

High speed chase in Twiggs County leads to sex offender's arrest



Tytrez Marshall was arrested for multiple traffic violations and active warrants after fleeing from law enforcement in Twiggs and Houston Counties. He was apprehended in Houston County after crashing into another vehicle. Marshall is being held at the Bibb County Jail /Photo courtesy of Twiggs County Sherriff's Office

By CAROLINE WEATHERSBY
Staff Reporter

A high speed pursuit in Twiggs and Houston counties last month led to the arrest of a convicted sex offender.

Tytrez Marshall of Warner Robins was identified as the driver and arrested on several charges including traffic violations observed during the chase and active warrants.

On Dec. 12, members of the Twiggs County Sheriff's Office were patrolling on GA 96 as a part of its High Visibility Enforcement for the Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over Campaign.

Officials say at about 2:34 p.m., Deputy Marks was travel-



Marshall

ing on Hwy 96 when she noticed a black Dodge Challenger traveling well over the speed limit in the opposite direction. The deputy made a speed check on the

vehicle and found the Challenger was traveling 96 mph in a 55 mph zone. While passing Marks, the driver sped up to 114 mph.

Deputy Marks turned around to attempt a traffic stop, but the vehicle continued without any sign of pulling over. The TCSO then began a pursuit of the vehicle that would last for several miles, eventually traveling into Houston County, where the Houston County Sheriff's Office joined in on the pursuit.

While in Warner Robins, the challenger slowed and crashed into a vehicle at the intersection

HIGH SPEED CHASE
Continued on page 2

Gordon Christmas shooting under investigation by DA

By CHRISTIAN MCKEARNEY
Staff Reporter

A Gordon man returned home around 2 a.m. Christmas morning and promptly noticed someone prowling in his driveway.

Words were exchanged, and the prowler began running towards the backyard of the property. At some point, however, the homeowner fired off four rounds with his .40 caliber handgun, wounding the other man twice, once below the buttocks and once above the ankle.

The incident took place on Gordon Boulevard.

Following a five-day investigation, the prowler ultimately was identified as Joe Fountain, 37. Upon being apprehended, Fountain was transported to an area hospital for treatment for his wounds. He later was booked at the county jail in Irwinton and charged with one count of criminal trespass.



Fountain

SHOOTING
Continued on page 2

Twiggs County will host its annual MLK Jr. parade, march

By CAROLINE WEATHERSBY
Staff Reporter

Twiggs County will honor Martin Luther King Jr. this Saturday with its annual march and parade from the fire tower to the county courthouse at 11 a.m.

Every year, the Concerned Citizens of Twiggs County sponsor the event in downtown Jeffersonville to honor the late civil right activist's birthday with both a march and parade.

City organizations, churches, elected officials, and more participate in the parade every year.

The TCHS ROTC band are expected to perform, with the ROTC expected to lead right after the sheriff.

Milton Sampson of the Concerned Citizens of Twiggs County says that because the event is meant as both a celebration and memorial of Dr. King, the event is completely free. He says everyone who would like to participate is welcome.

Sampson also added that the event usually concludes with a showcase at the courthouse steps. In the past, this included students from TCMS reading excerpts from King's famous "I Have a Dream" speech. Sampson teases something different has been planned for the conclusion of this year's parade.

The Concerned Citizens of Twiggs County invites the public to come out and participate.

Dublin Judicial Circuit DA's office doubles the number of closed cases

By PAYTON TOWNS III
For Georgia Trust For Local News

When it came to closing cases in 2025, the Dublin Judicial Circuit more than doubled its performance.

Dublin District Attorney Harold McLendon, who just completed his first year in office, shared that his office closed 427 cases last year, up from 200 in 2024 for a 113.5 percent increase. Twiggs County went up from 40 in 2024 to 101 in 2025 for a 152.5 percent increase, Treutlen County rose from 24 to 43 in 2025 for a 79.17 percent increase and Johnson County went up from 36 to 57 in 2025 for a 58.33 percent increase.

"Anything we do in the criminal justice system, it starts with law enforcement," McLendon said. "We don't have a case or get to first base without them first getting involved and bringing the case to us."

Overall, the Dublin DA's office closed 628 cases, up from 300 the previous year for a 109.33 percent increase.

"We have been busy," Chief Assistant DA Kelly Weathers said. "We aren't law enforcement, but we are partners with law enforcement and that communication is so critical to our ability to make sure that all of the information has been gathered. Law enforcement may be aware of something, but if there is a breakdown in communication from the case they work to our files in court, then that's a problem."

The jurors have played an important part in the process, too.

"If the jurors are not willing to serve, or don't do their job, we just can't function without everybody doing their piece," McLendon said.

And then there are the judges. "We are very blessed to have them stand up, and it is working very

beautifully," the DA said. "When we have proved our cases, and the jury says, 'Yes, they are guilty,' the judges have sentenced them accordingly. They make the sentences fit the crime and have sent out a message to the community that we will not tolerate these things."

One of those statements was the sentence for Thomas Henry Blanks, 38, who was found guilty on two counts of enticing a child for indecent purposes, two counts of aggravated child molestation, incest, aggravated sodomy and rape during a trial that was completed in early December. He received life, plus 110 years for these offenses against his daughter and stepson, McLendon said.

Unfortunately, there are a lot of these types of cases in the Dublin Judicial Circuit.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY
Continued on page 2



Dublin DA Harold McLendon's office posted a drastic increase in every county in the circuit during his first year in office. Dublin Circuit District Attorney Harold McLendon's office closed 427 cases in 2025/ PAYTON TOWNS III

City clerk of Gordon fired after recent employment appeal hearing

By CHRISTIAN MCKEARNEY
Staff Reporter

For the first time in 41 years, Towana Brown is not a Gordon city government employee.

Brown, the longtime deputy clerk, was fired following an Employment Appeal Hearing in the council meeting chambers on Dec. 21. The vote was 4-2 and fell along racial lines, with the council's four black members voting in favor of firing Brown and the two white members voting no. Brown is white.

Mayor Aprill Smith, who first brought forth the recommenda-

tion to fire Brown, was called as a witness during the hearing. Brown was represented by Macon-based attorney Charlie Cox. The mayor told Cox that she'd filed three "disciplinary action forms" against Brown in the previous three months. The most recent incident occurred during a Dec. 1 council meeting, when the topic was new time clocks.

"We was deliberating over putting clocks in, and (Brown) stated what she was not and what she was gonna do and what she wasn't gonna do," the mayor told Cox. "And then she turned around and said 'let the mayor do it.'"

The mayor then explained the circumstances surrounding the second disciplinary action form, which occurred on Oct. 2.

"Brown was asked to do the agenda (for an upcoming council meeting). I actually (texted) Ms. Brown and told her to please do the agenda, and she texted me back and said 'no,'" Smith said. "She's letting (the deputy clerk) do it. I said 'can you please do the agenda,' and she refused to do it."

Several days before that, Smith filed another disciplinary action form against Brown following a municipal surplus equipment auction. The mayor asserts that

Brown didn't follow the city's open records request protocol when she released information about the auction to several members of the public. Brown's attorney contended that open records requests don't necessarily have to be put in writing and that Brown violated no policy.

The dynamic of the Gordon City Council will change following the new year, when two current council members leave office and two new ones are sworn in. The two outgoing council members – Rodney Evans and Barbara Towles – are both black, while the two incoming members – Kyle

Swicord and George Wynn – are white. Whether an attempt will be made to re-hire Brown is to be determined.

Brown's employment status also hung in the balance back in 2015, when Brown was at odds with then-Mayor Mary Whipple-Lue. Brown, along with three other city employees at the time, filed an Equal Employment Opportunity Commission lawsuit against Whipple-Lue, citing "racial discrimination and a hostile work environment." The four employees eventually were awarded \$3,000 apiece in damages by a judge.



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OBITUARIES



Rodney Reed Webb

Funeral services for Rodney Reed Webb, 87, were held at 2 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 2, 2026, at Graham Memorial Church of the Nazarene with burial in the church cemetery. Rev. Curtis Koscheski and Rev. Janice Curry will officiate.

Mr. Webb was born on Feb. 21, 1938, in Lookout Mountain, Georgia. He was a member of Graham Memorial Church of the Nazarene. He retired from J.P. Stevens and was a school bus driver for Laurens County. Mr. Webb was preceded in death by his parents, Carl and Pauline Johnson Webb; his first wife, Judy Webb, and his brother, Phil Webb. Mr. Webb passed away on Monday, Dec. 29, 2025, at his residence.

He is survived by his wife, Lou Brewer Webb; son, Andy (Debra) Webb; daughter, Paula Avery; step-children, JoAnne (Jack) Henderson, Lori (Ray) Rhodes and Jackie Hudson; sister, Wanda (Earl) Foskey; grandchildren, Sean (Elaine) Avery, Rachael (Joey) Fuller, Shanna (Ray) Nevers, Andrew (Tricia) Webb, Samantha Avery, Jennifer (Chris) Truitt-Lewis, and Brianna (Shane) Copley; 10 additional grandchildren and 26 great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers were Harold Thomas, Ken Foskey, Davie Foskey, Keith Foskey and Evan Melton.

The family received friends from 12:30 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. on Friday at the church prior to the funeral service.

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



RELIGION DIGEST

Food Fun and Fellowship
 On Saturday, Jan. 17, the St. John CME Church will cook together and share a meal. Sign up by calling the church (478) 628-5276 and leaving your name and contact information. The deadline to sign up is Wednesday, Jan. 14 and the cost is \$5 to supplement the food. The event will take place at St. John CME Church, 159 College St., Gordon.

HIGH SPEED CHASE
 Continued from page 1

of Pleasant Hill Road and Pattie Drive. No major injuries were reported.

Law enforcement quickly surrounded the Challenger, and a female passenger exited from the passenger side door.

According to officials, Tytrez Marshall, who was still in the driver's seat, held a box cutter to his throat and cut his neck. He indicated he did not want to go to prison.

Another passenger struggled with him inside of the vehicle, attempting to get the weapon away from Marshall. Deputies inter-

vened and Marshall was secured without any further harm to himself.

Officials say the cut to Marshall's throat was not life threatening, however, due to the wreck, Marshall was transported to a Houston County hospital to be cleared before he was taken to jail.

Marshall was taken into custody on several traffic violations and for warrants active in nearby counties. Marshall had multiple felony warrants for his arrest in Bibb and Dodge counties on charges of failure to register as a sex offender and violation of probation.

According to the TSCO, Marshall will face his charges in Bibb

and Dodge Counties before returning to Twiggs and Houston to face his traffic violations charges. In Twiggs, he faces charges of felony fleeing, speeding, reckless driving and failure to maintain insurance.

The two passengers in the vehicle were released on the scene without charges.

Marshall is currently being held at the Bibb County Jail.

In a post made to social media, a TSCO official wrote, "Mr. Marshall made several bad decisions, please rethink should you decide to break the law. Do not involve innocent lives in your thoughtless decisions. If you choose to make these potentially fatal mistakes...

you will be arrested and taken straight to jail."

Chief Deputy Buddy Long warns drivers to be careful when on the roads and to always be aware of other vehicles, even when you have the right of way.

"A thing I always tell my family is when you're driving, it's like you're driving for two people. You're driving for yourself and you got to constantly be watching for what other people are doing," he said. "You come up to a four way, you come up to a red light, and when it turns green, always look. You never know, the person coming on the other side may not be paying attention."

DISTRICT ATTORNEY
 Continued from page 1

"It is a lot on those kids who have to take the stand and testify about the most horrific thing that has ever happened to them so far in their life and have 12 people decide if they believe them or not," said Chief Assistant DA Kelly Weathers, who prosecuted the Blanks case. "It's a big deal when you take a case to trial."

McLendon recalled the victim's statement in the Blank trial.

"In a lot of times the kids get a chance to face the defendant and let them know that they can't hurt them now and say, 'You did this to me,' he said. 'They get some relief in a lot of these type of cases and it's good to have the jury believe the victim and that makes (the victims) feel a little bit better.'

McLendon also praised organizations like Women In Need of God's Shelter (WINGS), Stepping Stone Child Advocacy & Sexual Assault Center and TLC Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA).

"They have helped us out in different areas," McLendon said.

Except for Johnson County, the circuit has seen an increase in indicted cases, which is the point in the process in which the DA's office declares it is ready to begin its prosecution. Laurens County rose from 616 in 2024 to 841 in 2025 (36.53 percent increase), Treutlen went up from 48 in 2024 to 62 in 2025 (29.17 percent increase) and Twiggs rose from 166 in 2024 to 231 in 2025 (39.16 percent increase). Johnson County went down from 134 in 2024 to 97 in 2025 (a 27.61 percent decrease). Overall, the numbers went up from 964 in 2024 to 1,231 in 2025 (a 27.70 percent increase).

"At the beginning of 2025, everybody was working to beat statute of limitations on things

that had been sitting out there," Weathers said. "We did have to dismiss a lot of things where the statute had run or we had maybe two weeks left. I feel like we have gotten that backlog under control. We want to have a one-year-goal-standard, but the quicker we can actually resolves it, the better everyone is. The family of the victim needs closure. They can't rest until then."

Weathers was glad the DA allowed them to use a digital program that allows them to almost have a direct line of digital information with law enforcement agencies. Days of information on thumb drives and disks are things of the past.

"That has increased our ability to go to court and announce that we're ready," Weathers said. "The defense can be ready because they have the information as quickly as we have it. I think that has been pre-revolutionary for our circuit." McLendon recalled going through hundreds or thousands of pages of information and wearing out copy machines.

"Now we can electronically send it to them, and it's done," he said. "It is really saving so much money and expense for the county and ended all of those wasted manpower and time."

Another big help in 2025 was going from two victim advocates to four in the DA's office. According to Weathers, they had 9,491 victim contacts in 2025, up from 4,773 the previous year.

"They help us move cases because we know the expectations," Weathers said. "If we have a good line of communication we can evaluate information. Sometimes, especially the more serious violent felonies or the child victim cases, they need more than just a piece of paper or email. They need somebody to walk them through

for things like what is going to be happening in court, what are they talking about and what is going to be expected of them. Our victim advocate team, I would put them up against anybody in the state."

The DA's office will look at a defendant's criminal history and perform an evaluation to see if they are a risk to being a repeat offender. If they qualify, the defendants will be sent to their Post Arrest Redirection (PAR) program, which is run by Laray Avery.

"He is one who has a network of many," Weathers said. "He networks with rehabs, churches, men's groups, community support groups and military recruiters. He personally takes on to mentor folks even after they complete the program."

In 2025, 78 defendants from Laurens County, 12 from Treutlen County, 17 from Twiggs County and 27 from Johnson County were sent to the PAR program. As of Dec. 29, 2025, 117 of those enrolled had completed the program.

"That means they have done whatever the contract was with our office and their cases were dismissed," Weathers said. "Laray has 23 students and 29 adults that he actively checks in on to make sure they are getting the support they needed and they are staying on their feet. The goal is for them not to repeat the behavior that got them on our logs."

That can be challenging for those on substance abuse issues. Avery recently sent out an email to inform attorneys that he had a bed at six rehabs for candidates who needed it. Twelve participants in the program are currently in substance abuse rehab programs.

"I hate to call him a defendant advocate, but in a way he kind of is," Weathers said.

Wilkinson Co. Board of Commissioners address appearances of dumpster site

By CHRISTIAN MCKEARNEY
 Staff Reporter

The appearance of Wilkinson County's trash dumps has been a relatively common complaint from citizens at board meetings in recent years.

Now, commissioners are considering serious changes to several of the sites, mainly the ones located near the Laurens County line and the Baldwin County line.

At the commission's regular meeting on Tuesday, suggestions included installing fencing around several of the dump sites and locking them up after hours, as well as "manning" the

sites with employees during the day, thus ensuring that only Wilkinson County residents have access to the trash dumps.

In theory, according to County Commissioner Flint Shepherd, deterring people from other counties would keep the trash "from piling up" around the sites and the adjoining roadway.

"I've thought a lot about this trash problem. Short of putting someone there, I don't see another feasible option for keeping people from throwing trash on the ground," he said.

The sites most mentioned by commissioners during the

meeting were the Cooktown trash dump in Nicholsville, as well as the one on Liberty Church Road site outside of McIntyre. The talks are all preliminary, however, and more sites ultimately could be included in the plan.

Also during the meeting, Chairman Tony Bentley announced that quotes have been sent out for roadwork on Gordon-McIntyre Road and Turkey Creek Road. The work would include "leveling the shoulders and getting them packed out."

"Both of them have some pretty steep drop offs in certain areas,' he said.

SHOOTING
 Continued from page 1

Now, the Ocmulgee Judicial Circuit District Attorney's Office is investigating the shooting in an effort to determine whether or not to bring forth criminal charges against the homeowner.

Despite being shot twice, Fountain ran from the scene for more than a mile before jumping on his bicycle, according to Chief Mike Hall. Fountain lives on Shiloh Road. Fountain never checked himself into a hospital, and when law enforcement finally moved in, they found Fountain with a pair of homemade tourniquets around his wounds.

The GPD is not releasing the name of the homeowner to the public, pending the District Attorney investigation.

Attorney
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Mayors of Cochran, 1869 to present: A legacy to remember

By **ANDY LUCAS**
Guest Columnist

The history of Cochran's mayors mirrors the city's story—its early uncertainty, growing pains, periods of stability, and continued evolution. Cochran's municipal leadership reflects the resilience of a small Georgia town as it finds its footing in the years following the Civil War. While fires and incomplete records erased some of the earliest documentation, local historians have reconstructed Cochran's leadership through research conducted with resources and staff at Middle Georgia State University, Tessie W. Norris Library, newspaper archives, state records, and local histories, including The Cochran Community Development, Continuity and Challenge by Bernadette Kuehn Lofton, History of Pulaski and Bleckley Counties by Mrs. Wallace Leigh Harris, the Heritage Trail Book (1976), official centennial materials, and journalists through the years.

According to Georgia law and history, the first commissioners for the town of Cochran were David S. Dykes, Benjamin (B.F.) Ryle, Allen (A.H.) Lanfair and John (J.J.) Green was appointed on March 19, 1869. During the town's first several years, there is no firm written evidence that Cochran formally elected a mayor or commissioners. The earliest confirmed reference to a mayor appears in April 1873, when the Hawkinsville Dispatch reported that merchant W. C. Harvard was serving as mayor of Cochran. His tenure, which may have begun as early as 1869, represents the first documented municipal leadership of the town.

On Feb. 28, 1874, the Georgia General Assembly approved an act relating to the election of a mayor and alderpersons and conferring additional powers upon the municipality. Shortly thereafter, the Hawkinsville Dispatch of April 23, 1874, reported Cochran's municipal election results: Dr. Young Hiram (Y.H.) Morgan was elected mayor, with L. Sirmons, B. F. Ryle, William Wade, W. M. Wynne, and W.C. Harvard elected as aldermen. In 1873–1874, Dr. Yancy and/or Young Hiram (Y. H.) Morgan became mayor, ushering in an era in which physicians, merchants, lawyers, and farmers frequently rotated through city leadership. These early officials governed a small but ambitious town determined to establish order

and legitimacy. Dr. Morgan would go on to serve multiple nonconsecutive terms, including 1880, 1882, 1885, and 1886, becoming one of the town's most influential early leaders.

From the mid-1870s through the early 1890s, Cochran experienced frequent leadership changes as the young town sought stability. William Wade served from 1875 to 1877, followed by Dr. Frank Walker in 1878 and Milton (M.M.) Willis in 1879. Dr. Thomas D. Walker served in 1880 and 1881, followed by Samuel Mayer in 1883 and again in 1887 and 1888. Robert E. Nichols served in 1884, and Will Cochran held office from 1889 through 1892. Despite continued municipal activity, the mayors for 1890, 1891 and 1892 remain unknown – an acknowledged gap in the historical record rather than mere speculation.

Beginning in 1893, Cochran entered a period of more stable governance. William Burl (W.B.) Watts served multiple terms from 1893 through 1895 and again in 1898. A younger generation of leaders followed, including Z.V. (Vance Zebulon) Peacock, who served in 1896, 1899, and again in 1902 and 1903, and J.H. Mullis Jr., who first assumed office in 1897 and later served from 1911 through 1914. Both men took office in their twenties, reflecting the youthful energy that often characterized Cochran's leadership.

The early 20th century saw increased continuity and family influence in city government. Dr. John Barney (J.B.) Peacock, a cousin of Z.V. Peacock, served as mayor from 1904 to 1906 and became the first mayor to serve a two-year term following a 1904 charter revision. During this time, Cochran expanded municipal ordinances, strengthened law enforcement, and continued its transition from a frontier-style town to a more structured municipality. Charles William Morgan (W.M.) Wynne served from 1907 to 1910, followed by J. H. Mullis, Jr., from 1911 to 1914, and John Cumming (J.C.) Urquhart from 1915 through 1922, providing leadership during World

War I.

One of Cochran's longest-serving mayors was James (Jim) Ernest (J.E.) Cook, who guided the city from 1926 through 1936 during a decade marked by economic hardship and recovery. He was followed by Ira (Gus) Augustus (I.A.) Poole, whose tenure from 1937 to 1946 spanned World War II. In the post-war years, James M. Dykes emerged as a central figure, serving multiple nonconsecutive terms between 1947 and 1962. Other mayors during this period included Alger (A.A.) Holcombe, J. T. Edmondson from 1957 to 1958, and James Dykes from 1959 to 1960.

By the late 1960s, Cochran had firmly entered the modern era. Buddy M. NeSmith served from 1968 to 1969, followed by Homer J. Walker during the city's centennial period. In 1971, A. Robert Holcombe died unexpectedly while in office, marking a rare and sudden transition in city leadership.

From the late 20th century to the present, from the 1970s through the early 2000s, Cochran saw both continuity and change. Charles D. Killebrew served multiple terms over several decades, making him one of the longest-serving mayors in modern city history. Other leaders during this time included Grady Maraman (1979-1980), Happy Howard Williamson (1987-1988), Billy Ray Godfrey (1989-1993) and George Porter (1994-1997).

In the 21st century, mayors such as Gene Towns (2006-2010), Clifford (Cliff) L. Avant (2011-2012), Michael Stoy (2013-2016), and Billy Yeomans (2018-2025) continued to guide Cochran through growth, infrastructure improvements, and community development. Interim mayors, including Willie Basby and Gary Ates, provided leadership during periods of transition.

In 2026, Carla Davis Coley will begin her term as the first female mayor, representing the next chapter in Cochran's long tradition of civic leadership. It appears she will be the 54th elected mayor of the city of Cochran.

According to historical documents, Cochran's early mayors were not perfect, nor was our town. Still, they laid the groundwork for a functioning municipality shaped by ambition, controversy, youthful leadership, and a shared desire to build a lasting community. From uncertain beginnings to a

clearly documented modern government, Cochran's mayoral history stands as a tribute to those who stepped forward to lead the town they helped build.

I hope this look back encourages reflection on the names that shaped Cochran's history after the establishment of Dykes-

boro and its incorporation as a city in Pulaski County – perhaps even revealing family connections – while reminding us that civic leadership begins with ordinary citizens stepping forward to serve unselfishly and make sound decisions for the future of our town.

City of Cochran — RFP for Engineering Services

Date: **January 8, 2026**

1. Introduction & Procurement Purpose

The City of Cochran is soliciting qualifications and proposals from Engineering and/or Architectural firms to support federally assisted community and economic development projects. Immediate plans call for Preliminary Engineering Report (PER), design services, and construction administration for a prospective FY2026 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) project. This procurement may also support future federally or state funded projects consistent with applicable procurement requirements.

2. Project Background

The City anticipates upgrades to its water and sewer systems as the primary purpose of the FY2026 CDBG project.

3. Program Coverage & Applicability

Services solicited under this RFP may be utilized for CDBG projects and other federally or state funded programs including, but not limited to, the Employment Incentive Program (EIP), Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA) projects, and Economic Development Administration (EDA) projects. Procurement actions will be conducted in compliance with applicable federal and state regulations (e.g., 24 CFR 570.489(g)).

4. Scope of Services

The selected firm(s) may be tasked with any or all of the following, depending on funding and project needs:

- Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) in support of funding applications.
- Final design services, including preparation of plans, specifications, and cost estimates.
- Construction administration and management, including bidding assistance, contract administration, construction observation, and closeout.
- Grant implementation support and coordination with the City and relevant agencies.

5. Submission Requirements

1. History of firm and available resources.
2. Experience with federally assisted engineering projects (e.g., HUD/CDBG, EDA, GEFA) and other DCA programs (EIP/RDF).
3. Key personnel and qualifications for PER, design, and construction administration.
4. Current workload and capacity to deliver on proposed schedule.
5. Scope and level of services proposed, including approach to PER, design, and construction administration.
6. Experience with similar water and sewer infrastructure projects and at least three references.
7. Fee structure/percentages (if any) associated with PER, design, and construction administration services.
8. Errors and Omissions (Professional Liability) Insurance — attach certificate of insurance.
9. Completed Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) Form.
10. Section 3 Certification Form (submit only if claiming Section 3 status).

6. Federal and State Compliance Requirements

This procurement and any resulting contracts shall comply with all applicable federal and state laws, including:

- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.
- Section 109 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, Title I.
- Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (Fair Housing Act).
- Section 104(b)(2) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974.
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.
- Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA).
- Architectural Barriers Act of 1968.
- Build America, Buy America Act (BABA) — where applicable to materials and products.

7. HUD Section 3

The immediate project is covered under the requirements of Section 3 of the HUD Act of 1968, as amended. Section 3 Business Concerns are encouraged to apply. Future federally funded projects may or may not require Section 3 compliance.

8. Procurement Conditions

- This is not a request for retainer services.
- Submitting firms may be reconsidered for future federally or state funded opportunities on a project-by-project basis within a 24-month period from the date of this notice.

9. Schedule & Deadlines

- RFQ/RFP publication date: January 8, 2026.
- Proposal due date: 5:00 PM, February 9, 2026.
- Draft PER due: 5:00 PM, March 20, 2026. .

10. Submission Instructions

Interested parties should request the Statement of Qualifications form and the Section 3 Certification form (if applicable) prior to preparing and submitting their proposal.

Questions and proposal packages should be submitted in a sealed envelope to:

Name: Richard Newbern, City of Cochran City Manager
 Address: 112 W Dykes Street Cochran, Georgia 31014
 Phone: (478) 934-6346
 Email: newbern@cityofcochran.com

11. Proposal Format & Delivery

- Submit one (1) electronic PDF and three (3) sealed hard copies.
- PDF file naming: COCHRAN_ENG_[FirmName]_[SubmissionDate].pdf
- Proposals received after the deadline may not be considered.
- The City reserves the right to accept or reject any and all proposals and to waive technicalities.

12. Evaluation Criteria

- Relevant federal and CDBG experience.
- Qualifications of key personnel.
- Understanding of scope and proposed approach.
- Past performance and references.
- Capacity and current workload.
- Fee structure and overall value.
- Section 3 status (if applicable).

13. Insurance

Provide evidence of Errors and Omissions (Professional Liability) Insurance by attaching a current certificate of insurance.

Attachments

- Attachment A — Statement of Qualifications Form (SOQ).
- Attachment B — Section 3 Certification Form.

The Courier Herald



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The Johnson Journal - The Tri-County Connector - The Times Journal Post

CITY OF COCHRAN NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING COMMUNITY HOUSING INVESTMENT PROGRAM (CHIP)

The City of Cochran is considering applying to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs for a Community Housing Investment Program (CHIP) grant of up to \$500,000. These funds must benefit 100% low—and moderate-income people.

CHIP funds may be used for housing activities to include either new construction to sell to low and moderate income home buyers or renovation of owner-occupied deficient housing units. More specific details regarding the eligible activities plan, the estimated amount of funds proposed for activities to benefit low- and moderate-income persons, and the rating system will be provided at a public hearing. The hearing will be held in the City Auditorium at 102 N. Second Street in Cochran on January 14, 2026, at 4:00 pm.

The hearing's purpose is to obtain citizen input into the application's development, and review progress on the city's current CHIP grant.

This project is covered under the requirements of Section 3 of the HUD Act of 1968, as amended, and Section 3 Residents and Business Concerns are encouraged to apply, if funded, for the construction activities. A list of job training locations available to low-and moderate-income residents will be provided.

Cochran also abides by the following laws as they pertain to HUD-Assisted Projects: Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Section 109 of the HCD Act of 1974, Title 1; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (Fair Housing Act); Section 104(b)(2) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended; Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA); and the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968. Resources regarding HUD's Radon Policy will also be provided.

Cochran is committed to providing all persons equal access to its services, programs, activities, education, and employment regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, disability, or age. For reasonable accommodation or if you need an alternative format or language, please get in touch with Ms. Tiffany Lampp, Deputy City Clerk, at City Hallat (478) 934-6236 before Wednesday, January 14, 2026. This person can be located at City Hall at 112 West Dykes Street between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays.

Cochran has reviewed the Department of Community Affair's Analysis of Impediments and is providing the following link for review <https://dca.georgia.gov/document/hud-planning/analysis-impediments-2016/download>
 Persons with hearing disabilities can contact the Georgia Relay Service, at 1-800-255-0056 (TDD) or 1-800-255-0135 (Voice) if they require assistance.



Alex the Graduate II

TEMPE, Ariz. – Grand-children are not overrated. I stole that quote from a friend, and I appreciate its wisdom more and more as I see the third generation of our family segueing into adulthood.

Here last week at Mountain America Stadium, home of the Arizona State Sun Devils, our oldest grandchild, Alexander Moss Smith, graduated from ASU with a degree in history.

His grades were admirable as he exited the campus with cum laude honors and a rich college experience. He grew up in Dallas, with paternal influence of the Deep South. On the maternal side, it was Oklahoma, “where the wind comes sweeping down the plain” –if you remember those lyrics from the Rodgers and Hammerstein Broadway production.

He chose a different path from his father and grandfather by matriculating somewhere other than Athens. He has always had an affinity for the West, but his passion for Georgia football will always reign supreme.

He loves the Dawgs, a tie that counters the Texas and Oklahoma influences in his family.

With the Sun Devils enjoying something of an uptick under Kenny Dillingham in 2024-25, his interest in his alma mater’s football program was piqued considerably the last couple of seasons. He took great pleasure in Dillingham’s signing a new contract recently and showing no interest in other job opportunities, including at the University of Michigan.

Dillingham wants to return the Sun Devils to the inspiring era of the late



LORAN SMITH

Frank Kush, who elevated ASU football to national prominence during his years as head coach, 1958-1979.

Alex listened to the splendid valedictory of President Michael Crow, while sitting on the football field where the late Pat Tillman distinguished himself on defense for the Sun Devils. You likely know the rest of Tillman’s tragic story, leaving the NFL Arizona Cardinals to patriotically volunteer for military duty

in Afghanistan where he subsequently lost his life.

ASU is also the alma mater of Jimmy Kimmel, Al Michaels, Phil Mickelson, and Governor Katie Hobbs. Add Alex Smith’s name to the alumni rolls that include those distinguished alums.

His family is proud of him even if his name does not become affiliated with any sort of celebrity. We want Alex to be a good citizen who finds success in his profession so that he can experience the ancillary benefits that come with travel, the arts, great moments in sports, books and intellectual exposures. We want him to be a good husband, a good father, and do some good for his community. The things that Great Americans do.

You don’t have to be elected senator or governor or win the Heisman or the Nobel Prize or accumulate astounding wealth to be a Great American. All you have to do is to live an honest life, pay your bills, take

care of your family, and underscore respect for charity, church and flag.

And, most of all, develop harmony with your fellow man.

That goes on every day across this great land. Underneath the distressing headlines, the selfish and senseless stories, there are the many who wake up every day with great feelings for America and extend a helping hand. The give-back fraternity is alive and well in our society, but it can always enroll another member. We wish that for Alex.

In recent years, we have had a three-generation gathering, usually in Phoenix in the spring – grandfather, father, and son. We often take in an Arizona Diamondbacks game as the guest of the owner Ken Kendrick whose son, Cal, is a UGA graduate who has deep and abiding feelings for his alma mater.

We enjoy good food and sports conversations, and we reminisce about cham-

pionship Georgia games we have experienced. Also on the informal agenda are lamentations for those times when our favorite teams came up short, and that includes the Cowboys since Dallas has long been his father’s favorite NFL team.

Alex’s first game took place between the hedges, and he keeps up with the Bulldogs via the internet. He is sensitive to what takes place in Athens, Norman, Austin, and Tempe. He will enjoy intersectional connections with his college affiliations.

Like so many college graduates today, he must find a job and be a fledgling in the real world. The colors of his three-pronged pitchfork include red, black, crimson, cream, burnt orange, on a base of maroon and gold.

We believe he is well prepared for life’s challenges and opportunities.

Yes, we do need more auditors

Career day in elementary school was a bit awkward. I was accustomed to blank stares from folks, kids and adults alike, when I responded to what my father did for a living. I could recite that he was “the Assistant Regional Audit Director for Health and Human Services.” For much of my childhood I had no idea what that title meant either.

I can recall my Dad trying to explain it to my sixth grade class. “I’m an auditor.” More blank stares.

Other parents had more relatable jobs. We of course, living in Fayette County, had a Delta pilot. I’m pretty sure we had a fireman. My Mom was a nurse. Dad did his best to explain his role.

Adults always had an easier time mis-understanding what Dad did. “An auditor? With the federal government? I always file my taxes on time!”

No, he wasn’t “that” kind of auditor. He focused on government agencies, internally, for 22 years.

Dad switched his major to accounting when an injury cut his football career short. He went to work for the U.S. Government right out of college.

In those days, those younger and single got sent on longer travel assignments. Dad got to spend about six months each in Alaska, then Hawaii, then Puerto Rico, with a significant amount of time traveling within the Pacific Northwest, auditing local Authorities receiving money from the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Alaska was his favorite.

By the time I came along, he was doing much shorter trips and only when necessary. I can recall him spending quite a bit of time going back and forth to Columbia South Carolina. He was the government’s expert witness in a prosecution of someone who had been misappropriating funds.

In later years, I recall a few stories about that trial

and a couple of others. He was fully familiar with the role of someone who had to bring the receipts, literally, to show malfeasance.

He was also well versed in the arts of defense attorneys who would try to obfuscate the issue and/or throw him off his game. He looked at that as a challenge just as much as he did when he had suited up to football. He understood the importance of game day.

Those he worked with were a close knit group. My middle name is from his boss who had become a father figure after his own dad had died. One of them was an “uncle.” I am honored to have known quite a few of them.

I miss being taken to dinners when they got together to reminisce and tell old war stories. To a person, they were honorable. They defended the government’s money as if it were their own, because it was. They understood that stealing from the government was



CHARLIE HARPER
GEORGIA POLITICS

stealing from taxpayers – stealing from us.

Dad loved his job until he didn’t. The last few years were challenging.

Expectations and workloads increased. The tools to do the job became more scarce.

Competence in those newly hired was lacking, but those folks got promoted just the same. All those factors and more increased stress levels.

One of those in Dad’s inner circle had a breakdown. Others had severe medical issues.

Dad ultimately decided

instead of trying to hang in eight more years to reach retirement that life was too short. He spent the next decade owning a hardware store.

When Dad left the government’s employment in the early 1980’s, the public was still capable of being outraged over spending scandals. Those my age or older can remember news stories about \$600 hammers and \$7,000 coffee pots. The backlash was real, even if the cost accounting was just sloppy.

By the time I did a stint in a government contracting role about two decades ago, a procurement scandal involving tens of millions in documented fraud, waste, and abuse could barely get anyone’s attention. I know this, because I spent almost two years trying to escalate the problem within proper channels. It was viewed as just the cost of doing business.

A couple of budget cycles ago, one of the priorities was to give the IRS enough additional funds equivalent to the cost of hiring 87,000 additional auditors. The

stated goal was to make sure the right amount of money was being taken from us to give to the government.

The American people are now coming to the realization that systematic fraud has been occurring throughout the federal government. Those who have spent careers believing the “Defense Industrial Complex” is the only place money can go to be misdirected into private profits are enduring a huge wakeup call as to the size and scope of where our tax money is actually spent. It appears states are not just complicit, but actively engaged in expanding the theft.

If we were to actually add 87,000 federal employees anywhere, I would agree that they should be auditors – just not those on the side of collecting the funds. The American people need to have assurance that when their hard earned tax dollars are paid, they go to where they were intended- and achieve promised results. We need more competent and honorable people on the inside, doing that job again.

Stacey Abrams: How breaking the government breaks democracy

When most people hear “authoritarianism,” they tend to imagine tanks in the streets or elections being canceled overnight.

But democracy is usually undone more quietly – through budget cuts, layoffs and the slow dismantling of the institutions we rely on every day. One of the fastest ways to weaken a democracy is to break the government from the inside. You target the people who make it work and make those who rely on them suffer by default. When people no longer trust that the government will serve them, democracy becomes expendable.

This is Step 4 in the autocrat’s playbook. And in few places is the destruction more visible than at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta.

Tens of thousands of Georgians work at the CDC or support its directive to protect the lives of Americans. They’re our neighbors. They are parents picking up kids from school. They’re scientists who keep us informed during illnesses. They track outbreaks and help local health departments do their jobs.

When Albany, Georgia, became a COVID-19 hotspot in 2020 – holding the No. 5 spot in coronavirus cases and deaths – it was the role of the CDC to understand how to defend lives in the region.

Whether it was the coronavirus or the bird flu, Georgians knew that the medical



knowledge was centered right up 75 and 85. Yet now, the vital charge of the CDC – and the livelihoods of those who serve the public good – is being deliberately hollowed out by the Trump administration.

Step 4 in the authoritarian playbook is simple: break the government by breaking the people who make it function. You don’t have to abolish agencies outright. You just take away their funding, politicize them and push out anyone who won’t comply.

That’s what we’re watching with the gutting of the CDC and the broader federal workforce.

What began with the CDC is spreading. In a few weeks, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs plans to slash 35,000 health care jobs, including here in Georgia, a state where 7.6% of the population – or nearly 700,000 residents – are veterans.

Despite being chronically understaffed, the VA, like the CDC, will be asked to do critical, life-saving work with fewer people, fewer resources and fewer backup plans.

When Republicans eviscerate funding, freeze hiring, conduct mass firings or shut down the government entirely, they are sending a message: Do not trust us. Public service doesn’t matter. The needs of the people don’t matter. Only power does.

For Georgia, the stakes are enormous. The CDC

will take root. Disappointment becomes disengagement, and shared trust in the social contract transforms into disbelief that it’s worth the fight.

What’s happening now builds on years of attacks – politicizing public health, demonizing scientists and using budget battles as leverage to further erode services. This Republican authoritarian regime has been explicit about their goal: dismantle government and remake it into a hotbed of privatization and corruption.

However, the most insidious truth is that the damage is not always immediate or dramatic. The CDC will still issue reports, but the science is sketchy. VA offices will stay open, but getting an appointment takes even longer. Public service will feel more broken due to teacher shortages at Head Start and a lack of help from the Federal Emergency Management Agency or the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Fewer people will be willing to speak up when something’s wrong. Over time, competence drains away, and trust follows. Eventually, a small “d” democratic government stops being something that serves everyone and becomes something that only serves the powerful.

That’s why defending good government matters and why speaking up for civil servants and bureaucrats is an act of bravery.

Making sure democracy delivers is not a talking point; it’s a matter of self-interest.

These workers are scientists, nurses, inspectors, veterans and public servants who chose stability over profit because they believed in serving the public. Attacking them is attacking Georgia families and our future.

If Trump and Republicans succeed, the consequences ripple outward and include weaker public health, fewer protections, more privatization and a public that’s been taught not to expect anything from democracy at all.

That’s the warning – and Georgia is once again on the front lines.

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DuBose Porter, Executive Director

Pam Burney, General Manager

Kyle Dominy, Weekly Managing Editor

Christian McKearney, Staff Writer

Caroline Weathersby, Staff Writer

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Black-eyed peas: The history of a humble good luck charm

Being a Southerner by birth, lineage and residency, I've eaten a lot of black-eyed peas over the past few days.

Actually, I'll partake in this humble food stuff, which is really a type of bean and not a pea, any time of year, but they are a staple for New Year's celebrations, along with greens and cornbread. They allegedly bring good luck, and though I don't really believe in that sort of thing, I'm not letting a Jan. 1 pass by without gobbling up as much as I can.

Remember that board game Hungry, Hungry Hippos? The one where you make toy hippopotamuses eat marbles? That's me on

New Year's Day. I always win. You didn't finish yours? Dump 'em on my plate. I'll take all the help I can get for 2026.

Black-eyed peas also ward off the evil eye, according to West African tradition, so just having them around the house is a good idea. That's where the legume originated and is still a popular item for marking momentous events. They are served during the observances of both births and deaths, as well as any other special occasion families and friends deem fit to gather.

The vegetable made its way to the United States via the slave trade, where they were cultivated in the gar-



By KYLE DOMINY

dens of the captive people, who carried on their traditions. During the Civil War, black-eyed peas were left behind by the Union soldiers

themselves lucky just to have something to eat.

Some people say you have to eat exactly 365 black-eyed peas at New Year's, one for each day on the calendar. I've never counted my servings so accurately and could be shorting myself a month or two. I don't think eating more than the required amounts helps, either. There's no rollover credit for 2027. You can also add a penny to the pot while cooking for added luck. Whoever finds the coin will be extra lucky in the new year. Unless they eat it, then they'll possibly kick off January with a doctor bill. Hopefully they ate a lot of greens, too, you know, for the ensuing bill.

It's kind of like the baby in the king cake. Whoever finds the plastic toy while enjoying a slice of brightly colored dessert gets a boost of luck. That's a good back-up plan if you missed your black-eyed peas this year. Mardi Gras is right around the corner.

Other food -related good luck charms: honey, because it brings sweetness to life; grapes and pomegranates, because they are round like coins; and long noodles, because the longer the noodle, the longer you'll live.

I don't really believe in luck, but I think I'll try to eat my way to prosperity in the coming days.

Happy New Year.

DID YOU KNOW...?

Who is the only professional baseball player to pitch two perfect games?

By JACK BAGLEY
For Georgia Trust For Local News

Happy New Year!

Time to begin making those wonderful new year's resolutions, friends. You know – the ones you make today, then forget about in two or three days. Things like losing weight, quitting smoking or drinking, getting your act together, etc. The things we all say we should do, then don't do.

Yep, those things. If you'd like to share your resolutions with me, send me an e-mail at didyouknowcolumn@gmail.com and we can both laugh at them. I am making two resolutions, one of which I shall immediately break. I resolve not to make resolutions; and I resolve to share trivia with you each week. Let's go!



Jean Faut (1925-2023) is the only pitcher in professional baseball history to have thrown two perfect games where all 27 opposing batters do not run/SPECIAL PHOTO

Did you know ...

... one of the oldest candies available has been around since the mid-19th century? Love them or hate them, everyone who likes candy has an opinion about Necco Wafers, flat round slabs of candy about the size of a quarter, which come in rolls of about 35. The candy was first produced in 1847 by the New England Confectionary Company, the initials of which incidentally form the candy's name. They are the oldest American candy brand still in production. Additional trivia note: The oldest continually produced candy brand is Good & Plenty, the candy-covered licorice treat. Production of those began in 1893, but because of a break in production of Necco Wafers from 2018 to 2020, Good & Plenty are the oldest brand in continuous

production. (And suddenly I want some candy.)

... only one pitcher in all of professional baseball history has thrown two perfect games? A perfect game is one in which a pitcher retires all 27 opposing batters without allowing a single base runner. While the first perfect game in Major League Baseball was thrown in 1880 by Lee Richmond (1857-1929), and the feat has been done only 23 times since then, no MLB or minor league pitcher has thrown more than one. The only professional ballplayer to throw two perfect games was Jean Faut (1925-2023), who pitched in the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League from 1946 to 1953. Faut, who played for the South Bend, Indiana Blue Sox, threw her

first on July 21, 1951 against the Rockford Peaches, and did it again on Sept. 3, 1953, against the Kalamazoo Lassies. Additional trivia note: Faut's two perfect games were two of only five pitched during the entire existence of the AAGPBL. The others were thrown by Annabelle Lee (1922-2008) of the Minneapolis Millerettes, Carolyn Morris (1925-1996) of the Rockford Peaches, and Doris Sams (1927-2012) of the Muskegon Lassies. The AAGPBL was featured in the hit 1992 movie, A League of Their Own.

... tropical storm classifications are based on wind speed? For a tropical storm to be considered a hurricane, its sustained winds must be at least 74 miles per hour. From 39 to 74 miles

per hour, it's called a tropical storm, and with winds less than 38 miles per hour, it would be a tropical depression. (Thar she blows!)

... the design for a popular video game character was inspired by food? Toru Iwatani (born 1955), the game designer who created the popular "Pac-Man" game, got the inspiration for the design of the title character from a pizza. Iwatani said he took a slice from a pizza and noticed how the remaining pie looked like a character, and used that as the design for the yellow dot-gobbler. (Good thing he wasn't having a dish of sushi or something.)

... a prolific director of horror movies got his start working for a children's show host? George A. Romero (1940-2017), the director who brought us classic horror films such as Night of the Living Dead and Creepshow, got his first paid directing job working for Fred Rogers (1928-2003). Romero filmed a segment for the children's program Mister Rogers' Neighborhood in which Rogers underwent a tonsillectomy. Romero credited that project as the catalyst which made him want to direct zombie and horror films. (From Mr. Rogers to horror ... what's the transition?)

... a rock musician has a doctoral degree? Brian May (born 1947), guitarist for the group Queen, has an earned Ph.D. in astrophysics from Imperial College in London. (I've heard of spaced out, but this...) *Now... you know!*

NOW HERE'S A TIP!

By LUCIE WINBORNE
King Features

- * "Here's a great chore for little kids. Our family seems to leave shoes all over the house. I will have my 4-year-old collect the shoes and deliver them to the room of the person to whom the shoes belong. It's a very easy chore and even like a game sometimes."
 - * "When cooking from a recipe that I'm not super familiar with, I tape it to the front of my kitchen cabinet. It's in a central location, easy to see and won't get dirty. If it turns out to be something I like, I put it in a plastic sleeve protector in my cookbook. I can still pull it out and tape it to the cabinet when necessary."
 - * I love baked goods. These are some good tips that I use all the time. Use a wine glass to cut biscuits. Set a loaf of baked bread on a tea towel top down, then use a serrated knife to cut from the bottom. Your slices will look perfect, as you won't crush the top.
 - * If your family likes stuffing, try baking it in muffin tins for single servings. It works very well.
- (c) 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

MOMENTS IN TIME

- * On Jan. 19, 1977, First Lady and ERA supporter Betty Ford, on a whim and on her final day as a resident of the White House, jumped on the Cabinet Room table and struck a pose. At that time, just three women had ever sat at that table as presidential cabinet members.
 - * On Jan. 20, 2001, Donald Rumsfeld, who in 1975 was America's youngest Secretary of Defense at age 43 when he served under Gerald Ford, became the oldest Secretary of Defense when he was appointed to that job 26 years later by George W. Bush.
 - * On Jan. 21, 2009, after more than 70 years as the world's largest automaker, General Motors finally lost the title when it announced worldwide sales of 8.36 million cars and trucks in 2008, compared with Toyota's 8.97 million vehicle sales that same year.
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CITY OF COCHRAN
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROJECT (CDBG) 24h-x-012-2-6374

The City of Cochran will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, January 14, 2026 at 4:00 pm at the City Auditorium, 102 N Second Street, Cochran, Georgia. The purpose of the public hearing will be to discuss amending the city's 2024 Community Development Block Grant.

The proposed amendment will request DCA's approval to assist additional qualified homeowners within the existing 2024 CDBG Target Area. Questions regarding the target area boundaries should be directed to Mrs. Lisa Eisele, Assistant to the City Manager, at 478-934-6346. The public is invited to attend this public hearing to become informed of the project activities.

The following items will be discussed:

1) The amount of funds remaining in the housing activities; and

2) The process for interested homeowners that reside in the 2024 CDBG Target Area to apply for housing assistance.


This project is covered under the requirements of Section 3 of the HUD Act of 1968, as amended, and Section 3 Residents and Business Concerns are encouraged to apply, if funded, for the construction activities. A list of job training locations available to low-and moderate-income residents will be provided.

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Cochran has reviewed the Department of Community Affairs' Analysis of Impediments and is providing the following link for review <https://dca.georgia.gov/document/hud-planning/analysis-impediments-2016/download>

Persons with hearing disabilities may contact the Georgia Relay Service, at 1-800-255-0056 (TDD) or 1-800-255-0135 (Voice) if they require assistance.



CITY OF COCHRAN
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROJECT (CDBG)

The City of Cochran is considering applying to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs for a Community Development Block Grant of up to \$1,250,000. These funds must primarily benefit low—and moderate-income people.

The activities for which these funds may be used are housing, public facilities, and economic development. More specific details regarding the eligible activities plan to assist displaced persons (if any), the estimated amount of funds proposed for activities to benefit low- and moderate-income persons, and the rating system will be provided at a public hearing. The hearing will be held in the City Auditorium at 102 N.Second Street in Cochran on January 14, 2026, at 4:00 pm.

The hearing's purpose is to obtain citizen input into the application's development, and review progress on previous CDBG grants. In addition, the city is considering applying to DCA for Recertification of the city's Revitalization Area Strategy (RAS) Designation, and the hearing will also obtain citizen input into the development of the RAS application.


This project is covered under the requirements of Section 3 of the HUD Act of 1968, as amended, and Section 3 Residents and Business Concerns are encouraged to apply, if funded, for the construction activities. A list of job training locations available to low-and moderate-income residents will be provided.

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Legals

Bleckley Co. Legals

C25-137
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CRBDI-TORS
 RE: ESTATE OF SYLVESTER BLACK-SHEAR, DECEASED
 All creditors of the Estate of Sarah Black-shear, deceased, late of Bleckley County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to Executor.
 This 11 day of December, 2025
 Sarah Blackshear, Executor
 157 Ash Street
 Cochran, GA 31014
 December 18, 25, 2025 January 1, 8, 2026

C25-140
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDI-TORS
 GEORGIA, BLECKLEY COUNTY
 All creditors in the ESTATE OF HOW-ARD G. BRIGGS, deceased, late of Bleckley County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to Joseph C. Spurlin, attorney for said estate, at P.O. Box 7566, Tifton, Georgia 31793, in accordance with Georgia law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to said attorney.
 This 18th day of December 2025.
 /s/ Joseph C. Spurlin
 Joseph C. Spurlin
 December 25, 2025, January 1, 8, 15, 2026

C25-144
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF BLECKLEY COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF GERRY RAY MADDOX, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 2025P82
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMIN-ISTRATION
NOTICE
 TO:
 and to whom it may concern:
 TRACY M. JONES
 has petitioned for TRACY M. JONES to be appointed administrator(s) of the estate of GERRY RAY MADDOX deceased, of said county. (The petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, waiver of statements, and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. § 53-12-261.) All interested persons are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed with the Court on or before FEBRUARY 9, 2025
BE NOTIFIED FURTHER: All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
 Jonathan R. Fordham
 Judge of the Probate Court
 January 1, 8, 15, 22, 2026

C25-141
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF BLECKLEY
IN RE: ESTATE OF LUCILE AR-RINGTON ALLIGOOD, DECEASED.

All creditors of the estate of Lucile Arrington Alligood, deceased, late of Bleckley County, are hereby notified to render their demands to Richard M. McNeely, attorney for Mary Frances Alligood McNure, Administrator of the Lucile Arrington Alligood Estate, at P. O. Box 767, Swainsboro, Georgia 30401, according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment of any indebtedness due the estate.

This 18th day of December, 2025.
 RICHARD M. MCNEELY,
 Attorney for Mary Frances Alligood McNure
 Administrator of the
 Estate of Lucile Arrington Alligood
 Richard M. McNeely, P.C.
 P. O. Box 767
 Swainsboro, Georgia 30401
 (478) 237-4225
 December 25, 2025, January 1, 8, 15, 2026

C25-136
 The Cochran Journal
 Attn: Legal Advertisement Dept. Cochran, Georgia 31014
 STATE OF GEORGIA
 COUNTY OF BLECKLEY
 IN RE: ESTATE OF TERRY JOE WIL-LIAMS, DECEASED.
 All creditors of the estate of Terry Joe Wil-liams deceased, late of Bleckley County, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are re-quired to make immediate payment to me. This 10th day of December, 2025.
 Jessica Dianne Lander
 Administrator of the Estate of Terry Joe Williams
 275 Greenville Ter.
 Macon, Ga. 31220
 December 18, 25, 2025 January 1,8, 2026

C25-143
 NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
 GEORGIA, BLECKLEY COUNTY
 Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain Construction Security Deed from Rivertown Builders, LLC to The Citizens Bank of Cochran dated October 7, 2024 and recorded at Deed Book 484, Page 28, Clerk's Office, Bleckley County Superior Court, Georgia Records, convey-ing the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of \$245,600.00, with interest at the rate specified therein, there will be sold by the undersigned at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the Courthouse door of Bleckley County, Georgia, within the legal hours of sale on February 3, 2026 (being the first Tuesday of said month unless said date falls on a Federal Holiday), the following described property: All that tract or parcel of land situate, lying and being in Land Lot 197 of the 24th Land District, Bleckley County, Georgia, being known and designated as Lot A-18, consisting of 1.82 acres, Evergreen Creek Subdivision, according to a plat of survey prepared by Robert L. Story, Georgia Registered Land Surveyor No. 1853, dated November 17, 2022, and recorded in Plat Book E150, Page 118, Clerk's Office, Bleckley Superior Court. Said plat and the record thereof are incorporated herein by reference. The debt secured by said Construction Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of default, failure to pay the indebtedness as and when due and in the manner provided in the Note and Construction Security Deed. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, as provided in the Construction Security Deed and by law, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given). Said property is commonly known as Lot

A-18 Evergreen Drive, together with all fixtures and personal property attached to and constituting a part of said property, if any. To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party (or parties) in possession of the subject property is Riv-ertown Builders, LLC, a tenant or tenants thereof. The Citizens Bank of Cochran is the entity or individual designated who shall have full authority to negotiate, amend and modify all terms of the mortgage c/o Fricks Person Tourville, LLC, 466 S. Houston Lake Rd., Ste. A, Warner Robins, Georgia 31088, 478-333-6502. Note, however, that such entity or individual is not required by law to negotiate, amend or modify the terms of the loan. Said property will be sold subject to: (a) any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), (b) unpaid water or sewage bills that constitute a lien against the property whether due and payable or not yet due and payable and which may not be of record, (c) the right of redemption of any taxing authority, (d) any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, and (e) any assessments, liens, encum-brances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Construction Security Deed first set out above. The sale will be conducted subject to (1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code; and (2) final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Construction Security Deed. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 9-13-172.1, which allows for certain procedures regarding the rescission of judicial and non-judicial sales in the State of Georgia, the Deed Under Power and other foreclosure documents may not be provided until final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan as provided immediately above. The Citizens Bank of Cochran, as attorney-in-fact for Rivertown Builders, LLC. Robert Abney Fricks, Sr., Fricks Person Tourville, LLC, 466 S. Houston Lake Rd., Ste. A, Warner Robins, Georgia 31088. Telephone (478) 333-6502. THIS LAW FIRM IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

January 1, 8, 15, 22, 2026

C26-001
 NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
 GEORGIA, BLECKLEY COUNTY
 Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by James M Cumbie, Suzanne M Cumbie to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for Freedom Mortgage Corporation, its successors and assigns dated February 10, 2021, recorded in Deed Book 450, Page 407, Bleckley County, Georgia Records, as last transferred to Freedom Mortgage Corporation by assignment recorded in Deed Book 493, Page 441, Bleckley County, Georgia Records, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY-THREE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED EIGHTY-TWO AND 0/100 DOLLARS (\$183,882.00), with interest thereon as set forth therein, there will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the courthouse door of Bleckley County, Georgia, or at such place as may be lawfully designated as an alternative, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in February, 2026, the following described property:
 SEE EXHIBIT "A" ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF
 The debt secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due be-cause of, among other possible events of default, failure to pay the indebtedness as

and when due and in the manner provided in the Note and Security Deed. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, as provided in the Security Deed and by law, including attor-ney's fees (notice pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 13-1-11 having been given).

Said property will be sold subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), the right of redemption of any taxing authority, any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and in-spection of the property, any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and any matters of record including, but not limited to, those superior to the Security Deed first set out above. Said property will be sold on an "as-is" basis without any representation, warranty or recourse against the above-named or the undersigned.

Freedom Mortgage Corporation is the holder of the Security Deed to the property in accordance with OCCGA § 44-14-162.2. The entity that has full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the mortgage with the debtor is: Freedom Mortgage Corporation, 11988 Exit 5 Pkwy Bldg 4, Fishers, IN 46037, 855-690-5900. Note, however, that such entity is not required by law to negotiate, amend or modify the terms of the loan.

To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party in possession of the property is James M Cumbie and Suzanne M Cumbie or a tenant or tenants and said property is more commonly known as **163 Jones Rd, Cochran, GA 31014**. Should a conflict arise between the property address and the legal description the legal descrip-tion will control.

The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the security deed.

Freedom Mortgage Corporation
 as Attorney in Fact for
 James M Cumbie, Suzanne M Cumbie
 McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLP
 1544 Old Alabama Rd
 Roswell, GA 30076
 www.foreclosurehotline.net
 EXHIBIT "A"

All that tract or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in Land Lot 85 of the 21st Land District, Bleckley County, Georgia, contain-ing 24.57 acres and consisting of a 23.70 acre tract and a 0.87 acre tract, both as shown on a plat of survey recorded in Plat Book 6, Page 126, Clerk's Office, Bleckley Superior Court. Said plat and the recorded copy thereof are incorporated by reference for all purposes.
 Being the same property as conveyed from Joseph T. Pilcher and Mary Jo Pitcher to James M. Cumbie and Suzanne M. Cumb-ie, as joint tenants with survivorship and not as tenants in common, for and during their joint lives, and upon the death of either of them, then to the survivor of them, as set forth in Deed Book 388, page 28, dated 10/01/2013, recorded 10/04/2013, BLECK-LEY County, GEORGIA.
 Tax ID: B51 084
 MR / JD February 3, 2026
 Our file no. 25-19895GA-FT17
 25-19895GA

January 8, 15, 22, 29, 2026

C25-142
REQUEST FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICA-TION
CASE NUMBER: JU-2025-369.02
PETITIONER: CALHOUN COUNTY DE-PARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES
IN THE MATTER OF: Gideon King Phil-lips Steele, a minor child, DOB: April 1, 2025
TO: Laura Ashley Steele, mother, whose whereabouts are unknown.
A Petition has been filed in this Court re-questing that the parental rights of Lau-ra Ashley Steele, mother, whose where-abouts are unknown, be terminated and that the permanent custody of the minor child be vested in the State of Alabama Department of Human Resources. You must file an answer to said Petition to Terminate Parental Rights within four-teen (14) days of perfection of service by publication or a judgment by default may be rendered. Your answer is to be filed in the Juvenile Court of Calhoun County, Alabama, at the Calhoun County Courthouse. You are further notified of your right to counsel to represent you, and if you are unable to afford counsel, one will be appointed by the Court to represent you in this proceeding. A parent has the right to representation of an attorney in a dependency or a termination of parental rights trial, and, if indigent, the Court may appoint an attorney if requested. Should the par-ent desire a court-appointed attorney, application should be made immediately upon receipt of notice of the action, by contacting the Juvenile Court Intake Office at 256-231-1731. This case is set for trial on February 23, 2026 at 1:30 p.m. DONE this the 19th day of December, 2025.
KIM MCCARSON, CIRCUIT CLERK
Attorney for Petitioner:
Kenneth F. Gray, Jr. (GRA092)
Assistant Attorney General
Calhoun County Department of Human Resources
P. O. Box 1869
Anniston, AL 36202
256-240-2073
 January 1, 8, 15, 22, 2026

C25-138
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDI-TORS
 RE: ESTATE OF TONY WAYNE SMITH, DECEASED
 All creditors of the Estate of Tony Wayne Smith, deceased, late of Bleckley County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to Administrator.
 This 11 day of December, 2025.
 Judy C. Grantham, Administrator
 1171 Jones Road
 Cochran, GA 31014
 December 18, 25, 2025 January 1, 8, 2026

C25-139
 The Courier Herald
 115 S Jefferson Street
 Dublin, Georgia 31021
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDI-TORS
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF BLECKLEY
IN RE: DENNIS MARION ELLIS, DE-CEASED
 All debtors/creditors of the Estate of Dennis Marion Ellis, deceased, of Bleckley County, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment of the undersigned.
 This 18th day of December 2025.
 Christopher Ellis
 c/o Kindall Browning-Rickle, Esq.
 P.O. Box 4939
 Eastman, Georgia 31023
 December 25, 2025, January 1, 8, 15, 2026


Twiggs Co. Legals

T25-083
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF TWIGGS COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: BRUCE EVERETT STILLE
DECEASED
ESTATE NO. P-25-045
NOTICE OF PETITION TO FILE FOR YEAR'S SUPPORT

INVITATION TO BID
 CURBSIDE REFUSE COLLECTION SERVICES CONTRACT

The City of Irwinton requests bids from qualified firms for curbside refuse collection services. Sealed bids will be received at the Irwinton City Hall, 109 East Main Street; P.O. Box 359; Irwinton, GA 31042 until 5:00 p.m. local time, on Friday, January 23, 2026. Please address all bids to the attention of the City Clerk. The scope of work for this term contract includes all labor, materials, machinery and services necessary to provide weekly curbside solid waste collection for approximately 375 units identified by the City of Irwinton and disposal at the Wolfe Creek Landfill. The services will begin March 1, 2026. Contractors must show proof of Workers Compensation and General Liability. All requests for clarification or additional information must be made in writing. The City of Irwinton reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

SECTION II



CITY OF COCHRAN, GEORGIA
 WILLIE BASBY RECREATIONAL PARK
 INVITATION TO BID
 DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 2026

Sealed unit price bids will be received by the City of Cochran, Georgia from prospective contractors for the City of Cochran, Georgia: Willie Basby Recreational Park project. The work consists of furnishing and installing all materials, labor, tools, equipment, and related services required for a complete project. The project is located on the Southeast side of Thompson Street in Cochran, Georgia at the intersection of Wilmore Street and Thompson Street. This project includes, but is not limited to, traffic control, erosion and sediment control, traffic striping, clearing, grading, stormwater installations, and landscaping within the project limits in accordance with the Contract Documents for the City of Cochran: Willie Basby Recreational Park.

The City of Cochran, in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and 78 Stat. 252, 42 USC 2000d—42 and Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of the Secretary, part 21, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin in consideration for an award.

All questions about the meaning or intent of the Bidding Documents are to be submitted in writing to the *Owner's Representative*, Attention: **Jami Brown** via email at **jbrown@fdc-llc.com**. Interpretations or clarifications considered necessary by Owner in response to such questions will be issued by Addenda mailed or delivered to all parties recorded by Owner as having received the Bidding Documents. Questions received after **5:00 PM** local time on **Tuesday, January 27, 2026** may not be answered. Only questions answered by Addenda will be binding. Oral and other interpretations or clarifications will be without legal effect. Sealed Bids will be received by the City of Cochran at 112 West Dykes Street, Cochran, GA 31014 until **2:00 PM** local time, **Tuesday, February 10, 2026**, and then publicly opened and read aloud. **Only** bids presented with a certification from the bidder that the bid submitted is based upon the current and complete Contract Documents will be accepted and opened.

SECTION II

No bid may be modified, withdrawn, or canceled for a period of sixty (60) days after the time designated for the receipt of Bids or until the Bidder is notified by the City whichever is sooner. The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive irregularities, technicalities, and formalities.

Each bid shall be accompanied by a Bid Bond in an amount of not less than five percent (5%) of the total bid amount. The Bid Bond may be in the form of a bond issued by a surety acceptable to the City or a cashier's check made payable to the City of Cochran, Georgia. The entire Bid Bond shall be forfeited to the City of Cochran, Georgia as liquidated damages if the bidder fails to execute the Contract and provide Performance and Payment Bonds within fifteen (15) days after being notified that he has been awarded the Contract.

The successful bidder will be required to furnish a Contract Performance Bond and a Payment Bond, each in the sum of one hundred percent (100%) of the total amount bid and provide insurance coverage as required in the Contract Documents.

Note: For more information please refer to the Instruction to Bidders and the Contract Documents, which govern and supersede this Invitation to Bid.

Georgia

LOCAL MATTERS

STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS

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

Call Georgia Newspaper Service: 770-454-6776



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

STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS FOR THE WEEK 1/4/26

CELLULAR

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

HEALTH CARE

Don't let the stairs limit your mobility! Discover the ideal solution for anyone who struggles on the stairs, is concerned about a fall or wants to regain access to their entire home. Call AmeriGlide today! 1-877-871-3210

ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS! Discover Oxygen Therapy That Moves with You with Inogen Portable Oxygen Concentrators. FREE information kit. Call 1-833-661-9339

Stroke and Cardiovascular disease are leading causes of death, according to the American Heart Association. Screenings can provide peace of mind or early detection! Contact Life Line Screening

to schedule your screening. Special offer – 5 screenings for just \$149. Call 1-855-391-2065

HOME IMPROVEMENT

Replace your roof with the best looking and longest lasting material - steel from Erie Metal Roofs! Three styles and multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer – up to 50% off installation + Additional 10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders.) Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-866-939-2151

BATH & SHOWER UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Affordable prices - No payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Senior & Military Discounts available. Call: 1-833-781-0206

WATER DAMAGE CLEANUP: A small amount of water can lead to major damage to your home. Our trusted professionals dry out the wet area and do repairs to protect your family and your home's value! If you have water in your home that needs to be dried, call 24/7: 1-833-871-2090. Have zip code of service location ready when you call!

ELECTRICAL SERVICES: Reliable & experienced. Competitive rates. From simple household problems to installing a brand new electrical system, we can take care of it all! Call now and have the zip code of the service location when you call! 1-833-399-6566

NEED NEW FLOORING? Call today schedule a FREE in-home estimate on Carpeting & Flooring. Call Today! 1-833-641-6602

PEST CONTROL: PROTECT YOUR HOME from pests safely and affordably. Roaches, Bed Bugs, Rodent, Termite, Spiders and other pests. Locally owned and affordable. Call for service or an inspection today! 1-833-406-0231 Have zip code of property ready when calling!

HOME BREAK-INS take less than 60 SECONDS. Don't wait! Protect your family, your home, your assets NOW for as little as 70¢ a day! Call 1-833-890-1269

SunSetter. America's Number One Awning! Instant shade at the touch of a button. Transform your deck or patio into an outdoor oasis. Up to 10-year limited warranty. Call now and SAVE \$350 today! 1-877-740-0337

MISCELLANEOUS

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

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

Wesley Financial Group LLC Timeshare Cancellation Experts Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt and fees cancelled in 2019. Get free informational package and learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. Call 866-441-5215

SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY

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

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

DONATE YOUR CAR TO KIDS. Your donation helps fund the search for missing children and preventing abduction. Accepting Cars, Trucks and Vans. Fast Free Pickup – Running or Not Maximum Tax Donation – Call (888) 515-3813

TV/INTERNET

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

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

WANTED

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

TOP CASH PAID FOR OLD GUITARS! 1920-1980 Gibson, Martin, Fender, Gretsch, Epiphone, Guild, Mosrite, Rickenbacker, Prairie State, D'Angelico, Stromberg, And Gibson Mandolins / Banjos. 1-833-641-6792

Georgia mortgage assistance program deadline date

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES JOURNAL POST

Funded through the Homeowner Assistance Fund (HAF), Georgia Department of Community Affairs' Georgia Mortgage Assistance (GMA) program is closing to new applications after helping nearly 12,000 Georgians remain in their homes and preventing over 1,600 foreclosures statewide.

The GMA program will stop accepting new applications on March 31, 2026, at 11:59 p.m. All application packages must be complete and fully submitted through the Georgia Mortgage Assistance application portal at GeorgiaMortgageAssistance.ga.gov by this deadline.

Customer Service representatives

are available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. to answer general questions about Georgia Mortgage Assistance programs.

Applicants who need assistance completing their application should contact Customer Service before March 13, to schedule an appointment for support by phone or in person at the Georgia Department of Community Affairs' Atlanta office.

Applications must still be submitted by March 31, 2026, to be considered for assistance. Email: HAF@dca.ga.gov (Please include your name, address, and phone number) Phone: (770) 806-2100 or toll free 1-877-519-4443. By

mail: Georgia Mortgage Assistance, c/o Georgia Dept. of Community Affairs 60 Executive Park South, NE, Atlanta, GA 30329-2231.

Applicants are encouraged to retain copies of their submitted application materials and proof of delivery or receipt for their records.

Georgia Mortgage Assistance is a federal program with limited funds program. Not all eligible homeowners may receive assistance before funds are exhausted, and submission of an application does not guarantee approval or availability of funds. For more information, visit GeorgiaMortgageAssistance.ga.gov.

About the Department of Community Affairs

The Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) partners with communities to build strong and vibrant neighborhoods, commercial and industrial areas through community and economic development, local government assistance, and safe and affordable housing. Using state and federal resources, DCA helps communities spur private job creation, implement planning, develop downtowns, generate affordable housing solutions, and promote volunteerism. DCA also helps qualified Georgians with low and moderate incomes buy homes, rental housing and prevent foreclosure and homelessness. For more information, visit dca.georgia.gov.

The petition of **Shelby Jean Stille**, for a Year's Support from the estate of **Bruce Everett Stille**, deceased, for decedent's surviving spouse, having been duly filed, all interested persons are hereby notified to show cause, if any they have, on or before **January 19, 2026**, why said petition should not be granted.

All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed on or before the time stated in the preceding sentence. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed the petition may be granted without a hearing.

Gary Nobles, Jr.
Judge of the Probate Court
By: Diane H. Robinson
Clerk of the Probate Court
425 Railroad Street North P. O. Box 186
Jeffersonville, Georgia 31044
478-945-3390

January 1, 8, 15, 22, 2026

T26-001
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF TWIGGS COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF SARAH J. DURHAM DECEASED
ESTATE NO. P-25-074
NOTICE

The petition of **Avie L. Ringwood-Wilbur**, for an order declaring no administration necessary in the above-referenced estate having been duly filed,

TO: WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This is to notify you to file objection, if there is any, to the petition, in this Court on or before **January 19, 2026**.

BE NOTIFIED FURTHER: All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.

Gary Nobles, Jr.
Judge of the Probate Court
By: Diane H. Robinson
Clerk of the Probate Court
Twiggs Probate Court
425 RR St. N. P. O. Box 186 Jeffersonville GA 31044
478-945-3390
January 8, 2026

T25-085
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
TWIGGS COUNTY, GEORGIA
In RE: Estate of Edwin R. Robinson, Sr., deceased.

All creditors of the estate of **Edwin R. Robinson, Sr.**, deceased, late of Twiggs County, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to me.

This 22nd day of December, 2025.

Faith Nicole Lucas and Melissa Clark Robinson, Co-Administrators
Estate of **Edwin R. Robinson, Sr.**

John D. Newberry
Newberry & Newberry
Attorneys at Law
P.O. Box 844
Gray, GA 31032
(478) 986-5141

January 1, 8, 15, 22, 2026

T25-081
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF TWIGGS COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: BRUCE EVERETT STILLE DECEASED
ESTATE NO. P-25-045
NOTICE OF PETITION TO FILE FOR YEAR'S SUPPORT

The petition of **Shelby Jean Stille**, for a Year's Support from the estate of **Bruce Everett Stille**, deceased, for decedent's surviving spouse, having been duly filed, all interested persons are hereby notified to show cause, if any they have, on or before **January 19, 2026**, why said petition should not be granted.

All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed on or before the time stated in the preceding sentence. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed the petition may be granted without a hearing.

Gary Nobles, Jr.
Judge of the Probate Court
By: Diane H. Robinson
Clerk of the Probate Court
425 Railroad Street North P. O. Box 186
Jeffersonville, Georgia 31044.
478-945-3390

December 25, 2025, January 1, 8, 15, 2026

T25-080
Twiggs Times New Era 425 Railroad Street North P. O. Box 800
Jeffersonville, GA 31044
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF TWIGGS

IN RE: ERNEST GENE JOHNSON, DECEASED
All debtors/creditors of the Estate of **Ernest Gene Johnson**, deceased, of Twiggs County, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This 11th day of December 2025.

Heather Brantley
1109 GA Hwy 112
Cochran, Georgia 31014
December 18, 25, 2025 January 1, 8, 2026

T25-082
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF TWIGGS COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ELIZABETH BARLOW
ESTATE NO. P-25-072
NOTICE OF PETITION TO FILE FOR YEAR'S SUPPORT

The petition of **Johnny Carl Barlow**, for a Year's Support from the estate of **Elizabeth Barlow**, deceased, for decedent's Surviving Spouse, having been duly filed, all interested persons are hereby notified to show cause, if any they have, on or before **January 12, 2026**, why said petition should not be granted.

All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed on or before the time stated in the preceding sentence. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed the petition may be granted without a hearing.

Gary Nobles, Jr.
Judge of the Probate Court
By: Diane H. Robinson
Clerk of the Probate Court
425 Railroad Street North P. O. Box 186
Jeffersonville, Georgia 31044
478-945-3390

December 25, 2025 & January 1, 8, 15, 2026

T25-084
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF TWIGGS COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ELIZABETH BARLOW
ESTATE NO. P-25-072
NOTICE OF PETITION TO FILE FOR YEAR'S SUPPORT

The petition of **Johnny Carl Barlow**, for a Year's Support from the estate of **Elizabeth Barlow**, deceased, for decedent's Surviving Spouse, having been duly filed, all interested persons are hereby notified to show cause, if any they have, on or before **January 12, 2026**, why said petition should not be granted.

All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed on or before the time stated in the preceding sentence. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed the petition may be granted without a hearing.

Gary Nobles, Jr.
Judge of the Probate Court
By: Diane H. Robinson
Clerk of the Probate Court
425 Railroad Street North P. O. Box 186
Jeffersonville, Georgia 31044
478-945-3390

January 1, 8, 15, 22, 2026

Wilkinson Co. Legals

W26-002
Notice of Sale Under Power. State of Georgia, County of WILKINSON. Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Deed to Secure Debt given by EVA JO HERRIN to MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. ("MERS") AS NOMINEE FOR QUICKEN LOANS INC. , dated 01/15/2020, and Recorded on 01/21/2020 as Book No. 00389 and Page No. 0541 0558, WILKINSON County, Georgia records, as last assigned to ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS, LLC (the Secured Creditor), by assignment, conveying the after described property to secure a Note of even date in the original principal amount of \$64,753.00, with interest at the rate specified therein, there will be sold by the undersigned at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash at the WILKINSON County Courthouse within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in February, 2026, the following described property: TAX ID NUMBER(S): G12 059 LAND SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF WILKINSON IN THE STATE OF GA

BEING PARTS OF LOTS 10, 11 AND 12 IN BLOCK 'C' AS SHOWN ON A PLAT AND SURVEY OF THE A.G. LAMAR SALE, SAID PLAT BEING OF RECORD IN PLAT BOOK 5, PAGE 16 IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE WILKINSON COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT, WHICH PLAT IS INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE THERETO, AND EACH LOT FRONTING ON GEORGIA AVENUE A DISTANCE OF FIFTY (50') FEET, ALL LYING AND BEING IN ONE BODY, AND HAVING LOCATED THEREON A DWELLING HOUSE AND BEING NOW OR FORMERLY BOUNDED AS FOLLOWS: NORTH BY LANDS OF MR. AND/OR MRS. H.C. BLANKENSHIP, EAST BY ELAM STREET, WEST BY LANDS OF RALPH W. WATKINS; SOUTH BY GEORGIA AVENUE. COMMONLY KNOWN AS: **125 ELAM ST, GORDON, GA 31031 2504** THE PROPERTY ADDRESS AND TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER LISTED ARE PROVIDED SOLELY FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES The debt secured by said Deed to Secure Debt been and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of default, failure to pay the indebtedness as and when due and in the manner provided in the Note and Deed to Secure Debt. Because the debt remains in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, as provided in the Deed to Secure Debt and by law, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given). ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS, LLC holds the duly endorsed Note and is the current assignee of the Security Deed to the property. ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC, acting on behalf of and, as necessary, in consultation with ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS, LLC (the current investor on the loan), is the entity with the full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the loan. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 44 14 162.2, ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC may be contacted at: ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC, 635 WOODWARD AVE., DETROIT, MI 48226, 800 508 0944. Please note that, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 44 14 162.2, the secured creditor is not required to amend or modify the terms of the loan. To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party/parties in possession of the subject property known as 125 ELAM ST, GORDON, GEORGIA 31031 is/are: EVA JO HERRIN or tenant/tenants. Said property will be sold subject to (a) any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), (b) any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, and (c) all matters of record superior to the Deed to Secure Debt first set out above, including, but not limited to, assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, easements, restrictions, covenants, etc. The sale will be conducted subject to (1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code; and (2) final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the security deed. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 9 13 172.1, which allows for certain procedures regarding the rescission of judicial and nonjudicial sales in the State of Georgia, the Deed Under Power and other foreclosure documents may not be provided until final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan as provided in the preceding paragraph. ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS, LLC as Attorney in Fact for EVA JO HERRIN. THIS LAW FIRM IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. 00000010656627 BARRETT DAFFIN FRAPPIER TURNER & ENGEL, LLP 4004 Belt Line Road, Suite 100 Addison, Texas 75001 Telephone: (972) 341 5398

January 8, 15, 22, 29, 2026

W26-001
TS # 2024-10926-GA
Notice Of Sale Under Power

Georgia, Wilkinson County Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in that certain Security Deed given by Larry S Bennett, a married person to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Grantor, as nominee for Freedom Mortgage Corporation, its successors and assigns, dated 6/12/2014, and recorded on 6/13/2014, in Instrument No.: --, Deed Book 357, Page 849, Wilkinson County, Georgia records, along with Scrivener's Affidavit recorded 12/16/2024 in Deed Book 00420 and Page 00521, and again Scrivener's Affidavit recorded 09/25/2025 in Deed Book 00426 and Page 0135 as last assigned to Freedom Mortgage Corporation by assignment recorded on 8/15/2024 in Instrument No.: -- Deed Book 00418, Page 00105, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of \$88,369.00, with interest thereon as provided for therein, there will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the Courthouse door of Wilkinson County, Georgia, within the legal hours of sale on 2/3/2026, the following described property: All Those Tracts Or Parcels Of Land Situate Lying And Being In The 331st (Ramah) G.M. District And In The 5th Land District Of Wilkinson County, Georgia, Being Shown As Lot Number WF-29 And Lot Number WF-30, Section Twenty-Five, Tract "C", In The Subdivision In And At Ivey, Georgia, Known As Holiday Hills Lake Tchukolako Development, According To A Plat Of Survey Recorded In Plat Book 7, Page 106 In The Office Of The Clerk Of Superior Court Of Wilkinson County, Georgia, Said Lots Have Such Size, Shape And Dimensions As Shown On Said Plat, Which By Reference Thereto Is Made A Part Hereof. Less And Except All That Tract Or Parcel Of Land Lying And Being In Land Lot 46 Of The 27th Land District And/Or 331 Georgia Militia District Of Wilkinson County, Georgia, Being More Particularly Described As Follows: Beginning At A Point 39.53 Feet Right Of And Opposite Station 12+200.777 On The Construction Centerline Of Fall Line Freeway On Georgia Highway Project No. FLF-540 (19); Running Thence Northeasterly 154.174 Feet Along The Arc Of A Curve (Said Curve Having A Radius Of 1959.859 Feet And A Chord A Distance Of 154.135 Feet On A Bearing Of N 27° 15' 18.3" E) To The Point 57.84 Feet Right Of And Opposite Station 12+246.514 On Said Construction Centerline Laid Out For Fall Line; Thence S 43° 53' 30.8" E A Distance Of 36.52 Feet To A Point 90.29 Feet Right Of And Opposite Station 12+241.511 On Said Construction Centerline Laid Out For Fall Line; Thence S 18° 18' 47.5" W A Distance Of 73.40 Feet To A Point 92.26 Feet Right Of And Opposite Station 12+220.000 On Said Construction Centerline Laid Out For Fall Line; Thence S 19° 03' 41.0" E A Distance Of 132.83 Feet To A Point 22.84 Feet Left Of And Opposite Station 1+053.647 On Said Construction Centerline Laid Out For South Lakeview Dr.; Thence Northwesterly 52.600 Feet Along The Arc Of A Curve (Said Curve Having A Radius Of 403.107 Feet And A Chord Distance Of 52.563 Feet On A Bearing Of N 51° 36' 00.9" W) To The Point 19.71 Feet Left Of And Opposite Station 1+038.222 On Said Construction Centerline Laid Out For South Lakeview Dr.; Thence N 55° 20' 18.4" W A Distance Of 91.22 Feet Back To The Point Of Beginning, Containing 0.226 Acres, More Or Less. Map And Parcel Number: V05-001 (Lot 30) And V05-002 (Lot 29) Said Property is Conveyed Subject To And With Notice Of The Following Matters: (A) Drainage Easements, Building Set Back Lines, And Other Matters Shown On The Aforesaid Subdivision Plat; (B) General Utility Easements And Road Right Of Way Grants And Easements, Including Those Of Record In Deed Book 318, Pages 47-51; Deed Book 227, Pages 38 And 41; And Deed Book 248, Page 502, Aforesaid Clerk's Office; And, (C) Restrictions Of Record In Deed Book 147, Page 365, Aforesaid Clerk's Office.. Said property is commonly known as **103 Lakeview Dr S Ivey, GA 31031**. The indebtedness secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of default, failure to pay the indebtedness as and when due and in the manner provided in the Note and Security Deed. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all

expenses of the sale, as provided in the Security Deed and by law, including attorneys' fees (notice of intent to collect attorneys' fees having been given). The entity having full authority to negotiate, amend or modify all terms of the loan (although not required by law to do so) is: Freedom Mortgage Corporation, Attention: Loss Mitigation Department, 11988 EXIT 5 PKWY BLDG 4 FISHERS IN 46037-7939, Telephone No.: (855) 690-5900. Nothing in O.C.G.A. Section 44-14-162.2 shall be construed to require the secured creditor to negotiate, amend, or modify the terms of the security instrument. Said property will be sold subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, whether or not now due and payable), any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and any other matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above. To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party(ies) in possession of the property is (are) Larry S Bennett, a married person or tenant(s) or other occupants. The sale will be conducted subject to (1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code, (2) final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed, and (3) any right of redemption or other lien not extinguished by foreclosure. The sale is conducted on behalf of the secured creditor under the power of sale granted in the aforementioned security instrument, specifically being Freedom Mortgage Corporation as Attorney in Fact for Larry S Bennett, a married person. Nestor Solutions, LLC 214 5th Street, Suite 205, Huntington Beach, California 92648, (888) 403-4115, TS # 2024-10926-GA. For sale information, visit: https://www.nestortrustee.com/sales-information.com or call (888) 902-3989.

January 8, 15, 22, 29, 2026

W25-107
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF WILKINSON
In RE: Estate of Annie Mae Strickland
All creditors of the estate of Annie Mae Strickland late of Wilkinson County, deceased, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment. This ninth day of December, 2025.

Earlie Strickland
Executor of Annie Mae Strickland Estate, deceased
P.O. Box 20782
Macon, Ga. 31205

December 18, 25, 2025, January 1, 8, 2026

W26-003
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF WILKINSON COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF Louise Cummings, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 316
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO: Felicia Cummings and to whom it may concern:

Felicia Cummings has petitioned for **Felicia Cummings** to be appointed **administrator(s)** of the estate of **Louise Cummings** deceased, of said county. (The petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, waiver of statements, and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. § 53-12-261.) All interested persons are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed with the Court on or before **February 9, 2025**.

BE NOTIFIED FURTHER: All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.

Bradasia A. Mims
Judge of the Probate Court
By: Carol Hadnett
Clerk of the Probate Court
Wilkinson County Probate Court
100 Bacon St
Irwinnton, GA 31042
478-946-2222

January 8, 15, 22, 29, 2026

W26-004
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF WILKINSON COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF Cecil James Howard Jr., DECEASED
ESTATE NO: 315
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO: Deidra Patrice Howard and to whom it may concern:

Deidra Patrice Howard has petitioned for **Deidra Patrice Howard** to be appointed **administrator(s)** of the estate of **Cecil James Howard Jr** deceased, of said county. (The petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, waiver of statements, and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. § 53-12-261.) All interested persons are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed with the Court on or before **February 9, 2025**.

BE NOTIFIED FURTHER: All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.

Bradasia A. Mims
Judge of the Probate Court
By: Carol Hadnett
Clerk of the Probate Court
Wilkinson County Probate Court
100 Bacon St
Irwinnton, GA 31042
478-946-2222

January 8, 15, 22, 29, 2026

C26-002
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
RE: ESTATE OF RHONDA D. GIBBENS, DECEASED
All creditors of the Estate of Rhonda D. Gibbens, deceased, late of Bleckley County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to Executor.

Gloria D. McNease, Executor
234 Ninth Street
Cochran, GA 31014

January 8, 15, 22, 29, 2026

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WILKINSON COUNTY ROAD DEPARTMENT

JOB OPENING

1 HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATORS

HOURS: Monday through Friday 7:00-3:30

FULL TIME POSITION (40 hours per week)

Heavy Equipment Operator applicant must hold a valid Class B CDL license. This position includes but is not limited to: operating vehicles, dump trucks, motor graders, backhoes, and other heavy equipment. Applicant will also perform duties such as laying pipes, patching roads, and may operate a lowboy. Successful applicant must pass a BACKGROUND CHECK and DRUG SCREEN.

Applications are available at www.wilkinsoncounty.net under the jobs tab. Application may be emailed to lbenefield@wilkinsoncounty.net, mailed to Wilkinson County Commissioners Office ATTN: Lindsey Benefield PO Box 161 Irwinton, GA 31042 or turned in to Wilkinson County Commissioners Office at 100 Bacon Street Irwinton, GA 31042.

Wilkinson County is an equal opportunity employer.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS JANUARY 23, 2026

