.

Only at Dublin Chevy Nissan.

2042 VETERANS BLVD. • 1-877-275-2660 • WWW.MYDUBLINCHEVROLET.COM



RACING THIS WEEK

O'REILLY RECAP

• Saturday's FOCUSED HEALTH 302, Las Vegas Motor Speedway



WINNER: COREY DAY

In one of the most thrilling finishes of the season, 20-year-old Hendrick Motorsports rookie driver Corey Day prevailed in a final laps back-and-forth with 23-year-old JR Motorsports' racer Carson Kvapil to claim his third career O'Reilly Series victory in Saturday's Focused Health 302 at Las Vegas.

Day and Kvapil exchanged the lead four times in the last 12 laps before Day made a daring pass with two laps remaining to solidify a trophy hoist decided by a slight .287-seconds.

"Oh man, I just was so tight there and so scared I was going to go down and plow on the bottom let him get by me," said a grinning Day, who started his No. 17 Hendrick Motorsports Chevrolet from pole position, won the opening stage and led a career high 136 of the 201 laps.

Kvapil, who like Day also earned his first career series wins this season (at Indianapolis and Iowa), was understandably disappointed to lose out on Saturday's victory, but also encouraged with the showing. It moved him into second place in the championship standings, now 19 points behind Haas Factory Team's Sheldon Creed, who finished 13th.

Reigning series champion Jesse Love finished just behind the duel up front, followed by William Sawalich, one of four drivers among the top-10 not Chase eligible, and Taylor Gray.

Haas Factory Team's Sam Mayer, another Chase-eligible driver, finished sixth having turned in an impressive comeback. He won Stage 2 and led 40 laps (second to Day) but had to rally from the rear of the field after a pit stop penalty during the Stage 2 break.

Non-Chase eligible drivers Jeremy Clements, William Sawalich, and Anthony Alfredo finished seventh, eighth and 10th respectively, with Chase driver Austin Hill taking ninth.

It was an especially impactful race for former series champion and the season's most productive team, JR Motorsports' Justin Allgaier. He was collected in an accident on Lap 55 with fellow Chase competitor, Joe Gibbs Racing's Brandon Jones.

Just after winning the race off pit road for the restart from the first stage break, Jones' No. 20 Toyota had a problem and drifted up into Allgaier's No. 7 Chevrolet in Turn 2 putting it into the wall. Both cars were towed back to the garage. Allgaier was able to return to the track with 84 laps remaining and made a single lap to move up a position in the race finishing order. Still, his 34th place result dropped the regular season champion from second to fourth in the standings, 31 points off leader Creed.

It was only the second DNF of the season for the six-race winner Allgaier, who held a 229-point advantage atop the regular season standings before the points reset for the Chase run.

The O'Reilly Auto Parts Series returns to action Saturday at Charlotte Motor Speedway with the Blue Cross NC 250 (4 p.m. ET on the CW, PRN, SiriusXM NASCAR Radio). This marks the first Fall race on the 1.5-mile Charlotte oval since 2017, when Alex Bowman hoisted the trophy driving for Chip Ganassi Racing.

SOUTH POINT 400

Chase Briscoe led a race-best 175 of the 267 laps, ultimately besting the field by 1.376-second to take his second Cup Series trophy of the season under Las Vegas temperatures in the mid-90s – one of the hottest race days of the season.



Chase Briscoe, driver of the #19 Bass Pro Shops Toyota, takes the checkered flag to win the Cup Series South Point 400 at Las Vegas Motor Speedway on Sunday. (Chris Graythen/Getty)

Vegas heat no problem for dominant Chase Briscoe

LAS VEGAS – Chase Briscoe left nothing to chance in the South Point 400 at Las Vegas Motor Speedway Sunday. The Joe Gibbs Racing driver swept both stage victories, led a race best 175 of the 267 laps and ultimately bested the field by 1.376-seconds to take his second Cup Series trophy of the season under temperatures in the mid-90s – one of the hottest race days of the season.

The dominating win over the series championship leader Kyle Larson comes a week after Briscoe just missed beating Larson in the closing laps at Kansas Speedway. It moves Briscoe up two positions in the Chase championship standings with five races remaining on the season. It was redemption for him and the team.

"I don't think I'd be able to get on the [team] plane [if I didn't win]," the 31-year-old Indiana-native and driver of the No. 19 JGR Toyota said with a smile referring to last week's race outcome.

"So thankful to get this Toyota back in Victory Lane," he added. "It's been not a rough year, but just not the results we necessarily want. So, glad to get all our partners back in Victory Lane."

The margin of victory Sunday was larger and a bit misleading as Larson and 23XI Racing's Tyler Reddick had chased Briscoe down in the closing laps – cutting his lead to less than four-tenths of a second with a lap remaining – only to have Larson hit the wall directly in front of Reddick on the final lap corner push toward Briscoe.

Larson was able to settle his No. 5 Hendrick Motorsports Chevrolet enough to maintain his second-place position behind Briscoe. And after tagging Larson's bumper in the incident, Reddick was also able to regroup and manhandle his No. 45 23XI Racing Toyota after it slid across the infield grass onto pit road – ultimately maintaining his third-place position.

"It was a fight," said a smiling Larson, who increased his championship points lead from 26 points to 40 over Briscoe's JGR teammate Denny Hamlin, who finished 16th. "I was surprised how far off we were that first run [of the race]."

"My car got better but track position was so important, and we just chipped away at it all race long," Larson added. "Just tried to stay patient but my tires were pretty much burnt off by the time I got there [to Briscoe]. Just tried to do what I could to try to win. Felt like I moved up at the right time and did



a decent job with it just was trying to push hard in [turns] three and four to build some momentum out and I don't know, and just got really loose and overcorrected in the wall. Thankfully I was able to limp it home and Reddick was able to come away third as well. That got exciting.

"I wish we could have won in this paint scheme honoring [Las Vegas native] Kyle [Busch]," Larson said of the first race back in Busch's hometown after the late two-time series champion passed away in May.

Team Penske teammates Austin Cindric and Ryan Blaney rounded out the top-five. Hendrick Motorsports teammates William Byron and Chase Elliott were sixth and seventh, followed by 23XI Racing's Bubba Wallace, Trackhouse Racing's Shane Van Gisbergen and Team Penske's Joey Logano. Van Gisbergen is the only top-10 finisher not Chase-eligible.

The JGR driver Hamlin, who has won the last two Las Vegas races and started Sunday from pole position, rallied from a mid-race spin and finished 16th. His teammate, Ty Gibbs – whose 24th birthday was Sunday – finished 17th after starting on the front row. An early race pit stop penalty forced him into playing catch up and he finished 17th. Their teammate Christopher Bell, who also led laps in the No. 20 JGR Toyota, finished 23rd forced to wrangle his Camry without power steering the second half of the race.

"Was just trying to get back track position that we lost and just went up there got into the marbles and spun out," Hamlin said of his incident. "Obviously damaged the car so it was nothing like it was before."

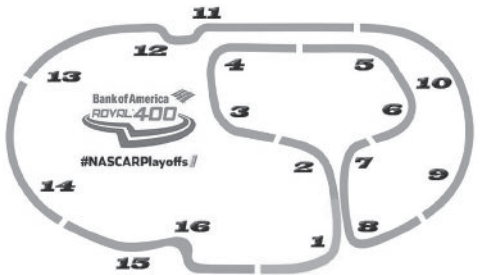
"Just got to go on to the next race and see if we can't find a way to win. Charlotte will be good for us but today certainly didn't live up to what we expected."

Bell maintained his third place in the championship standings, but is now 55 points off the reigning series champ Larson's pace. Logano is fourth, 71 points back and Blaney is fifth, 80 points off the pace.

Five races remain to settle the 2026 trophy. The series returns to action next weekend with the Bank of America 400 (3 p.m. ET on USA, PRN, SiriusXM NASCAR Radio) on the Charlotte Motor Speedway – marking the first time the Fall event will be held on the oval since 2017 when Martin Truex Jr. won the race. Daniel Suarez won the rain-shortened race on the oval this May.



CUP PLAYOFFS: 6TH RACE
BANK OF AMERICA ROVAL 400



Charlotte Motor Speedway
3 p.m. ET Sunday, USA

• The Charlotte Roval is a 17-turn, 2.28-mile road course at Charlotte Motor Speedway, known for being a hybrid of a road and oval track.

• The course includes two chicanes and was designed in 2018 for NASCAR competition, integrating a portion of the existing oval with a newly built infield road course to create a challenging and exciting venue.

• The track features significant elevation changes, with a 35-foot difference between its highest and lowest points, and has undergone several reconfigurations to improve racing dynamics and passing opportunities.



Shane van Gisbergen executed his customary rugby ball kick into the stands after winning last year's Charlotte Roval Chase race. DAVID JENSEN/GETTY IMAGES

2026 CUP SERIES STANDINGS			
Top 30 w/ Playoff 16 as of Oct. 4			
Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Kyle Larson #5	2318	16 Ryan Preece #60	2118
2 Denny Hamlin #11	2278	17 Shane v Gisbergen #97	688
3 Christopher Bell #20	2263	18 Brad Keselowski #6	654
4 Joey Logano #22	2247	19 Ross Chastain #1	621
5 Ryan Blaney #12	2238	20 Michael McDowell #71	597
6 Chase Briscoe #19	2234	21 Erik Jones #43	582
7 Tyler Reddick #45	2212	22 AJ Allmendinger #16	551
8 Ty Gibbs #54	2208	23 Todd Gilliland #34	542
9 Austin Cindric #2	2190	24 Austin Dillon #3	528
10 Bubba Wallace #23	2181	25 Josh Berry #21	514
11 Carson Hocevar #77	2160	26 Alex Bowman #48	503
12 William Byron #24	2158	27 John H. Nemechek #42	497
13 Chase Elliott #9	2155	28 Zane Smith #38	484
14 Daniel Suarez #7	2123	29 Ricky Stenhouse Jr #47	460
15 Chris Buescher #17	2122	30 Riley Herbst #35	446

2026 O'REILLY AUTO PARTS STANDINGS			
Top 20 w/ Playoff 12 as of Oct. 3			
Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Sheldon Creed #00	2259	11 Brandon Jones #20	2122
2 Carson Kvapil #1	2240	12 Rajah Caruth #88	2113
3 Jesse Love #2	2238	13 Brent Crews #19	758
4 Justin Allgaier #7	2229	14 William Sawalich #18	711
5 Corey Day #17	2218	15 Ryan Sieg #39	650
6 Sam Mayer #41	2207	16 Anthony Alfredo #96	606
7 Taylor Gray #54	2169	17 Brennan Poole #44	535
8 Sammy Smith #8	2165	18 Dean Thompson #26	528
9 Austin Hill #21	2160	19 Jeremy Clements #51	481
10 Parker Retzlaff #99	2142	20 Harrison Burton #24	467

NEXT RACE: BLUE CROSS NC 300, Charlotte Motor Speedway, 4 p.m. ET Saturday, CW

2026 CRAFTSMAN TRUCK STANDINGS			
Top 20 w/ Playoff 10 as of Sept. 26			
Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 K. Honeycutt #11	2197	11 Jake Garcia #98	501
2 Layne Riggs #34	2160	12 Stewart Friesen #52	465
3 Chandler Smith #38	2126	13 Justin Haley #16	412
4 Gio Ruggiero #17	2125	14 Tanner Gray #15	404
5 Christian Eckes #91	2115	15 Brenden Queen #12	403
6 Daniel Hemric #19	2110	16 A. Perez De Lara #44	388
7 Ty Majeski #88	2109	17 Corey Heim #5	346
8 Ben Rhodes #99	2099	18 Dawson Sutton #27	305
9 Grant Enfinger #9	2079	19 Cole Custer #13	302
10 Tyler Ankrum #18	2070	20 Mini Tyrrrell #14	285

NEXT RACE: ECOSAVE 250, Charlotte Motor Speedway, 5 p.m. ET Friday, FOX

"We knew that the first team that scored was probably going to win the game," she said. "We just kind of kept it close, and kept them grounded and thinking the right stuff, and being composed the whole time. We kept reminding them of practice situations, because we're always practicing in situations."

Admittedly, the losses to two of their last three region opponents identified some things they needed to work on that were a focus of the last few off-days.

DeAndrea Lowther attributed their steps forward Tuesday to "putting the work in, focusing on what we haven't been doing."

"Coming back from a

hard loss, (we had) to put the work in, get things tightened up," Sasser said.

The group agreed that improving their focus and composure under pressure late in games was a key to winning the type of tight games they'll only find themselves in more of as the state playoffs get under way later this month.

"We're confident in our team, because I know what our team is capable of doing," Moody said. "We've worked really hard."

The head-to-head wins to clinch the region crown notwithstanding, East Laurens may still wind up behind Vidalia in the seeding. With a game to go for each squad on Thursday, the Falcons were positioned 15th in the GHSA's

Post Season Rankings, 11th among the public schools who will be sorted into their own playoff bracket. The Indians' two-win advantage overall wins still had them a bit ahead at No. 6.

But East Laurens is confident that some of the early-season losses it suffered in some stiff matchups with teams like West Laurens, Westfield, FPD, ECI and Perry are now paying dividends.

"We played some good, tough competition like everybody else did, which prepared us for Vidalia," Coach Lowther said. "I'm just proud of them for trusting us and staying the course, and doing the stuff that they needed to do to help us get that win, on

the road, in hostile territory, against a good Vidalia team."

Going into the playoffs, the Falcons are sure of their identity as a team that may not overpower teams offensively, but knows what it takes to get the key runs and outs to win close games.

"I'm just confident in our defense," Danielle Lowther said. "We've held most teams to a limited amount of runs... I wouldn't expect anything different in regard to defense. We've got solid pitching and catching, our defense backs us up. We get some runs on the board by everybody contributing."

It'll continue to take everybody. But East Laurens plans to look back

to that tightly-knit class of seniors for leadership, and determination to get where it hopes to go.

"They got to Columbus as sophomores," Danielle Lowther said. "They want to get back there, and not just get there. They want to win it this time. That's the whole goal, the whole mission and everything else. It's going to be tough, but they're good for it."

The bond and chemistry the group shares will be invaluable as it vies to go out with a deep run.

"It's like a fun experience, us all growing through softball together, and now working together to accomplish the goals that we want to accomplish," Foskey said.

Classifieds

Services

Legals

Legals

Skid Steer Services: offering hole drilling, brush cutting, log removal, trenching, stump grinding, and more. Call or text 478-290-4567

26-467
10931129
Notice Of Sale Under Power
State Of Georgia, County Of Laurens, Under And By Virtue Of The Power Of Sale Contained In A Deed To Secure Debt Given By Juan Corona To Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., As Grantee, As Nominee For Mortgage Research Center, LLC Dba Veterans United Home Loans., Its Successors And Assigns , Dated 04/14/2023, And Recorded On 04/17/2023 As Book No. 3379 And Page No. 226, As Affected By Loan Modification Agreement Book 03562, Page 0228-0236, Laurens County, Georgia Records, As Last Assigned To Pennymac Loan Services, LLC (The Secured Creditor), By Assignment, Conveying The After-Described Property To Secure A Note Of Even Date In The Original Principal Amount Of \$224,730.00, With Interest At The Rate Specified Therein, There Will Be Sold By The Undersigned At Public Outcry To The Highest Bidder For Cash At The Laurens County Courthouse Within The Legal Hours Of Sale On The First Tuesday In November, 2026, The Following Described Property: All That Tract Or Parcel Of Land Situate, Lying And Being In Land Lot 226 Of The First Land District Of Laurens County, Georgia, Being A Part Of Lot 33 Of Holly Hills Subdivision, As Particularly Shown On A Plat Of Survey By Daniel R. Riggs, Land Surveyor, Dated November 10, 1974, Recorded In Deed Book 324, Page 390, Laurens County Records, Which Plat Is By This Reference Incorporated Herein As A Part Of This Description. Said Property Is In The Shape Of A Rectangle Which Fronts 125 Feet On The Southwesterly Margin Of Winfield Road And Extends Back In A Southwesterly Direction In Equal Width A Direction Of 200 Feet. This Conveyance And The Warranties Hereinafter Contained Are Made Subject To Any And All Restrictions, Easements, Covenants, And Rights-Of-Way Affecting Said Described Property In Addition To Restrictive Covenants As Contained In Instrument Of Record In Deed Book 297, Pages 317, Clerk's Office, Laurens Superior Court. Subject To All Easements, Ordinances, Covenants, Conditions, Restrictions, And Rights-Of-Way Of Record, If Any. The Debt Secured By Said Deed To Secure Debt Has Been And Is Hereby Declared Due Because Of, Among Other Possible Events Of Default, Failure To Pay The Indebtedness As And When Due And In The Manner Provided In The Note And Deed To Secure Debt. Because The Debt Remains In Default, This Sale Will Be Made For The Purpose Of Paying The Same And All Expenses Of This Sale, As Provided In The Deed To Secure Debt And By Law, Including Attorney's Fees (Notice Of Intent To Collect Attorney's Fees Having Been Given). Pennymac Loan Services, LLC Holds The Duly Endorsed Note And Is The Current Assignee Of The Security Deed To The Property. Pennymac Loan Services, LLC, Acting On Behalf Of And, As Necessary, In Consultation With Pennymac Loan Services, LLC (The Current Investor On The Loan). Is The Entity With The Full Authority To Negotiate, Amend, And Modify All Terms Of The Loan. Pursuant To O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2, Pennymac Loan Services, LLC May Be Contacted At: Pennymac Loan Services, LLC, 3043 Townsgate Road, Suite 200, Westlake Village, CA 91361, 866-549-3583. Please Note That, Pursuant To O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2, The Secured Creditor Is Not Required To Amend Or Modify The Terms Of The Loan. To The Best Knowledge And Belief Of The Undersigned, The Party/Parties In Possession Of The Subject Property Known As 203 Winfield Rd, Dublin, Georgia 31021 Is/ Are: Juan Corona Or Tenant/Tenants. Said Property Will Be Sold Subject To (A) Any Outstanding Ad Valorem Taxes (Including Taxes Which Are A Lien, But Not Yet Due And Payable), (B) Any Matters Which Might Be Disclosed By An Accurate Survey And Inspection Of The Property, And (C) All Matters Of Record Superior To The Deed To Secure Debt First Set Out Above, Including, But Not Limited To, Assessments, Liens, Encumbrances, Zoning Ordinances, Easements, Restrictions, Covenants, Etc. The Sale Will Be Conducted Subject To (1) Confirmation That The Sale Is Not Prohibited Under The U.S. Bankruptcy Code; And (2) Final Confirmation And Audit Of The Status Of The Loan With The Holder Of The Security Deed. Pursuant To O.C.G.A. Section 9-13-172.1, Which Allows For Certain Procedures Regarding The Rescission Of Judicial And Nonjudicial Sales In The State Of Georgia, The Deed Under Power And Other Foreclosure Documents May Not Be Provided Until Final Confirmation And Audit Of The Status Of The Loan As Provided In The Preceding Paragraph. Pennymac Loan Services, LLC As Attorney In Fact For Juan Corona. This Law Firm Is Acting As A Debt Collector Attempting To Collect A Debt. Any Information Obtained Will Be Used For That Purpose. 00000010931129 Barrett Daffin Frappier Turner & Engel, LLP 4004 Belt Line Road, Suite 100 Addison, Texas 75001 Telephone: (972) 341-5398.
October 10, 17, 24, 31, 2026

26-461
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER, LAURENS COUNTY Pursuant to the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by Kenneth D Simmons and Ashley B Simmons to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as its successors and assigns dated 6/22/2022 and recorded in Deed Book 3305 Page 282, and that Default Judgment and Final Order recorded in Deed Book 3684 Page 104, Laurens 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 \$265,058.00, with interest at the rate specified therein, there will be sold by the undersigned at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the Courthouse door

of Laurens County, Georgia (or such other area as designated by Order of the Superior Court of said county), within the legal hours of sale on November 3, 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 situate, lying and being Lot 2 of Rollingwood Estates- Extension A in Land Lot 258 in the First Land District in the City of Dublin, Laurens County, Georgia, as more particularly described on a plat of survey prepared by Billy Flanders, Registered Land Surveyor, dated November 26, 1986, revised June 3, 1987, recorded in Plat Book 6, page 13, in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Laurens County, Georgia. Said plat and the record thereof are by reference incorporated herein and made a part hereof. This is part of the land described in the Warranty Deed from Jerry A Romine and Inez C. Romine to N Kay Myers, recorded in Deed Book 769, page 20, in said Clerk's Office. Subject to covenants, restrictions, reservations and easements of record. Said property is further identified by the Laurens County Tax Assessor as 215 Palisade Drive, Dublin, GA 31021. Map/Parcel: D14F/010
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 215 Palisade Dr, Dublin, GA 31021 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): Kenneth D Simmons 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 Kenneth D Simmons and Ashley B Simmons Aldridge Pite, LLP, Six Piedmont Center, 3525 Piedmont Road, N.E., Suite 700, Atlanta, Georgia 30305, (404) 994-7400, 1120-9168A This LAW FIRM MAY BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. 1120-9168A
October 10, 17, 24, 31, 2026

26-448
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF
Laurens COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF HOWELL LOVETT THIGPEN, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 26-171
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION
NOTICE
TO: Wendy Maguire, Denise Macoy, Donnie Tyler and to whom it may concern: Delores Graham has petitioned for Delores Graham to be appointed administrator(s) of the estate of HOWELL LOVETT THIGPEN Gay 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 NOV. 2 2026. BE NOTIFIED FURTHER: All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
Genola O. Jackson,
Judge of the Probate Court
By: CWarren
Clerk of the Probate Court
POBOX 2098
Dublin, GA 31040
478-272-2566
October 3, 10, 17, 24, 2026

26-462
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF LAURENS
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
Pursuant to the power of sale contained in the Security Deed executed by BREEANNA MORGAN WILKINSON to MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS GRANTEE, AS NOMINEE FOR HOMESTAR FINANCIAL CORP. in the original principal amount of \$106,060.00 dated January 12, 2022, and recorded in Deed Book 3248, Page 215, Laurens County records, said Security Deed being last transferred to CONVENTIONAL/ FHA/VA/RHS: ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC in Deed Book 3640, Page 22, Laurens County records, the undersigned will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, before the Courthouse door in said County, or at such other place as lawfully designated, within the legal hours of sale, on 11/3/2026, the property in said Security Deed and described as follows:
ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN THE CITY OF DUBLIN, LAURENS COUNTY, GEORGIA, AND BEING KNOWN AS LOT 5 AND PART OF LOT 6, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY SHOWN AND DESCRIBED ACCORDING TO A PLAT OF SURVEY PREPARED

BY BILLY FLANDERS & ASSOCIATES, SURVEYORS, DATED MAY 7, 1992, AND RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 657, PAGE 308, LAURENS COUNTY RECORDS. THE COURSES AND DISTANCES OF SAID PLAT ARE INCORPORATED INTO AND MADE A PART OF THIS DESCRIPTION BY REFERENCE.
SAID PROPERTY IS IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENCE KNOWN AS 213 OUTLER STREET, DUBLIN, GA 31021.
SUBJECT TO COVENANTS, RESTRICTIONS, RESERVATIONS AND EASEMENTS OF RECORD.
SAID PROPERTY IS FURTHER IDENTIFIED BY THE LAURENS COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR AS 213 OUTLER STREET, DUBLIN, GA 31021, MAP/PARCEL: D16C/051.
Said property being known as: 213 OUTLER ST, DUBLIN, GA 31021
To the best of the undersigned's knowledge, the party or parties in possession of said property is/are BREEANNA MORGAN WILKINSON or tenant(s).
The debt secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due and payable because of, among other possible events of default, failure to pay the indebtedness as provided for in the Note and said Security Deed. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of sale, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given).
Said property will be sold subject to the following: (1) any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, whether or not yet due and payable); (2) the right of redemption of any taxing authority; (3) any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property; and (4) any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above.
Said sale will be conducted subject to the following: (1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code; and (2) final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed.
The name, address, and telephone number of the individual or entity who has full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the mortgage is as follows:
Rocket Mortgage LLC
8950 Cypress Waters Blvd.
Coppell, TX 75019
1-888-480-2432
Note that pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2, the above individual or entity is not required by law to negotiate, amend, or modify the terms of the mortgage.
THIS LAW FIRM IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED MAY BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
CONVENTIONAL/ FHA/VA/RHS: ROCK-ET MORTGAGE, LLC, as Attorney-in-Fact for BREEANNA MORGAN WILKINSON
Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC
13010 Morris Rd., Suite 450
Alpharetta, GA 30004
Phone: 470-321-7112
Firm File No. 26-444240
October 10, 17, 24, 31, 2026

26-438
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF LAURENS
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF SAID STATE AND COUNTY
IN RE: ESTATE OF KAY F. HUTCHESON SMITH
NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS
All creditors of the estate of KAY F. HUTCHESON SMITH deceased, late of Laurens County, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to me.
This 16th Day of September, 2026
Emily F. Kight
Attorney for the Estate of
KAY F. HUTCHESON SMITH Kight Law, LLC
P.O. Box 2056
Dublin, Ga. 31040
September 19, 26, October 3, 10, 2026

26-469
TANYA ROGERS, CLERK
LAURENS COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
TRADE NAME REGISTRATION
PERSONALLY APPEARED THE UNDERSIGNED WHO ON OATH DEPOSES AND SAYS THAT:
Derek Jackson Dublin LLC
5855 Georgia Highway 400, Cumming, GA 30028
IS/ARE DOING BUSINESS IN LAURENS COUNTY, GA., UNDER THE NAME OF: Don Jackson Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram Dublin
2054 US Highway 441 S
Dublin, GA 31021
AND THAT THE NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE CARRIED ON AT SUCH ADDRESS IS:
Retail Store- Storefront sales- Franchised new car dealership
Person making declaration
SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME This 3rd Day Of September, 2026.
Kelli D. Ivey
NOTARY PUBLIC
October 10, 17, 2026

26-466
My Storage Building located at 1720 Claxton Dairy Road Dublin, Ga. 31021 will hold an online public sale to enforce a lien imposed on said property, as described below, pursuant to the Georgia Self Storage Facility Act, Georgia Code 10-4-210 to 10-4-215. The auction will be held on website www.storageauctions.com (http://www.storageauctions.com) and will end at 2 PM on Monday, October 30, 2026. Management reserves the right to withdraw any unit from sale. Registered or motor vehicles are sold "As Is / Parts Only," no titles or registration.
Tenant Name: Racheedra Parks
Unit #: A13
Stored Items: HHG, Furn, Boxes
Tenant Name: Heather Thompson
Unit #: A49
Stored Items: HHG, Furn, Boxes
October 10, 2026

26-452
Notice to Debtors and Creditors
All creditors of the estate of Eva Mayweather late of Laurens County, deceased, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment. This 3rd day of October, 2026
Name: Mitchell Margaret
Title: Administrator
Address: 7393 Hodgson Memorial Drive Suite 202 Savannah GA 31406
October 3, 10, 17, 24, 2026

26-443

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
Georgia, Laurens County.
All creditors of the Estate of Estate of Bruce Lorenzo Rhyme, deceased, late of Laurens County, are hereby notified to render in writing 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 16th day of September, 2026.
Loren Audria Rhyme,
Administrator of the Estate of Estate of Bruce Lorenzo Rhyme, deceased
c/o J. Jackson Dixon
Smith Dixon Law Group, LLC
205 N. Franklin Street
Dublin, GA 31021
September 26, October 3, 10, 17, 2026

26-458
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF MITCHELL ELTON FROST, JR., DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 2-178
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION
NOTICE
TO: whom it may concern:
EVE ZIMMERMAN has petitioned for EVE ZIMMERMAN to be appointed administrator(s) of the estate of MITCHELL ELTON FROST, JR. deceased, of said county. (The petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, waiver of statements, and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. § 53-12-261.) All interested persons are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
Genola O. Jackson
Judge of the Probate Court
By: C. Warren
Clerk of the Probate Court
PO Box 2098
Dublin, GA 31040
4781272-2566
October 3, 10, 17, 24, 2026

26-445
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF LAURENS
IN RE: ESTATE OF Mary Lynn Reid, DECEASED
All creditors of the Estate of Mary Lynn Reid, DECEASED late of Laurens County, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all person indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to me.
Keith Anthony Gillis
Executor of Mary Lynn Reid, deceased
110 Sheldon Ridge Ct Bonaire, GA 31005
O.C.G.A. § 53-7-41 states:
"...Every personal representative shall, within 60 days from the date of qualification, publish a notice directed generally to all of the creditors of the estate to render an account of their demands. The notice shall be published once a week for four weeks in the official newspaper of the county in which the personal representative qualified..."
September 26, October 3, 10, 17, 2026

26-465
PUBLIC NOTICE
In accordance with the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act, Section 12-8-32(c), PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby served that the Houston County Board of Commissioners on September 29, 2026 received a Notice of Site Suitability for a solid waste disposal facility from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Environmental Protection Division (EPD) for a solid waste disposal operation known as the Houston County SR 247 Klondike C&D Landfill Proposed Expansion. The facility is located at 2080 Hwy 247 South, Mile Marker 2, Kathleen, Georgia 31047. Houston County will host a public meeting to inform affected residents and landowners in the area of the Houston County –SR 247 Klondike C&D Landfill of the opportunity to engage in a facility issues negotiations process. The meeting will be held at the Perry Courthouse located at 201 Perry Parkway, Perry, Georgia on November 3, 2026 at 9:00AM.
October 10, 2026

26-436
STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF LAURENS
TAKE NOTICE THAT:
To: THE ESTATE AND THE HEIRS OF EVA MITCHEL MAYWEATHER
D16F-309, 127 MARSHALL STREET DUBLIN, GA 31021
The right to redeem the following described property to wit:
See Exhibit "A"
will expire and be forever foreclosed and barred on and after November 11, 2026. The tax deed for which this notice is related is dated the August 5, 2025 and recorded in the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Laurens County, Georgia, in Deed Book 3622, page 67, Laurens County Records. Please be governed accordingly.
SCOTT B. THOMPSON, SR.
Attorney for SHEENA LANIER
1306 Bellevue Avenue
Dublin, GA 31021
(478) 272-4460
EXHIBIT "A"
All that tract or parcel of land, lying and being in the City of Dublin, Laurens County, Georgia, designated as Tax Parcel 16F-309, being known as Lot 7C, Block 281 of the City of Dublin, and known as 127 Marshall Street, Dublin, GA. Said property is more particularly shown and described on a plat of survey prepared by Marvin D. Clements, Surveyor, and recorded in Deed Book 398, page 342, Laurens County Records. This is the same property described in a Joint Survivorship Warranty Deed from H. Dale Thompson to Ralph Mayweather and Eva M. Mayweather, recorded in Deed Book 398, page 312. Ralph Mayweather predeceased Eva M. Mayweather, who died on November 5, 2022. Ralph Mayweather died on November 12, 1997.
September 26, October 3, 10, 17, 2026

26-451
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF LAURENS
IN RE: ESTATE OF Betty Joyce Brown, DECEASED
All creditors of the Estate of Betty Joyce Brown, DECEASED late of Laurens County, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all person indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to me.
Murray Steven Brown
Executor of Betty Joyce Brown, deceased
705 Cole Road Glenwood, GA 30428
O.C.G.A § 53-7-41 states:

Georgia

LOCAL MATTERS

STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS

Publish your classified ad in more than 60 Georgia newspapers for only \$350.

Call Georgia Newspaper Service: 770-454-6776

We don't knowingly accept advertisements that discriminate, or intend to discriminate, on any illegal basis. Nor do we knowingly accept employment advertisements that are not bona-fide job offers. All real estate advertisements are subject to the fair housing act and we do not accept advertising that is in violation of the law. The law prohibits discrimination based on color, religion, sex, national origin, handicap or familial status.

STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS
FOR THE WEEK 10/4/26

CELLULAR

Consumer Cellular - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just \$20/month. For more information, call 1-833-446-1847

HEALTH CARE

Audien Hearing. The world's first hearing aid with touchscreen controls. No tiny buttons, apps or prescriptions. 45-day risk free trial. Free shipping. Lifetime support. More than 1.5 million happy customers. Call Audien 1-866-976-0560

Up to \$15,000.00 of GUARANTEED Life Insurance! No medical exam or health questions. Cash to help pay funeral and other final expenses. Call Physicians Life Insurance Company- 833-398-1043 or visit www.Life55plus.info/Georgia

Don't let the stairs limit your mobility! Discover the ideal solution for anyone who struggles on the stairs, is concerned about a fall or wants to regain access to their entire home. Call AmeriGlide

today! 1-877-871-3210

ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS! Discover Oxygen Therapy That Moves with You with Inogen Portable Oxygen Concentrators. FREE information kit. Call 1-877-553-1109

Stroke and Cardiovascular disease are leading causes of death, according to the American Heart Association. Screenings can provide peace of mind or early detection! Contact Life Line Screening to schedule your screening. Special offer – 5 screenings for just \$149. Call 1-855-391-2065

HOME IMPROVEMENT

BATH & SHOWER UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Affordable prices - No payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Senior & Military Discounts available. Call: 1-877-652-0640

WATER DAMAGE CLEANUP:

A small amount of water can lead to major damage to your home. Our trusted professionals dry out the wet area and do repairs to protect your family and your home's value! If you have water in your home that needs to be dried, call 24/7: 1-877-625-0433. Have zip code of service location ready when you call!

ELECTRICAL SERVICES: Reliable & experienced. Competitive rates. From simple household problems to installing a brand new electrical system, we can take care of it all! Call now and have the zip code of the service location when you call! 1-877-917-6746

NEED NEW FLOORING? Call today schedule a FREE in-home estimate on Carpeting & Flooring. Call Today! 1-877-914-0502

PEST CONTROL: PROTECT YOUR HOME from pests safely and affordably. Roaches, Bed Bugs, Rodent, Termite, Spiders and other pests. Locally owned and affordable. Call for service or an inspection today! 1-877-236-3738. Have zip code of property ready when calling!

HOME BREAK-INS take less than 60 SECONDS. Don't wait! Protect your family, your home, your assets NOW for as little as 70¢ a day! Call 1-877-606-2120

MISCELLANEOUS

End your tax worries today. Let us make your tax problem our priority. Scared, stuck with high tax amounts? Our A+ tax professionals can help. Call for a FREE consultation. Call Priority Tax now 1- 866-513-1506

YMT Vacations. Over 50 guided tours available. Affordable, social and stress-free travel designed for mature travelers. Our tours include accommodations, transportation, baggage handling, sightseeing, entrance fees, a professional Tour Director and select meals. For a limited time SAVE \$250 on all tours. Call YMT today. 1-855-548-2623

BANKRUPTCY RELIEF! Help stop Creditor Harassment, Collection Calls, Repossession and Legal Actions! Speak to a Professional Attorney and Get the Help You NEED! Call NOW 855-968-5222

BEHIND ON YOUR MORTGAGE PAYMENTS? Threatened with foreclosure? Denied a loan modification? Let us help! Call the Homeowner Relief Line to speak with a mortgage specialist. 844-797-7162

Wesley Financial Group LLC

"...Every personal representative shall, within 60 days from the date of qualification, publish a notice directed generally to all of the creditors of the estate to render an account of their demands. The notice shall be published once a week for four weeks in the official newspaper of the county in which the personal representative qualified..."
October 3, 10, 17, 24, 2026

26-431
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF LAURENS
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER

Because of a default under the terms of the Security Deed executed by April L. Mobley to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for Morris Bank, its successors and assigns dated June 26, 2015, and recorded in Deed Book 2624, Page 78, Laurens County Records, said Security Deed having been last sold, assigned, transferred and conveyed to Nationstar Mortgage LLC, securing a Note in the original principal amount of \$86,734.00, the holder thereof pursuant to said Deed and Note thereby secured has declared the entire amount of said indebtedness due and payable and, pursuant to the power of sale contained in said Deed, will on the first Tuesday, November 3, 2026, during the legal hours of sale, before the Courthouse door in said County, sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, the property described in said Deed, to-wit: All that tract or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in the Town of Rentz, Land Lot 110, in the 17th Land District of Laurens County, Georgia, containing 3.26 acres, more or less, fronting on Georgia Hwy 117 and County Road 264 as more particularly described and delineated on a plat of survey prepared by Larry C. Jones, Georgia Registered Land Surveyor, dated March 13, 1987, and recorded in Deed Book 481, Page 229 in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Laurens County, Georgia. Said plat and the record thereof are by reference incorporated herein and made a part hereof.
Said property is further identified by the Laurens County Tax Assessor as 2206 Hwy 117, Rentz, GA 31075, Map/Parcel: 107-A/015.
Said property is known as 2206 Highway 117, Rentz, GA 31075, together with all fixtures and personal property attached to and constituting a part of said property, if any. Said property will be sold subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, whether or not now due and payable), the right of redemption of any taxing authority, any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above.
The proceeds of said sale will be applied to the payment of said indebtedness and all expenses of said sale as provided in said Deed, and the balance, if any, will be distributed as provided by law.
The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the secured creditor.
The property is or may be in the possession of April L Mobley, a/k/a April Leigh Mobley, successor in interest or tenant(s).
Rocket Mortgage, LLC as Attorney-in-Fact for April L. Mobley
File no. 26-084873
LOGS LEGAL GROUP LLP*
Attorneys and Counselors at Law
1050 Crown Pointe Parkway, Suite 500
Atlanta, GA 30338
(770) 220-2535
https://www.logs.com/

Timeshare Cancellation Experts
Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt and fees cancelled in 2019. Get free informational package and learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. Call 866-411-5215

SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY BENEFITS. Unable to work? Denied benefits? We Can Help! Strong, recent work history needed. Call to start your application or appeal today! 877-627-2704

Moving Out of State? Licensed and insured, full-service nationwide movers. Call now to get a free, instant price quote on your next move. 1-866-590-6443

TV/INTERNET

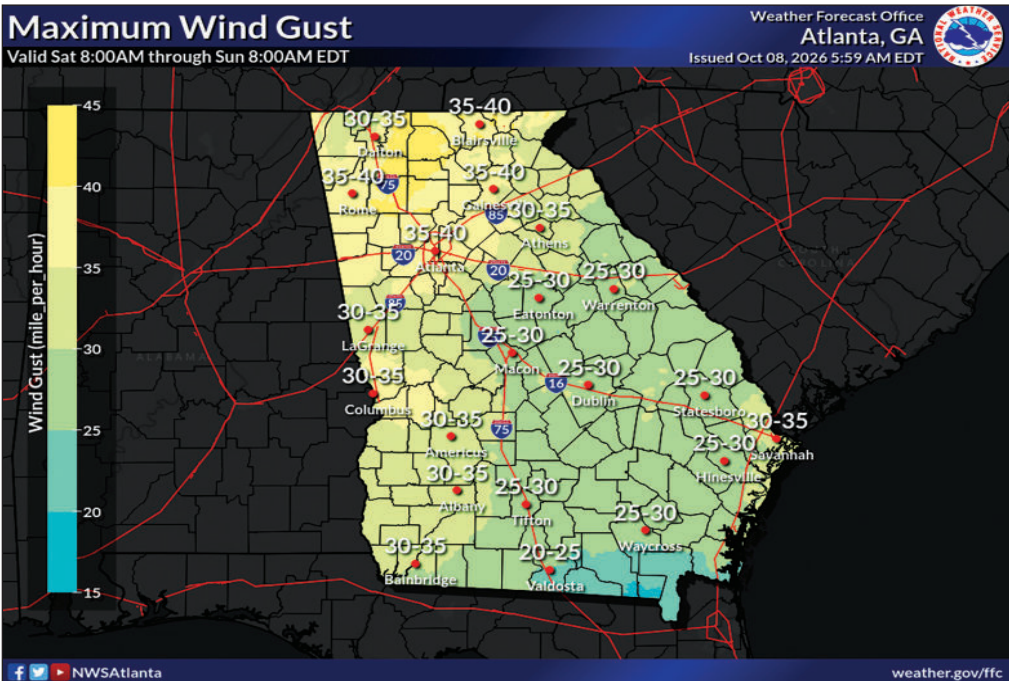
Get DISH Satellite TV + Internet! Free Install, Free HD-DVR Upgrade, 80,000 On-Demand Movies, Plus Limited Time Up To \$600 In Gift Cards. Call Today! 1-866-369-1468

COMPUTER ISSUES? FREE DIAGNOSIS by GEEKS ON SITE! Virus Removal, Data Recovery! 24/7 EMERGENCY \$20 OFF ANY SERVICE with coupon 42522! Restrictions apply. 844-739-4842

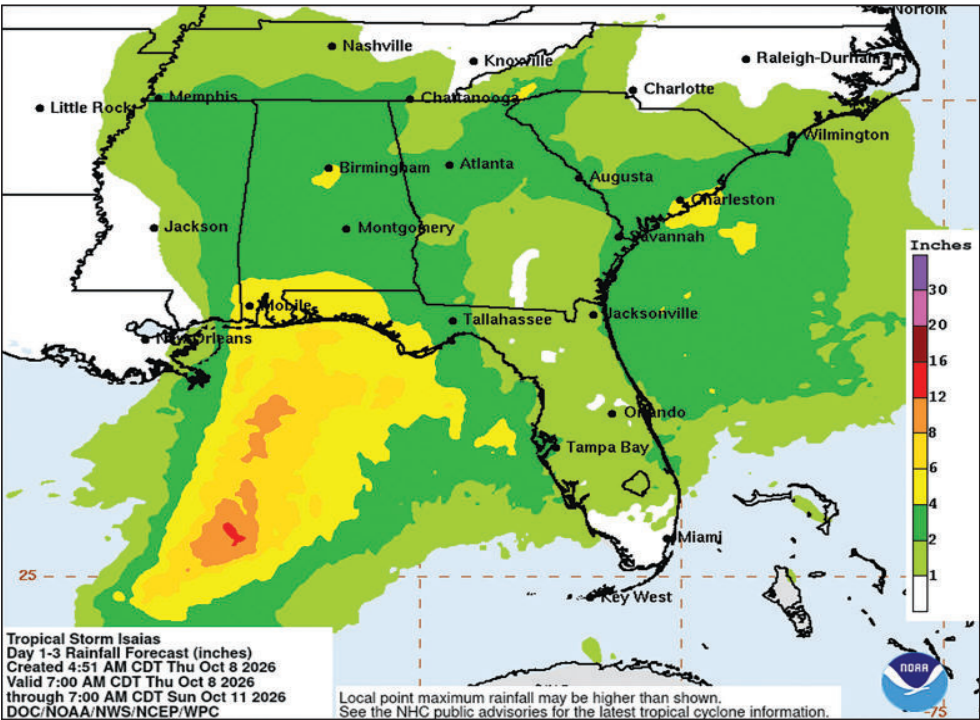
WANTED

We Buy Houses for Cash AS IS! No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy three step process. Call, get cash offer and get paid. Get your fair cash offer today by calling Liz Buys Houses: 1-877-399-2113

TOP CASH PAID FOR OLD GUITARS! 1920-1980 Gibson, Martin, Fender, Gretsch, Epiphone, Guild, Mosrite, Rickenbacker, Prairie State, D'Angelico, Stromberg, And Gibson Mandolins / Banjos. 1-877-515-0329



Map shows wind predicted to be between 25 to 30 mph/GRAPHIC from National Weather Service



GRAPHIC from National Weather Service

Map provided to The Courier Herald from the Laurens County EMA Director shows the three day rainfall graphic predicting approximately two inches of rain for the area

Local officials keeping eyes on Hurricane Isaias, potential impacts on Dublin, Laurens Co.

By PAYTON TOWNS III

As of Thursday, the predictions for Hurricane Isaias had the storm hitting on the west side of Alabama, with the outside right edge of the storm either just missing or striking Dublin, Laurens County.

Of course, this is just a prediction, and depends on if the storm shifts to the west or east.

“I was just looking over the latest information from the National Weather Service,” said Laurens County Emergency Management Agency Director Bill Laird. “When it comes to storms like this, the most reliable forecast is the one you get about the time it makes land-fall. That is about 36 hours from now. Of course with as

much rain as we’ve had in the past, we’ll definitely have potential for some flash flooding if we have a lot of rain in a short amount of rain. Folks need to be on alert for that.”

As of Thursday morning, the latest track had Isaias tracking west, Laird said. Everything depends on how big the storm gets after making landfall. The NWS has predicted a level one marginal risk (five percent chance) when it comes to flash flood, a level two for risk of excessive rainfall (15 percent chance) and a level one for severe weather with a slight risk of tornadoes, damaging wind gusts and light risk of hail.

“What they are forecasting right now is that we can have maximum wind gusts around 25 to 30 miles per

hour,” Laird said.

And no matter where it hits, Laird and Dublin Fire Chief Matthew Cutler know anything coming from Isaias will put this area on the dirty side of the storm.

“As we know, all it takes is a little push this way or that way to change everything, for the good or the bad,” Cutler said.

What comes to mind is how Hurricane Helene shifted west, bringing the eye of the storm right over Dublin, Laurens County in September of 2024.

“Helene shifted and moved and we had (Hurricanes) Michael (2018) and Irma (in 2017) do the same thing,” Laird said.

The timing of the storm is late Friday night into early Saturday morning. Unless

it is an emergency, people should be at home. People need to have a reliable way to receive weather alerts for severe thunderstorm warnings or tornado watches and warnings.

“They need to be sure that they are getting their weather from reputable sources,” Laird said. “There are social media people who try to make it out that they know more than the news media. They take information from several others and put it out there.”

Laird said it is important to secure anything in the yard that may fly away

during the storm. Heavy downpour of rain may also be a concern.

“We may see some power outages associated with this,” Laird said.

After a storm, people need to remember not to touch any lines on the ground.

“Any power line should be treated as a power line or as potentially an energized line,” Cutler said. “You don’t need to touch it or even get close to it. Electricity can travel through the ground. If the power is out, we have more than likely already received calls and we have investigated and have notified

Georgia Power, or if you are in the county, the EMCs. They are not going to show up and restore anything until it is safe for them to do so because their crews need to be safe.”

Laird said they will continue to have briefings about Hurricane Isaias throughout Thursday and Friday.

“We’ll be coordinating with the cities and county, and public works to make sure that we are ready to address any issues that may arise,” Laird said. “The further we are away from the eye, the less of an impact we will get.”

CALL FOR SPECIAL ELECTION

PUBLIC NOTICE OF ELECTION

TO THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF LAURENS COUNTY, GEORGIA

SPECIAL ELECTION

For

FLOATING LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that there will be a SPECIAL ELECTION pursuant to O.C.G.A. 48-8-109.30 et. seq. for Laurens County, Georgia held on Tuesday, November 3rd, 2026 between the hours of 7 A.M. and 7 P.M. in conjunction with the state wide general election at the regular polling places in Laurens County where voters of Laurens County cast ballots, at which time there will be submitted to the qualified voters of Laurens County for their determination of whether there may be imposed within the special district of Laurens County a special sales and use tax for a limited period of time for the limited purpose of property tax relief.

The ballots to be used at said election shall have written or printed thereon substantially the following:

☐ YES

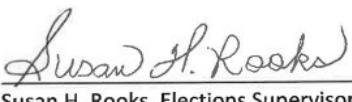
Shall a special 1.0% sales and use tax be imposed for 5 years within Laurens County with the proceeds used exclusively to reduce property taxes imposed by Laurens County and the municipalities of Cadwell, Dexter, Dublin, Dudley, East Dublin, Montrose and Rentz?

☐ NO

The several places for holding said election shall be at those regular and established polling locations of Laurens County where voters of Laurens County will also cast ballots in the state wide general election. The polls will be open from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. on the date fixed for the election. The last day to register to vote in this election shall be on October 5th, 2026. Those residents of Laurens County qualified to vote at said election shall be determined in all respects in accordance with the election laws of the State of Georgia.

All persons desiring to vote for approval of the imposition of a 1% special sales tax to provide property tax relief for five years shall vote “Yes,” and those persons desiring to vote for rejection of such special sales tax and property tax relief shall vote “No.” If more than one-half of the votes cast on the question are for approval the special sales tax, the tax will be imposed as provided by law. Otherwise, the special sales tax and property tax relief will not occur.

This 30th day of July, 2026


Susan H. Rooks, Elections Supervisor



ST. PATRICK'S FESTIVAL
DUBLIN, GEORGIA

Got an event?

MAKE IT PART OF THE FESTIVAL!

2027 FESTIVAL EVENT REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

Dublin-Laurens County's St. Patrick's Festival brings together 40+ events each year, hosted by local organizations, clubs, and businesses.



Have an event to add to the celebration?

Submit your event to be part of the 2027 Festival season!

REGISTER BY OCTOBER 15, 2026



SCAN TO REGISTER



DUBLINSTPATRICKS.COM





No setback will set us back.

DETERMINATION

Pass It On.

THE FOUNDATION FOR A BETTER LIFE
www.forbetterlife.org





BANK OF DUDLEY

121

1905 - 2026

Join us as we celebrate 121 years of community, relationships and local banking.

Enjoy hot dogs, chips, drinks and cupcakes and enter to win \$121!

OCTOBER 16, 2026
11:30 AM – 1:30 PM
AT ALL BANK OF DUDLEY LOCATIONS

LOCAL PEOPLE. LOCAL DECISIONS. LOCAL BANKING.

Member FDIC

CANCER
Continued from page 1

honor of a survivor or in support of someone fighting breast cancer, you are important.”

Sorority president Regina Jackson said every step of the walk means something.

“We are honoring those who have been lost and those survivors who bring us hope,” Jackson said. “Let us walk with purpose for a cure.”

Earnistine Pinkston led everyone in prayer before the sorority recognized the survivors as well as those who have passed away from breast cancer.

“Each of (the survivors) have a story that should be celebrated,” Copenny said. “Hope can endure through life’s greatest challenges. We stand and walk with you.”

A portion of the money raised goes to the American Breast Cancer Society for research while local funds go to a survivor’s brunch.

“As a country, when something needs to be done, we are united and we have been victorious,” Howard said. “We love to celebrate and fight breast cancer.”



Earnistine Pinkston, a breast cancer survivor, said a prayer at the beginning of the event/PAYTON TOWNS III



Liz Green, director of marketing and communications at FPH, gave out breast cancer stats/PAYTON TOWNS III



Lillie Hobbs, a two-time breast cancer survivor, lit a candle for those who have survived the disease/PAYTON TOWNS III



State Representative Matt Hatchett cut the pink ribbon to start the 17th annual Breast Cancer Walk For the Cure/PAYTON TOWNS III



Though there was a slight drizzle of rain, participants walked around the track/ PAYTON TOWNS III

TAX
Continued from page 1

a general fund balance of \$821,314. Lounder said she feared a reduction in revenue could keep the board from wiping out its deficit by year's end, should any unexpected expenditures arise. For example, she said, the district got billed by the city of Dublin last year for \$400,000 in old property tax appeals from 2024.

"That \$800,000 can go away really quickly," Lounder said.

Eaves noted that the huge number of property appeals were likely an anomaly from the countywide property revaluation started in 2022. In his motion to advertise the increase, Eaves included that the board get updated information on pending appeals before the first two public hearings on the tax

increase, Oct. 15 at noon and 6 p.m.

A third public hearing and a vote will be held at 6 p.m. Oct. 22.

Also at the meeting, the board voted to formally request that the city waive the 2.5 percent fee charged for collecting school taxes.

"Can we ask for a waiver from the city, being that we are a new board?" asked member Angela Wright.

The seven members of the board were appointed last month by Gov. Brian Kemp after he suspended and removed the previous board after financial troubles imperiled the district's accreditation.

Representatives from the accreditation agency, Cognia, attended Monday's called meeting to update the new board on the steps for the district to return to good standing. Accreditations are

rated on four levels, and Dublin City is in Level 1, the lowest.

"Cognia is here to support your accreditation journey," Andre Harrison, Cognia's interim chief accreditation officer, told the board. "We are pleased with the plan (interim Superintendent Marcee) Pool and her staff have submitted for addressing concerns. Your job is to address those next steps and show how you're progressing."

Cognia issued a scathing report after a monitoring review in February that downgraded Dublin City to "accredited with conditions" – the agency's lowest status and a required step toward dropping accreditation altogether. That triggered a mandatory hearing before the state Board of Education, which voted to recommend to the governor that the local

board members should be suspended.

Harrison said Cognia review was initiated after the state notified the agency of the district's dire financial status last September.

"We have assurances and we have standards that we look at, especially when the state intervenes, to ensure a school system is meeting expectations," Harrison said.

The accreditation agency will return next February for a followup monitoring review.

Harrison's presentation touched on creating a "hopeful" environment for learning and leadership, but chairman David Westerfield said the board hopes to take that a step further.

"I don't think we're just hopeful. We're determined to get this accreditation back to where it needs to be," Westerfield said.

RECORD
Continued from page 9

Garnishment: River Heights Capital v Tasha R Mimbs & Bank of Dudley Security Deed: Deep South Consulting Services, LLC to The Citizens Bank of Cochran x3; Randall B Helton & Sara Terry Helton to Navy Federal Credit Union; Terri Lynn Raley AKA Terri Lynne Raley/Sherri Lee Howard to Sunmark Community Bank; David & Mika Morgan to Banksouth Mortgage Company, LLC; Mika & David Morgan to Mers Bank-south Mortgage Company; Kailey Perkins Lewis to First Laurens Bank; Gloria Franco to First Laurens Bank; Spencer Delano Dickens & Tina Dickens to Pentagon Federal Credit Union; Robert Cody Lewis to First Laurens Bank Warranty Deed: Share Properties, LLC to EBH Prop-

erties of Wheeler County, LLC; Ruchi Garg to JDKJ Investments, LLC; Evans South LLLP to Christian Family LLLP; Jerry W & Stephanie F Rowland to Jordan Rowland; Elizabeth Kemp Smith to David & Mika Morgan; Ralph Jeffers to Gerald & Allison Harper; Lanier Custom Builders, LLC and Gregory P Ledford to Spencer Delano & Tina Dickens

FIFA: Lawrence G Moyer to Lendmark Financial Services; Rinnie A Jones to Georgia United Credit Union; Kenneth Hunter and All Personal Research LLC to AP Healthcare, LLC; Candace G Setzer to Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.; Herbert McDermitt to CitiBank; R&P Associates, LLC to Curry Management

Tax Lien: Samantha Elbert to Internal Revenue Service

Community Bankers Association of Georgia Elects Brian Bazemore to the Board of Directors of Community Bankers Association of Georgia

Brian Bazemore, President & CEO, The Citizens Bank of Cochran, Dublin, was elected to the Board of Directors of Community Bankers Association of Georgia (CBA) representing the Southern Division. Nominations for the 2026-27 CBA Board of Directors were announced and approved at CBA's Annual Convention held September 23 – 27, 2026, at The Omni Grove Park Inn, Asheville, NC. His term began September 28, 2026.

“The CBA Board of Directors consists of true community bankers. Those chosen by their peers to serve are amongst the most respected and talented bankers in Georgia. As such, they are asked to serve on many boards and committees both in their local communities and throughout the state. Recognizing the importance of having a community bank-only focused association in Georgia, they choose to dedicate their time to serving and guiding the only banking association in Georgia exclusively committed to the state’s community banking industry- CBA. I am grateful for their service and looking forward to working with them all over the next 12 months.” Stated John McNair, President & CEO, Community Bankers Association of Georgia.

CBA is delighted to welcome the following new members to the Board:

- Diane Murray, Bank of Newington
- Ross Mynatt, Craft Bank
- Jeremy Ragan, Georgia First Bank
- Brian Robinson, Century Bank & Trust

Additionally, CBA would like to thank the following who are stepping off the Board for their exemplary service:

- Richy Everly, Bank of Wrightsville
- Ray Muggridge, Bank of Camilla
- Derek Williams, Century Bank & Trust

Board members are selected from two divisions across the state of Georgia, ensuring all Georgia community banks are equally represented. Board members are elected to a oneyear term. During the year, Directors will be involved in several items on behalf of the CBA membership, such as responding to proposed rules and regulations from the various regulatory agencies, reviewing services which will benefit the community banking industry, and weighing in on proposed legislation.

CBA was founded in 1969 by a group of Georgia community bankers to protect the political interests of locally owned community banks. Representing approximately 125 community banks and 150 associate member companies, CBA offers services in three distinct areas: Legislative, Professional Development and Member Services. CBA is the state's only advocate working solely for the interests of community banks and their customers.

For more information, contact CBA at (770) 541-4490 or visit www.cbaofga.com.

COMMUNITY BANKERS ASSOCIATION OF GEORGIA 2026-2027 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Chair: Kelly Stone, Community Bank of Georgia
- Chair-Elect: Shannon Henry, Bank of Dade
- Vice-Chair: Stephen Lewis, First National Bank of Coffee County
- Audit-Treasurer: Heath Fountain, Colony Bank
- At Large: Jonathan Pope, Exchange Bank
- Immediate Past Chair: Mike Sale, The Commercial Bank

NORTHERN DIVISION

- Chris Cochran, Fidelity Bank
- Charles Crawford, Hyperion Bank
- Clare Easterlin, Queensborough National Bank and Trust
- Andy Flowers, Oconee State Bank
- Jane Lawson, First Peoples Bank
- Ross Mynatt, Craft Bank
- Brian Robinson, Century Bank & Trust
- Mani Swarnam, Georgia Banking Company

- Brian Bazemore, The Citizens Bank of Cochran
- Kasey Blackburn, Family Bank
- Scott Curry, First State Bank of Randolph County
- Frank Griffin, Flint Community Bank
- Angie Kahrman, BankSouth
- Jeff McGhee, The Merchants and Citizens Bank
- Diane Murray, Bank of Newington
- Jeremy Ragan, Georgia First Bank
- Bran Thompson, South Georgia Bank
- Eli Tinsley, Planters First Bank

CBA President/CEO: John McNair, CBA of GA
Corporate Secretary: Lori Godfrey, CBA of GA
General Counsel: Dan Brannan, James Bates Brannan Groover LLP



478-272-9650
605 Bellevue Ave
CITIZENSBANKCOCHRAN.COM

