The Courier Herald

$1 | THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2026 | COURIERHERALDTODAY.COM

United Way to hold first Holiday Craft Fair

By PAYTON TOWNS III
Senior Reporter

A local organization will hold its first Christmas craft fair this weekend, raising money for eight of its partnering agencies.

The Heart of Georgia United Way Holiday Craft Fair will be held from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 14 at 114 E. Johnson St.

"Usually, The United Way does a holiday house where we do a yard sale at our office for about four different weeks," said Elaina Powell, Heart of Georgia United Way director. "We decided to switch it up this year and do a craft fair."

They will have 20 vendors and food trucks along with Santa Claus making a visit from 11 a.m. to noon. Powell said they will also have a petting zoo.

"Instead of doing a yard sale for multiple weekends, we wanted to do one big event," Powell said. "It will be geared to Christmas gifts and decor. We will have some of the favorites from the Farmers Market here as vendors."

The Heart of Georgia United Way serves Laurens, Bleckley, Johnson, Treutlen, Dodge and Telfair counties. Its partnering agencies are the American Red Cross, Dublin-Laurens Teen Court, Heart of Georgia Healthy Start, The Salvation Army, Stepping Stone, The Lighthouse Adult Day Care Center, TLC CASA and W.I.N.G.S.

"I love connecting with people and this is a good opportunity for us to be able to talk with them and hear their stories," Powell said. "This is a good opportunity to raise money for the eight nonprofits that The United Way supports, and all of the money will go back to them. People can learn about the agencies and talk with some of The United Way staff, volunteers and board members. Also, they'll be able to shop, see Santa Claus and bring the kids out for some fun as well."

Anyone with questions can call The Heart of Georgia United Way at (478) 353-1811.



The Heart of Georgia United Way Holiday Craft Fair will be held from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 14 at 114 E. Johnson St. (above)/RODNEY MANLEY

GBI says Dublin City Schools investigation 'active and ongoing'

By RODNEY MANLEY
Staff Reporter

The Georgia Bureau of Investigation confirmed on Monday that its nearly yearlong investigation into the Dublin City Schools financial crisis is "active and ongoing."

Dublin District Attorney Harold McLendon requested the GBI investigation in January following a special state examination that confirmed the root causes of the unprecedented fiscal emergency – namely overspending and overhiring – while also identifying specific concerns that included late tax payments to the IRS, "abnormally" high credit card spending and unwarranted travel and expenditures.

"We can confirm that the GBI was requested by the Dublin District Attorney's Office to conduct a preliminary review related to the Dublin City School System. A preliminary review is conducted to determine if a criminal act has occurred. The investigation remains active and ongoing at this time," said Sara R. Lue, the GBI's director of Public & Governmental Affairs.

Local lawmakers requested the special examination after state officials discovered last August that the district owed $6 million in overdue payments to the State Health Benefit Plan and were headed for a projected $13.4 million budget deficit. The report cited wasteful spending and lax oversight for the cash shortage, noting that school system officials had used COVID funding to mask their money troubles.

The audit also pointed to instances of family members traveling on out-of-town leadership retreats at the system's expense and undocumented payments to a local florist.

The controversy led to the ouster of two of the district's top officials and the eventual suspension and removal of the school board's members by Gov. Brian Kemp. Former Chief Financial Officer Chad McDaniel resigned last August, and School Superintendent Fred Williams took an early retirement last October.

The FBI also has confirmed its own investigation into the district's finances.



Dublin-Laurens County Habitat for Humanity held a groundbreaking for House No. 44 on Saturday, Nov. 7, 2026/ PAYTON TOWNS III

Local Habitat begins work on House No. 44

By PAYTON TOWNS III
Senior Reporter

It may have been a few months later than originally planned, but the sound of hammers driving in nails for another Dublin-Laurens County Habitat for Humanity house was celebrated last weekend.

House No. 44 was supposed to begin in early September. According to Tracy Kinney, Habitat executive director, the temperature for that day was more than 100. When they began working a little after 8 a.m. on Nov. 7, the temperature was in the high 50s.

"This is a whole lot better," Kinney said. "It's a crisp cool morning. We have good volunteers. They are working hard and there is no sweating and that's always a good thing."

Before the first hammer struck a nail, Habitat held a groundbreaking ceremony for the house that will eventually be a home for Andria Allen and her son. Habitat board members, community volunteers, and Allen's family gathered for the ceremony. Allen and other leaders shoveled dirt and tossed it, kicking off the start of the build on Gateway Drive.

"We are glad to get this started," Kinney said. "(Allen) has been waiting very patiently. It took a little

HABITAT
Continued on page 6

October employment numbers are positive, 165K jobs added nationwide

By DONNELL SUGGS
Editor & Publisher

The United States Bureau of Labor Statistics monthly jobs report showed major growth in what can be considered the backbone of the working class in America: jobs.

There were 165,000 jobs added in October, according to the latest jobs report. Along with the job growth, the national unemployment rate fell a few tenths of a point to 4.1%. There were several industries that saw the greatest amount of growth. Many of them are either prevalent or available in Laurens County.

The health care industry, which employs thousands of Laurens County residents at institutions like Fairview Park Hospital and Carl Vinson Medical VA Center, saw a gain of 42,000 jobs nationwide during October. Transportation and warehousing jobs saw a combined improvement of 25,000 jobs. The latter should be equally as good during November and December with the holidays around the corner. The seasonal job, normally centered in the retail industry, will see between 325,000 and 375,000 jobs become available during what the National Retail Federation considers the winter holiday season, November 1-December 31.

Unemployment in Middle Georgia remains below four percent, according to data from the Georgia Department of Labor. That percentage should fall during the holiday shopping season.

Over the year-to-date, manufacturing jobs had an improvement of 100,000 jobs, according to the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics. During October 2026, there were 19,000 jobs added to the manufacturing industry across the country. Those numbers include Georgia, and its Southeastern sister states South Carolina, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Alabama.

While there has been job growth in Georgia, the average national hourly wage, not to be confused with minimum wage, did not rise much, if at all. The median household income in Georgia is $81,847, which is nearly $6,000 under the national average ($87,460), according to the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics.



Unemployment in Middle Georgia remains below four percent, and should fall during the holiday shopping season/DONNELL SUGGS

INDEX

OBITUARIES 2
DAILY SCRIPTURE 4
EDITORIAL 4
TELL IT 4
SPORTS 5-6
COMICS 7
FROM THE FRONT 8, 10

7 36211 57521 0

1 section, 10 pages • Vol. 113, No. 127, Pub. No. 161860

OBITUARIES



Donald Greene

Graveside funeral services for Donald Greene, 83 was held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 11, 2026, at Dublin Memorial Gardens. Rev. Mark Davidson will officiate.

Mr. Greene was born May 11, 1943, in Glenwood, Georgia. He was the son of the late Johnnie Eugene Greene and Nannie Lou Bussell Greene. He is also preceded in death by his son, Chris Forbes; five brothers, Jimmy Greene, Lamar Greene, David Greene, Vernon Greene and Buford Greene; and a sister, Jean G. Martin. He was a member of the Dublin Moose Club. He retired from Bibb Manufacturing. Mr. Greene passed away Sunday, Nov. 8, 2026, at Fairview Park Hospital.

Mr. Greene is survived by his sister, Sue Townsend of East Dublin; a niece and several nephews.

Pallbearers will be Scott Greene, Greg Greene, Donnie Moore, Bobby Townsend, Mark Thigpen and Mike Moore.

There will be no formal visitation for friends.

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



Carolyn Johnson Watson

Carolyn Johnson Watson, lovingly known as Carolyn, passed away peacefully on Nov. 8, 2026, in Dublin, Georgia, at the age of 91.

She was born on Oct. 14, 1935, in Dublin, Georgia, to the late Britt Johnson and Mattie Johnson. Carolyn lived a long and meaningful life marked by devotion to her family, her faith, and the many simple joys that brought her happiness. She was a loving woman whose gentle spirit and kind heart touched all who knew her.

Carolyn was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Bobby Watson who was her high school sweetheart, as well as her parents and her siblings, Britt Johnson Jr., Donnie Johnson, Fay Johnson, Charles Johnson, and Claxton Johnson. Though she experienced the loss of many dear family members, she carried their memory with grace and strength throughout her life.

She is survived by her daughter, Tammie Padgett of East Dublin; her grandchildren, Mitch Padgett and Craigg Padgett and his wife Kelli; her great-grandchildren, Lauren Willhouse and her husband Collinn, Aubrie Padgett, Zoey Padgett and Walker Padgett; and her great-great-grandchildren, Copelyn Willhouse and Wrenlee Powell. She also leaves behind several nieces and nephews who will cherish her memory and the love she shared with them.

Carolyn graduated from Brewton High School where she was a gifted basketball player. Carolyn spent much of her working life serving others with diligence and care. In her early years, she worked as a seamstress at Oxford Shirt Factory, where her skill and dedication were well known. She later served as secretary at Dublin Auto Electric, where she was respected for her dependable nature and strong work ethic. She was a talented seamstress throughout her life and took pride in the gifts and abilities she used so beautifully.

A faithful Christian, Carolyn was a member of Shady Grove Baptist Church, where her presence was a blessing to her church family. Her faith was an important part of her life and guided the way she loved and cared for others. She was known as a woman with a green thumb who enjoyed working in her yard and spending time outdoors. She also loved fishing, cooking, word search puzzles, and jigsaw puzzles, but above all, she treasured time spent with her family, whom she loved dearly.

Carolyn will be remembered as a loving mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and great-great-grandmother whose life reflected kindness, devotion, and quiet strength. Her family and friends will forever hold close the memories of her warm smile, her caring heart, and the many ways she made life brighter for those around her. Her legacy of love, faith, and family will continue to live on in the hearts of all who knew and loved her.

Services will be held at a later date.

Please visit www.townsendfuneralhome.com to sign the online memorial registry.



James Alan Pettis

James Alan Pettis, 70, passed away on Nov. 7, 2026, leaving behind a legacy of service, dedication, friendship and love that will never be forgotten.

A memorial service for Mr. Pettis will be held at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 11, 2026, in the Mary Whitaker Townsend Memorial Chapel.

James proudly served his country in the United States Army before receiving an honorable discharge in 1983. His commitment to serving others continued throughout his life as he dedicated 23 years to law enforcement, faithfully serving the Laurens County community and rising to the rank of Sergeant.

Throughout his years in law enforcement, James earned the respect and appreciation of countless people. In 1999, he was honored with the Kyle Dinkheller Award, recognizing his dedication and service. For many in the community, his familiar voice, identified as SO10, over the scanner radio became a comforting and recognizable sound. He was more than a voice on the radio; he was a familiar presence and a symbol of protection and reassurance to the community he served.

Beyond his career, James was a proud member of the Defenders Motorcycle Club, where he shared a brotherhood built on friendship, loyalty and a love for the open road.

James will be remembered for his years of service, the lives he touched, the friendships he built, and the lasting mark he made on Laurens County. His life was one of dedication to his country, his community and the people who meant so much to him.

He was preceded in death by Linza Pettis, Grace Pettis, Bill Wood and Lee Pettis

Those left to cherish his memory include his daughter, Kelly (Tim); his beloved grandson, Riley; his sister, Becky Wood; his brother, Jeff Pettis; along with numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, extended family members, friends and brothers in the law enforcement community.

Rest easy, Sergeant. You will never be forgotten.

Please visit www.townsendfuneralhome.com for service updates and to sign the online memorial register.

MOMENTS IN TIME

* On Nov. 23, 1940, Romania officially allied itself with Germany, Italy and Japan by signing the Tripartite Pact.

* On Nov. 24, 1807, Mohawk Chief Thayendanegea, who was also known by the English name of Joseph Brant, died at his home in Burlington, Ontario, reportedly beseeching just before his passing, "Have pity on the poor Indians. If you have any influence with the great, endeavor to use it for their good." Thayendanegea had ranked among the top British commanders during the American Revolutionary War.

* On Nov. 25, 1959, four months after his release from 43 years of solitary confinement and transfer to the mainland from Alcatraz, convicted killer Robert Stroud, aka the Birdman of Alcatraz, asked a federal judge to set him free. Stroud had become famous when Thomas Gaddis wrote a biography describing his ornithological expertise. His plea was rejected and he died in a Missouri prison in 1963.

* On Nov. 26, 2012, New York governor Andrew Cuomo announced that Hurricane Sandy had racked up a bill of $32 billion worth of damages in the state and the nation's largest city.

* On Nov. 27, 1933, singer Billie Holiday made her recording debut with the tune "Your Mother's Son-in-Law" alongside the Benny Goodman Orchestra in New York City. In a 1956 interview, she claimed that she was just 14 years old at the time, though she was actually 18, and that the song "sounds like I was doing comedy" as "my voice sounds so funny and high."

* On Nov. 28, 1582, William Shakespeare, age 18, and 26-year-old Anne Hathaway paid a 40-pound bond for their marriage license in Stratford-upon-Avon. Six months later, Anne gave birth to their daughter Susanna, who was followed by twin siblings Hamnet and Judith two years later.

* On Nov. 29, 2001, English musician and songwriter George Harrison passed away at the age of 58 after battling cancer. Harrison had achieved global fame as a member of the Beatles before going on to a successful solo career that included collaborations with many of the top musicians of his generation.

(c) 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

HERE'S A TIP

By JOANN DERSON
King Features

* Three ways to use an empty tissue box: Store plastic grocery bags inside for quick tidy jobs; line with a small plastic trash bag and use in your car as a travel trash can; or cut out the bottom and use it to disguise an extra toilet tissue roll in your guest bath!

* Love oranges? Save the peels to add to your potpourri mix. Remove as much of the pith as possible, and cut into strips. Air dry in bright light for about a week. Or you can set the strips on parchment and dry in a partially closed oven set to 175 F for about 45 minutes. Check often.

* "When the last serving of jam has been used, I will happily add some oil and vinegar to the jar, along with a few choice spices, then shake. It's an instant vinaigrette, with a fruity tang." -- C.L. in Tennessee

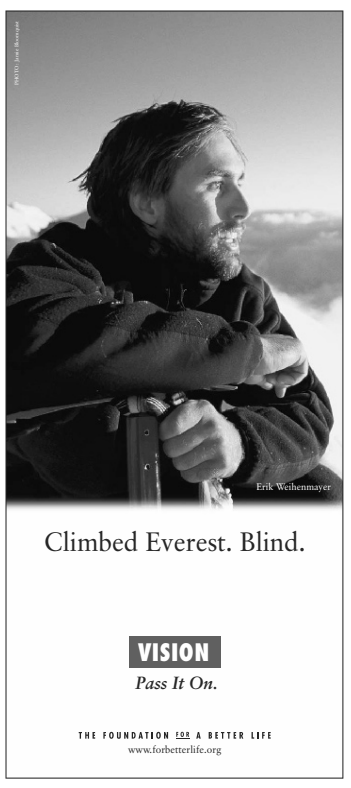
* Keep your jeans or other denim items from fading by soaking them in a solution of cold water and salt (2 tablespoons to a gallon) for about an hour before washing.

* How can you keep snow and ice off your windshield? Some say a solution of three parts vinegar to one part water sprayed on the windshield each night can cut your ice-scraping time in half or better. Use caution to avoid your paint job. Try covering your wipers with an old pair of long socks so they don't freeze to the glass!

* "To clean a can opener, get it wet and run a folded paper towel through it while turning the handle. Works best if done after each use." -- H.P. in Washington

Send your tips to Now Here's a Tip, 1800 Pembrook Dr., Suite 300, Orlando, FL 32810.

(c) 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.





NEWS DIGEST

The Laurens County Board of Education will hold its next regular meeting at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 11. The agenda follows:
- Call to order
- Invocation
- Pledge
- Approval of agenda
- School/student recognition
- Clean School
- Boardroom artwork
- WLHS girls cross country team
- WLHS softball team
- Approval of FY 27 budget amendment 1
- Approval of FY 28 budget development calendar
- Approval of Unified Literacy Plan
- FY 26 ESPLOST annual report
- Consent agenda
- Audience participation
- Executive session
- Personnel
- Approval of personnel
- Superintendent and board member comments

BIRTHDAYS

Nov. 12
Betty Hudgeons
Linda Wright

Nov. 13
Shambriel Street
Shannon Tripp

Millville High School Alumni Association, Inc.
Annual Thanksgiving Bake Sale
Saturday, Nov. 21st • 8 am - 1 pm
Millville High School, 997 Hwy 338, Dudley
All varieties of cakes and pies. For special orders, please call Dorothy Hall at (478) 278-5317 or Catherine Rozar at or (478) 290-6163.

95th Birthday Celebration
honoring
Iola ONeal • 11/11/31
Saturday, Nov. 14
at 3:00 p.m.
Christ Deliverance Temple
403 E. Garner St., Dublin




DID YOU KNOW...?

How did the United States get drawn into World War I?

By JACK BAGLEY
GTLN

November is such a wonderful month.

For instance, we've just had Election Day, and I hope your candidate in every race won.

Next, we had Veterans' Day, and I want to send out a sincere, heartfelt thank you to everyone who served their country in times of war or peace.

And, of course, there's Thanksgiving coming up. I'm already getting my appetite ready.

Each week, too, there's trivia, right here in this space ... and you don't gain any calories from reading it! Have at it, friends.

Did you know ...

... the street lamps in the city of Hershey, Pennsylvania, are shaped like chocolate kisses? (What else would they be shaped like in Hershey?)

... the average American eats 263 eggs a year? (Not all at the same time, of course, unless one is really into cholesterol. Who is this average American, anyway?)

... Germany was not the first country to use gas against enemy troops in World War I? Long reviled for their use of chemical warfare, the Imperial German Army doesn't bear the blame for its first use. That falls to the French army, which fired the first tear gas grenades used in the war against the Germans. Germany would use tear gas against Russian troops, and the Germans were the first to use chlorine gas – a deadly poison – in the war.

... the United States was drawn into World War I by a telegram? During the first years of the war, which began in 1914, U.S. President Woodrow Wilson (1856-1924) did his best to keep the country out of the European conflict. But in 1917, British cryptographers decoded a telegram from German Foreign Minister Arthur Zimmermann (1864-1940) to the German minister in Mexico. The telegram encouraged Mexico to invade U.S. territory in an effort to engage the Army and keep America from intervening in the war. The note promised Mexico the return of Texas, Arizona, and New Mexico if the effort was successful and Germany won the war; reaction to the note caused the United States to enter the war on the side of Britain, France, and Russia. Britain had withheld the telegram from the Americans for several months, and released it to get the Americans into the conflict on their side. (I'm not really sure how Germany would have kept that promise, but it was enough to make the U.S. very upset.)

... two leaders of the Catholic church had different views of a popular book series? Asked about the *Harry Potter* series of books, Pope John Paul II (1920-2005) said the novels, by author J.K. Rowling (born 1965), helped children differentiate between good and evil. But his successor as Pontiff, Benedict XVI (1927-2022), called the books "inconsistent with the teachings of the Catholic Church" and said they eroded Christianity in the soul of young readers. (Different strokes for different folks, perhaps?)

... the man who invented the rabies vaccine had a plan in case of laboratory exposure? Louis Pasteur (1822-1895) developed the first effective vaccine against rabies in 1885. But while the research into the vaccine was going on, Pasteur kept a loaded gun in his laboratory. It was to be used in case he or one of his lab assistants became infected with the disease. (A little extreme, don't you think?)

... what the longest distance something has been carried by a tornado is? According to reports, a personal check was swept up in a tornado on April 11, 1991 in Stockton, Kansas. The check finally hit the ground in Winnetoon, Nebraska, some 223 miles away. (When the check hit the ground, did it ... bounce?)

... a computer glitch fouled up the names of thousands of children? According to our friends at Mental Floss, in 1989 some 1082 baby boys in New York found themselves named Christop, instead of their parents' intended Christopher. The state database had accidentally limited to number of letters in the babies' first name to eight. Some other reported odd names were Katherin, Alexande, and Elizabet. (I don't know, being named Christop might be the key to fortune, fame and riches!)

... the largest national park in the United States is probably not the one you're thinking of? Looking at a U.S. map, one would be forgiven for thinking that Wyoming's Yellowstone National Park is the largest in the country. But it isn't. The largest is in Alaska. Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve is a 13.2 million acre park which is home to some of the country's tallest mountains, including Mount St. Elias. (This is a big park - larger than at least nine different states.)

... the ozone layer is making a comeback? In 1985, a "hole" in the ozone layer of the atmosphere was discovered over Antarctica. The ozone layer protects us from the Sun's ultraviolet light, and the "hole" (actually a diminishing of the layer) was caused by chlorofluorocarbons, or CFCs. CFCs were phased out of use by 2010, and the ozone layer is slowly repairing itself. It is expected to be back to its 1980s level by 2040, and to make a full recovery by 2066. (Thanks to Mason for the tip!)

... dark-roasted coffee has less caffeine than medium-roasted? The longer a coffee bean is roasted, the more caffeine burns off. (Yeah, but the taste trade-off ...)

... about 7,000 new insect species are discovered every year? (They've been hiding all this time!)

Now ... you know!

Dog fennel and its uses: Another tale from the land

THE NEW SOUTHERN DAD



By KYLE DOMINY

The first frost should be coming soon. Maybe as early as next week if you believe what the dog fennels have to say.

This native perennial started blooming in my neck of the woods and the old wives' tale indicates that the initial cold snap will come about six weeks after. The problem comes when determining which plant to believe. I noticed some dog fennel patches in other parts of the area put out their blossoms later than mine did. In that case it could be cold by Thanksgiving.

Eupatorium capillifolium, if you prefer the scientific name, is a species specific to the southern and eastern United States. It is also found in Cuba. It spreads aggressively on over-foraged or unimproved lands. I have a piece of soil that is very much in need of some improvement.

Dog fennel isn't suitable for eating, though it is named after and resembles various kitchen herbs. Cows will eat away at it, you know, because it grows on over-forage fields, even though it contains a toxin that causes dehydration, so many folks consider it a nuisance weed.

When mowed down the plumes emit a strong, sickly sour scent. It's a very distinct odor, that, during my increasing time on planet earth, I've been unable to find a match to. When you hit a clump of dog fennel with a bush hog, you know it. So does anyone nearby.

A good portion of a recent Saturday afternoon was spent with pungent aroma following me through the air as I caught up on some land clearing I've been putting off. I suppose I could have waited for the frost but I can be very impatient. I've encountered worse smells in the woods - not to be gross, but skunk and a rotting deer carcass comes to mind.

There are certain smells that you just know what they are.

Dog fennel served many purposes for the people native to this patch of the planet we call home. Native Americans crafted dog fennel into medicine and used it as an insect repellant. That sickly sour scent has a use, and now that you mention it, I don't recall being stung or bitten by any pests while working that portion of the land. I did, however, stir up a snake, but that's a story for a different day.

There's even a bug, the scarlet bodied wasp moth that lives in coastal areas, that gorges on the plant to make itself, its mate and later its eggs predator proof. Who said romance is dead?

Every year I mow down this patch of dog fennel. Every year it grows back, seemingly thicker and more vibrant than before. Every year, I'm reminded of the smell. Maybe next year I'll burn it, see if I can finally get rid of it.

Or I can just wait for the frost to knock it down for me.

COUCH THEATRE

By DEMI TAVERAS
King Features



Rose Byrne, left, and Samantha Quinn star in "The Good Daughter"/SPECIAL PHOTO, Courtesy of MovieStillsDB

"Primetime" (R)

Director Lance Oppenheim has had two culturally resonant films that have been released this year: a meta-documentary film titled "You Can See Everything," and this psychological thriller led by Robert Pattinson ("The Odyssey"). Much to the real-life Chris Hansen's dismay, in "Primetime," Pattinson portrays "To Catch a Predator" journalist Chris Hansen circa 2006. The potential reveal of an extramarital affair of his causes Hansen to ramp up his efforts toward making his show a success, rather than focusing on the overall mission of catching child predators. While viewers themselves can watch Hansen slowly unravel due to pressure, they can also see him spiral through the eyes of aspiring actor Dan Plum (Skyler Gisondo), who becomes Hansen's mentee. The film is out now to rent; see if it's as "detached from reality" as the real-life Hansen said it was! (Amazon Prime Video)

"Other Mommy" (R)

Jessica Chastain ("Dreams") leads this creepy psychological-horror film based on the 2024 novel "Incidents Around the House" by Josh Malerman. The film zeroes in on a family of three: 7-year-old Bela (Arabella Olivia Clark), her father Russ (Jay Duplass), and her mother Ursula (Chastain). Ursula is laser-focused on her career, which doesn't leave her much time to spend with Russ or Bela. Craving attention from her mother, Bela begins to see a supernatural entity around her house that looks like her mom, so she names this entity "Other Mommy." (Wink.) But as the Other Mommy becomes increasingly contorted and angry, she begins to attack Bela, hoping that Bela will finally let her into her heart. Available to rent on Nov. 10. (Apple TV)

"The Good Daughter" (TV-MA)

If HBO's "Sharp Objects" was your kind of show, look no further than this new mystery series, which similarly emulates that small-town, gritty, rugged feel. Oscar nominee Rose Byrne ("If I Had Legs, I'd Kick You") stars alongside Emmy nominee Meghann Fahy ("Sirens") as a pair of estranged sisters who tensely reunite after a murder case consumes their hometown. This new case brings back dark memories from a traumatic event when they were young girls, forcing them to reconcile the past and present in order for both sisters to fully move on. Emmy winner Brendan Gleeson ("Spider-Noir") plays their endearing hospitalized father, who hopes to harmonize the relationship between them. All six episodes will be available to stream on Nov. 12. (Peacock)

"Heartland" (R)

And she's back already! Jessica Chastain ("Other Mommy") is also the lead of this mystery-thriller film premiering on Nov. 13. A completely different change of tune from the film detailed above, "Heartland" takes viewers into the underbelly of Nashville after a young 22-year-old star named Charlie Heart (Carter Faith) disappears. Her aunt, former country music star Misty Jones (Chastain), is pleaded by her brother to go to Nashville and dig around for information about Charlie herself, since she knows her way around the city. At first, Misty is hesitant to go back to this previous chapter in her life, but with Charlie's life on the line, nothing will stop her from finding her niece. (Netflix)

(c) 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CHIP Grant Application Preparation and Grant Administration Services
RFP No. 26-1112-01

The City of Dublin, Georgia, is soliciting proposals from qualified consulting firms to provide grant application preparation and grant administration services for the Georgia Department of Community Affairs Fiscal Year 2027 Community HOME Investment Program (CHIP). The selected consultant will assist the City with preparation and submission of its FY2027 CHIP application due January 31, 2027, and provide grant administration services should funding be awarded.

Sealed proposals will be received until 2:00 PM, December 15, 2026, at the City of Dublin Purchasing Department, 702 E. Madison Street, Dublin, Georgia 31021.

Proposal documents may be obtained from the City of Dublin Purchasing Department or at www.cityofdublin.org/department/purchasing.

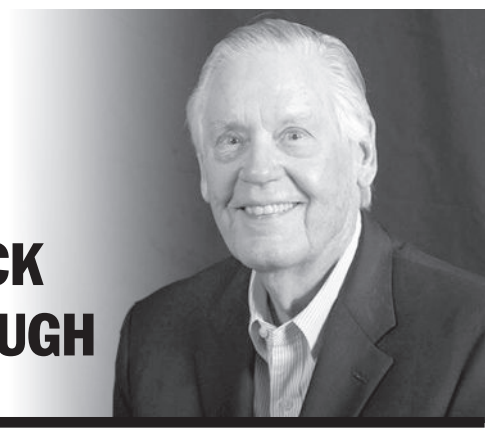
For information regarding this solicitation, contact David Sawyer, Purchasing Director, at 478-277-5047 or sawyerd@dublinga.org.

The City of Dublin reserves the right to reject any or all proposals.

Audien Hearing
The World's First Hearing Aids With Touchscreen Controls.
No tiny buttons. No apps. No prescriptions.
Atom X
Call 866-976-0560 to get your 45-day risk free trial.

Caregiver gets paid same day!
Let your loved ones care for you – and get paid!
Funded by Medicaid, choose FAMILY or FRIENDS as your paid caregiver.
OVER 5,000 5-STAR REVIEWS!
FreedomCare
COMPASSION • INDEPENDENCE • CHOICE
Find out if you are eligible today.
CALL 833.981.3719

Democratic election results should be wakeup call for Republicans



By DICK YARBROUGH

Democrat Keisha Lance Bottoms, who may have been the worst mayor in Atlanta history, is now governor-elect of Georgia. Not only that, but every down-ballot post in the state from lieutenant governor to attorney general to labor commissioner to school superintendent to public service commissioner in last week's election went to Democrats and the margins of victory were not even close. Democrats also won control of the Georgia House of Representatives for the first time in 22 years, defeating at least 12 incumbent Republicans across the state. It was political roadkill. For that, you can thank the Georgia Republicans. They never figured out who the enemy is.

While Democrats were planning their blue tsunami, Republicans were up to their usual infighting. As I have stated numerous times, Republicans would rather be ideologically pure than elected. Democrats would rather be elected. The Georgia Republican Assembly, not to be confused with Georgia Republican Party, was trying to tell us who could run for office as a Republican and who could not. In other words, they would make the decision for the voters. (That's us.) Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger being one they considered ideologically impure, he ran for governor in the Republican primary anyway and lost. The voters (that's us) made that decision.

Overhanging all of this, of course, was the Republicans' continuing obsession with Donald Trump's defeat in 2020 and his claim the election was rigged. Personally, I found Trump's actions unpatriotic. Unlike Samuel Tilden and Richard Nixon and Al Gore, all of whom had legitimate – and better – reasons for questioning the outcome of their elections, Trump put his ego ahead of that of his country.

Nixon told journalist Earl Mazo, who had written a series of articles about voter fraud after the 1960 election, that "our country cannot afford the agony of a constitutional crisis." Mazo stopped at Nixon's request.

Gore said. "(T)onight, for the sake of our unity as a people and the strength of our democracy, I offer my concession."

Trump? He spent an hour haranguing Secretary of State Raffensperger to find him 11,780 votes, turned loose a gang of thugs who ransacked the nation's Capital in hopes of preventing a joint session of Congress from counting the Electoral College votes to formalize the victory of president-elect Joe Biden. Fortunately, the attack was unsuccessful, and the election results were certified.

That didn't stop the RITNOs (Republicans in Trump's Name Only) from doing everything they could to overturn the results. Alternative electors. Unfounded accusations against Fulton County election workers that cost their accuser, Rudy Giuliani, a cool $148 million. A so-called documentary,"2,000 Mules," which alleged a widespread conspiracy that turned out to be false. Blathering "experts" questioning the integrity of our voting system but proving nothing. All of their smoking guns turned out to be cap pistols.

Nationally, Democrats took both Houses of Congress by huge margins and elected senators from states that had been Republican for decades. In the case of Kansas, a Democrat had not been elected to the Senate in almost a century. Georgia voters kept our congressional delegation split along party lines, nine Republicans and five Democrats.

Trump says had he been on the ballot, the elections would have turned out differently. Poppycock. His performance was on the ballot. His "four-to-five week" war. Higher fuel prices. His on-again-off-again-on-again tariff decisions. His preoccupation with his personal surroundings. Jeffery Epstein. Punishing those who dared disagree with him. Tiresome stuff.

In Georgia, the best Republicans could do was to run ads saying Jon Ossoff uses makeup (?) while ignoring Mike Collins' son-in-law's misogynistic and racist remarks. Greg Dolezal promised if elected lieutenant governor he would rid the state of jihadists. Yeah, right. Gazillionaire Rick Jackson poured $220 million into his gubernatorial campaign and lost by 10 points. Give me $220 million and I could get elected pope.

Do I take pleasure in the outcome? Except for shutting the yap traps of the RITNO election deniers permanently (I hope), none at all. In my opinion, this was more a vote against an arrogant and unpopular administration rather than an endorsement of Democratic policies. Frankly, the Democratic Socialists of America are gaining influence across the country and that scares the heebie-jeebies out of me.

As for the political wipeout in Georgia last week, I defer to my friend, the Sage of the Okefenokee, Pogo the Possum, who said, "We have met the enemy and it is us." Whether Republicans got that message remains to be seen. Stay tuned.

You can reach Dick Yarbrough at dick@dickyarbrough.com or at P.O. Box 725373, Atlanta, Georgia 31139.

Georgia: Purple State, At Least For Now



GEORGIA POLITICS

By CHARLIE HARPER

There is no need to sugar coat it. Republicans got their tail kicked last week.

The Democrats will have firm control of Georgia's executive branch and the day to day power that comes with it. Congratulations to Governor-elect Bottoms. I encourage all to pray for her wisdom and discernment.

Whether you voted for her or not, much of the state's immediate future is in the hands of her and her team. We ultimately need her to succeed.

Governor Bottoms' power will go beyond the Governor's mansion. With Democrats also securing the Lieutenant Governor's position, all statewide partisan offices, and the Speaker's gavel, their power extends to the appointment of boards, commissions, agencies, and when vacancies arise, judges.

As bad as Republicans' numbers look here in Georgia, when viewed with what

happened nationally and with the differential on statewide contests, the GOP's position is in relatively decent shape. Republicans managed to hold the thinnest majority in the State Senate with a 29-27 partisan split. The Speaker's gavel will transfer to the Democrats with a thin majority, the exact number still to be determined due to one runoff in SW Georgia.

The margins were decisive in statewide races. They were incredibly impressive from the Democrats' perspective, and equally demoralizing and, frankly, embarrassing for Republicans.

The voters clearly sent a message. The clarity of what they said is always a Rorschach Test.

There are many Republicans out there explaining. I've seen many takes I agree with, a few... not so much. 2028 nor 2030 will not be decided by who wins the immediate blame game in this scorching failure's aftermath. Many Republicans will find they have a lot of extra time on their hands in January to contemplate these matters.

Today, we have bigger and more immediate priorities. Most importantly, we have to govern. It will require both parties working together.

I've lived in Georgia my entire life. I'm a proud American. This is our system. Our voters are the shareholders, and they have spoken – loudly. I want what is best for my state and my country.

Most of us just want reasonable approaches to solving problems. We want leaders who understand that, and do their best to make it happen.

I was a relatively young volunteer operative when Republicans took the Governor's mansion and Senate in 2022. It took two more years to get the other chamber and within a decade the GOP held a supermajority in both chambers and all statewide offices. It took 12 years to be back where we started.

The incoming Democrats will largely be a lot like we were a quarter century ago. Most will have limited experience with state government, have a deep distrust if not intolerance of the current majority party, and want everyone out the door as soon as possible.

Some will quickly learn that beneath the level of elected and appointed partisans, there are quite a few people who show up at work every day trying to make lives better for the people of the state. Many of them have institutional knowledge that is not quickly replaceable.

Some will remember the rhetoric and/treatment received by less congenial members of the outgoing majority party and will wield their newfound powers with the full backing of the Old Testament's eye for an eye. That is entirely their right. They won.

The reality is some will work to solve problems. Some will use the problems to work to expand the power and scope of their positions on the way to their next higher title. This is a time honored bipartisan bifurcation of those participating in majority rule.

The hazard for Democrats now charged with governing is that their base sees the results and margins as an unequivocal mandate. The 2024 and 2026 elections had polar opposite results because the fringe of each party convinced their leaders a voter rebuke of the last guys meant they must enact the craziest stuff imaginable.

Governor Kemp will leave office with a roughly 70% approval rate not because he scratched every itch that the MAGA wing of his party had, but because he often said "no, Georgians don't want that" and then took a more centrist route. Governor Bottoms will hear similar demands from her base to lurch Georgia far leftward.

Republicans, meanwhile, do have control of the Senate. While they lost the House, there were about a dozen races decided in that chamber by less than 1,000 votes.

Republicans won 7 of them, but lost a couple by less than 100 votes. The rematch in 2 years will be extreme and expensive on both sides.

With razor thin legislative margins in both chambers, the legislature should serve to temper the excessive demands of both partisan bases. What hopefully can result will not be a red state nor a blue state, but people from different parties and backgrounds, working together for solutions for all of Georgia.

That's always been our secret sauce. When the needs of Georgia's citizens and the businesses who employ them are put at the forefront and our leaders commit to solving their problems, we don't have time to notice the red or blue fingerprints while we're all counting in green.

TELL IT!

CALL 272-0375, EMAIL CHTELLIT@GMAIL.COM, OR TELL IT! AT COURIERHERALDTODAY.COM

Please remember to get your seasonal vaccines! A lot of antivaxxers live around here, and you don't want to catch what they're spreading around Dublin! Protect your family from antivaxxers' illnesses!

Can the ladder in storage in the front of the courthouse be used to fix the clock not working in the courtroom? Will the clock ever be back working again?

For the first time in more than 40 years I did not voting. Not mid terms, not general election, presidential. Can you honestly name one thing that has improved your standard of living or life by voting someone in or out of office? Republican, Democrat, Independent, libertarian, Green Party whatever, have the elected worked in your best interest at any level local, state or federal? Or do you exist to pay higher taxes for no reason? Laurens/DCS case in point. I voted for Trump because of his promises to end the Ukrainian war in 24 hours, lower food prices, gas prices, taxes, prosecute corruption, clean up the FBI... nothing. Instead I got a nut who wants to build monuments. I've been a fool for 40 years thinking somebody would change something. They don't. Not in Dublin, not in Washington.

Landlords please start asking or getting your tenants to wash or pressure wash these houses down.making their neighbors property values go down.

I live in Laurens County and on Saturdays and Sundays we like to ride. Can someone tell me what is going on in the Dublin Housing Authority residents? I see broken down cars that don't run, stacked up bicycles like it's a bicycle shop and trash all in the yards. The parking lots look terrible.

West Laurens High School dance and color guard and band needs to start giving their students of the week or recognize them like baseball, softball and football. Show them the school cares.

I just don't know about folks that wear jeans to church. Or Sunday School for that matter.

Great news the Dublin City School board will restart the superintendent search. One question, what will they use to pay him/her with? Oh I know, another tax hike. That's the answer. Great news.

To door dashers please be considerate at restaurants when picking up orders. At times you will have to wait. Therefore do not holler at the employees.

Door dashers if you don't like your side hustle then quick. Please don't holla at others because your order is not ready when you get there. Others have feelings like you do.

The red light at Veterans and Roberson needs a timer adjustment and an apology letter. Nobody should age this much at one intersection.

The Bible study group response...yes, yes, yes! There are more than 50 churches. Like a big candy store..choose your flavor and attend.

TELL IT! GUIDELINES

Have something to say about life in Dublin and Laurens County? We want to hear it. Tell It! is a space for community voices: praise, frustration, questions and everything in between.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Keep it local. Submissions should focus on issues, people and places in Dublin and Laurens County. We are not the right venue for commentary on national politics or public figures outside our community.

Be civil. Personal attacks, profanity and hate speech will not be published. Criticism is welcome; name-calling is not.

Stick to the facts. Submissions must not contain false statements of fact about identifiable individuals or organizations. We cannot publish content that is defamatory or exposes the Courier Herald to legal liability.

The Courier Herald reserves the right to edit submissions for length and clarity, and to decline any submission at its sole discretion. Submission does not guarantee publication.

DAILY SCRIPTURE...

But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the plant? "It is," he said. "And I'm so angry I wish I were dead."

- Jonah 4:9 (New International Version)

THOUGHT FOR TODAY...

"Be someone else's sunshine."

- Gwyneth Volunteer

EVERY DAY'S A HOLIDAY...

Nov. 12, 2026 is...
- National French Dip Day
- World Pneumonia Day
- National Pizza with the Works Except Anchovies Day
- National Happy Hour Night
- Chicken Soup for the Soul Day
- World Quality Day
- World Usability Day

YOUR TURN:

Share your opinion on current events, or topics covered in The Courier Herald by emailing us: tchnewsreporter@gmail.com

The Courier Herald

LOCAL MATTERS

Judged a newspaper of General Excellence 2024

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

Office hours are 8 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays

GET IN TOUCH
News: tchnewsreporter@gmail.com
Subscription: courtney@courierheraldtoday.com
Advertising: advertisingtch@gmail.com
Sports: tchsports77@gmail.com
Obituaries: tchobits77@gmail.com

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

GEORGIA TRUST for Local News

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

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

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL OUTLOOK

Region rematches, toss-ups headline first round

By CLAY REYNOLDS
Sports Editor

First rounds of playoff football tend to be a mixed bag of games pitting fringe teams against the highly favored, and a select few quality matchups between intermediate seeds who are closest together in the middle of the pack.

The Heart of Georgia's 2026 postseason draw, as in most years, will have some of each on this weekend's schedule, though an unusually healthy number of them fall in that toss-up category, where the difference between opponents will be fairly minimal.

Area teams, for the most part, wound up in a reasonable position with respect to their statewide standing in the GHSA Post Season Ranking system, which with the exception of region championships, was the only consideration in placement of each classification's 32 qualifiers.

In terms of travel, only Washington and Dodge counties face trips exceeding 90 minutes from home. The only major gripe with seeding likely belongs to Dublin, which was inexplicably overtaken by a Bleckley County team it defeated head-to-head in the top four of the AA hierarchy.

Three out of nine games on the weekend slate will feature region rematches, and four of those will bring together seeds in the teens and low 20s for games without an overwhelmingly heavy favorite.

Among the most evenly handicapped are West Laurens (16) and Westover (17), whose game at The SHU was moved along with 14 others in AAAA to 7 p.m. Saturday on account of sparse officiating crews, and Treutlen (17) and Wheeler County (16), in a runback of their exciting region battle in week 8.

The hometown Raiders, back home in search of a fourth-straight win, go up against a well-rounded team with a tough, physical streak and sporty collection of athletes that might be better than its record or seeding, as Albany's Patriots were on track to be hosting a playoff game before falling flat in their final two regular-season games against Dougherty and Spencer.

West Laurens will need to correct some habitual mistakes and end its recent struggles defending fourth downs, but its chances of pulling out what promises to be a close one will depend more than anything on solving a season-long challenge of finishing the game as well as it starts.

The 4-A rival Vikings and Bulldogs boast two of the hottest ground attacks in Class A football entering the tournament, and combined to run for over 500 yards when Wheeler County got the last word (hinging on a late red zone stop) to win 28-16 in the regular season.

Which team's defense can come up big in the same situations will decide a winner as they play for a second time.

These will have more longshot chances, but look for just as much of the unpredictable from two underdogs in similar matchups of battle-tested teams, as Dodge County (18) heads south to challenge former region rival Berrien (15) and Montgomery County (22) looks for some redemption after a 41-13 loss to ECI (11) three weeks ago.

A deep playoff roadmap for each of the midstate's favorites begins at home.

Dublin (4) will see Vidalia (29) for a second time, and only two weeks removed from their regular-season meeting at Buck Cravey Field, and the first of back-to-back 550-plus yard rushing efforts for the Irish to complete the regular season that was pretty one-sided.

East Laurens (28) will visit the Pinelands for the first time since 2020 to battle a once-beaten Jeff Davis (5) squad that deserves mention along with Bleckley and Dublin as one of the state's top contenders.

The Falcons proved in recent matchups against the former two that they've got the tools to put up a few points against a D giving up less than 10 per game. But they'll need some answers for slowing down the run they couldn't find in either of those if they hope to put the Jackets on upset alert.

In the remainder of Friday's action, a rested Bleckley County (3) will welcome Jefferson County (30) to Cochran, Johnson County (2) returns to Herschel Walker Field to open with Greene County (31) and Washington County (29) goes to Northwest Georgia to take on twice-beaten Rockmart (4).

WEEK 12: HOW THE REST OF THE AREA FARED

Treutlen gives home field legendary sendoff

Dodge, MoCo dispel demons; Wheeler Co. wins region again; Southland spoils Brentwood's hopes of third-straight title run

By CLAY REYNOLDS
Sports Editor



Treutlen's Deverin Knowles is upended on a run during the Vikings' victory over Wilcox County, in their final regular-season game at Bobby Driggers Stadium, Friday night /LOGAN REYNOLDS, GTLN

Treutlen 43, Wilcox Co. 8

The Vikings sent out Bobby Driggers Stadium a winner on "Legends Night," with a worthy performance by a future Treutlen icon in Peanut Tobler, who rushed for 117 yards and three touchdowns on 16 carries to break the single-season school record of the late Cartel McLendon. Jabari Taylor and Peyton Miller also added in the neighborhood of 50 rushing yards each, Miller and Deverin Knowles touchdowns, while Major Morton threw for another to Zan Stokes on four completions out of seven for 66 yards. Treutlen held Wilcox County, which finishes a season winless for just the second time ever, to only 81 total yards. The Patriots' only touchdown was a run by Jude Rhodes in the third quarter, after the Vikings had taken a 36-0 lead into halftime.

Dodge Co. 35, ACE Charter 25

Non-quarterback touchdown passes were a theme on both sides of this exciting matchup of teams jockeying for playoff position. The Indians' Aamaury Fountain threw two of them, one to Jerimiah Burns that opened the first-quarter scoring and another to Jauriel Bray later in the night. ACE's trickery came in the fourth quarter as Brady Balkcom threw back to his quarterback Ace Hatcher for a 19-yard score that chipped a little bit away at Dodge County's lead. But the Indians, whose regular passer Kain Mincey added TD strikes via 52-yard deep ball to Burns and bubble screen to Fountain, stayed a good ways in front the whole way thanks in part to a major swing on one of two Gryphon turnovers late in the first half, when Burns scooped up and returned a fumble for the visitors' first two-score lead. Hatcher completed 10 passes for 97 yards, and ran 21 times for 122 of ACE's 197 rushing.

Montgomery Co. 21, Claxton 8

The Eagles got their offense back hitting on all the cylinders it was in the season's first half with big nights by both their main two playmakers: Zaden Waller carrying 26 times for 167 yards and Elijah McEwen 15 for 61 and the first two of their three touchdowns. All were unanswered as his runs off direct snaps punched in scores from 15 and two in the opening half, with Waller toting one for two points to make it a 14-0 halftime lead. Dreon Holland rushed for a third from eight yards early in the fourth period to put the game away.

Wheeler Co. 54, Dooly Co. 0

The Bulldogs' ground attack kept up its late-season pace with 533 yards rushing to leave no doubt in the clinching of their second-straight region championship. For a second-straight week, three Wheeler County backs reached triple figures: Jah Dinkins had 15 carries for 174 yards. Malik Madison ran 11 times for 132. John Miller finished with eight attempts for 155. They were joined by Jaden Bridges and S.J. Willis a touchdown each. Kavion Williams sprinkled in four completions passing for 60 yards and two more scores, with Joseph Moore and Dakari Robinson on the receiving end. Bridges had 10 total tackles. Miller and Robinson also recovered fumbles.

Southland 34, Brentwood 13

It started out well enough, as Baylor Cobb threw to Jones Sheppard for a 38-yard touchdown to put the Eagles up first after dueling turnovers on downs, and ahead by the 6-0 count after 12 minutes. But Southland's balanced Wing-T attack took over the possession and field position battles from there, grinding their way to the end zone on three consecutive scoring drives – the first covering 60 yards in close to seven minutes, and two others on slightly shorter fields – to score on runs by Jamarcus Walker and Jase Peterson, then Walker's 43-yard touchdown pass for a 20-6 halftime lead. The Raiders would take down eight minutes on a 57-yard march to open the third quarter, and Peterson punched it in on a short run to stretch the lead out to three scores. Brentwood kept it a game with an immediate response as Cobb hit Quez Collins on a 19-yard bubble less than two minutes later to cut the gap to 27-13, but the Eagles couldn't come up the stop they needed. Southland answered right back with a 58-yard drive for the touchdown of Hays Hagerson to seal the lead.

Hancock Central 52, Twiggs Co. 50

This season finale got a little crazy as the teams went back and forth late into their final Friday nights of the season. Highlights among numerous long runs in the shootout included touchdowns by Montez Cornelius, Yalen Baldwin and Darrion Horne, and a long tackle-breaking Adrian Johnson carry reminding a lot of Adrian Peterson's run of Georgia Southern fame, but a second win proved just out of reach for the Cobras.

Hawkinsville 17, Telfair Co. 16

The Red Devils overcame a snakebit start to

FOOTBALL
Continued on page 6

SCOREBOARD

FLAG FOOTBALL
Monday
East Laurens 13,
Wheeler Co. 7
EL 25, Hawkinsville 0

GIRLS HOOPS
Tuesday
FPD 35, Trinity 27

PREP SCHEDULE

BASKETBALL
Thursday
Trinity (girls) vs. Fullington (at FPD)/**5:30 p.m.**

Thursday, Nov. 19
Claxton at West Laurens (scrimmage)/**5 p.m.**

FLAG FOOTBALL
Thursday
Statesboro at East Laurens /**5 p.m.**

FOOTBALL
GHSA Playoffs, Round 1
Friday
EL at Jeff Davis
Vidalia at Dublin
Greene Co. at Johnson Co.
Dodge Co. at Berrien
Jefferson Co. at Bleckley Co.
Montgomery Co. at ECI
Treutlen at Wheeler Co.
Washington Co. at Rockmart/**7:30 p.m.**

Saturday
Westover at West Laurens /**7 p.m.**

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

Adult Day Care Center
The Lighthouse is open...
274-0003





THE PANEL...	RODNEY MANLEY	PAYTON TOWNS III	KYLE DOMINY	JEREMY PAYNE	JANICE BALLARD	RALPH JACKSON	DON CARSWELL	FORREST KILGO
Last week/OVERALL	7-5/105-38	9-3/100-43	10-2/90-53	8-4/106-37	9-3/99-44	6-6/101-42	7-5/102-41	11-1/102-41
East Laurens at Jeff Davis	Jeff Davis	Jeff Davis	Jeff Davis	Jeff Davis	Jeff Davis	Jeff Davis	Jeff Davis	Jeff Davis
Vidalia at Dublin	Dublin	Dublin	Dublin	Dublin	Dublin	Dublin	Dublin	Dublin
Westover at West Laurens	West Laurens	West Laurens	West Laurens	West Laurens	West Laurens	Westover	West Laurens	Westover
Greene Co. at Johnson Co.	Johnson Co.	Johnson Co.	Johnson Co.	Johnson Co.	Johnson Co.	Johnson Co.	Johnson Co.	Johnson Co.
Dodge Co. at Berrien	Dodge Co.	Dodge Co.	Berrien	Berrien	Berrien	Dodge Co.	Dodge Co.	Dodge Co.
Treutlen at Wheeler Co.	Treutlen	Treutlen	Treutlen	Wheeler Co.	Treutlen	Treutlen	Wheeler Co.	Wheeler Co.
Houston Co. at Kell	Kell	Kell	Kell	Kell	Kell	Kell	Kell	Houston Co.
Harlem at Baldwin	Baldwin	Baldwin	Harlem	Baldwin	Baldwin	Baldwin	Baldwin	Harlem
Warner Robins at Jefferson	Jefferson	Jefferson	Jefferson	Jefferson	Jefferson	Jefferson	Jefferson	Warner Robins
North Clayton at Mary Persons	Mary Persons	Mary Persons	Mary Persons	Mary Persons	North Clayton	Mary Persons	Mary Persons	North Clayton
Screven Co. at Swainsboro	Swainsboro	Swainsboro	Screven Co.	Swainsboro	Screven Co.	Swainsboro	Swainsboro	Swainsboro
Hawkinsville at Schley Co.	Schley Co.	Schley Co.	Schley Co.	Schley Co.	Schley Co.	Schley Co.	Schley Co.	Hawkinsville



POLICE BEAT...

Dublin Police Department

- Tyasia Shaukeviah Rozier, 23, and Oshea Moody, 25, were both charged with theft by shoplifting at Piggly Wiggly on Bellevue Avenue around 4:02 p.m. on Oct. 12.

An officer met with the assistant manager of the store who said a man wearing a black hoodie and a woman wearing an orange dress and carrying a baby were taking food items and concealing them inside a backpack while walking through the store.

The officer found the man and woman and escorted them to the manager's office. The officer inspected a pink backpack containing several items and requested an itemized receipt from the employee, who also wanted them barred from the property. The items taken totaled $56.

Moody and Rozier were both trespassed. They were arrested and transported to the police department to be fingerprinted.

- Dedric Fionne Roberson, 32, was charged with driving while license suspended or revoked at the Hop-In on East Jackson Street at 7:20 p.m. on Oct. 14.

An officer took over the stop, arresting Roberson. She was transported to the police department where she was fingerprinted and released.

- James Mills, 23, was charged with theft by receiving stolen property at Riverview Heights Apartments on Riverview Drive at 3:10 a.m. on Oct. 16.

An officer responded regarding a man reportedly walking around the apartment complex with a firearm. The investigation led to Mills' arrest after an AR-15 rifle was found underneath the vehicle he had been seen standing near.

Mills was served with a notice of trespass from Riverview Heights Apartments and transported to the Laurens County Detention Center and turned over to booking staff for processing.

Laurens County Sheriff's Office

- On Oct. 7, a deputy met with a woman at the sheriff's office in reference to a civil complaint about something that happened on Thomas Chappell Road.

- A deputy met with a man who was scammed on Julianne Drive on Sept. 25.

- On Oct. 12 around 5:36 p.m., a deputy assisted other deputies on a traffic stop on I-16 east at mile post 45 that resulted in Triciaann Keitt, 35, of Savannah being arrested for DUI of drugs.

- Joshua Keith Lampp, 29, of East Dublin was charged with burglary on Herbert Fulford Road in East Dublin around 11:15 a.m. on Oct. 8.

- A deputy met a walk-in about an incident that happened on Highway 29 South at 5:09 p.m. on Oct. 7.

- At 12:20 p.m. on Oct. 7, a deputy responded to a walk-in at the sheriff's office in response to stolen money from a Cash App account on Quail Run.

- A gun was stolen on Carolyn Avenue around 1:03 p.m. on Oct. 10.

- On Oct. 12 at 5:36 p.m., a deputy initiated a traffic stop on a black Kia Telluride for speeding which resulted in the arrest of passenger Nathaniel Hawthorne Keitt IV, 42, of Savannah for possession of MDMA (ecstasy).

- A deputy was informed about a theft that occurred at Highway 117 in Rentz around 2 a.m. on Oct. 11.

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.*

DPD, GBI investigating fatal shooting on West Moore Street

By PAYTON TOWNS III
Senior Reporter

Local law enforcement officers continued their investigation into the fatal shooting of a 33-year-old man on West Moore Street on Friday, Nov. 6.

Christian Foskey was pronounced dead at 9:54 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 5 at the Fairview Park Hospital by an ER doctor, said Laurens County Deputy Coroner Nathan Stanley. Foskey was sent to the Georgia Bureau of Investigation Crime Lab in Atlanta Friday, Stanley said.

According to a press release, the GBI was called in by the DPD. Around 9:09 p.m. Thursday, DPD officers responded to a call about shots fired in the 100 block of West Moore Street. Officers found Foskey with a gunshot wound and transported him to the hospital.

The investigation remains active and ongoing. After the investigation is completed, the case will be given to the Dublin Judicial Circuit District Attorney's Office for review.

Anyone with information is asked to call the GBI Regional Investigative Office in Eastman at (478) 374-6988 or the DPD at (478) 275-0803. Anonymous tips can be submitted by calling the GBI tipline at 800-597-TIPS (8477), online at https://gbi.georgia.gov/submit-tips-online or by downloading the See Something, Send Something mobile application.



Volunteers began working on the outside wall of the house/**PAYTON TOWNS III**



Andria Allen, left, drives in a nail to her future house/**PAYTON TOWNS III**

HABITAT
Continued from page 1

bit to get the land in our possession so we were a little bit behind. Andria worked on the house last year for our previous homeowner. She has waited and she's excited to get started this morning."

Kinney was pleased with the number of volunteers who showed up. She knows the work would not get done without them.

"We cannot get this done without great volunteers sacrificing their early Saturday mornings to be out here," she said. "We have the perfect number - not too many and not too few. We should get a lot accomplished today."

Many of the volunteers are not experts in building houses. Habitat has team leaders like Bruce Martin and Jonathan Ramos on scene providing advice and help.



Chris Kinney cuts wood during the early work on House No. 44/**PAYTON TOWNS**

"Some of our team leaders do work like this all week long," Kinney said. "They come out here and help oversee this project. We can't envision doing this type of work without them now. They make this process even easier for us. To have them come out and do this type of work is priceless for us."

Habitat's goal is to have Allen and her son in their new home in about three months.

"That is usually when we have it ready," Kinney said. "Hopefully before spring, we'll have her in the house."



Warner Robins' X'Zavier Cannon flexes after hauling in the go-ahead touchdown in a 34-33 victory over Perry for the Demons to keep their playoff streak alive /**CLAY BROWN, Houston Home Journal**

FOOTBALL
Continued from page 5

rally for 11 points in the fourth quarter that pulled out their fifth win of the season. They gave up a safety after recovering a second of dueling fumbles near their own goal line, allowed a Telfair score by Decardiya Ellis and then committed a turnover on downs before Samir Whitehead's run for their first touchdown to make it 9-7 going to half. The third quarter wasn't as wild, but was equally thorny as another turnover-turned-Trojan TD put them on the ropes, down 11. But Hawkinsville finished the night confidently on two long drives, a first to get within two points on Johnathan Solomon's rushing touchdown and the last bordering on 70 yards to set up a game-winning 27-yard field goal by Jordan Tate with only seconds left to play. Elisha Rozier had 57 yards to lead a collection of Red Devil rushers who had a share of their 47 carries and 232 rushing yards.

Baldwin 30, Spalding 25

The Braves' rushing attack, for a change, took the front seat of their attack as they survived a close one on the road to finish the regular season 7-3. What would be a quality night passing for most was a season-low for Kamden Patterson, who completed 10 out of his 15 attempts for only 107 yards, but rushed for two touchdowns on 92. Tavares Hooks carried a big part of the load on 23 carries for 185. He and Jacob Hester added touchdowns. Spalding's Camauri Berry ran for 186 yards and two TDs to keep it tight.

Peach Co. 52, Troup 38

The Trojans overcame a rough start, as Troup ran out to a 26-0 lead in the first quarter, and a nine-point swing initiated by a third-quarter safety that undid a lot of their work to narrow the gap to only five points just out of halftime. But they'd score four unanswered touchdowns from there to run away with it, and capture the No. 1 overall seed in AAAA. Caiden Ivory rushed for 229 yards and two TDs, and threw for 131 and a third score. Ashton Barton, with 168 yards and a touchdown, and Deandre Stinson, scoring twice on 93, also carried a major part of Peach County's 517-yard rushing load. The Tigers' Chase Mosley threw for three touchdowns on 280 yards. Javarris Warner rushed for 121 and two scores.

Swainsboro 34, Vidalia 0

Kyle Johnson rushed for three touchdowns on 23 carries for 282 yards, Joshua Gray threw to Marco Danford for a fourth and Derek Hughes scored on a pick-six (one of three Vidalia interceptions) to carry the Tigers to their fifth win, which clinches a first-round home game. Danford caught five of Gray's six completions for 96. Swainsboro outgained the Indians 458 yards to just 148.

Briarwood 31, Edmund Burke 21

The Spartans put up a much tougher fight in this rematch of their regular season finale, which was never close. They set the pace a second time around with three first-half touchdowns – two rushing for Sam Hickman, who had 163 yards on 19 carries – to produce a 21-point deadlock at halftime. But Edmund Burke had only 31 additional yards, and would be blanked the rest of the way as Briarwood scored 10 unanswered. The Bucs' Cutler Fleming was 13-of-17 for 236 and a touchdown, and scored two more on 78 yards rushing. Orrin Wynn carried 14 times for 103 and a TD. Banks DeMore had nine receptions for 126 yards and a touchdown. Aiden Adler caught three passes for 95.

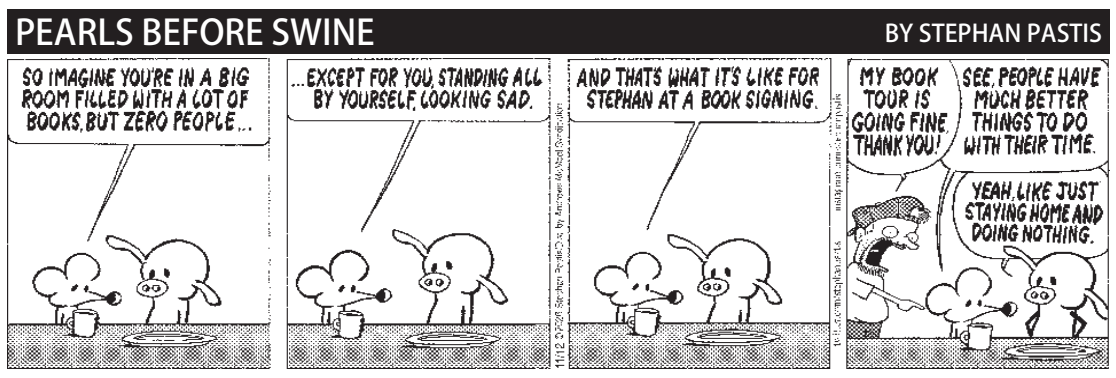
Warner Robins 34, Perry 33

The Demons likely fought off elimination, to keep a 16-year playoff streak going, with this rally from a 14-point gap to win it on an 11-yard touchdown pass from Chandler Dyson to X'Zavier Cannon with less than two minutes to go, and an interception later that sealed it. But 428 yards total offense for Perry, whose Jhamard Cobb threw for a touchdown on 129 yards and Kam Oliver rushed for another on 146, had firm control until the tide turned after Carson Camp's 50-yard field goal with eight minutes to go.

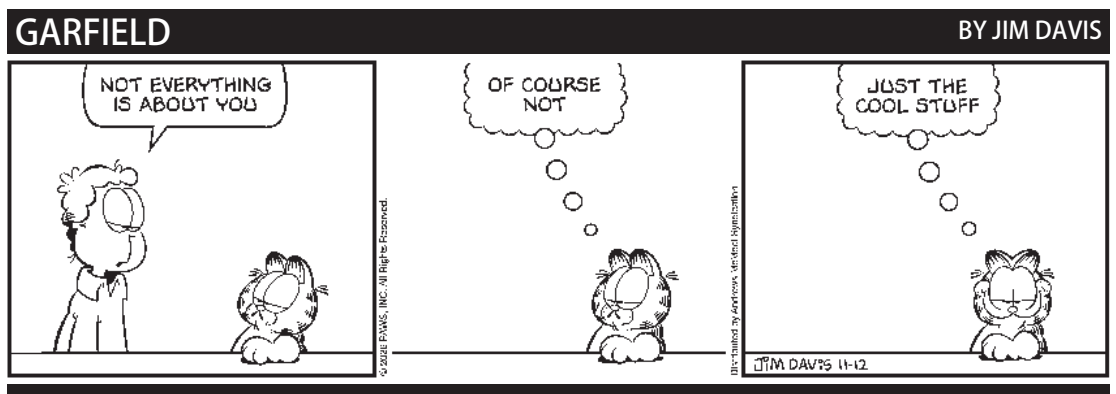
Other week 12 scores...

Rutland 44, Central Macon 18
Thomas Co. Central 52, Northside 7
Appling Co. 35, Pierce Co. 21
Coffee 42, Veterans 8
Glascock Co. 18, GMC 10
Howard 42, Westside Macon 32
Jasper Co. 35, Jefferson Co. 6
Jeff Davis 28, Brooks Co. 0
Lee Co. 49, Houston Co. 7
Mary Persons 43, Upson-Lee 14
New Hampstead 33, Harlem 28
Toombs Co. 49, Tattnall Co. 3
Stratford 42, George Walton 10
Pacelli 28, FPD 14
John Milledge 42,
Lakeview Academy 0
SGA 34, Gatewood 14
Windsor 57, Robert Toombs 8
Thomas Jefferson 46,
Flint River Academy 28

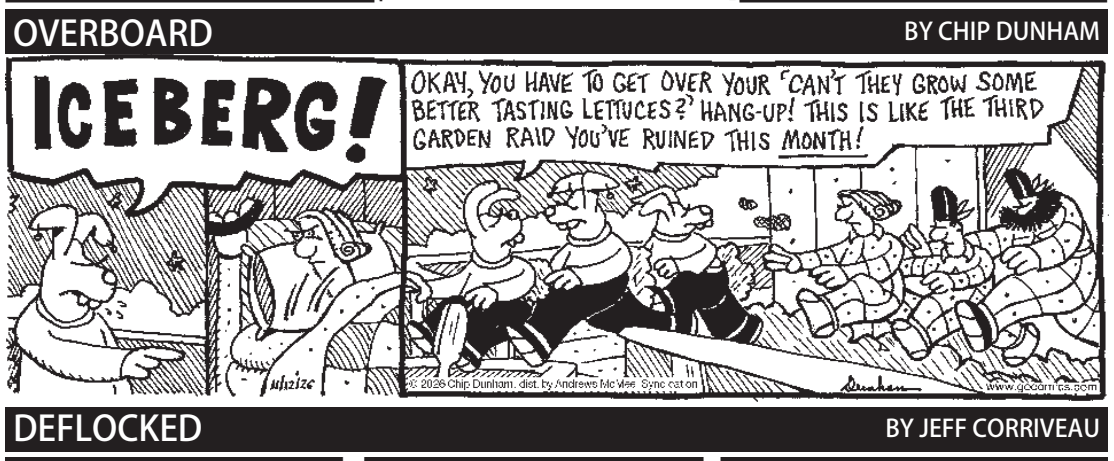
PEARLS BEFORE SWINE — BY STEPHAN PASTIS



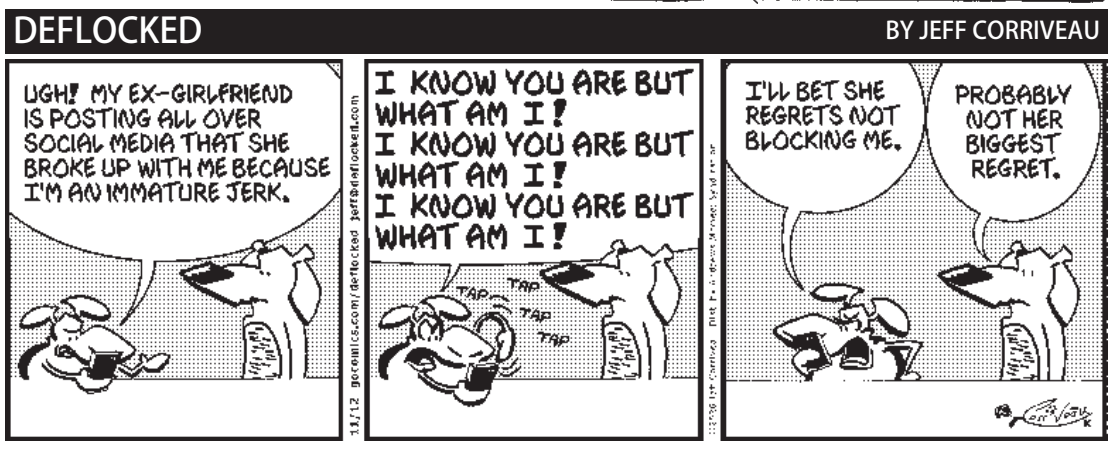
GARFIELD — BY JIM DAVIS



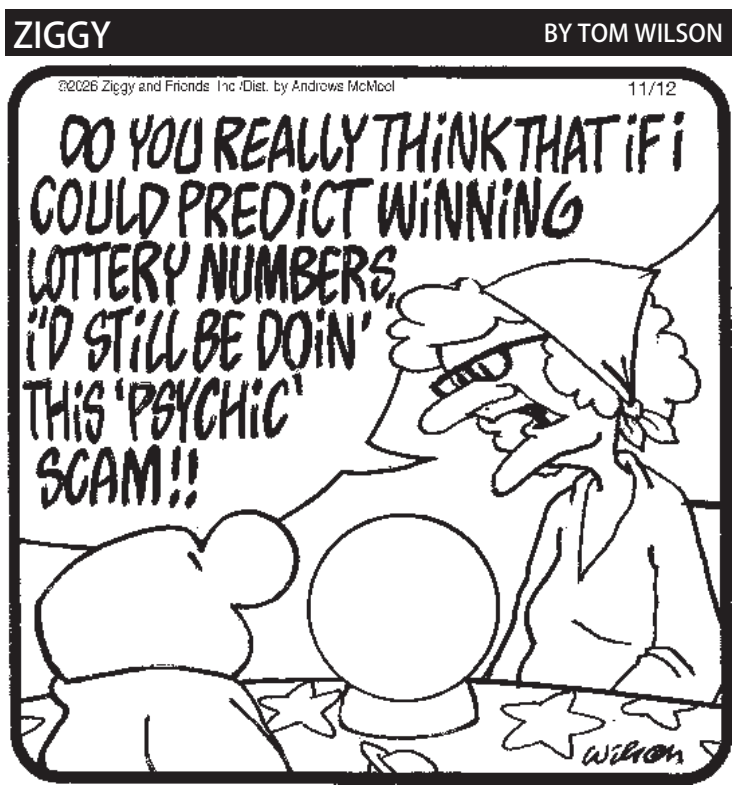
OVERBOARD — BY CHIP DUNHAM



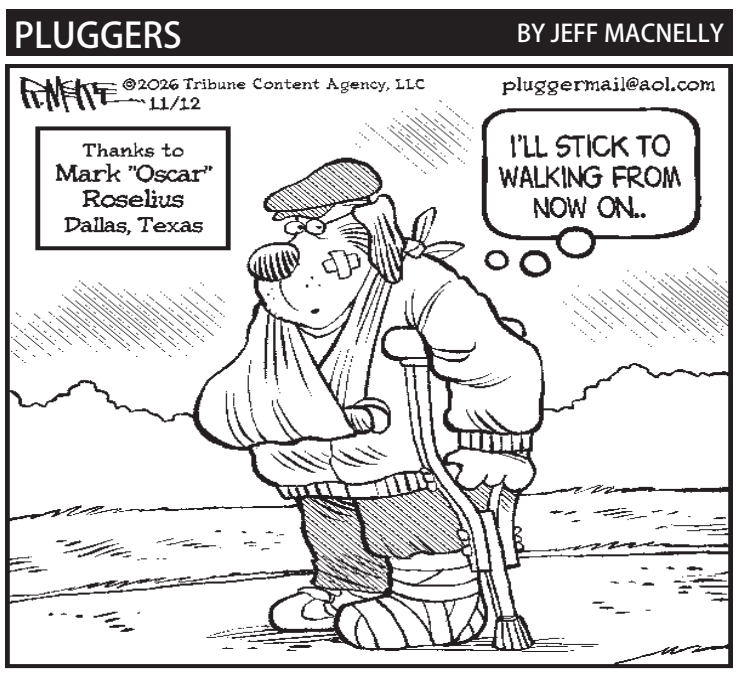
DEFLOCKED — BY JEFF CORRIVEAU



ZIGGY — BY TOM WILSON



PLUGGERS — BY JEFF MACNELLY



The expression, "It's as easy as riding a bike," doesn't come without a few bandages for a plugger.

Siblings quarrel over friendship with ex



DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEAR ABBY: My sister, "Randee," and I are experiencing a falling-out with our older brother, "Darren," which has left us hurt and confused. We come from a large, tightly knit family, and there's always some sort of celebration happening. We siblings are in our 40s and 50s, so there are also lots of nieces and nephews.

Darren and his wife planned a small graduation party for their son and invited Randee's ex-husband, who was a complete monster during their recent divorce. Randee and I didn't want to be around him at all. Darren and his wife were aware of this but invited him anyway. Although Darren has a long-term friendship with Randee's ex, we were still upset that he chose him over us.

When I approached Darren about the situation and asked him nicely to have us come earlier and the ex come later, he reacted with anger and told us not to come at all! He later told us never to contact him again and that we are cut off from his children as well.

It has been nine months, and he hasn't shown up to any family functions. When I saw my nephew at the park, he ignored me as if I didn't exist. That hurt a lot, considering how close we always were. Darren refuses to apologize or make amends, and he stews in anger over it. His wife and children have joined his anger-fest as well. My parents spent their whole lives keeping us all together and making the holidays and celebrations special. They are heartbroken as well. How do we proceed? -- BROKEN IN NEW YORK

DEAR BROKEN: From what you have written, I suspect there may be more turmoil in your family than you mentioned in your letter. Start trying to mend fences by apologizing to Darren for dictating who he could or could not entertain at his son's graduation celebration. Darren did not choose his friend over you and Randee. He chose all three of you, and you chose to create drama where it didn't need to exist.

As the host, he, not you, was rightly in charge of his guest list. To enjoy the same graduation party as Randee's ex, all you had to do was avoid talking to him without making an announcement or making it obvious. This is what polite people do if they fear they will encounter an uncomfortable situation.

DEAR ABBY: What is the rule of etiquette for waving to neighbors? I wave to some who never return the wave. Is it OK to stop waving to them? Should I wait until somebody waves to wave back? I feel like a fool waving to the same people who never wave back. -- NEED WAVE GUIDANCE

DEAR WAVE: There's no harm in waving to someone who doesn't reciprocate, but if it makes you uncomfortable, there's also no reason to continue. Are you otherwise on good terms with these neighbors? Do you ever pause for a chat or have them over for dinner? If you rarely or never speak to them, they may not feel your relationship warrants a wave.

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. COPYRIGHT 2026 ANDREWS MCMEEL SYNDICATION, 1130 Walnut, Kansas City, MO 64106; 816-581-7500.

Thursday, November 12, 2026

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH BOB JONES

©2026 Tribune Content Agency, LLC

TOO HARD?

Neither vulnerable, South deals

NORTH
♠ 10 6 4 2
♡ K J 10 8 4
◇ J
♣ A 8 2

WEST
♠ A J
♡ A Q 6 5 3
◇ 6 4
♣ J 7 6 3

EAST
♠ 9 3
♡ 9
◇ A K 9 8 7 3 2
♣ 10 9 4

SOUTH
♠ K Q 8 7 5
♡ 7 2
◇ Q 10 5
♣ K Q 5

The bidding:

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♠	2♡	3♡*	Pass
3♠	All pass		

*Spades raise, at least invitational values

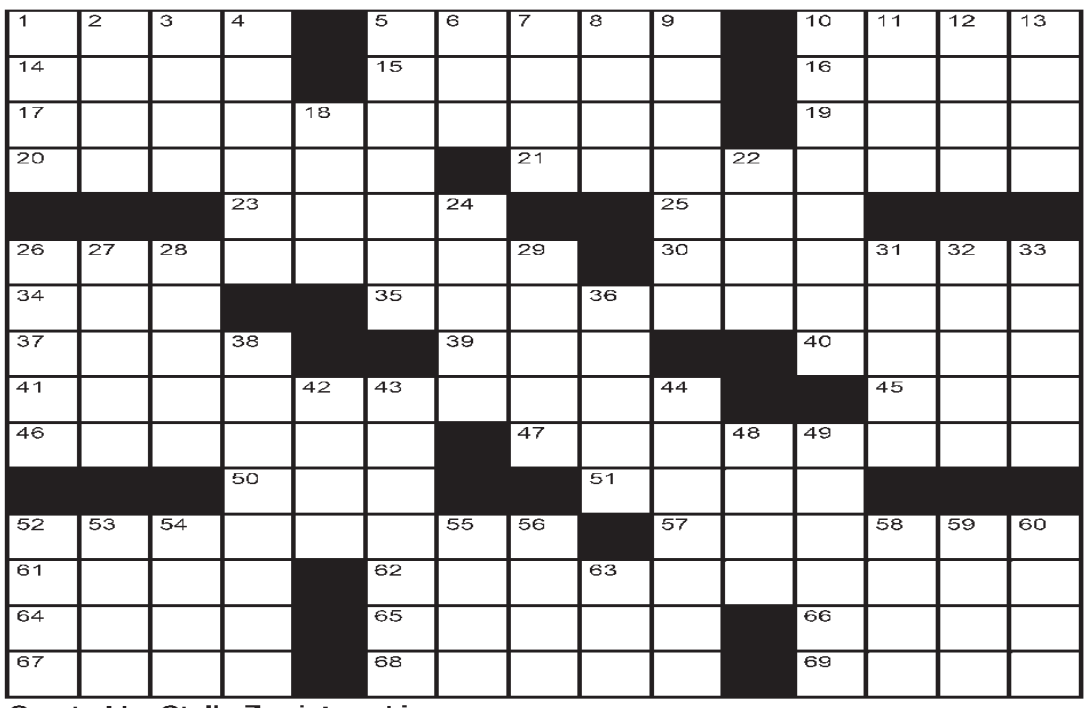
Opening lead: Six of ◇

Today's deal is from a recent Youth tournament. The bidding was often very aggressive, as you might expect when all the players are juniors. The bidding shown here is reasonable, but many North-South pairs reached four spades. This contract was allowed to make at several tables when the defenders did not find their heart ruff. Most North-South pairs stopped safely in three spades and all of them took at least nine tricks. No East-West pair found the defense to hold declarer to eight tricks. Looking at all four hands, can you spot it?

The winning defense is counter intuitive, and we would not expect anyone to find it, even in a tournament with expert players. West must lead a diamond to East and East, despite a singleton in partner's bid suit, and no more diamonds in the dummy, must continue with another high diamond. Now when declarer leads a trump to his king, West can win, cash the ace of hearts, and lead another heart for East to ruff. A third round of diamonds from East will allow West to score his jack of spades for the fifth defensive trick. This defense is so unlikely that we don't expect many readers found it even looking at all four hands. Did you?

(Bob Jones welcomes readers' responses sent to Tribune Content Agency, LLC., 16650 Westgrove Dr., Suite 175, Addison, TX 75001.)

THE Daily Commuter Puzzle by Stella Zawistowski



Created by Stella Zawistowski

ACROSS
1 Dry-___ steak
5 Washington's ___ Sound
10 Up to the task
14 Repetitive learning moment
15 Tequila base
16 Appeal to God
17 Stealthy thief: 2 wds.
19 Window section
20 Horse's home
21 Shown in a cinema
23 Rural hotels
25 Behave
26 Removed from office
30 Formed a spiral
34 "That's ___ fair!"
35 Sinuous
37 ___ the joke: 2 wds.
39 Cow's sound
40 Simplicity
41 Grilled cheese go-with: 2 wds.
45 Daiquiri ingredient
46 ___ de corps
47 Logical propositions
50 Mob informant
51 Kiss, in British slang
52 City near Tampa
57 Partial hairpiece
61 Leave out
62 Italian sausage with cubed pork fat
64 Medicinal amount
65 Once more
66 Cries loudly
67 Inquires
68 Barnes & ___
69 Bit of data, for short

DOWN
1 Curved paths
2 Bearded farm animal
3 Jazz singer James
4 Pop singer Gibson
5 Moms and dads
6 Fleecy boot brand
7 Ladies
8 Emergency relocation: Abbr.
9 Apartment balcony
10 Desire for food
11 Muffin ingredient
12 Actress Diane
13 Looked over
18 Forearm bone
22 MBA subject: Abbr.
24 Comes across as
26 Come together
27 Taboo actions
28 Walk loudly
29 Hang limply
31 Prevaricators
32 Come next
33 Judges to be
36 Uses a pitcher
38 Tells a story
42 Aunts, in Spanish
43 Footrest
44 Hydrocarbon with five carbon atoms
48 Frame of mind
49 "Suppose so": 2 wds.
52 Scotch and ___
53 Singer Tori
54 Jeopardize
55 Opposite of "for here": 2 wds.
56 United ___ Emirates
58 Storyline
59 Actor Idris
60 Sunrise's direction
63 "___ death do us part"

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

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

©2026 Tribune Content Agency, LLC
All Rights Reserved.

SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

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!

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!

ANSWER:

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



Erik E. Houseman, retired Sgt. major U.S. Marine Corps., was the guest speaker during the Carl Vinson VA Medical Center Veterans Day program held Tuesday/**PAYTON TOWNS III**

Veterans, and their families, reminded of their service, sacrifice

By PAYTON TOWNS III
Senior Reporter

Before thanking all of the veterans in the crowd, the guest speaker wished the U.S. Marine Corps a happy 251st birthday.

After receiving some cheers and applause, Erik E. Houseman, a retired Sgt. Major U.S. Marine Corps, said, "Semper Fi!"

Houseman was glad to be able to speak during the annual Carl Vinson VA Medical Center's Veterans Day program held Tuesday afternoon.

"To every veteran here today, thank you for raising your hand, thank you for standing the watch and thank you for serving something greater than yourself," Houseman said. "Veterans Day is a day of recognition. But recognition must be more than applause, ceremony and words spoken once a year. Veterans Day is about promise. It's a promise made by a person who takes an oath to defend our nation. It is a promise made by the family who carries the weight of that service at home. And it's a promise of that nation, that when they return and the uniform comes off, their service will be remembered, the sacrifice will be honored and the veteran will never be forgotten."

Houseman enlisted in the Marines in June 1998. He was young when he entered the military. He did not know where he was going to go. He just wanted to serve, be a part of something meaningful and the right to stand beside those who had gone before him.

He went from training in Parris Island, S.C. to deployments around the world. Houseman served in 36 countries across four continents. He remembered those who did not return home from their service. He remembers their families and friends who have lost a loved one.

"We need to remember those who no longer stand amongst us," he said.

Many veterans return home and take off their uniforms. They become teachers, first responders, health care professionals, business owners, public servants, coaches, mentors and community volunteers. Many veterans continue to lead quietly and without recognition, he said.



The crowd stood for the singing of the National Anthem/**PAYTON TOWNS III**



Chandra D. Miller, executive medical center director, thanked the veterans for their service/**PAYTON TOWNS III**

Houseman retired from the Marine Corps. in June 2022. He worked with the Department of Veterans Affairs. He joined the VA in 2023.

"To me, serving in the military and serving in the VA are part of the same mission," Houseman said. "In the Marine Corps., the responsibility was to take care of our people and accomplish the mission. At the VA, the responsibility is to still take care of our people and accomplish the mission."

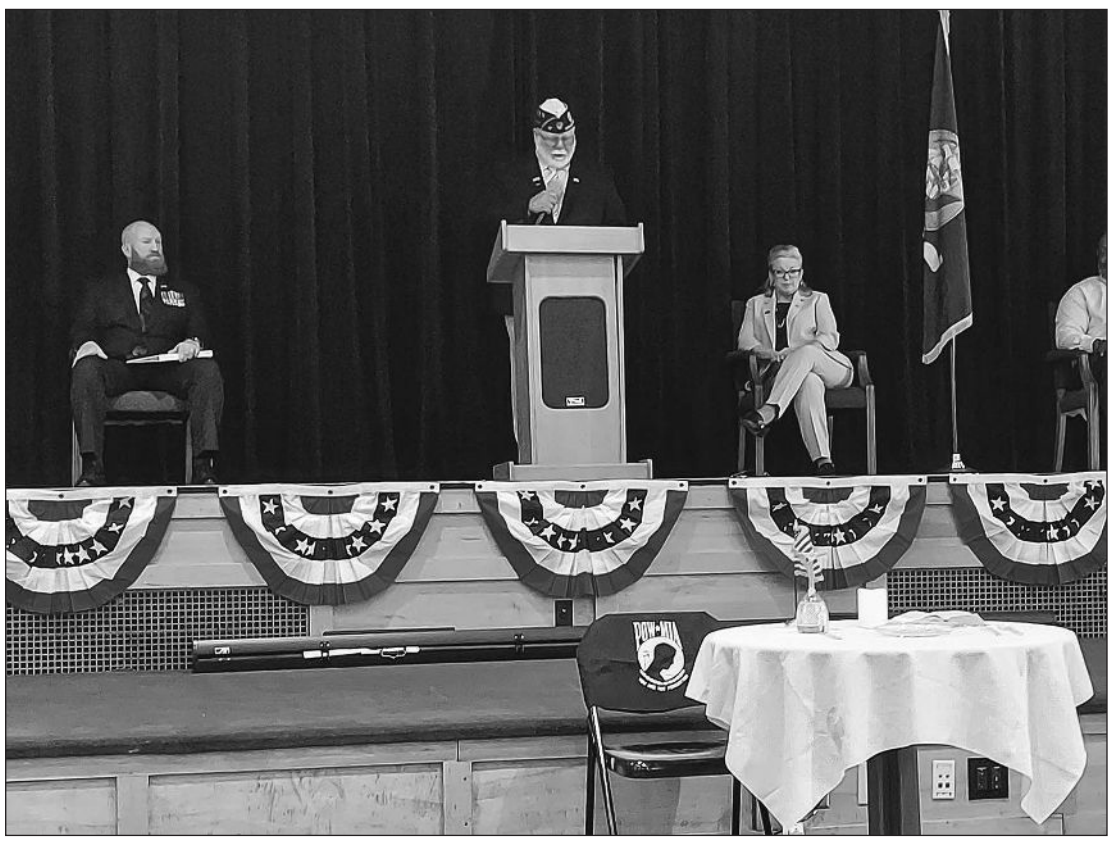
The setting changed but it is important to make sure every patient has a clean room and every interaction, phone call, meal and appointment matters.

"Every person walking through our doors once raised a hand and made a promise to this country," Houseman said. "Now, it is our turn to keep the promise we made to them. Veterans do not ask to be placed above their fellow citizens, but they should never become invisible amongst them."

Every veteran spent a holiday from home. Every veteran missed a birthday celebration. Every veteran has a spouse and a family who had to live with an empty chaise. Some veterans brought home what happened to them.

"There are some veterans who are proud of their service, but may struggle to speak about it," Houseman said. "There may be some who need to be reminded that asking for help is not a weakness. So let me say this clearly, you matter, your service matters and your life matters and you do not need to carry every burden alone."

He encouraged people to check on a veteran and listen to their stories. It is important to include them and help them find support. Houseman also said Veterans Day is important to veterans' families.



James Drury, Padgett-Webb American Legion Post-19, led the POW/**MIA REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY/PAYTON TOWNS III**

"You served through long separations, unexpected changes, missed celebrations, permanent moves, difficult phone calls and uncertain homecomings," he said.

Houseman thought about what his wife went through when he was deployed to Afghanistan. In 2007, he was wounded and taken to a British hospital. His wife received a phone call telling her he was wounded.

"I want you to imagine that moment," Houseman said. "A young wife who woke up to a phone call that no spouse wants to ever receive. Yet somehow she had to process that news, get herself together and continue through the day that few people can truly understand. We often talk about the courage required for the battlefield. We don't talk nearly enough about the courage required at home."

Military spouses have to carry responsibilities alone, manage families and run households, while wondering if the next ringing of the phone may be life changing.

In 2009, Houseman was wounded again in Afghanistan. This time, he decided not to inform his wife. If she did not know about it, she would not have to worry, he said.

"I eventually told her about it when I returned home," Houseman said. "She was not impressed with my decision. I am convinced that military spouses carry the weight that most Americans never see. Their sacrifice is real and many of us would have never been able to answer our nation's call without their strength, patience and their unwavering support."

He wrapped up by asking the next generation to remember that the freedoms they inherited were protected by ordinary Americans who accepted extraordinary responsibilities. These veterans came from small and large towns and represented different backgrounds, beliefs and cultures.

"They served in different branches and different generations," Houseman said. "When called, they stood together. A nation worthy of its veterans, must also be a nation worthy of their sacrifices. Veterans stood the watch, carried the burden and kept the faith. Because you did, our nation remains strong."

James Drury followed with a Prisoner of War/Missing in Action remembrance ceremony. Evon Culver, Veteran Experience Officer, welcomed everyone to the program.

"No matter where you served, you answered a call," Culver said. "This day belongs to you. To the families, we are grateful to you. Our goal is to make sure every veteran is heard, respected and valued."

Chandra D. Miller, VA Medical Center director, told veterans that their service strengthened the country.

"Today we honor those who wore the uniform," Miller said. "November 11 causes the country to pause and remember."

When it comes to serving veterans, VA officials promise to serve the veterans.

"We need to meet veterans where they are and help them get the life they deserve," Miller said. "We are so privileged to serve you. We will continue to provide the service to our veterans."

The Great Electric Power Grid

By JAMES M. THOMAS
Special to The Courier Herald

The North American electric grid is a vast and vital network of generators, transmission lines, substations, and local distribution systems. It has three interconnected parts: eastern, western, and Texas. While crossing and crisscrossing the country, the grid's power lines measure 7000,000 miles. They supply electricity to every segment of modern life - hospitals, water systems, telecommunications, banking, manufacturing, transportation, and homes. The value of the grid is beyond measure. Unfortunately, it's at risk of attack and disruption.

Commercial electricity has a short history. Centuries passed before Italian physicist Alessandro Volta produced the first battery capable of storing an electric current in 1800. Michael Faraday, a British physicist, in 1831, invented the first electric motor. Between 1879 and 1882, Thomas A. Edison developed the incandescent light bulb. In addition, he invented the first current distribution system that in the 1920s helped light American cities. By the 1950s electric power had become a fixed feature of civilized life.

Demand for electricity is rising. In 2025, U.S. consumption of electricity was 14 times that of 1950. Government agencies foresee by 20250 the need for 5000 new transmission lines. Contributing to rising demand are a warming climate and unseasonable weather.

Wind and solar alternatives are promising, but they have big gaps to fill. Solar energy in 2025 made up just nine percent of U.S. electricity production. That's up from three percent in 2020, according to the Energy Information Administration.

The grid is vulnerable. Its interconnected structure in three geographic regions means that problems in one can quickly cascade. Moreover, the U.S. grid is a fragmented patchwork of over 3000 private and public utility companies. This complicates development of prevention and security measures for substations, transformers, transmission towers and power lines, many of which stand isolated and unguarded.

Danger from cyberattacks is a growing menace. Hackers try to penetrate the utility's computer network, while seeking either a disruption of business operations, or ransom, or both.

Some specialists believe a cyberattack on the U.S. power grid could cause $100 billion in economic losses. A primary concern is the attacks at one level of the grid could trigger an avalanche of widespread blackouts - with catastrophic consequences.

Public policy reflects a growing determination to address the grid's blind spots. The Trump administration has acknowledged demand for electricity and the dangers of its insecure access. The U.S. Department of Energy allocated $967 million for use by state and local governments, in a five-year program to modernize the grid, as well as reduce the cost of electricity. Prevention of its disruption is the primary objective.

America is no exception. Across the planet, people want a secure and abundant supply of electric power. The future heavily depends upon it.

Mr. James M. Thomas contributed this piece to The Courier Herald as a guest writer.



Falcon Design representative Brett Hanes announced on Thursday that Cochran will be assigned a new building inspector, following several calls on the city to cut ties with inspector Anne Cleveland/**CAROLINE WEATHERSBY**

Cochran to be assigned new building inspector following complaints

By CAROLINE WEATHERSBY
Staff Reporter

Following months of complaints from Cochran builders, the city will be assigned a new

inspector, a representative announced.

Brett Hanes, who serves as the Director of Development Services at Falcon Design, made the announcement during a work session on Thursday.

"We will have a new inspector here assigned to the city," Hanes said.

According to Hanes, Falcon Design has received multiple complaints about inspections done in Cochran in recent weeks. Due to this, he says, he has personally taken over inspections on the properties where complaints were made.

"We have heard those [complaints], and we are making changes," he said. "Those changes are going to be made as soon as possible, but as far as the properties where those complaints have arisen, I have personally taken over inspections for all of those."

Falcon Design, a civil-engineering firm contracted by the city for building inspections, has been a hot topic at council meetings in recent months.

In October, builders called on the city to sever ties with its sole inspector in Cochran, Anne Cleveland, citing concerns with her "impossible" inspection standards and overall communication style.

"She [Cleveland] delays comments back to us. She won't send an email," one builder told the council last month. "I can go to Hawkinsville, and in those areas, I can get a permit in one day. One. Day. It was 21 days before I heard anything back from Ms. Anne."

Another builder told the council to "get out of bed" with the company, warning them that contractors were overcharging for and pulling out of projects in the city altogether, to avoid working with Cleveland.

"Once the word gets around, you're not going to be able to find anybody to come to Cochran, Georgia, to build anything," he said.

On Thursday, when Hanes announced the city would be assigned a new inspector, he didn't give a set date when they might begin work or whether or not Cleveland would continue working on projects in the city.

When the TJP previously spoke with Hanes, he indicated that Cleveland would not be removed from the project, and denied rumors of her exit from the city, calling them "not factually accurate."

Following the announcement, Hanes spoke with the city council during executive session.

RELIGION DIGEST

Brazeal Chapel Holiness Church, located at 1440 Brazeal Circle in East Dublin, will present "Back Down Memory Lane" an ole gospel sing at 5 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 14. The program will feature The Young Brothers of Wrightsville, The Little Shadows of Dublin, The Coley Singers of Montrose, The Heavenly Gospel Singers of Dublin, Elder Jerrowkee Powell and the Spirited Voices of Millen, Dee and the New Generation of Macon, The Gospel Peace and others. Admission is free. Raffle tickets will be on sale for $1. The grand prize is $500. For more information, contact Dollie English (478-697-0736) or Alton Brazeal (601-600-0621).

MoCo Board of Commissioners weighs potential fire department consolidation

By LOGAN REYNOLDS
Staff Reporter

The Montgomery County Board of Commissioners reviewed information for a potential consolidation of local fire departments during their monthly work session on Nov. 5 in Mount Vernon.

According to Board Chair Ginger Morris, while the board did review information regarding a potential consolidation, no action regarding the matter would be taken during the work session or the board's Nov. 9 regular meeting.

"I would like to remind everybody: this is a discussion for information on a variety of topics, but it's just so the board can be informed and start thinking about," said Morris. "No votes taken today, none will be taken Monday, and we don't know what the timeline will look like, but it is for the five commissioners to be able to hear from different people and make informed decisions for the citizens."

Discussions regarding consolidation stemmed from an audit performed by county officials regarding insurance payments made to local fire departments.

According to EMA Director Tristan Willis, the county has contracts with six local municipalities' fire departments to pay $13,000 to each for fire protection. In addition, the county covers 100 percent of the municipalities' building and equipment insurance costs, 100 percent of their worker's compensation and 75 percent of PTSD and cancer policy costs, adding approximately $60,000 to the county's payments.

The insurance for these municipalities is handled by an independent organization known as the Montgomery County Fire Chief's Association. However, when performing an audit, county officials found fire trucks had been added or removed to the insurance without their knowledge.

"So, what has kind of got us looking into this is the county has been paying bills for the insurance, has been paying bills for trucks to be added with no understanding or no transparency that they were being added in the first place," said Willis.

According to Willis, at least four fire trucks have been "sold, salvaged, what have you" by the municipalities while still being paid for by the county. Consolidation – bringing the various municipalities under one county umbrella – could serve to give the county a greater awareness of the finances of the local fire departments.

However, County Commissioner Amie Vassey suggested the issue resulted from administrative errors from the previous county manager rather than active maliciousness from the municipalities, which would make consolidation a drastic measure to an issue which could be resolved by improved auditing.

"To me, that sounds like an administrative error, not necessarily anything egregious or nefarious on behalf of our departments, and so my question is, to find something like that, it seems like a pretty severe move to say, 'Well, let's just build our own fire department,' over something like this as opposed to just addressing that administrative audit process," said Vassey.

Willis said an alternative to consolidation could be making alterations to the in-place agreements with the municipalities, only covering two trucks per department and requiring them to reimburse the county for 25 percent of worker's compensation payments. According to Willis, this would be a more substantial change than consolidation, as the county's financial relationship with the municipalities already resembles consolidation.

"In the grand scheme of things, the county has already consolidated as a fire service," said Willis. "The only thing that we don't have is a name."

The board also heard from Randy Toms, executive director the Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training Council, on the matter of consolidation. Toms said the benefits of consolidations were not monetary, but rather the increase in service quality across the area.

"I'm saying it would be a beginning of a continuing growth," said Toms. "As you're growing, you're getting in businesses, you're getting in manufacturers, whatever you get into this area, you're going to take that and invest back into your fire service, but you'll have a base to build from."

Classifieds

Employment

METER READER
The City of Dublin is accepting applications for the position of Meter Reader. This Team Member will perform routine work in reading and recording water and gas meters consumption. Performs mechanical work in repairing, testing, and replacing water meters. Work involves keeping accurate meter records according to established forms so that proper billing procedures result. Employees normally follow designated routes, receiving specific work instructions and referring unusual questions to the supervisor for a decision. The work involves frequent public contact, often involving complaint situations. Applicants must have the ability to work outdoors in various weather conditions and perform physically demanding tasks. Work is performed under the direction of the Meter Department Supervisor. Starting salary is $18.08 an hour. An extensive fringe benefit package including health, dental, and life insurance is also offered. Successful applicants are required to have a high school diploma or GED, three years of related work experience, pass a drug test, and have a valid Georgia Driver's License.
Applicants may apply online through our website www.cityofdublin.org. Position will remain open until filled. The City of Dublin is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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.

Shelled Pecans: $10/Quart $40/Gallon. 478-875-3309

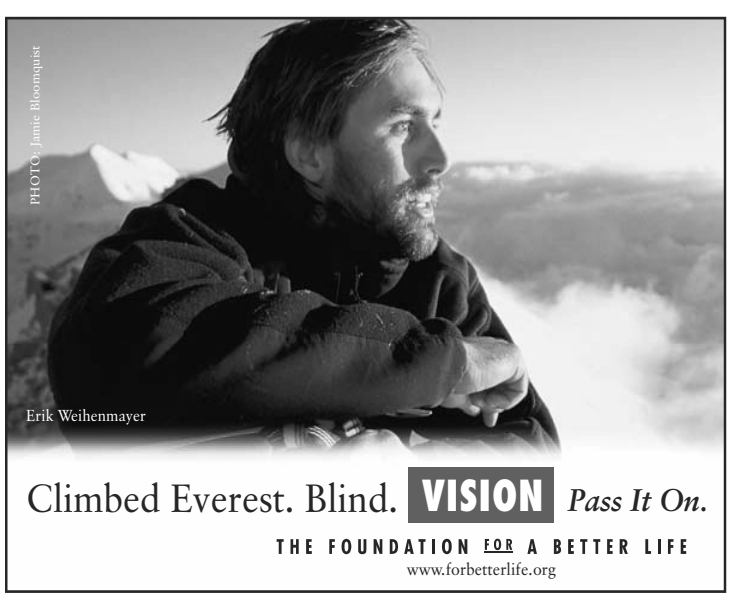
Yard/Estate Sales

Multi Family Garage Sale 2200 Peacock Dr. Good Stuff-Good Prices. Thurs 8-5, Fri. 8-5, Sat 8-12

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. Stove/Refrigerator included. Contact Jerry Davis 478-697-6817.





BACK IN THE SADDLE: EASTERSEALS RODEO

The Southeastern Professional Rodeo Association returned to the Southern Pines Ag Center for the ninth annual Easterseals of Middle Georgia Rodeo, kicking things off Friday morning with a show for special education students from Laurens and four neighboring counties. The rodeo continues tonight at 7 p.m., with gates opening at 5:30 p.m. Tickets can be bought at bigtickets.com or at the gate. Prices are $25 for adults and $15 for children/**RODNEY MANLEY & PAYTON TOWNS III**















