

Pilot Club of Dublin holds biggest fundraiser with Monster Dash

By PAYTON TOWNS III
Senior Reporter

A local organization is gearing up for its biggest fundraiser of the year where they are looking to raise money to help with brain safety for children and brain safety for senior adults

The annual Pilot Club of Dublin, Inc. event will be held at the Bicentennial Plaza near Theatre Dublin, with the 5k beginning at 7:30 a.m. and the one-mile

run starting at 8:30 a.m. The awards will be held around 9:30 a.m. and the candy mile begins at 10 a.m. for ages 10 and under.

"It is always sweet to see the kids dressed up for the candy mile," said Lacey Baker, a member of the Pilot Club of Dublin, Inc. "Our sponsorships and businesses play a big part in this event. That is always nice. Without them, it would be hard to do anything."

Baker said the entry fee is \$20 for the 1-mile race, \$25 for the 5K. Though it is too late to register and receive a t-shirt, participants can still register online at <https://runsignup.com/Race/GA/Dublin/Monster-Dash5k1MileCandyMile>

There will be awards for top three female and male runners in all age divisions and for overall top three female and male runners in both 5k and one-mile race.

The age brackets are: 0-6/7-10/11-14/15-19/20-39/40-59/60-over

"We would love to have people come out and participate," Baker said.

Race packets can be picked up from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. this Friday or at 7 a.m. Saturday.

Baker said this event is the club's biggest fundraiser for the year. The money is used to educate students about brain safety, bully-



A crowd gathers in the Bicentennial Plaza for Pilot Club of Dublin's annual Monster Dash/PAYTON TOWNS III

ing prevention, ATV safety, brain injury prevention, seat belt safety and bus safety. They also do senior shows, where they learn about fall safety and fall prevention, Baker said.

For more information, call Baker at (478) 278-7046.



The team behind Christy's Floral & Gift Shop in East Dublin: (left to right): Judy Phillips, owner Christy Henry, Sherry Branch, and Stephanie Rowland/DONNELL SUGGS

'God, thank you for letting me have this business': East Dublin's Christy's is turning 40

By DONNELL SUGGS
Editor & Publisher

On a sunny and cool Monday afternoon, Ms. Judy Philips and Ms. Sherry Branch manned the store while the owner was out. Two of the most knowledgeable employees at one of East Dublin's longest-running shops, the ladies had everything covered if and when a customer showed up looking for a dozen roses or some home decor for the upcoming holiday seasons.

Nestled in a corner of the East Dublin Plaza, Christy's Floral & Gift Shop has been a part of the community for 39 years and counting. The family-owned business, which first opened under co-owners, Christy Henry and her late mother, Maggie Calhoun, will turn 40 in April 2027. But there was no better time than now to give Henry her proverbial flowers for remaining in business for decades.

"That's a long time," said Henry, 62, about her time as



A sign on the exterior wall of Christy's Floral and Gift Shop indicates that next year will be its 40th year in business /DONNELL SUGGS

a business owner in her native East Dublin. "I love it. It's awesome. It's amazing that we've lasted this long."

The shop, which is currently decorated with fall and Christmas decor, and smells like cinnamon, hasn't always been in the East Dublin Plaza. Henry and Calhoun, then ultimately Henry, have run the flower shop and home goods store in several locations, but one thing has remained the same.

"They've always been in East Dublin," Henry proclaimed.

Asked why she wanted to open a flower shop, Henry replied that it was her mother's idea at first, but then she really started enjoying her work. She was barely 22 years old when Christy's opened, but now she can't imagine not having been part of this decades-old community mainstay.

CHRISTY'S
Continued on page 10

Fast-thinking fourth graders praised for aiding teacher having seizure

By RODNEY MANLEY
Staff Reporter

A fast-thinking trio of Hillcrest Elementary fourth graders are getting praise and recognition for coming to the aid of a teacher suffering from an apparent seizure.

Video of the incident shows students tossing paper airplanes across the room during a recent STEAM (Science, Technology & Engineering, Art and Mathematics) class. In the frenzy, the three classmates notice that substitute teacher Jeronica Hampton appears to become lethargic and unresponsive.

Kambrea Walker, whose grandmother, like Hampton, has epilepsy, recognized the teacher was having a seizure. She and classmates Malani Sherrod and Ava Brown rushed to assist Hampton, leaning her back in her chair and running to the office to get the school nurse.

"If (they) hadn't known the signs, they wouldn't have known to set me back," Hampton told school officials. "So much more could have happened. I am so grateful."

The city Board of Education honored the girls at its meeting Monday night.

"The way they stepped in and helped their teacher, that lets us know our parents who are here with us taught them what to do," said interim Superintendent Marcee Pool. "They helped their teacher. They kind of got things under control, and they went and got the nurse. All the things you want to do in a situation like that."

As Kambrea tended to Hampton, who had slumped forward in a chair, Malani fetched the nurse. Meanwhile, Ava, who was unable to attend Monday's meeting, restored order in the classroom.

"She got the other students to get in their desks and be quiet," Pool said.

CBS News' national desk has contacted the schools about a feature on the girls' efforts, which could air soon, district spokesman Jason Halcombe told the city Board of Education.

The video of the incident is already a hit on social media. As of Monday, it had been viewed a whopping 655,890 times.

"It's been the most-watched thing we've ever made," Halcombe said.



Malani Sherrod receives praise, and a few tokens of appreciation, from interim Superintendent Marcee Pool for her role in coming to the aid of a teacher suffering a seizure during class/RODNEY MANLEY



Kambrea Walker is congratulated by chairman David Westerfield and other members of the Dublin school board for realizing her teacher was having an epileptic seizure and rushing to help her/RODNEY MANLEY

LCSO responds to officer-involved shooting

By PAYTON TOWNS III
Senior Reporter

A day after the Georgia Bureau of Investigation was called in to investigate an officer-involved shooting, the sheriff's office sent out a response to what happened

that caused their deputy to fire at a man trying to run away.

In the Laurens County Sheriff's Office's response, a deputy saw man later identified as Charles Daniel McMahan, 36, of Dublin, riding a bicycle on Firetower Road.

The deputy was aware of recent attempted burglaries and trespassing in the area, involving a man riding a bicycle. The deputy tried to make contact with the man.

When the deputy approached, the man ran away into the woods. During the foot chase, the suspect threatened to shoot the deputy. Two additional deputies arrived and all three eventually caught up with the man.

The suspect then produced an object and pointed it toward the deputies and ordered them to back

away. The deputies repeatedly commanded the man to drop the object, but he refused. One deputy fired two shots toward the man and the suspect threw the object on the ground. Neither shot hit the suspect.

Deputies arrested McMahan who later told investigators that he used the "object" in an attempt to make deputies believe he was armed by holding it like a gun and pointing it at the deputies. McMahan said he was attempting to provoke deputies into taking his life.

The GBI continues its investigation because of the use of force situation, which

is standard procedure. When the investigation is completed, the case file will be sent to the Dublin Judicial Circuit District Attorney's Office for review.

The investigation continues. Anyone with information can call the GBI Regional Investigative Office in Eastman at (478) 374-6988. Anonymous tips can be called in to 1-800-597-TIPS (8477), online at <https://gbi.georgia.gov/submit-tips-online> or by downloading the See Something, Send Something mobile app.



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OBITUARIES



James Rowland Burgess III

Funeral services for the Rev. James Rowland Burgess III were held at 2 p.m. Friday, Oct. 23, 2026, in the Chan Stanley Memorial Chapel of Stanley Funeral Homes and Crematory, with interment to follow at Dublin Memorial Gardens. Rev. Rebecca Duke-Burton will officiate.

Rev. Burgess was born Aug. 24, 1941, in Ducktown, Tenn. He was the son of the late James Rowland Burgess Jr. and Martha Elizabeth Stallings Burgess. He was also preceded in death by his son-in-law, Dale Memmelaar. He proudly served his country in the United States Army. He was a retired Methodist Minister where he served in the South

Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church. Rev. Burgess passed away Wednesday, Oct. 21, 2026, at his residence.

Rev. Burgess is survived by his wife, Susie T. Burgess of Dublin; two sons, James “Jamey” R. Burgess IV (Tammy) of Pendergrass and Samuel T. Burgess (Audra) of Flowery Branch; two daughters, Carla E. Memmelaar of Norcross and Heather M. Justice (Brian) of Dublin; 10 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

The family received friends from 1 p.m. until 1:45 p.m. Friday, Oct. 23, 2026, at the funeral home.

Stanley Funeral Homes and Crematory/Dublin Chapel has charge of funeral arrangements. To sign the Online Register Book please visit www.stanleyfuneral-home.com.



Earnest Freshley

Mr. Earnest Freshley of Dublin, Georgia passed away on Thursday, Oct. 22, 2026. Funeral arrangements are incomplete at this time.

www.ServicesByDudley.com

MOMENTS IN TIME

- On Nov. 9, 1870, the U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear a challenge from the state of Massachusetts from the constitutionality of the Vietnam War. In a 6-3 vote, justices rejected the state's effort to bring a suit in federal court defending Massachusetts residents who claimed protection under a state law allowing them to refuse military service in an undeclared war.
- On Nov. 10, 1928, the first installment of Erich Maria Remarque's novel of World War I, “All Quiet on the Western Front,” debuted in the German magazine Vossische Zeitung. Released in book form in 1929, it sold a million and a half copies that year and was also adapted into an acclaimed American film in 1930.
- On Nov. 11, 1988, authorities in Sacramento, California, excavated a corpse in the lawn of 59-year-old Dorothea Puente, who had operated a residential home for elderly people. An investigation led to the discovery of six more bodies buried on her property. Puente -- who was mentally ill, already had a criminal record and was suspected of additional deaths -- died in prison in 2011.
- On Nov. 12, 1969, investigative journalist Seymour Hersh, in a cable picked up by more than 30 newspapers, revealed the extent of the U.S. Army's charges against 1st Lt. William L. Calley at My Lai, writing, “The Army says he [Calley] deliberately murdered at least 109 Vietnamese civilians during a search-and-destroy mission in March 1968, in a Viet Cong stronghold known as ‘Pinkville.’”
- On Nov. 13, 2020, Kim Ng was named general manager of the Miami Marlins, becoming not only the first woman and first person of East Asian descent to lead a Major League Baseball front office, but also the first female general manager in North American professional men's sports history.
- On Nov. 14, 1910, U.S. Navy Lieutenant Eugene Ely became the first person to successfully take off in an airplane from the deck of a ship, lifting off the cruiser Birmingham in Virginia.
- On Nov. 15, 1806, explorer Zebulon Pike discovered the Colorado Peak that now bears his name, despite the fact he didn't climb it himself.

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Cochran hires Redding full-time in controversial 4-2 vote

By CAROLINE WEATHERSBY
Staff Reporter

In a controversial decision, the Cochran City Council voted to make Interim City Manager Angela Redding's position at City Hall a permanent one.

Tuesday night, four of six council members voted to appoint Angela Redding to City Manager, despite having no agreed-upon contract and pushback from residents, council members and the mayor.

According to Mayor Carla Coley, this is the first time the council has voted to appoint a city manager without a contract in place.

Earlier in the meeting, Councilmembers Dianne Lester and Gary Ates requested to move the discussion surrounding Redding's appointment to the executive session. However after comments from the audience pushed council into a deeper conversation, the council unanimously agreed to continue the discussion during their public session.

Councilmember Shane Savant shared his reasoning for not wanting to hire Redding at this time.

“I have some apprehension about making a move for permanent hire. I believe as city council, we have a responsibility to carefully consider the full picture before making that decision,” he said. “Angela has been a city manager for eight years. I understand that throughout those years, there have been litigation against cities she's been in charge of and in some instances against her.”

The litigation he mentioned includes two racial discrimination lawsuits Redding was named in before she was hired as Cochran's Interim City Manager.

“There's a saying that I think I believe is especially relevant here. When the foundation is firm, you don't have to worry about storms,” he continued. “Before we make a permanent appointment, I think being able to open it back up to a firm, have them provide us the candidates they feel would be best for the position... If Angela's in a group, great. Then, we've affirmed what the other council members have already formed their opinion on. And if not, then we hire the best person for the position.”

Savant also said that there was a “delay in responses” from Redding affecting residents, business owners, city employees and himself.

Others are echoing those concerns.

In September, an anonymous letter was sent to the council and mayor threatening that 11 city employees at City Hall, public works, and the fire and police departments would quit if Redding was appointed city manager, citing issues with her overall communication.

The letter claimed that “morale is very low” and “everyone at city hall will quit except [one person.]”

“We need to move the city forward,” Savant said. “I'm afraid if we don't have that communication and that timeliness that that could be an issue as well.”

Councilwoman Lester spoke up defending her decision to hire Redding now, saying that the city ran a thorough background check on Redding before she was hired, including a fingerprint check that Lester claimed no one else at City Hall was asked to do.

“You've got somebody [Redding] you can work with that is already making some positive strides in this position... I still feel that this is somebody that we can work with to help move things forward,” she said. “It is important to hear what people have to say and consider that, but you've got to realize too it's also council's responsibility to hold... the city manager accountable.”

During discussion, Councilman Ates suggested that his reasoning to move forward with Redding's appointment was based on wanting to protect the city budget.

According to Ates, hiring an outside firm to search for other qualified candidates for city manager would run the city \$20,000. If the city continues to work with Redding, however, they could skirt the extra cost and still hire a qualified candidate.

Redding also spoke up, defending herself in light of Savant's litigation comment. She explained that one of the lawsuits brought against her stemmed from

a situation where, while serving as City Manager in Cordele, she sat on a panel in charge of hiring a new police chief.

After the panel decided to hire a black candidate to fill the role, she said, a disgruntled white candidate filed a lawsuit against her and the city citing racial discrimination. The lawsuit was later dismissed.

“I've been in local government for over 27 years, and when you work in local government, at some point in time... you're going to end up in a lawsuit,” she said. “I don't look at color. I'm looking for qualifications and for those best suited to perform the job. We came to a unanimous decision that it was going to be the person we selected, and he was African-American.”

The other suit, on the other hand, came after the city council decided to fire a different police chief. According to Redding, the former police chief filed a racial discrimination lawsuit in retaliation against multiple people, including herself, even though the decision was made by the council.

“I have accomplished a lot while I've been here. We've been short staffed. We've been trying to fill positions,” she said. “I've had to make updates to policies and procedures that were not in place. I established a uniform travel policy for employees and elected officials. I completed several reports... that were past due when I came on board.”

At some point in the conversation, Mayor Coley questioned Redding about Cordele's government status. According to Coley,

she read on an official DCA website that Cordele had lost their local government status due to being behind on audits. If Cordele lost their status, this would mean they're ineligible to receive grants.

“I don't want us to lose our qualified local government status because we, as a small town, survive on grants,” she told Redding.

In response, Redding said that Cordele never lost their qualified local government status.

The TJP reached out to the City of Cordele to clarify, but they did not respond.

At the end of the conversation, City Attorney Jim Elliott suggested three options for the council. They could choose to reappoint Redding to a temporary interim position pending completion of a contract. They could also choose to hire Redding as full-time city manager pending completion of a contract, or they could return to the hiring firm.

“I would not recommend hiring someone without a contract,” Coley recommended to the council. “And if I were Angela, I would not want to be hired without a contract.”

At the end of the discussion, Coley requested a roll-call vote.

Councilmembers Gary Ates, Trecia Gardner, Rufus Veal and Dianne Lester voted yes, while Councilmembers Shane Savant and Lonnie Tedders voted no.

Redding's appointment comes a month after the city council announced they were reversing their initial vote to use an outside hiring agency to find candidates for the vacant city manager position.



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

BIRTHDAYS

- Oct. 24
Josh Ringwood
- Oct. 25
Joyce Childers
Chris Perry
Lionell Rozar
SheWanda “Peaches” Smith
Jamie Wilbur
- Oct. 26
Ron Page

**Laurens County
Invitation to Bid**

Sealed Bids will be accepted on the following project until 10:00 A.M., Wednesday, November 4, 2026 and will be opened at the Public Bid Opening to be held in the Commissioner's Office located at 117 East Jackson Street Dublin, Georgia. The Board of Commissioners reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids. All bids shall include providing all labor, equipment, grading, concrete and materials or other things necessary to complete the project.

- The project is located in the City of Cadwell and consists of removing existing 4' sidewalk and replacing it with new 5' sidewalk along Coleman Street and Walnut Street, as well as, removing sidewalk and then grading and grassing the area where removed along certain areas along Coleman, Walnut and Snowhill Streets. The project should be completed in accordance with the plans and specifications.
- PAYMENT SHALL BE MADE BASED ON QUANTITIES IN PLACE. BID SHOULD STATE UNIT PRICE AND BID SHEET SHOULD BE UTILIZED.
- ALL WORK SHALL MEET THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION GUIDELINES AND REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION AND INSTALLATION.
- All driveways will have smooth transitions.
- Contractor is responsible for all traffic control and the posting of appropriate construction signs as required by MUTCD
- The successful bidder will submit certificate of workers comp., liability insurance and e-verify compliance when the bid is awarded. Payment and performance bond will also be required.
- The Contractor shall be responsible for completing the project by March 1, 2027.

A pomegranate and a pitbull: A cautionary adventure

The pomegranate shrub grows along an old fence row on some old family property. When it was planted, I don't know, but it has grown there as long as I can remember. What I can tell you is I look forward to collecting the fruit that weighs down the limbs about this time of year.

On one side of the fence is a long dusty drive that leads into the woods. On the other is a pitbull. This season the choicest of pomegranates grew on the wrong side of the fence.

First, a little about the pitbull. It belongs to my cousin, who has an affinity for the breed. This animal is a beautiful, well-cared for specimen, that, besides a ferocious bark and walking around on an imposing all-muscle frame, doesn't appear to be aggressive. In fact, outside of the fence and when its owner is present, the dog is as friendly as any family pet.

That being said, I'm not taking any chances unaccompanied on its home turf.

The fear of pitbulls is a new phenomenon in our society. In the late 19th Century, the dogs were praised as the quintessential American breed, representing hard work. During the World Wars, pitbulls were used as patriotic mascots featured on recruitment posters and war bond ad campaigns. However, acts of cruelty have followed the breed and given it some negative notoriety.

The cultural significance of the pomegranate goes back even further - to old times, civilizations and religions. The fruit

THE NEW
SOUTHERN
DAD



By KYLE DOMINY

represents fertility, abundance, life and the hereafter. The Egyptians buried their kings with pomegranates and a variety of treasures fashioned after the fruit. The columns along King Solomon's temple were adorned with carved pomegranates. In ancient Greece the pomegranate was considered the fruit

of the dead, and the seeds bound Persephone to the god of the underworld.

Now they are an overpriced superfood loved by nutrition influencers and health nuts. Unless you have access to an heirloom shrub, preferably one not watched over by a large dog.

Temptation presents itself in many ways. Mine was looking at a ripe piece of fruit, out of arm's reach with a knee-level pitbull barking just a few feet away. As I walked along the road side of the fence recently, I thought I would have to settle for the smaller bounty growing within the safe harvesting range.

Then opportunity reared its head. Something else caught the dog's attention, some other perceived threat that sent it sprinting along the fence row. I knew I couldn't pass up that chance but try as I might, leaning against the rusted metal wire of the structure, I still couldn't reach the bounty before me.

It was only a matter of time before the guard dog returned its attention to me. I grasped at the limbs of the plant, pulling the tree's canopy closer and closer until finally I was able to pluck the fruit that I desired.

That may seem like a lot of work to get three pomegranates. And perhaps it is. That's why I intend on planting the seeds from one so I can eventually harvest my own ... pitbull not included.

Business Class

Miss Shumara Carswell's economics students came to school with individual business plans in tow. Thursday morning was the day to present their ideas to professionals from within the community. Thursday, October 22 was Marketplace Times Day at East Laurens High School and I got to be one of the local "professionals" (Some of the people I have worked with in the newspaper business might think otherwise) who were judges of the business plans. And I enjoyed every minute of it.

The idea was to get their business plans together, create billboards, posters, business cards, web pages, or in the case of one business, Excotic Lemonade, an actual website, and present their ideas for non-partisan judgement. I believe the student entrepreneurs and the judges, if I may be allowed to speak for my fellow adults, benefitted from Marketplace Times Day.

"This is a way for them to own something," Carswell said of her students. All participants were seniors. "This is also a way for them to get out of their comfort zones."

The first business -there were eight in all- that I visited was Sam's Potato Shack & More. The business idea for Sam's Potato Shack & More as not presented by a student named Sam. In fact, the name Sam comes from a combination of the three students behind the idea for the potato-based restaurant: Sophia, Alaina, and Meranda. S.A.M.

I gave them four of the possible four points for originality.

Handyman Hays, owned

and operated (sic) by East Laurens High school senior Leo Hays, was all about bringing his skills to a Laurens County home near you. Hays said his business will be helpful -fixing broken appliances for example- but also affordable. That was something I could definitely support, particularly during the current economic time and space we are in.

"It's a cheap service, but it's a good one," said Hays, who added that his plan will be to get the business going, get it "popular" and "make it big enough to let everyone know that I'm here."

Meeting the students, some of whom were dressed in slacks, dress shirts, and a tie (Shout out to Anthony Gasset at Excotic Lemonade) was why I accepted the invitation from Carswell. Being new in town, it is always important to meet the "movers and shakers" of Dublin and greater Laurens County, but I'm smart enough to know that the future is our children. We have to make



EDITOR'S
NOTES...

By DONNELL SUGGS

time for our children.

"I think it's important for the students to get in practice of being able to present their ideas to people," Carswell said. "This is going to boost their confidence."

The young men behind "Straight Structure," a skullcap and beanie brand, were not without confidence and it immediately showed as I approached their table. All three student-athletes, Jeremiah Rozier, Gary Stockton, and Tawan Horn are a great representation of East Laurens High School's best and brightest. If first impres-

sions are everything, then the parents and guardians of these young men should be proud.

Describing the mission of the hat brand, Rozier said, "We want to keep everything together."

Other business ideas included a seafood restaurant (Juicy Yakks) and a gamer truck business (CG trucks), and a low calorie, low sugar energy drink brand. All of the ideas were great and if this proves anything, the future business leaders of Laurens County are definitely on to something.

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BY TERRI MOORE

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"Parker" Brimidge, your favorite mailman, is retiring after 32 years of dedicated service—hanging up his satchel for the last time.



It's a sad but exciting time as we say farewell to someone who has been a pillar of this community and a respected leader within the post office. For Parker, delivering the mail has meant more than letters and packages. It has meant building relationships, serving neighbors, and being a familiar face people could count on.

Parker, thank you for your hard work, your leadership, and the pride you have taken in serving this community. We appreciate the countless miles, the long days, and the commitment you have shown throughout your career. Your example has made a lasting difference to your coworkers and the people along your route.

While you will certainly be missed, you have earned this next chapter. May retirement bring you rest, happiness, new adventures, and more time with those you love.

Congratulations, Parker! Thirty-two years of service, a community's gratitude, and a legacy to be proud of. Enjoy every moment—you've earned it!



Bailey Bryant & David Coleman
Blaire Bullard & M.D. Snipes
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Cammie Dalley & Joe Dranikoski
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Dublin Police Department

- Ethan Shane Leonard, 18, was charged with obstruction of law enforcement officers on South Jefferson Street around 3 p.m. on Oct. 10.

Officers were informed that a gold and tan Hyundai Elantra was seen driven by a person wanted out of the police department for an entering auto case. An officer knew where Leonard, who was the suspect, worked. The officer saw Leonard and called out to him. The man ran away. He did not get far.

The officer was able to grab the man, but they both fell. Leonard complied with the officer's commands and was arrested. The man had a busted lip from the fall. He denied needing medical attention.

Leonard was transported to the sheriff's office and released to booking without further incident.

- On Oct. 11 around 7:23 p.m., police responded to Walmart on Highway 80 West in reference to a man and woman reportedly shoplifting merchandise at the grocery store self-checkout registers.

The officer was advised by dispatch that the individuals were described as a man wearing a black shirt and a woman wearing a pink shirt and black pants. The man was identified as Samuel Happ Oneal, 30, and the woman was identified as Jayleen Marie Oneal, 30.

They were in the self-checkout area and after they passed the final point of sale, they were escorted to the asset protection officer to determine the quantity and value of the merchandise that had not been property scanned.

The officer reviewed the surveillance footage and saw the man stacking multiple identical items on top of one another and scanning only the bottom item. This was seen multiple times involving various items in the shopping cart. The officer



cer also saw the woman paying for the merchandise using a payment card accessed through Apple Wallet on her iPhone. A Walmart employee wished to prosecute both individuals for theft by shoplifting.

An employee said the merchandise that was not properly scanned was \$277. Both were charged with theft of shoplifting. They were transported to the police department where they were fingerprinted and released on citation. They were also trespassed from returning to Walmart.

- Bobby Lee Davis, 44, was charged with driving while license suspended or revoked, at the intersection of West Garner Street and Martin Luther King Jr. Drive at 7:55 p.m. on Oct. 11.

An officer conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle and asked the driver for his license. The man said he did not have it. When the officer ran the man's name, the officer discovered that Davis' license was suspended.

The man was arrested and transported to the police department to be fingerprinted and released on citation.

Laurens County Sheriff's Office

- On Oct. 5, around 2:07 p.m., a deputy responded to Buckeye Road in reference to a dead goat.

- Ronald Justin Brown, 44, of Macon was charged with possession of methamphetamine during a traffic stop at I-16 mile marker 44 on Oct. 5 at 11:01 a.m.

- A vehicle was stolen on Buckeye Road between Sept. 15 on Bay Springs Church Road.

- A deputy responded to a call about a stolen vehicle on Watkins Hall Road at 12:05 a.m. on Oct. 6.

- A vehicle was stolen on Black Bird Lane at 1:03 p.m. on Oct. 5.

- A deputy responded to a call about harassment on Old Macon Extension that happened between April 1 and Oct. 4.

- Around 5 p.m. on Oct. 3 a deputy took a phone message in reference to a theft that happened on King Street.

- On Oct. 6, a deputy responded to the sheriff's office to make a report for a citizen about something that had occurred on East Main Street in Dexter around 5:16 p.m.

- At 7:47 p.m. on Oct. 4, a deputy was advised that the Georgia State Patrol needed a transport unit at Highway 441 and Roundtree Drive.

- A cellphone was stolen on Mikes Lane around 1 a.m. on Oct. 3.

- A theft occurred on South Washington Street around noon on Sept. 30.

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

FROM THE RECORD

Complaint for Divorce: Amy Clark v Douglas Clark; Melissa Ann Beasley v Donnie Graham

Motion for Contempt: Susan Hilton v William Hilton

Modification of Visitation: Vickie & Keaven Williamson v Sean O'Quinn

Divorce: Kathryn Marie Thorpe v Kevin Michael Thorpe

Complaint: Midland Credit Management, Inc v Eric Henry

General Tort: Bernice O'Neal v Ganesh GA, LLC & Discount Tobacco & Gas

Automobile Tort: Derack Fulford v Proline Commercial Services, Inc., Ameripro Environmental Services & Justin King

Medical Malpractice Tort: Erika Estes v Dublin OB/GYN Associates, P.C. & Newton Blism

Garnishment: Mark & Lisa Bell v Omar Rodriguez & Wells Fargo Bank; Mark & Lisa Bell v Omar Rodriguez & First Laurens Bank; Mark & Lisa Bell v Omar Rodriguez & Morris Bank/Vallant Bank; Mark & Lisa Bell v Omar Rodriguez & Bank of Dudley; Mark & Lisa Bell v Omar Rodriguez & Community Bank of Dublin; Mark & Lisa Bell v Omar Rodriguez & Ameris Bank; V Capital City Bank; Mark & Lisa Bell v Omar Rodriguez & Farmers State Bank

Contract: Southwood Financial v Ray & Jonathan Adkins; Denali Capital v Felicia Blash

FIFA: Mikaela Lawrence to CitiBank N.A.; Jerry Maddox to LVNV Funding, LLC; Teresa Snead to LVNV Funding, LLC; Sherrett Stanley

to Cascade Capital Funding, LLC; Blanton White to Spring Oaks Capital SPV, LLC; Renee Lineback to Spring Oaks Capital SPV, LLC; Xavier D Carr Sr to JPMorgan Chase Bank NA; Michelle Ricks to NCB Management Services Inc

Tax Liens: Earl Rice to Internal Revenue Service; Laurens N Mullis to Internal Revenue Service; Willard & Dixie Donaldson to Internal Revenue Service; Alma A Mazzoni to Internal Revenue Service

Warranty Deeds: Coshos, LLC to Kieth D Hutcheson; Mathew James Hobbs to Jaems Cowart & Chastity Futch; Yates Properties III, LLC to Stuckey Timberland, Inc x2; Stuckey Timberland, Inc to Yates Properties III, LLC; Bryan L Miller, Roger W Miller as Trustees of Bryan L Miller and Roger W Miller, Trustees Under Item III of The Last will and Testament of Jerold Lemar Miller to Makenzie & Elijah Jones; Nicole Sunshine Conner to Jamica Jewel Gonzales-Vasques; Sammy & Jackie Boney to Built by Walker, LLC; JWJ Investment Properties, LLC to William J Prill Jr & Marcella C Prill; Dennis E & Denise C Dobbins to James Edwin Jr & Cheryl Faircloth Walker; Perry W Geiger & Teresa Ann Ward to Amber C & Hunter C Moore; Steven Clark Vollrath to Million Pine Farms, LLC; Evans South, LLLP to Sam & David Ussery; The Deacons of Greater Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church to TMGG Holdings, LLC; Daniel Brigham AKA Daniel Howard Brigham,

Taylor Brigham AKA Taylor Pasley Brigham to Daniel Brigham AKA Daniel Howard Brigham & Taylor Brigham AKA Taylor Pasley Brigham Trustees of The Brigham Family Revocable Living Trust, Dated April 22, 2026; Schroer Development, LLC to P2 Construction, LLC; Lana Malone Alligood to Lane Malone Alligood, Trustee of The Lane Malone Alligood Irrevocable Trust Dated September 9, 2026 x2

Security Deeds: James Cowart & Chastity Futch to Renesant Bank; Yates Family Holdings, LLC to Vallant Bank x2; Mackenzie & Elijah Jones to Neighbors Bank; William Austin JR & Krystal Dawn Frost to Georgia First Bank; Silver Cedar, LLC to Georgia First Bank x3; Marvin Mitchell Page III to First Laurens Bank; Gernot Wilfred Schaaf & Ingebeth Henrietta Schaaf to Georgia First Bank; James Edwin & Cheryl Faircloth Walker to Bank of Dudley; Sophia Jordan to Lakeview Loan Servicing LLC, Dart Collateral Manager, LLC; Bee's Property Management, LLC to Georgia First Bank; James Acree to Georgia First Bank; Sam Ussery & David Ussery Jr to Farmers State Bank; Phillip Darrell Fowler & Tura Davis Taylor to Capital City Bank; TMGG Holdings, LLC to Farmers State Bank; Cathy Gaston to Coastal Community Bank % Aven Financial, Inc; P2 Construction, LLC to Georgia First Bank; Christopher G & Nichole D Cannon to Robins Financial Credit Union; Darrell Jay Parmore to Premier Mortgage Resources, LLC

NEWS DIGEST

The regular meeting of the board of commissioners of the Dublin Housing Authority will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 27 at 5 p.m. at the Verline P. Copenny Center located directly across from 104 W. Mary St. The agenda follows:

- Call to order
- Roll call of members
- Invocation
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Recognition of guests/ presentations
- Approval of the regular minutes of Sept. 15
- Financial reports
- Check History Reports
- TAR reports
- 90 day forecast
- Old business
- Update on RAD development/City of Dublin response to funding request
- Update on NSPIRE inspections
- New business
- HOTMA
- Executive director's report
- Commissioners comments
- Adjournment

The Town of Cadwell is having a council meeting on Monday,

Nov. 9 at 7 p.m. at Cadwell Town Hall. The agenda follows:

- Call meeting to order
- Invocation
- Approval of minutes
- Approval of financial statement
- Old business
- New business
- Comments
- Acknowledge visitors
- Adjourn

POSTING DATE OCTOBER 24, 2026

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT STEVE BUCKINS HAS SUBMITTED A REZONING APPLICATION FOR .32 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT 109 VERNON STREET, DUBLIN GEORGIA. REQUEST TO REZONE FROM P (PROFESSIONAL) TO R1 (SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL). PROPOSED USE IS A SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT JANET LEE HUDSON HAS SUBMITTED ANNEXATION APPLICATIONS FOR 1.00 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, PARCEL D05C 001 AND FOR .21 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, PARCEL 100 080A. REQUEST TO ANNEX PROPERTY INTO THE CITY LIMITS OF DUBLIN AS M2 (INDUSTRIAL). PROPOSED USE IS INDUSTRIAL / DISTRIBUTION.

THESE REQUESTS WILL BE HEARD BY THE PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD ON NOVEMBER 10, 2026 AT 5:30 P. M. IN THE HENRY "BUD" HICKS JR MEMORIAL CHAMBERS.

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THIS MEETING TO GIVE YOUR COMMENTS ON THESE REQUESTS.

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Remember, You never know how much your kindness may mean to someone who is struggling. Be willing to help, quick to encourage, and faithful to pray. Today, ask God to show you someone whose burden you can help carry.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, give me a loving and compassionate heart. Help me recognize those who are struggling and give me the willingness to help them. May my words and actions show the love of Jesus. In His name, Amen.

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

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GHSA SOFTBALL PLAYOFFS

Comeback kids: Raiders returning to Columbus after late-inning rallies to sweep shootouts with Adairsville

By CLAY REYNOLDS
Sports Editor

You never know much for sure, any given year, about your chances going into the GHSA fastpitch softball tournament. But West Laurens can rest assured that its offense will be capable of holding its own with any of the seven other state championship hopefuls it might face in Columbus next week.

"No matter what, we can score runs," said junior Peyton Crabb. "We can come back and beat these teams."

The Raiders' bats proved their mettle by doing that twice to sweep No. 18 Adairsville in two wild ones Wednesday afternoon.

They trailed by as big a number as five in the first, and six in the second, but rallied to get the last word in both shootouts, and advance as one of the state's last eight teams standing for a seventh-straight season.

West Laurens rode a four-run seventh inning to its 8-7 victory in the opener, and scored five of six difference-making runs in the sixth frame of the finale before holding off the Tigers in a final at-bat to win 11-10.

Six errors and 10 walks on the day, along with some early missed opportunities, had them cutting it awful close at the end of games that very easily could have gone the other way, but the Raiders out-hit Adairsville by one in each contest, and a count of 21-19 over the series.

"I felt like we could score runs," said West Laurens head coach Mike Thompson. "We scored runs all year long, and I felt like we could score several. We just had to get some girls on base. We



Demmie Moss and catcher Kinsley Moore (left), followed shortly by teammates (right), celebrate the final out of Wednesday's sweep to get the Raiders to Columbus for a seventh-straight season/CLAY REYNOLDS



ning surge unfolded in even more improbable fashion, with all the action except an early walk drawn by Ella Thompson taking place after Adairsville had recorded a second out.

But a common thread from late in game 1 re-emerged as walks, which numbered 14 for Adairsville starting pitchers in the series, began to stack up again as they did to prop the door open for West's first memorable comeback of the day.

"Everything we had seen and watched on them, their pitchers would get behind some, but they'd come back and throw strikes, so I felt like if we could draw some walks, we'd be fine," Thompson said. "We'd get some runners on. I felt like we'd swing the bat."

Paisley Powell and Edenfield drew two more in a row, then Madison Brown came through with a one-run single to cut the Tigers' lead to 9-6.

Heidi Rickett, summoned in relief at this same point in the last inning of the opener, came back on to pitch for Rooks, but issued a fourth free pass of the inning to make the score 9-7, as Crabb stepped into the box with the bases loaded, and a chance to change the game with one swing.

"I was just looking for whatever she gave me, anything close," she said. "I was just trying to put the ball in play, get a run in."

Crabb didn't settle for just one, instead clearing them off with a gapper to left to bring home the two in scoring position, as well as Moss, who slid home to beat the throw on an aggressive

RAIDERS
Continued on page 6

Sanders treasures relationships, teachable moments from time at Trinity/John Milledge as sun sets on 45-year coaching career

By CLAY REYNOLDS
Sports Editor

As nicknames for high school coaches go, you won't find many more unique than "Dark Thirty," which has followed Trinity's Gary Sanders for a good bit of his time with the school's baseball and softball programs.

The expression, a spin on popular military jargon for the timing of operations taking place at ungodly hours in the pitch-black darkness, has been used by players through the years as both a catchphrase and term of endearment poking some fun at the tendency of his practices to drag on late into the evening... sometimes all the way to dusk, which was as far as you could go before the Crusaders' baseball field first got lights about five years ago.

"It was because back then, we might've literally practiced to dark, till we got it right," Sanders said. "It was kind of a running joke, and I'd be walking across the campus, and I'd hear someone say 'Dark Thirty!' But we went 'til we got it done."

How early the saying originated, as well as who might have coined it, are difficult to pinpoint, but it's stuck for multiple generations of his athletes who knew that practice experience all too well.

"It was true," former player Jake Walker said. "We were walking out in the dark until the time changed halfway through the season."

These days, since he's transitioned from baseball to softball and a fall season with much more generous daylight hours, it's become kind of a misnomer for workouts that overwhelmingly finish up in a reasonable amount of time. That is, as long as everyone stays focused and on task.

Batting practice, which by nature takes up the biggest chunk of their daily time, is the exception.



Gary Sanders extends a high five to Trinity's Sara Beth Gay on her return to the dugout after scoring a run during a September game against Briarwood/CLAY REYNOLDS

But through the years, Sanders – like a lot of coaches this day and age – has adapted his routines to favor quick, faster-paced activities that keep players moving and engaged, over more deliberate old-school customs that were heavy on repetition, explanation and downtime.

Two of his favorite drills, both handed down by coaches he came up working under back at John Milledge Academy, are about as lively as it gets.

"You try to pick up what you think works for different coaches, just pick their brains and come up with some drills to make a little competition and have a little fun, but you have to work to get better," Sanders said. "You try to do things where you can pick up the pace and keep it moving."

The first – called "9-1-1," to represent the nine defensive players, and two (or more) baseballs in use – is a modified infield-outfield defensive exercise that keeps everyone's attention occupied with a constant barrage of grounders, flies and line drives coming from separate sides of the plate.

"It's good if you've got at least two at each position and two fungoes," Sanders said. "You hit one fungo to right, and the next guy to

left. There are a lot of fly balls in a short period of time. Sometimes you've got enough kids you can do three fungoes at the same time. And when you go to the infield it's ground balls, and you can have four balls being hit at a time."

Another, which happened to be taking place at the time of this conversation while the Crusaders conducted their final practice before closing the regular season at Thomas Jefferson earlier this month, is known as "Catch 21." It uses only one bat and ball, but requires those same defensive players to make 21 consecutive catches, representing the number of outs in a regulation game.

"Sometimes it takes a few minutes, sometimes it takes a while," Sanders said.

His methods may have changed over the years, but the same reputation as a stickler for details has followed him all the way from the beginning, even though like most, he's a little more easygoing now than he used to be.

"To be honest, I have probably mellowed in 45 years of doing this," he said. "You make adjustments, but you never change your morals or your standards. But you've still got to hold those, and we've got to hold kids accountable.



Sanders, backed by assistant coach Jeff Alligood, looks on during a game in 2022, one of his first few seasons as the Crusaders' head softball coach/CLAY REYNOLDS, File

Like we tell 'em, practice is supposed to end at 5:15. If y'all get it done, we will. If not, we're on your time, not our time. We allow them so much, if you hustle, you get it done, we will."

Those particular ways have translated to success at just about every step of his four and a half decades coaching a combination of softball, baseball and football at Trinity (since the early 2010s) and longer before at JMA. Between the two stops, he was a part of 20 region championships, one state title and several more semifinal runs.

This past season, his sixth as Trinity's head softball coach, concluded that long and memorable run for Sanders, who is calling it a career.

"It's just time," he said. "I'm going to miss the relationships with the kids. That's going to be the big thing. The whole time, it's always been about the kids. I've been blessed to coach an awful lot of good ones, and a lot of them have worked hard."

For the coaching lifer, neither the decision – nor the process of bidding the profession, his team and staff farewell over the past month – were easy.

Emotions were bittersweet as he coached his last home game at

Barry Walker Field on Sept. 29, which the school began with a special recognition honoring his years of service, and two more on the road to round out the schedule Oct. 6 and 8.

"It's going to be hard," Sanders said. "You sit there, you've been on the sideline and the dugout for that long. Coming back next year, I'm going to sit out there and watch them and support them, and it's going to be hard."

Most lines of work have a way of letting you know when it's time to move on, and for Sanders, a natural decline in his ability to take the active hand he always did in those operative portions of practice – roles he's handed over to assistant coaches Jeff Alligood, Shannon Canady and Tiffany Smith – have slowly made that clear.

"I've kind of always said when I can't throw and hit like I used to, when I couldn't do the things I used to could do, it'd be time to let the young guys have it," he said.

A great run...

Sanders' time at Milledge, starting in the 1980s, included his only state title as the Trojans' head baseball coach in 1993. There, he'd also work as defensive assistant and coordinator under a number of football coaches including both a former (Ken Johnson) and future (Bruce Lane) head coach at Trinity, and mentor JMA's current head man and AD J.T. Wall.

His move to Dublin came circa 2012, originally as a member of Buddy Woodard's football staff and a baseball assistant to Chuck Grooms, whom he'd succeed as head coach a year or two later.

His tenure included several state playoff runs, but notably a

SANDERS
Continued on page 6

RAIDERS

Continued from page 5

wave by Thompson to give West Laurens a 10-9 lead.

The Raiders got an insurance run in the seventh that turned out to be huge, as Allie Sahli beat it out of the box on a grounder, and rushed the Adairsville throw from shortstop just enough to get aboard on a bobbled catch at first.

The senior stole second, and moved up to third on Ella Thompson's well-executed ground ball to the right side in a two-strike count, before scoring on a Malone sacrifice fly.

The Tigers cashed in an error to score with two outs on their last chance.

Moss got Rooks swinging, and retired Durden on a shallow fly to right. But the third out was elusive, as Rickett singled up the middle, and Powell plopped a two-out pitch into shallow left to follow for an RBI.

But the sophomore remained in command, even after getting behind Hynleigh Statham 2-0, as she went to the breaking ball to get an early swing on two pitches in a row to even the count.

Ball three filled it up, but Moss stayed with the faithful curve it to get a whiff for strike three that ended the game.



The West Laurens dugout (left) goes crazy after Peyton Crabb's three-RBI double (right) gave the Raiders their first lead of game 2 in the top of the sixth inning/CLAY REYNOLDS

"That's my best pitch and I was like I'm going with it," Moss said. "Honestly, me and Coach Pollock and Kinsley (Moore) all worked just curve, curve, curve, curve. They weren't touching my curve, and I was just like I'm gonna keep throwing it. No need to change the speed. Just keep throwing it. If they're not touching it, they're not touching it."

Wild from the start...

Adairsville didn't make as quick a jump from the starting line, but opened as comfortable a lead in game 1 that it held pretty much the entire night.

Two walks and an error gave the Tigers their first

in the top of one, and three hits, a walk and an error scored four to put the Tigers up 5-0 in the third before the Raiders could get their bats going.

West Laurens slowly chipped away, picking up two of its three in the fourth inning on an RBI double by Powell.

But nothing happened on three hits in the fifth and the sixth, putting it all on the Raiders' last chance in the seventh, down 7-4 after Crabb set down the side 1-2-3 in the top half.

The inning got off to a shaky start for Hill, who had pitched her way out of some earlier jams, but couldn't escape this one after walks

of Brown, Crabb and Maggie Shea Lord to load 'em up with nobody out.

Sahli grounded out to score Brown and make it 7-5, then Thompson singled for two RBIs to tie.

Malone's base hit to left kept things moving, and forced an Adairsville pitching change that likewise wouldn't reverse the course of the inning.

Powell drew another free pass to refill the sacks, and Edenfield worked her count to 3-1 as Thompson came in to score the winning run on a passed ball.

"I'm really proud of them," Coach Thompson said. "I'm really proud of the way we swung the bats and

made the plays when we had to. Our pitchers hanging in there, and doing what they had to do. We had to use all three tonight, but we got it done."

West Laurens (25-7, 6-2 region 3-AAAA) has overcome its inexperience in big ways this fall. But that question mark was tested in this series, and will be again as the Raiders play on this young team's biggest stage so far next week.

Were there any take-aways from these intense battles that can help them there?

"I don't know if anything prepares you for Columbus," Thompson said. "Every game hinges on one pitch and one hit, and it's just such an incredible, great environment for high school kids. Hopefully this intense game tonight helps some, but when you get on that stage, man, unless you've played (there), it's hard to mimic that. It's just a great environment. Hopefully this prepares us a little bit."

West Laurens will play Ridgeland, out of Northwest Georgia, in its opener Wednesday evening.

But what happens from there will be just as unpredictable as this series was, and each of the Raiders' numerous trips to South Commons in the past two and a

half decades.

What's always true will be again: There are a lot of great teams, and every one of them will have just as much a shot to get hot when it matters.

"You never know what happens over there," Thompson said. "The year we won it, everybody told everybody that nobody's beating Whitewater. You're not beating 'em. Everybody's playing for second. And we went over there and Whitewater gets beat in game 1, and we roll right into the championship game and they had to beat us twice. You never know. I like the way we're swinging the bat, we'll go over there and compete, and see what happens."

SCOREBOARD

SOFTBALL

Wednesday

West Laurens 8, Adairsville 7

WL 11, Adairsville 10

FOOTBALL

Thursday

Bleckley Co. 49, Vidalia 13

PREP SCHEDULE

FOOTBALL

Friday

Dodge Co. at Dublin Trinity at Piedmont

WL at Liberty Co.

Hancock Central at Johnson Co.

Vidalia at Bleckley Co. ECI at Montgomery Co.

Twiggs Co. at GMC Washington Co. at Burke Co.

Wilkinson Co. at Jenkins Co.

Wheeler Co. at Wilcox Co. /7:30 p.m.

Tuesday

Brentwood at Thomas Jefferson

/7 p.m.

SOFTBALL

GHSA State Tournament (Columbus)

Wednesday

West Laurens vs. Ridgeland /5:45 p.m.

FLAG FOOTBALL Monday Swainsboro at EL/5:30 p.m.

Thursday

EL at Portal/5 p.m.

CONTACT US:

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

SOFTBALL

Continued from page 5

runner-up finish to Piedmont Academy in 2014 and an appearance in the 2018 semifinals at Trinity-Sharpsburg.

Sanders, who ultimately stepped back from football, would lead the baseball program through the arrival of current head coach Josh Ward about 2021, then step over that same season to fill a void in the softball dugout created after the departure of Krista Meadows.

His six seasons there included a handful of region crowns, and multiple state tournament appearances.

Over the full journey, obvious landmarks were the seasons that finished at or close to the top of the mountain, with the thrill of the Trojans' walk-off to clinch the '93 title and the sting of Trinity's heartbreaking losses to Piedmont in that '14 finals series equally as unforgettable.

"I remember losses more than wins, believe it or not," Sanders said. "The state championship, I remember that, but games when you're the underdog and you come back and beat somebody or have that chance to beat them. To me, I remember those more than anything else."

But relationships with players that he's built up through the years carry way more value than any win, loss, championship or accomplishment. And it's those that he'll miss most about the job.

"One of my highlights is when you get a player come back to you years later and say, 'Coach, I appreciate all you've done for me, all you've taught me,'" Sanders said. "That, to me, is more important than anything else. That they've turned out to be an outstanding young person and learned a lot in there."

'Always there for us'...

Players consider Sanders – who, by day, teaches social studies, history and government at the middle and high school grades – one of the most positive and encouraging voices they hear from on campus.

"He always reminded us how much he believed in us, and how much he cared about us, and those types of things," said sophomore Liza Gay. "He was always there for us."

On the field, Sanders was as demanding as they come in his expectations and attention to detail, but always had a gentle touch, espe-

cially when it came to easing younger players into the high-pressure atmosphere of the high school level.

"You're nervous, going to play varsity," Gay said. "But he made it feel like a family, very welcoming. Then at some point he kind of became a father-, grand-father-figure in my life, one of those people I speak to when I see him at school. He's there for you, he's encouraging you. Like family at this point."

Outfielder Reese Cobb, now a sophomore, has played for Sanders since her eighth grade season.

But she remembers vividly a moment ahead of this past season, when she was preparing to pitch for the first time at the high school level, helping meet a need in the circle where the Crusaders were without any experienced arms.

Sanders had the perfect words to quell some understandable self-doubts.

"He came out there by himself, and said, 'Whatever you do, do it for the glory of God,'" Cobb said. "You're not here to impress anybody but him, so do your best always, and don't look for the approval of others."

Though he is definitely one to raise his voice to deliver specific messages during games or practices when called for, he was never much of a speech-maker, or rah-rah guy, except in one instance where he unexpectedly broke character.

"He's very quiet when he talks to us," Cobb said. "But at this pep rally, our principal asked us to be loud, and nobody would say anything on the team. So he got on the microphone and got as loud as he could."

Constant words of wisdom made him a trusted mentor for players both at practice and daily at school, where he had his own unique way of expressing his care and friendship.

"He gave us a paper full of quotes that he loved, and sports quotes," Gay said. "He was like, I want everybody to pick two. We all picked two and put them in our locker. It's just those things he reminds us to do to remind us why we play, who we play for, the enjoyment we find in the game, those kinds of things."

"He just does what's best for us all the time," Cobb said. "He has his own ways of lifting us up, and I love it. He's always been very kind to us, even off the field because we have him as a teacher. He's been a very good teacher to us."

Softball swan song...

Sanders' last go-round this fall coincided with a difficult rebuilding cycle for the Crusaders, whose returning roster was overwhelmingly inexperienced across the board, and at several key positions.

"It's definitely been tough," Gay said. "It's one of those years, you have a lot of young people, people that have never played, people that have played one year, people that have never played in varsity."

The Crusaders remained tight, and focused all year despite finishing 0-17, and missing the playoffs for the first time in several seasons.

"Not making it this year, I'm sure it's a little disappointing for them," Sanders said. "But our eyes are still focused on Jesus, where they need to be. Win or lose, tough times or good times, that's where all the focus needs to be. And this group has been great about that."

While their lineup was able to create ample offense, the circle – a thin spot going back to last year – was an area they continued to struggle in with no true pitchers returning.

A handful of different players tried their hand at the craft, and all – much like the players at new spots in different places defensively – became more comfortable as the season went on, but opponents would outscore the Crusaders 227-67.

"There were times we'd have three to four good innings, and something would happen and we'd have a bad inning. We just had to stay away from that," Sanders said. "This group, they've worked hard. They've done what we've asked. They're just real young, real inexperienced."

The Crusaders' "attitude and effort" remained positive all year, and the strides made were significant for many players.

"All of them, individuals at their positions, improved," Sanders said. "Some learned new positions. We asked people to move to positions they'd never played, for the team. The attitude was all good. It was whatever the team needed me to do."

Looking back, and ahead...

Trinity's pipeline of both baseball and softball talent – not only players who are strong athletes, but quality young men and women – has been a strong one throughout Sanders' time in Dublin.

"We've been fortunate,

blessed. Trinity has always put some out," he said. "We've got some good ones now, but most of them are younger. They're still growing."

Great coaching staffs, in both baseball and softball, have been just as much a constant... and an underrated piece to which he attributes a lot of his success.

"I've been blessed with the help I've had," Sanders said. "That's the big thing. The head coach is overrated. They (the players) win the games. I lose the games. It might be a slight exaggeration, but it's the truth."

Although he's hanging up his coaching cap, he's not yet ready to put away the teaching one, and plans to stay on as a Trinity faculty member for at least a bit longer.

"I would like to still teach," Sanders said. "We haven't talked, discussed that, but I don't know if I could just cold turkey, get out of it. When this is over, I'll sit back and pray about it and whatever the Lord is leading me to, that's what I'll do."

Retirement can be a tough transition for anyone used to doing a certain thing year-round for much of their working life, but there are some perks he's looking forward to.

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



DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

Disliked dad's daughter receives no condolences

DEAR ABBY: A friend's wife's elderly biological father was killed in a one-car auto accident recently. She had been estranged from him for as long as I can remember (more than 30 years?) and told me over the years how much she hated him. She adored her stepfather, who died a few years back.

My friend is now upset with me because I failed to send condolences to his wife following her father's death, despite the hateful feelings she had voiced about him. I certainly had reached out to her after the death of her stepfather, for whom she cared very much.

What is the rule of etiquette when a person loses a family member they hated? What would I even say? "Sorry for your loss?" It just seems that any sentiment would be fake. -- NOT INSENSITIVE IN ARIZONA

DEAR NOT INSENSITIVE: I agree with you. Explain to your friend that you didn't mean to slight his wife, but after hearing how much she disliked her biological father for so many years, you didn't think she needed consoling. Then, in a separate call, tell his wife that you are sorry if your lack of response was hurtful to her, because it was not your intention.

DEAR ABBY: What do you do about a co-worker who sends mixed signals to you? I am a woman about 72 years old, and he is about 20 years younger. I believe he's single or unattached. I lost my boyfriend 10 years ago to heart problems.

Over the past three to four years, this co-worker has made cute faces at me, winked, gotten physically close, followed me in the workplace for a moment, etc. We have offered to buy each other a beverage. He's a good person but acts odd! I think he's shy or has social anxiety. What do you think is the cause of this behavior? -- PUZZLED AT WORK

DEAR PUZZLED: You say he "sends mixed signals," but you've listed only behaviors that show interest. Perhaps this gentleman is flirtatious by nature, or perhaps he's always socially awkward. What you know for certain is that he enjoys your company and seems to be looking for companionship. I say follow through on that drink offer, but try not to read too much into it. You have nothing to lose, but you may gain a good friend.

DEAR ABBY: Our daughter has been in a long-term relationship with the most wonderful young man. They live together, and their commitment is strong. They have supported each other through severe illness, loss of parents, employment layoffs, etc.

When in social situations, we are often at a loss how to properly introduce him. He's an important part of our family, and we are proud of him, but he is not our son-in-law, and he is much more than our daughter's boyfriend. Any suggestions? -- TERM OF ENDEARMENT IN TEXAS

DEAR TERM: It appears your daughter and this young man are lucky to have found each other. My suggestion is to ask him how he would like to be introduced, and follow his lead. You can't go wrong that way.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren. For nearly four decades, Jeanne Phillips penned this column, which was founded in 1956 by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 270135, Kansas City, MO 64127.

SUDOKU

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

Level: Advanced

Here's How It Works:

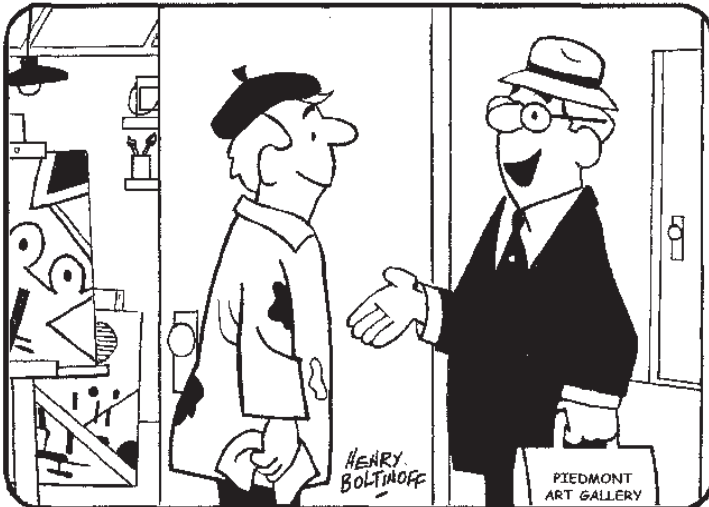
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric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

Fun By The Numbers

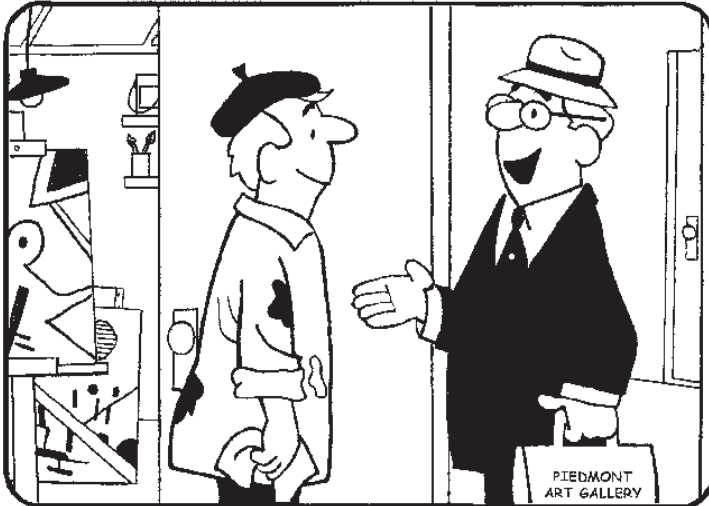
Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Light is moved. 2. Sleeve is rolled up. 3. Hand is moved. 4. Door is moved. 5. Thumb is moved. 6. Painting is different.

THE Daily Commuter Puzzle by Stella Zawistowski

ACROSS

- 1 Strong breezes
- 6 Lost traction
- 10 Opera song
- 14 Atlanta university
- 15 Villain's hideout
- 16 Mary ___ Lincoln
- 17 "Space Oddity" singer: 2 wds.
- 19 Many-___ (multicolored)
- 20 Glance over
- 21 Tummy muscles
- 22 Sports venues
- 24 Smooch
- 26 Make changes to
- 27 Blood component
- 30 "Happy ___ birthday!"
- 33 Hip-hop performance
- 34 Conference event
- 37 Exist
- 38 Verizon Fios, e.g.: Abbr.
- 39 UK network: Abbr.
- 40 Playtex offering
- 41 Off of baseball
- 42 Hen or rooster
- 46 "Haha": Abbr.
- 47 Parboil
- 49 Secret
- 51 Try a bite of
- 52 Green gemstone
- 53 Paper copies
- 55 ___ favor (Spanish "please")
- 56 ___ Cod
- 60 Actress Chaplin
- 61 Christmas plant
- 64 Small misstep
- 65 "My treat": 2 wds.
- 66 Chooses a candidate
- 67 Otherwise
- 68 Brewed drinks
- 69 Clean a chalkboard

DOWN

- 1 Gets married
- 2 Apple desktop
- 3 PBS science show

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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68												

Created by Stella Zawistowski

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

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- 43 Dangerous area: 2 wds.
- 44 Teslas, e.g.: Abbr.
- 45 Nonverbal signal
- 48 Kind of hors d'oeuvre
- 50 Disease-carrying organism
- 52 Comedian Leslie
- 53 Model's stance
- 54 "I'm on a ___!"
- 55 Type of cotton
- 57 "___ boy!"
- 58 Crusty desserts
- 59 Simplicity
- 62 Three minus two
- 63 New Year's ___

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

BY STEVE PASTIS



GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS



OVERBOARD

BY CHIP DUNHAM



DEFLOCKED

BY JEFF CORRIVEAU



Receiving too little moisture during long periods in fall and winter can result in injury or death of any plants that have shallow root systems. Those affected may appear normal, and may even resume growth in the spring, but can still fail when temperatures rise. To combat this, water only when temps are above 40°F. Apply water during the midday hours, so that it will have time to soak in before any possible freezing occurs at night. -- Brenda Weaver

Source: extension.colostate.edu

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Saturday, October 24, 2026

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH BOB JONES

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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q 1 - Neither vulnerable, as South, you hold: EAST SOUTH WEST NORTH Pass Pass Pass 1♣

♠ 10 4 ♥ 10 6 ♦ A K 4 3 2 ♣ Q J 10 2 What call would you make?

Right-hand opponent opens three spades. What call would you make? Q 5 - East-West vulnerable, as South, you hold:

Q 2 - East-West vulnerable, as South, you hold: ♠ A K 5 ♥ A Q 8 7 4 ♦ 10 8 7 ♣ J 3

♠ J 8 6 ♥ Q 3 ♦ A 9 7 6 5 3 2 ♣ 3 SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST 1♥ Pass 1♠ Pass 2♠ Pass 3♥ Pass ?

You are the dealer. What call would you make? What call would you make?

Q 3 - Both vulnerable, as South, you hold: ♠ K 8 7 ♥ 9 8 7 5 ♦ K 10 9 4 ♣ K J

♠ K 4 3 ♥ A 4 ♦ J 10 4 3 ♠ A Q 10 6 SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST 1♦ Pass 1♠ Pass 1♥ Pass 2♠ Pass ?

What call would you make? What call would you make?

Q 4 - North-South vulnerable, as South, you hold: (Bob Jones welcomes readers' responses sent to Tribune Content Agency, LLC., 16650 Westgrove Dr., Suite 175, Addison, TX 75001.)

♠ A 7 5 ♥ A Q 10 8 2 ♦ 7 6 5 ♣ J 4

Classifieds

Employment

DEPUTY CITY MARSHAL
The City of Dublin is accepting applications for a Deputy City Marshal to assist with billing, collecting and record keeping of City taxes, licenses, and other fees. The ideal candidate is a self-motivated professional with a strong commitment to accuracy, the initiative to work independently with minimal supervision, and a dedication to ongoing learning and professional development. Applicant Performs responsible cash handling and general clerical work in the billing, collecting, and record keeping of City taxes, alcohol licenses, hotel-motel taxes, and occupation taxes. Work involves collecting and processing taxes and licensing fees; balancing collections against receipts; mailing tax and assessment notices and other clerical work related to the collection of city taxes and fees. Work requires accuracy in collecting and courtesy in dealing with the public. Work is checked by daily balancing of collections and receipts, and is reviewed and evaluated through observation conferences, and inspection of computer records. Work is performed in accordance with well-established procedures and practices under the general supervision of the City Marshal. The salary range is between \$45,011.49 – \$69,767.81 annually. An extensive fringe benefit package including health, dental, and life insurance is also offered. The successful applicant must pass a drug screen, possess a bachelor's degree in accounting, Finance, Business Administration, Public Administration, or a closely related field., and possess a valid State of Georgia class C driver's license. Applicants may apply online through our www.cityofdublin.org website until the position is filled. The City of Dublin is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Services

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

Miscellaneous For Sale

U Pick Sweet Potatoes, \$10 per 5 gal. bucket, bring containers. Randy Deloach: 912-282-4300 day, 912-739-4124 night. 1026 Herman Lynn Rd, Claxton, GA.

Real Estate

For Rent/Lease

Efficiency-House for rent at 714 Blaine St, Dublin, GA. One bed/full bath, combined kitchen & dining room, with large yard. Rent \$500, Deposit \$500. Contact Jerry Davis 478-697-6817.

Legals

Legals

26-473
Public Notice: TowerCom V, LLC proposes to conduct a balloon test for a proposed 255-ft (260-ft with appurtenances) AGL Self Support Communications Tower that will be located near Dewey Warnock Road, East Dublin, GA 31027 (Laurens County) (Parcel 201B 011). The balloon test will occur on Sunday November 1, 2026 for 4 (four) consecutive hours sometime between the hours of 7:00AM and 4:00PM (EDT). In the case of poor visibility or winds in excess of 15 mph the balloon test will occur on Monday November 2, 2026 during the same time period.

October 17, 24, 2026

26-470
GA2600295852
Notice Of Foreclosure Sale Under Power
Laurens County, Georgia Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by Donald Wells, Single Man 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 03/23/2026and recorded 03/27/2026 in, Book 3689,Page 200, Laurens County, Georgia Records, as last transferred to Amerihome Mortgage Company, LC by assignment recorded on 07/10/2026, Book 03730, Page 0003-0004, in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Laurens Georgia Records, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of \$ 270,00.00, with interest thereon as set forth therein, there will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the courthouse door of Laurens County, Georgia, within the legal hours of sale on 11/03/2026, the flowing described property: All that certain tract or parcel of land situate, lying and being in Land Lot No. 236, of the First Land District of Laurens County, Georgia, consisting of Lot Eight (8), containing 1.18 acres, more or less, and Lot Nine (9), containing 1.16, more or less, and being more particularly shown on a certain plat of survey prepared by William E Greenway, Land Surveyor, dated July 22, 1985, and recorded in Deed Book 433, page 288, in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Laurens County, Georgia, which plat and the record thereof is incorporated herein and made a part of this description. Said tract is bounded, now or formerly, as follows: North by land of Susan T Kight, East by the waters of the Oconee River, South by land of Van & Judy Moorman, and West by the right-of-way of Henderson Road, said tract is the same tract conveyed to Margaret Victoria Rogers from the Estate of Thomas H Rogers, Jr. by administrator's deed, recorded on December 21, 2016, Deed Book 2747, pages112-113, Laurens County Deed Records. Subject to all easements, ordinances, covenants, conditions, restrictions, and rights-of-way of record, if any Map/Parcel: D21F 008 Address: 872 Henderson Road, Dublin, Georgia 31021 This conveyance is made subject to all zoning ordinances, easements and restrictions of record affecting said bargained premises. 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 satisfying the same and all expenses of this sale, as provided in Security Deed and bylaw, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fee having been given). The entity having full authority to negoti

ate, amend or modify all terms of the loan (although not required by law to do so) is: Amerihome Mortgage Company, LLC they can be contacted at 866-978-2622 for Loss Mitigation Dept, or by referring to Amerihome Mortgage Company, LC 9726 Old Bailes Rd Ste 200, Fort Mill SC 29707 to discuss possible alternatives to avoid foreclosure. Said property will be sold on "as-is" basis and subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above. To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party in possession of the property is Donald Wells, Single Man or tenant(s); and said property is more commonly known as 872 Henderson Rd, Dublin, GA 31021. The sale will be conducted subject to (1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code (2) final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the security deed and (3) any right of redemption or other lien not extinguished by foreclosure. Amerihome Mortgage Company, LLC as Attorney in Fact for Donald Wells, Single Man. Sokolof Remtulla, LLP c/o First American Title Insurance Company 4795 Regent Blvd, Mail Code 1011-F Irving TX 75063 866-429-5179 GA2600295852

October 10, 17, 24, 31, 2026

26-475
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF LAURENS
IN RE: ESTATE OF CATHERINE GAYLE PARKER
All creditors of the estate of CATHERINE GAYLE PARKER, deceased, late of Laurens County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned Executor, Barney Melvin Parker, under the Last Will and Testament of said Decedent.
This 7th day of October, 2026.
S. Ryan Dixon

Nelson & Dixon, LLC
125 North Franklin Street
Dublin, Georgia 31021
478-272-3545

BARNEY MELVIN PARKER
Executor of the Estate of
CATHERINE GAYLE PARKER
1281 Alice Brewer Road
Dudley, Georgia 31022

October 17, 24, 31, November 7, 2026

26-450
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF
LAURENS COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF DANNY THOMAS
DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 26-131
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE
TO: CHILOR THOMAS and to whom it may concern:
MISTY B. THOMAS has petitioned for to be appointed administrator(s) of the estate of DANNY THOMAS deceased, of said county. (The petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, waiver of statements, and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. § 53-12-261.) All interested persons are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
Genola O. Jackson
Judge of the Probate Court
By: CWarren
Clerk of the Probate Court
PO BOX 2098
DUBLIN, GA 31040
478-272-2566

October 3, 10, 17, 24, 2026

26-482
TANYA ROGERS, CLERK
LAURENS COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
TRADE NAME REGISTRATION
PERSONALLY APPEARED THE UNDERSIGNED WHO ON OATH DEPOSES AND SAYS THAT:
Teen Challenge of Florida, INC
15 W 10th St, Columbus, GA 31901
IS/ARE DOING BUSINESS IN LAURENS COUNTY, GA., UNDER THE NAME OF: Challenge Landscaping
3729 US Highway 441 S
Dublin, GA 31021
AND THAT THE NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE CARRIED ON AT SUCH ADDRESS IS:
Provisional of commercial and residential landscaping services to fund nonprofit charitable programs.
SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME THIS 28th DAY OF September, 2026.
Marilyn McGraw
NOTARY PUBLIC

October 24, 31, 2026

26-479
Control Number : 26214417
STATE OF GEORGIA
Secretary of State
Corporations Division
313 West Tower
2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr.
Atlanta, Georgia 30334-1530
CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION
I, Brad Raffensperger, the Secretary of State and the Corporation Commissioner of the State of Georgia, hereby certify under the seal of my office that
Caring For All of God's Children, Inc
a Domestic non profit Corporation has been duly incorporated under the laws of the State of Georgia on 09/25/2026 by the filing of articles of incorporation in the Office of the Secretary of State and by the paying of fees as provided by Title 14 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated.
WITNESS my hand and official seal in the City of Atlanta and the State of Georgia on 10/13/2026.
Brad Raffensperger Secretary of State

October 17, 24, 2026

26-459
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF
Laurens County
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF Sheila Patricia Stanley, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 26-176
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE
TO: whom it may concern:

Sherlanda Stanley has petitioned to be appointed administrator(s) of the estate of Sheila Patricia Stanley 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.
Atty. Verna L. Smith
Genola O. Jackson
Judge of the Probate Court
By: CWarren
Clerk of the Probate Court
PO BOX 2098
Dublin, GA 31040
478-272-2566

October 3, 10, 17, 24, 2026

26-454
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF LAURENS
IN RE: ESTATE OF BESSIE LOU HARVIL
All creditors of the estate of BESSIE LOU HARVILL, deceased, late of Laurens County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned Executor, Jimmy Russell Rogers, under the Last Will and Testament of said Decedent.
This 28th day of September, 2026.
S. Ryan Dixon
Nelson & Dixon, LLC
125 North Franklin Street
Dublin, Georgia 31021
478-272-3545
JIMMY RUSSELL ROGERS
Executor of the Estate of
BESSIE LOU HARVILL
853 Blackshear Ferry Road West
Dublin, Georgia 31021

October 3, 10, 17, 24, 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

26-455
NOTICE OF PUBLICATION
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the business operated at the following location, which is located in Laurens County under the Trade Name of Carton & Cases, is owned and carried on by SSH.IVA L.L.C., whose principal address is 1823 Rice Avenue, Dublin, Georgia 31021, and the statement relating thereto required by the Official Code of Georgia § 10-1-490 has been filed with the Clerk of Superior Court of Laurens County, Georgia:
Carton & Cases
1823 Rice Avenue
Dublin, GA 31021

October 3, 10, 17, 24, 2026

26-483
NOTICE OF SALE
Pursuant to the official Code of Georgia Annotated Section 10-4-210 there will be a public sale at Little House Self Storage, 1854 Marion Street Dublin, on Wednesday, November 4, 2026 beginning at 10:00 A.M. The proceeds of said sale will be used first to satisfy the storage fee and expenses of the auction. Any other proceeds will be used to satisfy such creditors as present their claims in advance of sale.

#81 Karen David

Little House Self Storage
1854 Marion Street
Dublin
478-272-6892

October 24, 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

26-461
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 nominee for Mortgage Network, Inc., 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 PENNY MAC 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 Pte, 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

26-481
TANYA ROGERS, CLERK
LAURENS COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
TRADE NAME REGISTRATION
PERSONALLY APPEARED THE UNDERSIGNED WHO ON OATH DEPOSES AND SAYS THAT:
Teen Challenge of Florida, INC
15 W 10th St, Columbus, GA 31901
IS/ARE DOING BUSINESS IN LAURENS COUNTY, GA., UNDER THE NAME OF: Branch & Vine Woodworks
3729 US Highway 441 S
Dublin, GA 31021
AND THAT THE NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE CARRIED ON AT SUCH ADDRESS IS:
Retail sale of handcrafted wood items to fund nonprofit charitable programs.
Person making declaration
SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME THIS 28th DAY OF September, 2026.
Marilyn McGraw
NOTARY PUBLIC

October 24, 31, 2026

26-456
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
IN RE: ESTATE OF JERRY GRAND-PIERRE. All creditors of the estate of Jerry Grand-Pierre late of Laurens County, deceased, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment this 29th day of September 2026 to Tanesha Grand-Pierre c/o Attorney: Tim J. Thompson, 1900-B Northside Crossing, Macon, GA 31210, 478-471-9900.

October 3, 10, 17, 24, 2026

26-474
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF THEO PULLINS
DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 24-42
NOTICE
IN RE: Petition for Discharge of Personal Representative
TO: whom it may concern:
This is to notify you to file an objection, if there is any, to the above-referenced petition, in this Court on or before Nov. 9, 2026. BE NOTIFIED FURTHER: All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
Genola O. Jackson
Judge of the Probate Court

By: CWarren
Clerk of the Probate Court
PO BOX 2098
Dublin, GA 31040
478-272-2566

October 10, 17, 24, 31, 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:
"...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

26-471
NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME
GEORGIA
Laurens County
Notice is hereby given that Brandi Sue Lopez, the undersigned, filed his petition to the Superior Court of Laurens County, Georgia, on the 30th day of September, 2026, praying for a change in the name of petitioner from Brandi Sue Lopez to Brandi Sue Perez. Notice is hereby given pursuant to law to any interested or affected party to appear in said Court and to file objections to such name change. Objections must be filed with said Court within 30 days of the filing of said petition.
This the 6th day of October, 2026.
_s/Ralph N. Jackson
RALPH N. JACKSON
Attorney for Petitioner
State Bar No. 387629
The Jackson Law Firm
212-H West Jackson Street
Dublin, GA 31021
Phone (478) 272-7607
Fax: (478) 272-0946
ralph@ga-laws.com

October 10, 17, 24, 31, 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/>
*THE LAW FIRM IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

September 26, October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, 2026

26-477
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF LAURENS
IN RE: ESTATE OF Daryle Keith Walker, DECEASED
All creditors of the Estate of Daryle Keith Walker, 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.
Valencia Seals Walker
Administrator of Daryle Keith Walker, deceased
713 Linwood Avenue, Dublin GA 31021
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..."

October 17, 24, 31, November 7, 2026

26-463
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF
LAURENS COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF MARK WALDEN, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 26-137
NOTICE
IN RE: The Petition to Probate Will (and Codicil(s)) in Solemn Form in the above-referenced estate having been duly filed. TO: AMBER DESHAE WILLIAMS
This is to notify you to file objection, if there is any, to the petition to probate will in solemn form, in this Court on or before NOVEMBER 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
PO BOX 2098
DUBLIN, GA 31040
478-272-2566

October 3, 10, 17, 24, 2026

26-472
NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME
GEORGIA
Laurens County
Notice is hereby given that Brandi Sue Lopez, the undersigned, filed her petition to the Superior Court Laurens County, Georgia, on the 30th day of September, 2026, praying for a change in the name of petitioner's minor child from Landon Brice Lopez to Landon Brice Perez. Notice is hereby given pursuant to law to any interested or affected party to appear in said Court and to file objections to such name change. Objections must be filed with said Court within 30 days of the filing of said petition.
This the 6th day of October, 2026.
_s/Ralph N. Jackson
RALPH N. JACKSON
Attorney for Petitioner
State Bar No. 387629
Ralph Jackson, P.C.
1101 Bellevue Ave.
Dublin, GA 31021
Phone: (478) 272-7607
Fax : (478) 272-0946
ralph@ga-laws.com

October 10, 17, 24, 31, 2026

26-484
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
STATE OF GEORGIA
LAURENS COUNTY
Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by Jacqueline M. Rozier, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for Taylor, Bean, & Whitaker Mortgage Corp., Corporation, dated 5/28/2002, and recorded on 6/4/2002, in Book 1297, Page 77, Rerecorded on 08/14/2002 as Book No. 1317, Page No. 103, Laurens County, Georgia Records, as last assigned to as last assignment to Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC by assignment recorded 9/19/2025 as Instrument No. in book 03622, Page 0215, conveying the after described property securing the payment of a Note in the amount of \$29,216.00 with interest thereon as set forth therein.
NOW, THEREFORE, notice is hereby given that the entire indebtedness has been declared due and payable as provided in said Security Deed by the Holder, and by virtue of the power of sale and authority vested in it, will on 1/5/2027 sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash: During the legal hours of sale before the door of the courthouse of Laurens County, Georgia, the following described property situated in Laurens County, Georgia, to wit:
ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND SITUATE, LYING AND BEING LOT 11 IN BLOCK B IN SAXON-HEIGHTS SUBDIVISION IN THE CITY OF DUBLIN, LAURENS COUNTY, GEORGIA, CONTAINING 0.25 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, BEING BOUNDED NOW OR FORMERLY AS FOLLOWS: ON THE NORTHEAST BY LOT 10 OF SAID SUBDIVISION; ON THE SOUTHEAST BY THE NORTHWESTERN MARGIN OF WOODRIDGE AVENUE; ON THE SOUTHWEST BY LOT 12 OF SAID SUBDIVISION; AND ON THE NORTHWEST BY LOT 6 OF SAID SUBDIVISION. SAID PROPERTY IS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AND DELINEATED ON A PLAT OF SURVEY PREPARED BY LARRY C. JONES, GEORGIA REGISTERED LAND SURVEYOR NO. 2189, DATED
NOVEMBER 29, 1999, RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 1085 PAGE 46 IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF LAURENS COUNTY, GEORGIA. SAID PLAT AND THE RECORD THEREOF ARE BY REFERENCE INCORPORATED HEREIN AND MADE A PART HEREOF.
Tax Parcel ID: D17B 063
Being real property commonly known as 705 RIDGEWOOD AVENUE DUBLIN, GA 31021
The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the debt and all expenses of this sale including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given). Said sale will be made subject to the following items which may affect the title to said property: All restrictive covenants, easements and rights-of-way appearing of record, if any; all zoning ordinances; matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or by an inspection of the property; all outstanding or unpaid bills and assessments for street improvements, curbing, garbage, water, sewage and public utilities which may be liens upon said property; and any outstanding taxes, assessments and other liens superior to the security deed being foreclosed hereby. To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the above-described property is in the possession of the borrower and/or other persons with the consent and acquiescence of the borrower.
Except to the extent that the Holder may bind and obligate Mortgagors to warrant title to the Property under the terms of the Security Deed, conveyance of the Property shall be made without any representations or warranties whatsoever, express or implied. All sales are "as is", "where is".

The entire purchase price is due and payable at the conclusion of the auction in the form of certified funds. Insufficient funds will not be accepted. Amounts received in excess of the winning bid will be refunded to the successful purchaser. This property is being sold with express reservation that the sale is subject to 1) confirmation and audit of the status of the loan by the holder of the security deed, 2) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code, 3) procedures for rescission of sale under O.C.G.A. Section 9-13-172.1, whereby 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 above. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2, the name, address and telephone number of the person or entity who shall have full authority to negotiate, amend, or modify all terms of the above-described mortgage is as follows:

Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC, 500 N. State College Blvd., Suites 1030, 1300 & 1400 Orange, CA 92868 , Telephone No.: 800-561-4567

The foregoing notwithstanding, nothing in O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2 shall be construed to require Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC to negotiate, amend, or modify the terms of the Security Deed described herein.

Please be advised that the trustee may require entity or trust bidders at this trustee's sale to provide information, documentation and/or certification of the vesting instructions and the data required to be reported pursuant to FinCEN regulations effective for transfers of residential real property to covered transferees on or after March 1, 2026. The required information must be provided to the trustee before a deed under power will be issued for covered transfers. The Buyer may be required to pay charges associated with the gathering and reporting of information to FinCEN. Additional information regarding these regulations and the required transferee information and certifications can be found at:

https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/08/29/2024-19198/anti-money-laundering-regulations-for-residential-real-estate-transfers and https://www.fincen.gov/irre-faqs#D_5

Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC as Attorney in Fact for Jacqueline M. Rozier For Foreclosure sale information please contact Vylla Solutions, LLC, P.O. Box 3309, Anaheim, California 92803, Phone: (888) 313-1969

TS # 26-43166

THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

October 24, 31, November 7, 14, 21, 28, December 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026, January 2, 2027

26-468

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS

GEORGIA, LAURENS COUNTY.

IN RE: ESTATE OF RICHARD MARION EPTING

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

All creditors of the Estate of Richard Marion Epting, deceased, late of Laurens County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said Estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned.

Jane Weatherly Epting
Executor of the Estate of
Richard Marion Epting
C/O Edward B. Claxton III
Attorney for Executor
P. O. Box 16459
Dublin, Georgia 31040

October 10, 17, 24, 31, 2026

26-478

NOTICE OF SALE

Pursuant to the Official Code of Georgia, Annotated Section 10-4-210, et. Seq., there will be a public sale at the location listed below, the proceeds of said sale will be used first to satisfy the storage fee and other expenses of this auction. Any other proceeds will be used to satisfy such creditors as present their claims in advance of sale. The sale will be held as follows:

- A02 Stanfield, Michael C
- A08 Lewis, Vincent
- A35 Ward, Regina D
- B19 May, Johnnie
- B32 Smith, Tytanna
- C10 Tanjanikia Smith, Robert Ross
- C37 Abrams, Corniya
- D09 Tanjanikia Smith, Robert Ross
- D37 Blackshear, Jeremy
- D40 Austin, Anthony
- B49 Jenkins, Tre-shon

Name and address of storage facility: ORR SELF STORAGE 1705 CLAXTON DAIRY ROAD DUBLIN GA 31021

Time and date of sale: Tuesday, October 27 at 10:00 a.m.

Place of sale: ORR SELF STORAGE 1705 CLAXTON DAIRY ROAD DUBLIN GA 31021

October 17, 24, 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, and must be filed with the Court on or before November 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: C. Warren
Clerk of the Probate Court
PO Box 2098
Dublin, GA 31040

4781272-2566

October 3, 10, 17, 24, 2026

26-460

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER

GEORGIA, LAURENS COUNTY

Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by Cody Travis Stroup and Madison Payne Stroup 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 October 6, 2023, recorded in Deed Book 3426, Page 105, Laurens County, Georgia Records, and as modified by that certain Loan Modification Agreement recorded in Deed Book 3574, Page 39, Laurens County, Georgia Records, as last transferred to Nationstar Mortgage LLC by assignment recorded in Deed Book 3560, Page 69, Laurens County, Georgia Records, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of ONE HUNDRED SIXTY-NINE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED SIXTY-NINE AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$169,569.00), with interest thereon as set forth therein, there will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the courthouse door of Laurens County, Georgia, or at such place as may be lawfully designated as an alternative, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in November, 2026, the following described property:

SEE EXHIBIT "A" ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF

The debt secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due and payable because of default having been made of the terms of the Note and Security Deed. The terms remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the total debt, including all expenses of this sale, as provided in the Security Deed and by law which includes, but is not limited to, attorney's fees (notice pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 13-1-11 having been given).

Said property will be sold subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet 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 any matters of record including, but not limited to, those superior to the Security Deed first set out above. Said property will be sold on an "as-is" basis without any representation, warranty or recourse against the above-named or the undersigned. Prospective bidders must perform their own due diligence.

Rocket Mortgage, LLC s/b/m Nationstar Mortgage LLC is the holder of the Security Deed to the property in accordance with OCGA § 44-14-162.2.

The entity that has full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the mortgage with the debtor is: Rocket Mortgage, LLC s/b/m Nationstar Mortgage LLC, 8950 Cypress Waters Blvd, Coppell, TX 75019, (888) 480-2432.

Notice, however, that such entity is not required by law to negotiate, amend or modify the terms of the loan.

Upon information and belief, said property is more commonly known as 1203 Skyline Dr, Dublin, GA 31021. Should a conflict arise between the property address and the legal description, the legal description shall control.

ATTENTION ALL PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS: On March 1, 2026, the data collection and reporting requirements under the U.S. Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) new Anti-Money Laundering Rule (the "Rule"), found at 89 FR 70258, went into effect. The Rule applies to certain residential real estate sale transactions (including some that go beyond the typical one-to-four family residence) where the transfer is to a legal entity or trust, and which includes cash purchases, private financing or financing provided by an institution not subject to a federal Anti-Money Laundering or Suspicion Activity Report requirement. If applicable, as part of this Rule, buyers and sellers are required to provide additional information and documentation about themselves, their legal entities, and/or the source of funds used in the reportable transaction. The collection of this information and documentation is required to comply with the Rule's federal reporting requirements, if applicable.* This notice is provided for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. You are encouraged to consult with your own independent legal counsel if you have questions about how the FinCEN Anti-Money Laundering Rule affects your transaction and whether your transaction is reportable.

*The Rule is the subject of ongoing litigation in several jurisdictions. We suggest that you seek your own legal counsel if you have questions about the status of the Rule and its applicability to your sale, if any.

The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code, (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed, and (3) to confirmation that the successful bidder has timely provided all information required for reporting under the Rule, 89 FR 70258, if applicable.

Rocket Mortgage, LLC s/b/m Nationstar Mortgage LLC

as Attorney in Fact for

Cody Travis Stroup and Madison Payne Stroup

McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLP

1544 Old Alabama Rd

Roswell, GA 30076

www.foreclosurehotline.net

EXHIBIT "A"

All that tract, lot or parcel of land situate, lying and being in the City of Dublin, Laurens County, Georgia, known as Lot 27 in Woodland Hills Subdivision as shown on a plat of said subdivision recorded in Plat Book 3, Page 61, Office of the Clerk, Laurens Superior Court and more particularly described on a plat of survey prepared by Jack C. Brantley, Land Surveyor, dated March 21, 1968, as follows:

BEGINNING at an iron pin on the eastern margin of Skyline Drive a distance of 133.7 feet northerly from the northeastern intersection of Briarcliff Road and Skyline Drive, as measured along the eastern margin of said Skyline Drive; thence running in a northeasterly direction a distance of 186.2 feet; to an iron pin; thence running in a northwesterly direction a distance of 110 feet to an iron pin; thence running in a southeasterly-direction a distance of 185.2 feet to an iron pin located on the eastern margin of Skyline Drive; thence running in a southerly direction along the eastern margin of Skyline Drive a distance of 110 feet to an iron pin and the point of beginning. Subject to all easements, ordinances, covenants, conditions, restrictions, and rights-of-way of record, if any.

Map/Parcel: D09B 015

Address: 1203 Skyline Drive, Dublin, GA 31021

CA November 3, 2026

Our file no. 26-24611GA

26-24611GA

October 10, 17, 24, 31, 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

26-464

Notice to Debtors and Creditors

All creditors of the estate of Angela Christyna Cain 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 1st day of October, 2026

Name: Bridget Wommack

Title: Administrator

Address: 1690 Highway 280 West, Milan, Georgia 31060

October 10, 17, 24, 31, 2026

26-442

SUMMARIES OF PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Pursuant to requirements of the Georgia Constitution, Attorney General Christopher Carr, Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger, and Legislative Counsel Betsy Howerton hereby provide the summaries of the proposed constitutional amendments that will appear on the November 3, 2026, general election ballot for consideration by the people of Georgia (short captions are those adopted by the Constitutional Amendments Publication Board):

- 1 -

Increases the maximum qualifying acreage for assessment and taxation as bona fide conservation use property.

House Resolution No. 32

Ga. L. 2025, p. 1081

() YES

() NO

Shall the Constitution of Georgia, for the purpose of protecting family farmland, be amended so as to increase the maximum acreage to qualify for assessment and taxation as a bona fide conservation use property from 2,000 acres to 4,000 acres?"

Summary

This proposal increases the maximum acreage to qualify for assessment and taxation as a bona fide conservation use property from 2,000 acres to 4,000 acres. It amends Article VII, Section I, Paragraph III of the Georgia Constitution, relating to uniformity, classification of property, assessment of agricultural land, and utilities, by revising subparagraph (e)(1).

A copy of this entire proposed constitutional amendment is on file in the office of the judge of the probate court and is available for public inspection.

- 2 -

Provides for the nonpartisan election of all probate court judges.

House Resolution No. 251

Ga. L. 2026, p. 1110

() YES

() NO

Shall the Constitution of Georgia be amended so as to require that all probate court judges be elected in nonpartisan elections?"

Summary

This proposal provides that all probate judges shall be elected in nonpartisan elections. It amends Article VI, Section VII, Paragraph I of the Georgia Constitution, relating to selection and term of office of judges, by revising subparagraph (a).

Acopy of this entire proposed constitutional amendment is on file in the office of the judge of the probate court and is available for public inspection.

- 3 -

Authorizes creation of Georgia Next Generation 9-1-1 Fund for 9-1-1 systems expansion, maintenance, and operation.

House Resolution No. 1243

Ga. L. 2026, p. 1109

() YES

() NO

Shall the Constitution of Georgia be amended so as to authorize the General Assembly to dedicate certain existing revenues, including revenues reallocated by law, to a nonlapsing fund to be used exclusively for the expansion, maintenance, and operation of emergency 9-1-1 systems in this state?"

Summary

This proposal authorizes the General Assembly to provide by general law for the creation of the Georgia Next Generation 9-1-1 Fund. It amends Article III, Section IX, Paragraph VI of the Georgia Constitution, relating to appropriations to be for specific sums, by adding a new subparagraph (s).

Acopy of this entire proposed constitutional amendment is on file in the office of the judge of the probate court and is available for public inspection.

October 13, 20, 27, 2026

26-449

IN THE PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF LAURENS

STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: ESTATE OF ALZADA FLOYD, DECEASED

ESTATE NO. 26-172

PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO: whom it may concern:

Jeff L. Wells has petitioned for Floyd to be appointed Administrator(s) of the estate of Alzada Floyd, 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 and 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/Deputy Clerk of the Probate Court
Laurens County Probate Court
P. O. Box 2098
Dublin, Georgia 31040
Telephone Number: 478-272-2566

October 3, 10, 17, 24, 2026

RELIGION DIGEST

- People are invited to help in celebrating Pastor Lehmon and Evangelist Windy Smith with a pre-anniversary musical on Saturday, Oct. 24 at 4 p.m., held at the Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, 4590 Ga. Highway 135 in Alston, Ga. Featured guests will be the Men of Unity of Dublin, the Believers of Faith of Dublin, the St. Paul Male Chorus of Vidalia, Redemption of Alston and Sensational Wonders of Alston. These services will end on Sunday, Oct. 25 at 11 a.m. with guest Pastor Randy Salem along with his congregation, Lovely Hill of Soperton. Everyone is welcomed and dinner will be served. For more information, contact (912) 326-3861.

- The Mount Tilla Baptist Church family will be celebrating their ushers anniversary on Oct. 25 at 11 a.m. The theme is “Standing Together to Serve” with scripture Psalm 84:10. The guest speaker will be Rev. Daryl Moore. Everyone is welcomed.

- The Eason Hill Baptist Church family will be celebrating their Pastor Eric Watson’s Pastoral Anniversary on Nov. 1 at noon. The guest speaker will be Rev. Tremaine Tarver of St. Paul Baptist Church of Cochran. Dinner will be served and everyone is welcomed.

- Rice Hill Missionary Baptist Church, at 2706 Moore Station Road, invites all to worship at its fourth Fourth Sunday Service on Oct. 25. Sunday school from 9 to 10 a.m. There will be a youth program during the regular service with Evangelist Barbara Martin as speaker for the event. You are invited to come hear the message and enjoy praise dance and songs.

UNITED. TO VOTE.

GENERAL ELECTION: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2026

- ✓ Research & Build Your Ballot
- ✓ Make Your Plan
- ✓ Early Voting: October 13 – 30
- ✓ Saturday Voting: October 17 & 24
- ✓ Absentee: Mail ballots early. Ballots must be received or dropped in a ballot box by 11/3.
- ✓ Election Day: November 3. Polls open from 7 am - 7 pm

Need Help at the Polls? Call the hotline at 866-OUR-VOTE. Translation Services Available

Scan the OR code for more information





Williams Chapel Baptist Church

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

Community Christian TRUNK OR TREAT

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2026
FROM NOON UNTIL 2 PM

All Are Invited!
FOOD • FELLOWSHIP • FUN

Dublin Central Parking Lot
705 Deers Drive
East Dublin, GA 31027

Pastor Reginald Cordy

CHRISTY'S
Continued from page 1

"I like to make people happy, and they get happy when they get flowers," she said. "I like to see people smile."

That passion for making people smile also includes running The Gathering Spot, an event space business that she started. The Gathering Spot is located next door to Christy's. It was originally called "The Gathering Place," but Henry had to change the name because a business in the Midwest already had that name and wanted a couple hundred dollars a month in order to use it. Henry changed the name.

"That was the craziest thing ever," she said.

Customer service has been the foundation of both businesses, says Henry. She said The Gathering Spot gets busy during the holiday season, and the flowers and decor side of her business portfolio is always busy with customers getting flowers for occasions

like birthdays, anniversaries and weddings. Most recently, last week, there was such an influx of people buying roses - Henry's favorite flower is a pink rose - that the shop sold out of their inventory.

"You try to have enough of everything because you never know what people are looking for," Henry said. "We try to do the best we can. Roses are always in season, so we try to keep all colors in stock."

Stephanie Rowland, a former classmate of Henry's at East Laurens High School and a sales associate at Christy's added, "We really try to find whatever it is that our customers need."

There are plans to hold a 40th anniversary party when that time comes. Until then the ladies at Christy's Floral & Gift Shop, Phillips, Branch, Rowland and of course the shop's namesake, Christy, will be sharing the love that is flowers and decorations for all occasions.

On Tuesday morning, the team was behind the counter



posing for a photo in this story. Asked what she loves the most about having owned her business all these years, Henry simply said: "The people."

Phillips said of the culture at Christy's: "People are comfortable with people that they've gotten to know."

Branch was even more specific about the environment at the business. "I think Christy's loyalty to her customers and the way she treats people right, that's what makes this place special."

"I am a people person and

Christy's was established in 1987 when Christy Henry and her late mother Maggie Calhoun opened the business in East Dublin

/DONNELL SUGGS

I like to interact with people," said Henry. "People always tell me how sweet the girls are and how helpful they are. I am just thankful everyday. When I pray, I say, 'God, thank you for letting me have this business.'



The interior of Christy's is currently decorated with Christmas in mind/DONNELL SUGGS

DA, Stepping Stone team up to help law enforcement with special victim's cases

By PAYTON TOWNS III
Senior Reporter

A local organization and the district attorney's office recently teamed up to host a law enforcement training program designed to give guidance to investigators and first responders when they are dealing with special victim cases.

They gathered in a classroom at the Oconee Fall Line Technical College on Oct. 16 to listen and watch presentations from Dublin Chief Assistant District Attorney Kelly Weathers, Dublin District Attorney's Office attorney Grady Cullens and Emily Brookshire, the executive director of Stepping Stone Child and Sexual Assault Center.

"By special victim I mean child victims, domestic violence, sexual assault for adults and children," Weathers said. "When law enforcement first responds to an allegation of this type, we want them to know there are many steps in these types of investigations."

They want them to be aware of the services provided by Stepping Stone, whose goal is to help children and adults who have been abused or assaulted by having a safe place to talk and offer services while working with law enforcement and DA's offices. Stepping Stone covers the counties in Dublin (Laurens, Johnson, Treutlen and Twiggs) and Oconee Judicial Circuits (Bleckley, Montgomery, Wheeler, Dodge, Pulaski and Telfair).

"Stepping Stone is a fabulous organization," Weathers said. "They offer things from forensic interviews to forensic medical exams to counseling and other basic support needs that a lot of victims of more complicated crimes like domestic violence or sexual abuse often require."

Brookshire wanted law enforcement to know how to optimize the initial conversations with victims. That sets the stage for everything that follows.

"This is to let the victims know that there is going to be a team responding to these very serious allegations," Weathers said. "All of us are mission-focused to get to the truth of the matter and make sure we can maximize putting the case together to get the right consequence and outcome for the perpetrator."

Cullens presented strangulation cases. Weathers said these are common in domestic violence cases.



Assistant District Attorney Grady Cullens gave a presentation about strangulation cases/PAYTON TOWNS III

"Stepping Stone has special equipment to help document this for evidentially purposes," Weathers said. "Obviously, this was the real reason we wanted to have this training. We wanted law enforcement to be aware of the resources that are available to them."

If someone alleges to have been choked, the marks may be hard to see.

"But now they can take them to Stepping Stone where they have specialized medical equipment that will detect things that with the naked eye you won't be able to see," Weathers said. "A strangulation event can often lead to stroke, heart attacks and things like that."

Brookshire is thrilled to have this type of technology to verify what happened to a victim.

"That helps people understand that this is an extremely common crime and we are taking this seriously," she said. "It also lets people get medical attention that they desperately deserve."

Brookshire recalled a case where a victim went to Stepping Stone more than a week after an assault that included a strangulation.

"We were able to collect photographic evidence that proved that strangulation happened more than a week after," Brookshire said. "That was amazing. It was something no one would be able to see with the naked eye."

Dublin DA Harold McLendon, who called Stepping Stone "a world class organization," was impressed with a stat about those who had been strangled in a domestic violence situation.

"If they remain in the relationship, there is a 75 percent chance that it is going to end in death," McLendon said. "It is very important that we get involved and try to prevent some of this."

McLendon mentioned

that his office had a strangulation death case a few months ago where the male defendant pleaded guilty to life in prison.

Weathers ended the day with talking about collecting evidence for them to present to juries.

"We want our cases to be strong," she said. "We want the jury to come back with a guilty verdict, which is the outcome we are looking for when we go to trial."

Brookshire hopes they will be able to do this type of training with law enforcement more. Law enforcement, the DA's office and Stepping Stone need each other to make sure these types of crimes end positively for the victims and their families.

"We are a team here," Brookshire said. "We can learn and get together as a team. It makes the process for survivors as thorough and holistic as possible. With that, we are creating a more excellent, streamlined process for victims that they deserve."

NOVEMBER 3, 2026

2026 Voter Guide

Election coverage

Candidate profiles

Ongoing reporting

Election night live updates

courierheraldtoday.com/georgia-votes-2026
albanyherald.com/georgia-votes-2026

LOOK AHEAD GEORGIA

DO YOU KNOW A UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA STUDENT FROM OUR COMMUNITY? HELP US BRING THEIR TALENT HOME!

Look Ahead Georgia offers UGA students \$5,000 PAID INTERNSHIPS that allow them to spend the summer in their hometown and put their education to work where it matters most.

Archway Partnership UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

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