

Georgia Secretary of State releases results of local elections

By CAROLINE WEATHERSBY
Staff Reporter

Editor's Note: These are the unofficial results from the May 19 election based on the official Georgia Secretary of State website and data shared with the Times Journal Post by the Twiggs, Bleckley and Wilkinson County Boards of Elections. Results are expected to be certified at a later date.

Danny Mathis won the Republican primary for GA House District 133 with 60% of the vote, according to the official Georgia Secre-

tary of State website. Mathis, the incumbent from Bleckley County, secured a total of 4,722 votes split between Bleckley, Twiggs, Wilkinson, Dodge and Telfair Counties on Tuesday evening.

Robert Pruitt, Mathis's opponent who previously served in the GA House of Representatives representing District 149 from 2021-2023, received 3,078 votes.

Pruitt secured the county vote in Dodge, Wilkinson and Telfair Counties, but due to population differences, lost the overall popular vote. Mathis won in Twiggs

County with 60% of the vote and dominated in Bleckley with 92%.

There were no Democratic candidates on the ballot.

Mathis will advance to the general election in November.

In Wilkinson County, residents voted Michael Gotell, Sr. (Dem.) to represent District 4 on the County Board of Commissioners, beating Incumbent Anderson Ford, Jr. by nearly double the votes. Out of 364 votes, Gotell won 242 while Ford only secured 122.

Also in Wilkinson, Incumbent Commission Chairman Antho-

ny Bentley (Rep.) won in the primary securing 100% of the 944 votes. Incumbent Commissioners Flint Shepherd (Rep., District 1), James Hagins (Dem., District 2) and Robert Dame (Rep., District 3) also won their respective elections with 100% of the vote. Each ran unopposed.

Wilkinson voters also voted Gary W. Kirby to represent District 1 on the Board of Education, beating Incumbent Leigh Scott by nearly double the votes. Out of 348 votes, Kirby secured 224 votes while Scott won 124.

Incumbent Board Member Kimberly S. Watkins of District 2 ran unopposed.

In Twiggs County, Jacquéz "Rell" Harris won the Democratic primary for Chairperson at the Board of Education. Harris secured 100% of the 832 votes cast, running unopposed.

Incumbent Board Member Rhonda Marie King (Dem., District 3) and newcomer RaToya Stephens-Carr (Dem., District 1) also ran unopposed.

ELECTION RESULTS
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Former Monitor publisher dies at 90

Veteran Georgia newspaperman Elliott Brack/SPECIAL PHOTO

**SPECIAL TO THE
TIMES JOURNAL POST**

Highly-respected veteran Georgia newspaperman Elliott E. Brack, 90, of Norcross died May 15 peacefully from natural causes at his home. Brack, an editor, publisher and newspaper executive for more than six decades, received scores of state and national news awards, including winning best weekly editorial page in the country for two successive years in the late 1960s.

Brack also authored an 850-page book of the history of Gwinnett County, Gwinnett: A Little Above Atlanta, which was published in 2008. The book won the Award of Excellence for documenting Georgia history from the Georgia Historical Records Advisory Board in 2010. He also authored 366 Facts about Gwinnett, printed in

2018 for the county's bicentennial.

Born in rural Wilkinson County in 1935, Brack grew up in Macon, and graduated from Lanier Boys High School. He received a bachelor's degree from Mercer University in 1957. While at Mercer, he was a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity, was business manager of the student newspaper, The Cluster, and for four years, was manager of the Mercer basketball team. He was also elected president of the "M" Club.

Brack's first job in newspapers was as a newspaper carrier for nine years with the Macon News, and later The Telegraph. While in high school, he began reporting sports activities for the Macon papers, and continued while in college.

BRACK
Continued on page 2

Twiggs County Sheriff's Office, fire and road departments honored



Several emergency service and county personnel were honored at a Twiggs County commissioner meeting last Thursday. Sheriff Darren Mitchum and Fire Chief Shaun Hart awarded multiple emergency service staff members with the Life Saving Award for an incident that occurred last month. Commissioners honored the road department for Public Works Week, citing their contribution to vital infrastructure throughout Twiggs Co./CAROLINE WEATHERSBY

By CAROLINE WEATHERSBY
Staff Reporter

At a county commissioner meeting last Thursday, commissioners and county leaders honored several personnel during Public Works Week.

Twiggs County Sheriff Darren Mitchum and Fire Chief Shaun Hart awarded emergency service personnel for their "professionalism" and "sound judgement and composure" during an incident that occurred early last month. Commissioners also recognized the road department, including Road Superintendent Lee Stringer, for their work as part of National Public Works Week.

Emergency service workers were honored last week after reports of a reckless driver led to personnel saving a woman's life in the middle of an overdose behind the wheel. Dispatchers Ashley Potts and Keldric Parks, Deputies Austin Turner and Bobby Black and Firefighters Lt. Ryan Williams and Andy Alvarado were awarded the Life Saving Award.

According to Sheriff Mitchum, on April 3rd, multiple drivers traveling along I-16 called 911 to report a reckless driver. Reports stated that the driver was "swerving from lane to lane, stopping and going." Ultimately, the car came to a stop in the median.

When deputies arrived, Mitchum said, they found the driver unresponsive and in the middle of an overdose.

"While taking simultaneous 911 calls, both communications officers Ashley Potts and Keldric Parks were able to link all the calls to the same vehicle and determine an accurate location along Interstate 16," Mitchum continued. "Their actions under pressure played a critical role in enabling the swift response by deputies, firefighters and other resources in the saving of a life."

TWIGGS BOC
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Mental health facility coming to Bleckley, possible murder trial dates

Periodical — Mail Label



A Bleckley County Commissioner meeting last week saw the discussion of a proposed mental health facility for county inmates, a potential start date for a murder trial, upcoming road work, summer celebrations and more /CAROLINE WEATHERSBY

By CAROLINE WEATHERSBY
Staff Reporter

A mental health facility for county inmates could be coming to Bleckley County, say Sole Commissioner Mike Davis and State Representative Danny Mathis.

At a regularly scheduled commissioner meeting last Thursday, Davis and Mathis along with Sheriff Daniel Cape spoke in detail about the county's need for a mental health facility. The three spoke of a necessary institution that would allow inmates at the county jail to receive help for mental health issues including addiction.

Potential upsides of a mental health facility are shorter wait times for trials and beds opening at Bleckley Memorial, meaning hospital staff could treat more patients over time. A facility could also alleviate some pressure from the local jails and potentially taxpayers, they argue.

According to Cape, county jails serve as "quasi-mental health facilities." He shared a story with the

crowd about an inmate at a local detention center deemed incompetent to stand trial. The inmate reportedly covers the walls of his cell in human excrement.

Cape continued, sharing that the state wants to send him to a mental health facility before they can consider putting him through a trial.

"The current wait time for him to go to one of those facilities is 400 days," Cape said.

Mathis, who currently serves as Bleckley County's representative in the Georgia House of Representatives, stated that he is currently working on bringing that kind of facility to the county, working closely alongside the sheriff's departments in his district.

Commissioner Davis also congratulated Mathis on his win in the primary election last Tuesday. Mathis ran to keep his seat serving District 133, representing Bleckley, Twiggs, Wilkinson, Dodge and parts of Telfair Counties.

BLECKLEY COMMISSION
Continued on page 6



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BRACK
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He was commissioned a U.S. Army officer through the ROTC program in college, and previously had been a member of the 48th Infantry Division headquarters of the Georgia National Guard, and was for two years a member of the Army Reserve. He served on active duty in the Army for three and a half years in Germany as a commissary and Class VI officer. After military service, he obtained his master's degree in journalism from the University of Iowa.

Brack had careers at several levels of newspapering. After being a reporter for the Macon Telegraph before entering the Army, he became publisher in 1962 of the Wayne County Press in Jesup, Ga., winning state and national newspaper awards. He moved to Gwinnett County in 1974 and was vice president and general manager of the Gwinnett Daily News, and later served for one year in a similar position with the Marietta Daily Journal. He joined

the Atlanta Journal-Constitution in 1988 as the associate publisher of its daily Gwinnett EXTRA, retiring in 2001.

He was a visiting assistant professor of journalism at the Henry W. Grady School of the University of Georgia in 1973-74, teaching beginning reporting and initiating its newspaper management program. He continued teaching newspaper management at the Grady school for eight more years.

In 1979, he became chairman and president of The Red and Black Publishing Company, Inc., when that student newspaper became independent of the University. He served in that position for 33 years while the newspaper thrived.

After his retirement, Brack continued to be involved in community life in Gwinnett by publishing the online GwinnettForum.com from 2001 until the present.

Altogether in the weekly and daily publications and on the internet, Brack wrote more than 10,000 columns (usually 500 words), commenting on anything from

human interest stories, to dirt roads, politics and national topics.

Brack was a member of the Jesup Rotary Club, where he served as president, and later a member of the Gwinnett Rotary Club. He had more than 63 years with perfect attendance.

His honors followed his interests. Besides many state and national newspaper awards, he was named a Public Service award winner in 1988 by the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce. In 1994, the Chamber named him its Citizen of the Year. He also served as president of the Georgia Press Association in 1987-88. He was a member of its Golden Club. For 15 years he represented the Southern Newspaper Publisher's Association on the Accrediting Council for Education in Journalism and Mass Communications.

Brack was the founding chairman and served for eight years as chairman for Leadership Gwinnett. He later also founded Senior Leadership Gwinnett.

He was a member of the vestry of three different Episcopal churches, and was

a communicant since 1979 of Christ Church in Norcross, where he was a lector, greeter and finance committee member. He represented his church as a delegate to the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta Council for many years.

Among his other civic activities, he was a member of the Metro Atlanta Board of Directors of the Salvation Army for 20 years. In 2015, he was awarded the Salvation Army's "Other" Award, for distinguished service. Only about 50 Georgians have received this award. He chaired the drive to raise \$4.3 million for the Salvation Army in Gwinnett for its new facilities on Sugarloaf Parkway.

He was active in many civic affairs. He was chairman of the Metro Atlanta Chapter of the American

Red Cross; served for eight years as a trustee of the Atlanta Historical Center; served on the Gwinnett County Draft Board; and on the advisory board of the Neighborhood Cooperative Ministry. He was proud to be president of the Eastern Continental Divide Association. He was a member of the Gridiron Secret Society at the University of Georgia. He was a regular attender of the PDC Club of Norcross on Wednesday mornings.

Among his achievements was raising funds for charitable institutions. He chaired the United Way in Gwinnett's campaign in 1989, raising more money than ever before. He also chaired the campaign to raise \$4.3 million for the Robert Fowler YMCA in Peachtree Corners. He led efforts for funding a \$2 mil-

lion building at the University of Georgia for The Red and Black newspaper.

He is survived by his wife, the former Barbara London, originally from Arkansas, whom he met while in high school in Macon; three children, Andrew C. Brack of Charleston, S.C.; Elizabeth C. Brack Fehrs of Durham, N.C.; and the late Catherine C. Brack of Charleston, S.C.; and two granddaughters, Avery L. Brack and Ellen H. Brack, both of Charleston.

A funeral will be held 2 p.m. May 30 at Christ Church Episcopal, 400 Holcomb Bridge Road, Norcross, Ga. Burial will be 2 p.m. May 31 at Walnut Creek Baptist Church near Allentown, Ga., about a mile from where he was born. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Salvation Army of Gwinnett County.

OBITUARIES

Gerald Beck

Mr. Gerald Lee Beck, Sr., 91, of Gordon passed away Friday, May 15, 2026 after an extended illness.

Funeral services for Mr. Gerald Beck, Sr. will be conducted Wednesday, May 20, 2026 at 11 AM in Gordon Methodist Church with Rev. Randy Carnley, Rev. Doug Mays and Rev. Frank Morris officiating. Interment will be in the Georgia Veterans Memorial Cemetery. The family will receive friends at Williams White Columns Funeral Home of Gordon on Tuesday, May 19, 2026 from 6 PM until 8 PM.

Son of the late Johnnie Steven Beck and the late Eva Stewart Beck, Gerald was born in Macon, GA. He was awarded an academic scholarship to the School of Journalism at the University of Georgia but chose to join the U.S. Navy, during the Korean War, in June 1952 following graduation from Lanier High School for Boys and served until he retired during the Viet-

nam Conflict in August 1970 as a Chief Aviation Electronics Technician. During his Navy career, he proudly served aboard a total of nine (9) aircraft carriers and was stationed at Naval Air Stations in California, Tennessee, Rhode Island, Virginia and Florida. After he retired from the Navy, Gerald taught small appliance repair at the Milledgeville Youth Development Center prior to his 27 years as a Biomedical Technician in the acute care units at the Jones and Kidd Buildings at Central State Hospital. Gerald had graduated from Georgia Military College with his associate and attended the University of Georgia. He was a Past Master of the Gordon Masonic Lodge #240 and a member of the Scottish Rite Valley of Middle Georgia.

Gerald was a loving Christian husband and family man who made friends easily and served his Lord and Savior in various way, especially at Gordon Methodist Church. He enjoyed trav-

eling and he visited all 50 states and at least 14 countries.

Gerald is survived by his wife of 66 years, Ethel Kiser Beck; three children, Gerald L. "Jerry" Beck, Jr., Michelle Beck and Steven Beck; six grandchildren, Brian Beck (Stephanie), Alecia Bennett (Candler), Samantha Beck, Zac Beck, Mason Beck (Mara) and Bryce Beck; three great grandchildren, Everett & Greyson Bennett and Magnolia Beck; Brother, Ronald Beck (Wanda) and sister, Helen McNeal; very special sister in law and brother in law, Glenda "Tater" and Danny Young and number of nieces, nephews and cousins also survive.

In lieu of flowers the family request, that those that can donate a unit of blood in the next 6 months and/or others may donate to a church or charity of their choosing.

Express online condolences at www.whitecolumnsfh.net.

Williams-White Columns Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

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Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

GA3190004 MCINTYRE

Annual Water Quality Report for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2025

This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water.

MCINTYRE is Ground Water

For more information regarding this report contact:

Name: Willie Howell

Phone: 478-946-2037

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre el agua que usted bebe. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Sources of Drinking Water

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population.

Contaminants may be found in drinking water that may cause taste, color, or odor problems. These types of problems are not necessarily causes for health concerns. For more information on taste, odor, or color of drinking water, please contact the system's business office.

Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. We cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. We are responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but we cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Source Water Information

Source Water Name	Type of Water	Report Status	Location
WELL #1	GW	Active	New Street
WELL #2	GW	Active	New Street

2025 Regulated Contaminants Detected

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	09/15/2023	1.3	1.3	0.17	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	09/15/2023	0	15	3	0	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

Water Quality Test Results

Definitions: The following tables contain scientific terms and measures, some of which may require explanation.

Arg: Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.

Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set to close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Level 1 Assessment: A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Level 2 Assessment: A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

Maximum residual disinfectant level or MRDL: The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum residual disinfectant level goal or MRDLG: The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

na: not applicable.

mrem: millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)

ppb: micrograms per liter or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

ppm: milligrams per liter or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

Treatment Technique or TT: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Regulated Contaminants

Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine	2025	1	1 - 1	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

Radioactive Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Combined Radium 226/228	11/13/2024	2.64	2.64 - 2.64	0	5	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.
Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium	11/13/2024	3.09	3.09 - 3.09	0	15	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.

2025 CCR Supplemental Lead and Copper CCR Information
For The City of McIntyre- Water System ID # GA3190004

Required Lead Language: Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. The City of McIntyre is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposure. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Willie Howell by email at mcin@windstream.net or by calling city hall at (478) 946-2037. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Lead and Copper Range Data.

Analyte	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	Range		Units	Violation
				Low	High		
Lead	9/15/23	0	15	0	8.1	ppb	No
Copper	9/15/23	1.3	1.3	0.016	0.19	ppm	No

The Service Line Inventory (SLI) is a requirement under the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) to help water systems identify and replace lead service lines. It mandates that all public water systems develop and maintain an inventory of service line materials to assess the presence of lead and protect public health. The inventory will support proactive lead reduction efforts and ensure compliance with regulatory requirements to minimize lead exposure in drinking water. To access the SLI for City of McIntyre and all individual Lead Tap Sample results please contact Water Superintendent Willie Howell by email at mcin@windstream.net or by calling city hall at (478) 946-2037.

Swinging from trees: Another tale from the land

In my fists I clenched a thick woody vine. After a brief running start, I leaped off the ground and swung through the air.

For a moment I felt like Tarzan.

I was only a few inches off the ground, and instead of traversing the dense jungle, was trying to yank a strand of Virginia creeper from a tree, but you get the idea. Tarzan didn't swing from vines in the original 1912 novel. The ape man, created by English novelist Edgar R. Burroughs, swung from the limbs of trees, mimicking the behavior of the animals that reared him.

The vines were added in later movie and cartoon adaptations. Leave it to Hollywood to ruin a good book.

THE NEW SOUTHERN DAD



By **KYLE DOMINY**

The King of the Jungle could make himself at home in the woods of North America, at least anywhere Virginia creeper is prevalent. The hardy vines cover the ground and snake

their way up the tallest of trees. If left unchecked it can choke out other plants and quickly cover walls and buildings. Unlike kudzu, the rapidly growing Japanese vine brought to the United

States as a garden plant and cure for soil erosion, Virginia creeper belongs here. And, unlike its native cousin poison ivy, though they look suspiciously similar in their infant stages, Virginia creeper is not harmful to humans.

It can, however, kill trees if left unchecked. The vines can grow thick, thick enough to support the weight of a full-grown man (if you want to call me that), and the foliage dense enough to beat its host for vital sunlight. If allowed to grow on houses, its tendrils will invade every nook and cranny, while trapping rot and mold facilitating moisture against walls and siding.

Virginia creeper remains prized as a ground cover by

many horticulturalists, particularly because of the vibrant shade of red the leaves take on in the fall. Famed plant enthusiast Frederick Law Olmsted, who is considered the father of landscape architecture, prized Virginia creeper, especially when designing large, wooded estates. Prone to using native species, though he helped with the spread of the now-dreaded Chinaberry tree, Olmsted incorporated Virginia creeper on his own Maryland property.

I hate it, hence why I was swinging around the woods like Tarzan, trying to tear it from a tree. Yard work has been low on the priority list over the past few months, years for some portions of the yard, and a pine tree

near the house had been overrun with the creeper. It had been crept out, if you will.

The eradication method taught to me by a horticulturalist, the same horticulturalist that most likely instilled my hatred of this plant, prescribes cutting at least a four-inch gap into the vine at the base of the tree, spraying the exposed end with an herbicide and, after the vine begins to wilt, yank it from the tree. As it dies, you see, it's supposed to lose its grip.

Not this one. I have yanked, and pulled, and swayed in the air like a madman, and the vine is still there.

Where's Tarzan when you need him?

DID YOU KNOW...?

Was a popular fashion designer from France actually a Nazi spy?

By **JACK BAGLEY**
Georgia Trust For Local News

Did you know ...
... nowhere in the book Through the Looking Glass is the character of Humpty Dumpty ever referred to as an egg? In the classic, written by Lewis Carroll (born Charles Dodgson, 1832-1898), the character of Alice is given an egg by a sheep, and as she approaches the egg it gets larger and develops into a person who looks somewhat like an egg. The important fact here is that Humpty Dumpty himself is not an egg; he just grows out of one and somewhat resembles one. Alice even comments that Humpty looks like an egg, but Humpty emphatically points out that he is not one. (So if you thought he was an egg, the yolk's on you!)

... every year, more people are killed by teddy bears than by grizzly bears? The most common hazard with teddy bears, of course, is that small pieces such as eyes can pop off and cause choking hazards. Tripping and falling over teddy bears is also a major safety hazard. To give you an idea of the statistics behind this, note that over the past 90 years, a total of 82 Amer-

icans have been killed in grizzly bear attacks. Over that same time frame, teddy bears (and other toys) have caused about 22 deaths per year. (I can bear-ly stand it!)

... some good deeds really are punished? Take, for example, the fate of the crew of the American seal-hunting ship Nanina. In 1812, the Nanina, under the command of Captain Charles Barnard (1781-1840), discovered the shipwrecked crew of the British whaler Isabella stranded on Eagle Island, one of the Falkland Islands in the South Atlantic Ocean. Barnard rescued the crew of the Isabella even though the U.S. and Britain were at that moment at war with each other. While Barnard and his crew were out on a hunt for more provisions to take care of the Isabella's crew, however,

the British seized the Nanina and left Barnard and his crew behind. The Nanina's real crew was rescued a year later by two British ships, the Asp and the Indispensible. (And you thought Robinson Crusoe had it rough.)

... the first ruler known to history to recognize human rights did so in 539 BC? Persian King Cyrus the Great (600 BC-530 BC) issued that year the first-ever recorded decree on the rights of human beings. Cyrus freed slaves, established racial equality, and decreed that all people had the right to choose their own religions. (Good job, Cyrus!)

... a popular French fashion designer is now believed to have been a spy? Coco Chanel (born Gabrielle Bonheur Chanel, 1883-1971) was romantically linked with a Nazi officer during

World War II. Hans Günther von Dincklage (1896-1974) was a jurist under the Nazis and was also heavily involved in espionage for the Third Reich. Since the death of Chanel, extensive evidence has reportedly surfaced showing that she was an undercover operative for the Nazis during the war, though there was no proof

offered of collaboration with the Germans during her interrogation by the Free French Purge Committee in 1944. Chanel and von Dincklage lived together for a period of time after the war in Switzerland. (Gives a new meaning to "undercover," doesn't it?)

... you may have seen a foofaraw? You may even

have been involved in one. What's a foofaraw? Well, it can be one of two things: a shiny trinket or bauble, or a disturbance over something trivial or insignificant. (It could also make a really effective curse if you yell it loud enough.)

Now... you know!

PUBLIC NOTICE

L & A Testing - Absentee Voting - and Computation and Canvassing June 16, 2026 General Primary/Nonpartisan Runoff Election

Pursuant to O.C.G.A. & 21.2.379.25, notice is hereby given that the Logic and Accuracy Testing and preparation of voting equipment to be used in the June 16, 2026 General Primary/Nonpartisan Election in Bleckley County both Election Day and Advance Voting, will be held Thursday, June 4th at 9:00 a.m. Testing will continue from day to day until complete and members of the public are entitled to be present during. Said testing and preparation will begin at the Jaycee Barn located at 290 Ash St., Cochran, GA. 31014, and will continue from day to day and hour to hour as necessary.

Pursuant to O.C.G.A. & 21-2-492, notice is hereby given that the Bleckley County Election Superintendent intends to commence and hold Computation and Canvassing of Returns for General Primary/Nonpartisan Runoff to be held on June 16, 2026 beginning Tuesday, June 16, 2026, after the close of polls at 7:00p.m. Computation and Canvassing will continue until complete and members of the public are entitled to be present during that process. Said computation and canvassing will be conducted at the Jaycee Barn located at 290 Ash St. Cochran, GA. 31014

Absentee Voting for the June 16, 2026 Runoff Election: Voters can begin to request an Absentee by mail application now until Friday, June 5th. Advance in Person Voting will begin Monday, June 8th until Friday June 12th. (Hours: 8:30a.m.-5:00 p.m.) There will be no Saturday Voting. All Absentee Voting will be held at the Board of Elections and Registration Office 106 E Cherry Street Cochran, Ga. 31014 (Courthouse Annex). Election Day voting is June 16, 2026. Polls open at 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. at the Jaycee Barn located at 290 Ash St. For more information on testing /or your voter registration status, contact the Board of Elections and Registration Office at (478) 934-3200 Ext. 8.

Cheryl Ates, Elections Supervisor on behalf of the Bleckley County Board of Elections and Registration as Election Superintendent

The Bleckley County Board of Education, pursuant to O.C.G.A. §20-2-58, voted at its regular meeting on December 16, 2025, to conduct meetings of the board for 2026 on the third Thursday of each month, except as noted below:

Work Sessions	Board Meetings (5:30 pm)	Location
January 12, 2026 (5:30 pm)	January 15, 2026	BCHS Auditorium
	February 19, 2026	Board Room
March 17, 2026 (5:30 pm)	March 19, 2026	Board Room
	April 16, 2026	Board Room
May 7, 2026 (5:30 pm)	May 14, 2026**	Board Room
	June 18, 2026	Board Room
	July 16, 2026	Board Room
August 13, 2026 (5:30 pm)	August 20, 2026	Board Room
	September 17, 2026	Board Room
	October 22, 2026***	Board Room
Nov. 17, 2026 (5:30 pm)	November 19, 2026	BCHS Auditorium
	December 10, 2026**	Board Room

All meetings will begin at 5:30 PM and be held at the indicated locations unless changed and posted at least 24 hours in advance. Work Sessions will be held in the Board Room, and no votes will be taken during them. The above dates are tentative for those meetings.

**The May and December meetings will be held on the 2nd Thursday of the month.

*** The October meeting will be held on the 4th Thursday of the month.

Go to <https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/bleckley> for meeting minutes, agendas, presentations, and supporting documentation.



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PUBLIC NOTICE
L & A Testing, Computation & Canvassing and Absentee Voting For June 16, 2026, Runoff

Pursuant to O.C.G.A. & 21.2-379.6 (c) notice is hereby given that logic and accuracy testing on the voting equipment to be used on June 16, 2026, Runoff, in Wilkinson County will be publicly performed in the Old GED Building located at 8159 Ga Hwy 57, McIntyre, Ga. 31054. The testing on all voting equipment will begin on Monday, June 1, 2026, beginning at 10 am and will continue from day to day until it is completed. Members of the public are invited to observe the preparation and testing of all equipment to be used. The election supervisor and registrar/clerk and staff will conduct testing. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. & 21-2-492 Computation, canvassing, and certification of election results will begin on Wednesday June 17, 2026, unless otherwise posted and will continue from day to day until complete.

The last date to request an Absentee Ballot by mail is June 05, 2026. Advance Voting (in-person will begin on Monday June 8, 2026, through June 12, 2026, (Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) Election Day voting is June 16, 2026, from 7:00 am to 7:00 p.m. at your assigned polling location. We're located in the courthouse in the Elections & Registrar's Office Rm# 133. For more information regarding testing and/or your voter registration status, contact the elections' office at 478-946-2188.

Wilkinson County Board of Elections and Registration
Kelly S. Chatman, Election Superintendent

Coca-Cola

From all the goings on at Coca-Cola these days, you realize how different the company has become; a new modus operandi, new products, and a smorgasbord of changes all designed to keep Coke the leading soft drink beverage in the world.

That makes it function differently from the halcyon days of Robert Woodruff, one of Atlanta's most generous benefactors whose philanthropy has continuously benefited the city and the state.

The only thing that hasn't changed at Coca-Cola is that iconic taste that we have been enjoying since May 8, 1886, that was concocted at Jacobs Pharmacy in Atlanta. We have enjoyed Coke's products, commercial jingles, and endless community contributions since.

When Woodruff was chairman, the company was keen on international sales, but nothing like what is taking place now. Truly global, with different accents and genders in the executive suites, Coke is



LORAN SMITH

into billions of dollars today. Every day. A worldwide colossus. Coca-Cola remains the biggest soft drink company in the world. I thought about that recently when I drove the back roads in North Georgia and saw a couple of general stores with the Coke logo painted on the side of brick buildings.

Fortunately, that wonderful beverage tastes the same. Maybe not as good as the days of the six-ounce contour Coke bottle, but close enough. Our refrigerator is always stocked with Diet Coke and

for me personally, it has overtaken light beer on my drink preferential list. It is tomato season, which means it's time for a red ripe tomato, white bread, and a Coke.

I will never forget those days when you could buy one of the original Cokes for a nickel, then a dime, and before you knew it, that treasured drink cost you a quarter.

Having lived in those times when you had to fish around a cooler with the coldest ice water you could imagine until you found that six-ounce bottle of Coke, makes you appreciate the finer things in life.

Even today, I still pine for those six-ounce bottles of Coke. The Coca-Cola ads were classic. The rosy, red-cheeked Santa Clause with the captivating, grandfatherly smile, the one who would never let you down. Those Coca-Cola Santas were the friendliest Santas ever.

The high schools across our state all had scoreboards with a Coca-Cola logo. The deal was that Coca-Cola would donate the scoreboards with the Coke logo, which saved the schools a considerable amount of money.

You would travel through the small towns and see the sides of buildings which displayed the Coca-Cola logo—with the image of a pretty model taking a swig of Coke. Places of business got in on the act, getting neon signs with the name of the business connected with a Coca-Cola image.

With the passing of time, Coke partnered with the polar bears in its ads—it seems that even the bears on the frozen tundra preferred ice-cold Coca-Cola.

Then Coca-Cola became identified with the Olympics. All along, there were those refreshing and "feel good" commercials. Everybody's favorite came about in 1971 when the company produced a commercial that tugged the heart strings around the world.

*I'd like to buy the world a home
And furnish it with love
Grow apple trees and honeybees
And snow-white turtle doves
I'd like to teach the world to sing
In perfect harmony
And I'd like to buy the world a Coke
And keep it company
It's the real thing*

Bad weather almost killed the production which first was attempted in England at the white cliffs of Dover, but the weather forced the producers to find a different location, which turned out to be a hillside in Italy.

Radio stations received repeated calls requesting that this uplifting and refreshing song be played again. And again. Coke's promotion of global unity and harmony and buying the world a Coke resonated across all borders.

During idle times, I close my eyes and hear those lyrics a half century later. Every time I do, I am thankful that nobody pulled the plug on production even with all the tribulations that could have brought about its demise.

Revisit the lyrics and consider that singing about peace and harmony should remind us that singing in harmony is a good start toward world peace.

When President Trump visits another world leader, maybe he should hand over a Coca-Cola and sing those memorable lyrics of the production on the hillsides.

It struck a nerve worldwide 50 years ago. It is time to see if it will work again.

The primary results demonstrate a state that is changing

The votes are now counted for Georgia's May 18th partisan primaries as well as for the non-partisan judicial elections – even in Fulton County. Democrats are settled in at the top of the ticket for November, with former Atlanta Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms getting a majority of votes for Governor in a crowded field, while U.S. Senator Jon Ossoff was unopposed for the nomination.

Republicans will have four more weeks of trying to get on the same page, with statewide runoffs not only for those two positions, but also for Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, and State School Superintendent. Superintendent Richard Woods is the only statewide incumbent who faced a primary challenge and failed to score the support of a majority of Republican voters in a five person contest. Woods will face Bubba Longreear in June to determine who runs Georgia's Department of Education.

Democrats, meanwhile,

will spend the next month choosing candidates at the state level to add to their wins in recent Public Service Commission special elections. They will have runoff elections to choose their nominees for Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Commissioner of Insurance, and Commissioner of Labor.

Every election is unique, but those who work in the campaign and/or government affairs realms tend to rely on some truisms when trying to figure out what will work for a candidate, and how they assemble a coalition of a majority of votes. These results show that in some ways, time and this state itself are changing.

We'll start by looking at the Democratic Primary for Governor, and the candidacy of Michael Thurmond. Thurmond, as Labor Commissioner, was one of the last Democrats to hold statewide office before Republicans took firm control of the state for a couple of decades. He spent the in-



CHARLIE HARPER
GEORGIA POLITICS

terim time as the Chief Executive of dark blue DeKalb County and was the party's 2010 Nominee to take on a very popular Senator Johnny Isakson. He held the endorsements from Georgia's last Democratic Governor, Roy Barnes, as well as Ambassador Andrew Young.

Despite his extensive experience and endorsements, Thurmond finished third in his contest for Governor with 13% of the vote. The takeaway: This is no lon-

ger the Georgia Democratic Party that ceded power to Republicans beginning in 2002. Their primary voters are both looking for something different, and looking to other voices and funding sources to drive voting decisions.

There's a similar story if a bit more subtle on the Republican side. Attorney General Chris Carr is the highest profile politician from the political family tree of the late Senator Johnny Isakson. The modern Georgia Republican party was synonymous with names like Isakson, Gingrich, Coverdell, Calloway, and Irvin. While the Isakson network remains strong and powerful with alumni in many key positions in government and commerce, every election seems to remove the GOP farther and farther from both the architects and in many cases, their beliefs and policies.

The suburbanization of rural Georgia is a bit harder to quantify out of these results, but perhaps a look at

the Republican contests for Governor and Lieutenant Governor demonstrates a subtle yet substantial change in how rural voters make their ballot decisions. Senator Blake Tillery garnered the endorsement of roughly half of Georgia's Sheriffs. Chris Carr claimed about 1/3. Neither advanced to a runoff.

There was a time when a statewide candidate could go to almost any corner of the state, and if he could get the Sheriff along with a Commissioner, School Superintendent, and maybe a Rotary or Kiwanis Club President to support him or her, he could count on winning that county.

Today, about a third of Georgia's population is represented by five sheriffs in metro Atlanta's core, and well more than half of voters are represented by just a dozen metro sheriffs. But even in north and southeast Georgia, counties are seeing massive growth. Many new

voters "aren't from around here" and have never met the Sheriff nor any of those other folks with titles just mentioned. It's still far better to have a Sheriff's endorsement than not, but these endorsements alone aren't enough anymore.

With those changes, one other truism remains the same. It is futile, almost stupidly so, to challenge an Appropriations Chairman in a Primary election. House Appropriations Chair Matt Hatchett of Dublin and Education Appropriations Subcommittee Chair Matt Dubnik of Gainesville each received primary challenges. Each sent their opponents packing with 91% and 87% of the vote, respectively.

Voters priorities can change on a whim, but most are still aware of who delivers for their districts. No Legislator is able to deliver more than the ones who write the checks, yet also keeps the budget balanced.

Guest Column: The state of Georgia must protect cancer care

This year, more than 55,000 Georgians will hear the words no one ever wants to hear: you have cancer. As an oncologist, I see every day the toll cancer takes—not only on patients' health directly, but on families struggling to afford care. Too many of my patients are diagnosed late, when treatment is more expensive and outcomes are worse. And too many are crushed by the financial weight of their illness.

That's why I am deeply concerned about the federal 340B drug pricing program. Originally created to help low-income patients, large hospital and pharmacy systems have exploited the program, harming cancer care in the process. Legislation at the state level – HB 139 – was defeated this year, which would have expanded the program even more and harmed patients at the same time.

When Congress created 340B in 1992, the idea was straightforward: require drug manufacturers to give discounts to hospitals serving large numbers of low-income and uninsured patients, so that savings could be passed along to those in need.

Instead, the program has become a profit engine for hospitals that buy cancer drugs at steep discounts, bill insurers full price, and keep the difference. Patients

DR. HARSHA VYAS GUEST COLUMN

don't see lower costs, and community oncology practices like mine, which don't qualify for the program are left at a steep disadvantage. Nearly two-thirds of cancer patients nationwide receive care in independent oncology clinics, yet we are competing on a tilted playing field.

The reality is that many 340B hospitals have struck deals with for-profit pharmacy chains clustered in higher-income neighborhoods, not underserved communities. And most of these pharmacies are tied to pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) -- the same middlemen already steering patients away from community clinics and squeezing providers with reimbursement rates below the cost of care. Between 2011 and 2019, the share of 340B pharmacies in low-income areas actually fell by nearly 6%, while their presence in wealthier zip codes grew by 5%.

These pharmacies, often tied to corporate giants can still charge patients full price, even though the hospital paid far less. That markup is substantial. On average, 340B drugs are 57% cheaper than list price. The profits flow to hospitals and pharmacy chains, not to the patients the program

was meant to serve.

Meanwhile, payors are quietly making the problem worse. Insurers and PBMs frequently keep reimbursement rates low or even cut them further for Community Clinics with no clear rationale despite the fact that hospitals are acquiring drugs at deep discounts and community clinics being the cheaper site of care. This mismatch creates an unfair marketplace: hospitals and PBM-linked pharmacies profit twice, while independent practices are forced to absorb losses on essential drugs. For community oncology clinics already stretched thin, these payment games are unsustainable.

This failure hits Georgia patients especially hard. More than 17% of residents with credit reports have medical debt in collections, one of the highest rates in the nation. Meanwhile, hospitals and PBMs use their 340B profits to buy up independent oncology practices. When that happens, the same chemotherapy treatment can cost 60% more compared to what it costs in the community setting. Patients lose affordable, local care, and health spending soars.

Contract pharmacies only compound the problem. A recent study found that 69% are tied to PBMs, either through ownership or contractual affiliation.

PBMs often funnel patients into these affiliated pharmacies, while paying independent practices rates so low that they cannot cover the cost of drugs. This creates a chokehold on community oncology clinics, forcing many to operate at a loss or close their doors.

When a community clinic closes, it could mean hours of travel to a large hospital where care is more expensive and less personal. Rural Georgians will face the worst of it. These communities already suffer from higher poverty, higher cancer mortality, and fewer local treatment options. And this crisis is compounded by a severe workforce shortage: Georgia is already short of both oncologists and critical support staff such as infusion nurses, and pharmacists. When care is centralized into already overburdened hospital systems, access bottlenecks grow even worse.

This legislative session, Georgia lawmakers considered a dangerous bill that would expand 340B even further by cementing hospitals' ability to contract with an unlimited number of external pharmacies. Thankfully, it failed to advance -- and Georgia lawmakers would be wise not to reintroduce it.

Instead, our state lawmakers should follow the lead of Georgia's Rep. Buddy Carter, who is spear-

heading the 340B ACCESS Act -- a bill that would establish better oversight over the program to help ensure that it serves its purpose: supporting low-income Americans.

Cancer care in Georgia should be about patients, not profits. Community oncology clinics deliver high-quality, affordable care close to home, but we cannot compete when hos-

pitals, PBMs, and insurers exploit a safety-net program to boost their own revenue.

Dr. Harsha Vyas MD, FACP, is the president and founding physician of Cancer Center of Middle Georgia, a private practice community cancer center providing hematology and oncology care in Central Georgia.

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COUCH THEATER



Lili Reinhart, Victoria Pedretti and Alexandra Shipp star in "Forbidden Fruits" /Photo courtesy of MovieStillsDB

By DEMI TAVERAS
King Features

The Four Seasons: Season 2 (TV-MA)

Viewers who caught season 1 of this slice-of-life dramedy series should be excited that another round of the four seasons lands in our laps on May 28! Season 2 kicks off after the passing of Steve Carell's ("Rooster") character, Nick, and his friends (portrayed by Tina Fey, Will Forte and Colman Domingo) are naturally grieving his passing -- each in their own special and different way. But they still vow to keep up their tradition of vacationing together, along with Nick's ex-wife (played by Kerri Kenney-Silver) and his expecting girlfriend (Erika Henningsen). Fey teased to Netflix, "They have to learn to re-form as a group in a different configuration." Whatever the configuration, I'm sure it'll be entertaining to watch! (Netflix)

Forbidden Fruits (R)

This comedy-horror film is based on a stage play written by Lily Houghton and landed a handful of young actresses to tell its story on the big screen. Lili Reinhart ("Riverdale") stars as a girl named Apple, who works with her friends Fig (Alexandra Shipp) and Cherly (Victoria Pedretti) at a clothing store in a Dallas shopping mall. When Pumpkin (Lola Tung), a girl from the pretzel counter at the food court, expresses her interest in working at the store, Apple reveals that their trio is a coven of witches. To work at the store, Pumpkin must be initiated and follow Apple's rules to a T. But little do the other girls know that Pumpkin has a secret of her own. The film is out now to rent and features Emma Chamberlain ("YOLO") and Gabrielle Union ("Goat") in smaller roles. (Fandango at Home) (c) 2026 King Features Synd., Inc.

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Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

GA0230000 COCHRAN

Annual Water Quality Report for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2025

This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water.

COCHRAN is Ground Water

For more information regarding this report contact:
Name: Willie Farrow
Phone: 478-230-6840

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre el agua que usted bebe. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Sources of Drinking Water

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Water Quality Test Results

Maximum residual disinfectant level or MRDL:	The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
Maximum residual disinfectant level goal or MRDLG:	The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
na:	not applicable.
mmcm:	milliamps per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)
ppb:	micrograms per liter or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.
ppm:	milligrams per liter or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.
Treatment Technique or TT:	A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Regulated Contaminants

Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine	2025	1	1 - 1	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Fluoride	04/05/2023	0.31	0 - 0.31	4	4.0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	2025	1	0 - 1.3	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.

Violations Table

Combined Radium 226/228

Some people who drink water containing radium 226 or 228 in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
MONITORING, ROUTINE MAJOR	01/01/2020	12/31/2025	We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated.

Violations Table, cont.

Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium

Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
MONITORING, ROUTINE MAJOR	01/01/2020	12/31/2025	We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated.

Uranium

Some people who drink water containing uranium in excess of the MCL (30 ug/L) over many years may have increased risk of getting cancer and kidney toxicity.

Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
MONITORING, ROUTINE MAJOR	01/01/2020	12/31/2025	We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated.

UCMR-5

The following is from UCMR-5 (Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule) sampling. UCMR-5 sampling is for EPA to do target sampling to determine which new contaminants should be regulated. Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the Agency should consider regulating those contaminants in the future. 'ND' indicates a non-detect.

Analyte	Collection Dates	Highest Level Detected	Range	Units
PFOS	2023	10.7	ND-10.7	ng/L
PFHxS	2023	3.6	ND-3.6	ng/L
PFBS	2023	3.5	ND-3.5	ng/L

2025 CCR Supplemental Lead and Copper CCR Information For The City of Cochran- Water System ID # GA0230000

Required Lead Language: Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. The City of Cochran is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposure. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Willie Farrow by email at wfarrow@cityofcochran.com or by calling city hall at (478) 230-6840. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Lead and Copper Range Data.

Analyte	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	Range		Units	Violation
				Low	High		
Lead	8/16/23	0	15	0	5.2	ppb	No
Copper	8/16/23	1.3	1.3	0.0039	0.16	ppm	No

The Service Line Inventory (SLI) is a requirement under the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) to help water systems identify and replace lead service lines. It mandates that all public water systems develop and maintain an inventory of service line materials to assess the presence of lead and protect public health. The inventory will support proactive lead reduction efforts and ensure compliance with regulatory requirements to minimize lead exposure in drinking water. To access the SLI for City of Cochran and all individual Lead Tap Sample results please contact Public Works Director Willie Farrow by email at wfarrow@cityofcochran.com or by calling city hall at (478) 230-6840.

Source Water Information

Source Water Name	Type of Water	Report Status	Location
7TH ST/ASH ST-CITY BARN WELL #2	GW	Active	7th St/Ash St
ANNE ST WELL	GW	Active	Anne St.
VERNON RD WELL	GW	Active	Vernon St.
W. DYKES ST WE	GW	Active	W. Dykes Street

2025 Regulated Contaminants Detected

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	Total Coliform Maximum Contaminant Level	Highest No. of Positive	Fecal Coliform or E. Coli Maximum Contaminant Level	Total No. of Positive E. Coli or Fecal Coliform Samples	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
0	1 positive monthly sample	1		0	N	Naturally present in the environment.

Lead and Copper

Definitions:
Action Level Goal (ALG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.
Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	08/16/2023	1.3	1.3	0.15	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	08/16/2023	0	15	2.4	0	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

Water Quality Test Results

Definitions:	The following tables contain scientific terms and measures, some of which may require explanation.
Avp:	Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.
Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL:	The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
Level 1 Assessment:	A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.
Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG:	The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
Level 2 Assessment:	A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation

BLECKLEY COMMISSION

Continued from page 1

"We're going to keep fightin'," he replied.

Sheriff Cape also shared a possible date for a murder trial later this summer. According to Cape, Aug. 17 is a potential start date.

Royheem Deeds was charged with the murder of Eastman Police Officer Tim Smith back in 2016. Due to concerns about a potential conflict of interest, the trial was moved from Dodge to Bleckley County.

Last month, a jury could not agree to convict Deeds for Smith's death, and a mistrial was declared.

"August 17 is a potential date for us to do the trial again. [The previous trial] ended in a mistrial in four of the five counts so Aug. 17 is a potential date," Cape announced at the meeting.

Cape also emphasized that, though the cost of another trial is expensive to run, it will not be at the expense of Bleckley County taxpayers.

"May 20 last month, we ran a trial here for two weeks... It was rather expensive to do, but I want to make sure everyone knows that's zero cost

to Bleckley County," Cape stressed. "I just want to make that clear. We're looking at close to \$50,000 that costs to do that trial, and that's zero cost to Bleckley County."

Cape shared that if a new trial date is solidified for August, the sheriff's office will be "back in the same mode" with heightened security in and around the courthouse.

Earlier in the meeting, Commissioner Davis announced that Scruggs Company won a bid to work on multiple county roads including Red Dog Farm Road, at \$543,000. The cost is covered by the 2026 Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant.

Davis also updated the crowd on "Carolyn Kitchens Day," a day meant to celebrate Cochran's own Carolyn Kitchens who works extensively with the Bryant Nursing Home, local hospitals and local churches.

"The Carolyn Kitchens day was a very good, successful day. Ms. Carolyn is a great citizen of Bleckley County and the City of Cochran...All the things she does for our community - she does a great job in helping out," Davis praised.

Cheryl Ates from the board of elections reported that the upcoming runoff election will be held on June 16. Early voting will run from June 8 to June 12.

Fire Chief Matt Kelley gave a brief update on calls the department assisted with over the last month. He also shared a comedic story about a fire in a resident's home, started ironically by a smoke detector.

"[The smoke detector] malfunctioned, and it actually caught on fire. It was starting to get into the ceiling, and it was dripping fire onto the carpet," Kelley said. "That was something I'd never seen - an actual smoke detector that caused a fire. It did work for about two seconds, she said."

Chamber President Melissa Barker announced several upcoming events planned in Bleckley over the summer and fall, including a Juneteenth celebration on June 20, the Great Pumpkin Festival on October 17 and "the biggest July 4 shindig downtown that we've had in at least 50 years."

Barker stated that the goal of the shared Cochran-Bleckley Chamber of Commerce is that no one will have to pay to participate in the July 4th festivities and urged residents to attend.

ELECTION RESULTS

Continued from page 1

In Bleckley County, residents voted Kandace M. Lucas to represent District 5 on the Board of Education, beating Incumbent Shanna Evans with 56% of the vote.

Voters also elected Christopher "Chad" Brown to represent District 4, beating opponent Janie Lee Cahill with 65% of the vote.

Incumbent Board Member Phillip Lester (District 2) ran unopposed as did Heather M. McDaniel who ran for District 1.

Current Lieutenant Governor Burt Jones won the Republican primary for Georgia Governor throughout Twiggs, Bleckley and Wilkinson County. In Bleckley, Jones won with 47% of the vote. Rick Jackson followed him, gaining 36% of the vote. In Wilkinson, Jones led with 50% of the vote while Jackson received only 34%. In Twiggs Jones won by only 46%, with Jackson trailing closely behind at 41%. Jones and Jackson will face off in a runoff election scheduled for June 16.

Former Atlanta Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms won the Democratic nomination. In Twiggs County, Bottoms secured 70% of the vote. In Wilkinson, she received 63% of the vote and in Bleckley, she received 61%. Bottoms will head directly to the general election in November to face either Jones or Jackson.

In the race for Lieutenant Governor, John F. Kennedy won the Wilkinson and Twiggs County vote, securing 31% and 35%. Blake Tillery won Bleckley County's vote with 32%. Kennedy will face Greg Dolezal in the runoff election.

Richard Wright won the Democratic primary in Wilkinson County with 41% of the vote. Josh McLaurin won 35% of the vote while Nabilah Parkes won 23%. In Twiggs and Bleckley Counties, McLaurin took the win. McLaurin and Parkes will

advance to the runoff. The winner will face either Kennedy or Dolezal during the general election in November.

Mike Collins won the Republican primary in Twiggs and Wilkinson County for US Senate, pulling over 50% of the Republican vote in both counties. A total of 810 votes were cast in the Republican primary in Twiggs and 1,074 in Wilkinson, with Collins securing 408 and 543 of those votes. In Bleckley County, Collins won with just under 50% of the vote, having secured 689 of the 1,397 votes cast. Collins will face Derek Doolley in the runoff. The winner will secure the Republican nomination for the general election in November. Earl "Buddy" Carter announced his concession on Wednesday.

Incumbent Senator Jon Ossoff won the Democratic primary throughout Twiggs, Bleckley and Wilkinson County, being the only Democratic candidate on the ballot. Ossoff will advance to the general election in November.

In the race for Secretary of State, both parties will head to runoffs before the general election. Republicans Tim Fleming and Vernon Jones will face each other again during the June 16 runoff, as will Democrats Dana Barrett and Penny Brown Reynolds. Fleming was the frontrunner in the Republican primary throughout Twiggs, Bleckley and Wilkinson Counties. On the Democratic ballot, Reynolds won over Twiggs and Wilkinson County, while Barrett pulled ahead in Bleckley.

Republican Brian Strickland and Democrat Tanya Miller advanced to the general election in November, hoping to score the position of Attorney General. Strickland and Miller won over Twiggs, Bleckley and Wilkinson Counties in their respective party primaries.

The Spats



by Jeff Pickering

Out on a Limb



by Gary Kopervas



King Crossword
Solution time: 22 mins.
Answers: King Crossword

MAGIC MAZE ANSWERS

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Rain-delay cover
- 5 Prattle
- 8 Minn. neighbor
- 12 Declare
- 13 Lab eggs
- 14 "Rule, Britannia!" composer
- 15 "Arrivederci!"
- 16 Dawn
- 18 Airport area
- 20 Upper House
- 21 Fed. workplace monitor
- 23 Director Burton
- 24 9-to-5 work period
- 28 Slightly
- 31 Dos preceder
- 32 - the above
- 34 Equi-
- 35 Boxing match
- 37 The "D" of DST
- 39 ICU workers
- 41 Sent a dupe to
- 42 Barely manage
- 45 Coiffure
- 49 Make a short-term investment
- 51 Last write-up
- 52 Sheltered
- 53 - Angeles

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13			14			
15				16			17			
18			19		20					
21				22			23			
24	25	26				27	28	29	30	
31			32				33	34		
35			36				37		38	
39				40		41				
42	43			44		45		46	47	48
49					50			51		
52					53			54		
55					56			57		

DOWN

- 1 Diplomacy
- 2 Athletic shoe brand
- 3 Bring up
- 4 "Coming Soon" ads
- 5 Sponsored infant
- 6 "Selma" director
- 7 Inlets
- 8 Aslan's land
- 9 Have lofty aspirations
- 10 Gray's subj.
- 11 "Nope" actress
- 17 Wager
- 19 Author Bandele
- 22 Insurance giant
- 24 Name
- 25 Year in Mexico
- 26 "For - Only" (Bond film)
- 27 Kid's storage unit
- 29 Somewhat (Suff.)
- 30 Youngster
- 33 Beagle's bane
- 36 Govt. securities
- 38 Figures of speech
- 40 South, in Spanish
- 42 Dutch cheese
- 43 Curly cabbage
- 44 Towering
- 46 Baseball stats
- 47 Force
- 48 Elevator name
- 50 Fawn's mama

TWIGGS BOC

Continued from page 1

"When Deputy Turner arrived on scene, the driver was unconscious and not responsive. Deputy Turner... had to enter by breaking the rear window and extracting the driver from the vehicle. Once safe on the side of the road, he began CPR until Deputy Black arrived. Both deputies administered NARCAN. After several doses, they were able to revive the victim."

Once revived, the driver reportedly became combative and had to be restrained before she was transported to the hospital. There, she received further treatment for the overdose.

According to Mitchum the incident was witnessed by a passerby. He recalled what the witness shared with him during a phone call after the incident.

"They broke the window, pulled the lady out of the window, and she had no pulse. They did CPR and brought her back to life," he read from prepared statement at the podium. "It is appreciated that this quality of officer was on the road."

"Deputy Turner and Deputy Black demonstrated outstanding professionalism and sound training and calm decision making under pressure that not only set a strong example... but their actions also saved a human life."

Chief Hart stated that Firefighters Lt. Ryan Williams and Andy Alvarado arrived on the scene shortly after deputies administered the NARCAN and that they assisted in treating the driver before she was transport-

ed to the hospital.

"I feel like Lt. Ryan Williams along with the deputies and firefighter Alvarado demonstrated exceptional professionalism, sound judgement and composure under pressure. Their coordinated actions reflected the outstanding aspect of the Twiggs County public safety personnel and directly contributed to save their life," Hart praised. "I've been in public safety for probably 34, 35 years and no where have I ever seen where the deputies and fire personnel worked together like they do here. It's a coordinated effort... I'm just amazed by it."

Earlier in the meeting, Commissioners recognized the road department for Public Works Week.

In a proclamation, Chairman Ken Fowler announced the week of May 17-23 is declared as Public Works Week. Fowler read the proclamation aloud.

"...Public works employees focus on infrastructure, facilities, and services that are of vital importance to sustainable and resilient communities...These infrastructure, facilities, and services could not be provided without the dedicated efforts of Twiggs County's public works employees," he read. "The Twiggs County Board of Commissioners designates the week of May 17-23, 2026, as 'Public Works Week' and encourages the citizens of Twiggs County to join with the board of Commissioners to thank and recognize our public works employees for the substantial contributions they make to Twiggs County."

Legals

Bleckley Co. Legals

C26-050 IN THE PROBATE COURT OF BLECKLEY COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA IN RE: CHAD ERIC SMITH, DECEASED ESTATE NO. 2026P18 NOTICE OF PETITION TO FILE FOR YEAR'S SUPPORT

The petition of SHELLI SMITH for a year's support from the estate of CHAD ERIC SMITH, deceased, for decedent's (surviving spouse) (and) (minor child(ren)), having been duly filed, all interested persons are hereby notified to show cause, if any they have, on or before June 22, 2026, why said petition should not be granted.

C26-054 BLECKLEY SUPERIOR COURT TRADE NAME REGISTRATION PERSONALLY APPEARED THE UNDERSIGNED WHO ON OATH DEPOSES AND SAYS THAT:

H & N Property Solutions LLC 155 Wood Duck Road Cochran, GA 31014 478-230-9436 IS/ARE DOING BUSINESS IN LAURENS COUNTY, GA., UNDER THE NAME OF: H & N Storage Solutions 371 & 373 US-23 Cochran, GA 31014 Trade name address in Bleckley County, AND THAT THE NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE CARRIED ON AT SUCH ADDRESS IS: Self Storage Facility Nick Floyd Person making declaration SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME THIS 19th DAY OF May, 2026. Christina McCall NOTARY PUBLIC May 28, June 4, 2026

C26-049 IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF BLECKLEY COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA IN THE INTEREST OF:

S.C.C., Sex: F, DOB: 07/01/2016 TPR Case No. 012-2026J-0011 L.J.T., Sex: M, DOB: 05/02/2018 TPR Case No. 012-2026J-0010 Z.L.T., Sex: M, DOB: 03/25/2022 TPR Case No. 012-2026J-0012 S.R.T., Sex: F, DOB: 12/07/2023 TPR Case No. 012-2026J-0013 Minor Children FOR PETITION TO TERMINATE PARENTAL RIGHTS TO: ERIC CRAWFORD AND ANY UNKNOWN UNNAMED PUTATIVE FATHERS, and OTHERS CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE MINOR CHILDREN NAMED ABOVE BORN TO JASMINE ALEXUS TROTTER ON THE DATE ABOVE.

By Order for Service by Publication dated May 7, 2026, you are required to appear before the Juvenile Court of BLECKLEY County, Georgia to answer the allegations of a Petition to Terminate Parental Rights filed by the BLECKLEY County Department of Family and Children Services. You may obtain a free copy of the petition directly or by mail from the clerk of said court. The general nature of the allegations is that the children are dependent children and the dependent state is likely to continue and cause serious physical, mental, emotional, or moral harm to the children unless the rights of the parents are terminated. The court hearing of your case has been scheduled for July 7, 2026, at 10:30 p.m., at the BLECKLEY County Courthouse in Cochran, Georgia.

The court at trial can enter a judgment ending your rights to the children if you fail to appear and show cause why your parental rights should not be terminated. A biological father may lose all rights to the children and not be entitled to object to the termination of their rights unless, within 30 days of receipt of this notice, he files: (1) a petition to legitimize the children; and (2) a notice of the filing of the petition to legitimize with the Juvenile Court of BLECKLEY County, Georgia.

A party has the right to an attorney in this proceeding. If you are unable to hire an attorney, the Court will appoint one for you if you are an indigent person. If you have any questions concerning this notice of summons, contact the clerk's office.

WITNESS the Honorable Stephanie D. Burton, Judge of said court, this the 8th day of May, 2026. Christina McCall (Deputy) Clerk, Juvenile Court BLECKLEY County, Georgia May 14, 21, 28, June 4, 2026

C26-045 NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER IN DEED TO SECURE DEBT GEORGIA, BLECKLEY COUNTY. By virtue of the power of sale contained in the DEED TO SECURE DEBT given by JIMMY LEE BLACKSHEAR to STATE BANK OF COCHRAN dated September 10, 1999, and recorded in Deed Book 195, Pages 159-160, in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Bleckley County, Ga., and on an Affidavit to Extend Deed to Secure Debt dated March 22, 2019, and recorded in Deed Book 430, pages 299-301, in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Bleckley County, Georgia conveying the below-described property, to secure that certain Promissory Note given by Jimmy Lee Blackshear to State Bank of Cochran in the original principal amount of \$17,873.59 with interest thereon as set forth therein, there will be sold by the undersigned at public outcry to the highest bidder before the Courthouse Door at Bleckley County, Georgia, within the legal hours of sale, on the first Tuesday in June, 2026, the following described property:

All that tract or parcel of land lying and being one and one-fourth acres of land, more or less, lying and being in the City of Cochran, Bleckley County, Georgia, lying on the northeast side of Fifth Street, in said City of Cochran, and being bounded now or formerly as follows: northwest by a fence that divided above lands and land of W.C. Stocks and E. Cook; northeast by a fence that divides above lands and lands

of Mrs. Minnie Taylor; southeast by lands of E. Cook and Fred Cross; southwest by lands of Fred Cross and Fifth Street; and being the lands conveyed by W.C. Stocks to Frank Pitts by warranty deed dated November 24, 1950, and recorded in Deed Book D-20, page 592, of the Bleckley County Deed Records.

THE ABOVE PROPERTY IS LOCATED AT: 104 FIFTH STREET, COCHRAN, GEORGIA 31014 To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the person or persons who may be in the possession of such property is Jimmy Lee Blackshear. The debt secured by said Deed to Secure Debt and an Affidavit to Extend Deed to Secure Debt and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of default, failure to make payments in accordance with the terms of said Promissory Note. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same, and all expenses of sale, including attorney's fees. Said property will be sold subject to all outstanding ad valorem taxes and/or assessments and/or restrictions and/or zoning ordinances and/or covenants; matters that may be disclosed by an accurate survey and/or inspection of the property; and matters of record superior to the Deed to Secure Debt.

Notice has been given of intention to collect attorney's fees in accordance with the terms of the Promissory Note secured by the property. Additionally, this 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 Deed to Secure Debt.

THIS LAW FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. The name, address, and telephone number of the individual or entity who shall have full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the Deed to Secure Debt is Mr. Jackie Bowen, Divisional CEO, State Bank of Cochran, 112 East Beech Street, Cochran, Georgia, 31014 Ph. No. 478-934-4501.

State Bank of Cochran Attorney-in-Fact for Jimmy Lee Blackshear Edward B. Claxton III Attorney at Law P. O. Box 16459 Dublin, Georgia 31040 478-272-9965 ebcatty@bellsouth.net May 7, 14, 21, 28, 2026

C26-056 STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF BLECKLEY IN RE: ESTATE OF MARGUERITE BROWN, DECEASED. All creditors of the estate of MARGUERITE BROWN, 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 required to make immediate payment. This 20TH day of MAY, 2026.

CHERYL LYNN TUNSTILL Administrator of the Estate of MARGUERITE BROWN 127 W LAKE-SHORE DR COCHRAN, GA 31014 May 28, June 4, 11, 18, 2026

C26-055 NOTICE PROBATE COURT OF BLECKLEY COUNTY RE: PETITION OF JONATHAN A. ALDERMAN FOR DISCHARGE FROM OFFICE AND ALL LIABILITY AS EXECUTOR OF THE ESTATE OF JAMES WILLIAM EDMONDS, DECEASED

This is to notify that all objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All pleadings/objections must be signed before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your pleadings/objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel at the following address/telephone number for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed on or before June 8, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. 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, Probate Judge 112 N. Second Street Cochran, GA 31014 Telephone Number: (478) 934-3200 opt 4 May 28, 2026

C26-051 IN THE PROBATE COURT OF BLECKLEY COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA IN RE: ESTATE OF GEORGE IVERY LESTER, DECEASED ESTATE NO. 2026P5

PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE TO: whom it may concern: CARLTON LESTER AND LORA L. LESTER has petitioned for RASHEKA LANA SCOTT to be appointed administrator(s) of the estate of GEORGE IVERY LESTER 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 JUNE 22, 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. Jonathan R. Fordham Judge of the Probate Court May 21, 28, June 4, 11, 2026

C26-052 STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF BLECKLEY NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER

Because of a default under the terms of the Security Deed executed by Bruce Hardy to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for Homestar Financial Corp. dated October 30, 2020, and recorded in Deed Book 447, Page 459, as last modified in Deed Book 480, Page 436, Bleckley County Records, said Security Deed having been last sold, assigned, transferred and conveyed to Newrez, LLC D/B/A Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing, securing a Note in the original principal amount of \$95,959.00, the holder thereof pursuant to said Deed and Note thereby secured has declared the entire amount of said indebtedness due and payable and, pursuant to the power of sale contained in said Deed, will on the first Tuesday, July 7, 2026, during the legal hours of sale, before the Courthouse door in said County, sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, the property described in said Deed, to-wit:

That tract of land with dwelling house and other improvements located thereon which has the address of 256 Crest Drive, Cochran, Georgia 31014 (Tax ID B38B 112) in the City of Cochran in Land Lot 127 of the 21st Land District of Bleckley County, Georgia, designated as Subdivision Lot 33 of Block "A" of Lake Tynex Subdivision as shown by plat of survey made by David M. Hammock, Surveyor, dated March 14, 1979, recorded in Plat Book 5, Page 52, in the Office of the Clerk of Bleckley County Superior Court at Cochran, Georgia, bounded now or formerly as follows: Northwest 110.11 feet by the southeast right of way line of Crest Drive; northeast 196.20 feet by Subdivision Lot 32 owned now or formerly by Richard L. Hypes and Sherry R. Hypes; Southeast 109.99 feet by lands now or formerly John R. Phillips and Leo L. Phillips; and Southwest 192.23 feet by the line of lands now or formerly of Cheryl Aschenbrenner et al Trustee of various trusts, Cheryl Aschenbrenner, David T. Yargbrough, Carol Aschenbrenner, and Ann K. Johnson. The foregoing described tract of land is the same as that conveyed from Matthew David Kline and Mikki Leigh Kline Trustees of the Kline Living Trust dated May 15, 2017 to Hillary E. Southerland by Trustee's Deed dated August 17, 2018, recorded in Deed Book 434, Pages 630-631, Bleckley County Records.

Said property is known as 256 Crest Drive, Cochran, GA 31014, together with all fixtures and personal property attached to and constituting a part of said property, if any. Said property will be sold subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, whether or not now due and payable), the right of redemption of any taxing authority, any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above. The proceeds of said sale will be applied to the payment of said indebtedness and all expenses of said sale as provided in said Deed, and the balance, if any, will be distributed as provided by law.

The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the secured creditor. The property is or may be in the possession of Bruce Hardy, successor in interest or tenant(s).

NewRez LLC as Attorney-in-Fact for Bruce Hardy

File no. 26-084243 LOGS LEGAL GROUP LLP Attorneys and Counselors at Law 1050 Crown Pointe Parkway, Suite 500 Atlanta, GA 30338 (770) 220-2535 https://www.logs.com/

*THE LAW FIRM IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. May 28, June 4, 11, 18, 25, July 2, 2026

C26-043 NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER GEORGIA, BLECKLEY COUNTY

Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by Daniel W Ezell to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for Mortgage Research Center, LLC dba Veterans Home Loans, its successors and assigns dated April 17, 2019, recorded in Deed Book 432, Page 53, Bleckley County, Georgia Records, as last transferred to NewRez LLC D/B/A Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing by assignment recorded in Deed Book 486, Page 544, Bleckley County, Georgia Records, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of TWO HUNDRED FOUR THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED AND 0/100 DOLLARS (\$204,300.00), 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 June, 2026, the following described property:

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

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

NewRez LLC is the holder of the Security Deed to the property in accordance with OCCG § 44-14-162.2. The entity that has full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the mortgage with the debtor is: NewRez, LLC db/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing, 75 Beattie Place, Suite 300, Greenville, SC 29601, (800) 365-7107. Note, however, that such entity is not required by law to negotiate, amend or modify the terms of the loan.

Upon information and belief, said property is more commonly known as 794 Ga Hwy 87 S, Cochran, GA 31014. Should a conflict arise between the property address and the legal description, the legal description shall control.

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

have questions about how the FinCEN Anti-Money Laundering Rule affects your transaction and whether your transaction is reportable.

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

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

NewRez LLC as Attorney in Fact for Daniel W Ezell McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLP 1544 Old Alabama Rd Roswell, GA 30076 www.foreclosurehotline.net EXHIBIT "A"

All that tract or parcel land situate, lying and being in Land Lot 152 of the 21st Land District, Bleckley County, Georgia, comprising 3.21 acres and being more particularly described according to a plat of survey of record in Plat Cabinet B, Slide 115-10A, Clerk's Office, Bleckley Superior Court. Said plat and the recorded copy thereof are incorporated by reference for all purposes. Subject to all easements, ordinances, covenants, conditions, restrictions and rights-of-way of record, if any. Address under current system of numbering: 794 S Ga. Hwy. 87, Cochran, Georgia. MR / CA June 2, 2026 Our file no. 26-21942GA-FT18 26-21942GA May 7, 14, 21, 28, 2026

C26-044 NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER STATE OF GEORGIA BLECKLEY COUNTY

By virtue of a power of sale contained in a certain security deed from ESTATE OF DENNIS ELLIS to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for New Day Financial, LLC, its successors and assigns and recorded in Deed Book 00486, Page 0212-0236, Bleckley County, Georgia records given to secure a note in the original amount of \$66,000.00 with interest on the unpaid balance until paid, the following described property will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash at the courthouse door of BLECKLEY COUNTY, Georgia, or at such place as has or may be lawfully designated as an alternative location within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in June, 2026, to wit: June 02, 2026, the following described property:

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND WITH FRAME DWELLING HOUSE THEREON LYING IN LAND LOT 158 OF THE 21ST LAND DISTRICT OF BLECKLEY COUNTY, AND IN THE CITY OF COCHRAN, KNOWN AS LOT NO. 8 AS SHOWN ON A PLAT OF SURVEY PREPARED BY C.B. LAMB DATED OCTOBER 18, 1943 AND APPEARING OF RECORD IN DEED BOOK D-16, PAGE 143 N THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF BLECKLEY SUPERIOR COURT, SAID PLAT AND THE RECORD THEREOF BEING INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE IN AID OF THIS DESCRIPTION. SAID TRACT FRONTS 65 FEET ON THIRD STREET AND EXTENDING BACK IN EQUAL WIDTH NORTHEASTERLY 160 FEET. BEING THE SAME PROPERTY AS CONVEYED TO DENNIS ELLIS FROM PERLE P. PEACOCK BY THAT DEED DATED 06/19/2015 AND RECORDED 6/22/2015 IN BOOK / PAGE : 400 / 379 IN THE BLECKLEY COUNTY RECORDS. Being real property commonly known as 137 SOUTH 3RD STREET, COCHRAN, GA 31014.

The debt secured by the above-referenced security deed has been declared due because of the default in the payment of said debt per the terms of the note and other possible defaults by the borrower or the successor thereto. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the debt and all expenses of this sale including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given).

Said sale will be made subject to the following items which may affect the title to said property: All restrictive covenants, easements and rights-of-way appearing of record, if any; all zoning ordinances; matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or by an inspection of the property; all outstanding or unpaid bills and assessments for street improvements, curbing, garbage, water, sewage and public utilities which may be liens upon said property; and any outstanding taxes, assessments and other liens superior to the security deed being foreclosed hereby. To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the above-described property is in the possession of the borrower and/or other persons with the consent and acquiescence of the borrower.

Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2, the name, address and telephone number of the person or entity who shall have full authority to negotiate, amend, or modify all terms of the above-described mortgage is as follows: Cornerstone Home Lending, a Division of Cornerstone Capital Bank, SSB 1177 West Loop South Suite 700 Houston, TX 77027 877-621-4663

The foregoing notwithstanding, nothing in O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2 shall be construed to require New Day Financial, LLC to negotiate, amend, or modify the terms of the Security Deed described herein. New Day Financial, LLC as Attorney in Fact for ESTATE OF DENNIS ELLIS Attorney Contact: Tromberg, Miller, Morris & Partners, PLLC 3000 Langford Road, Building 100 Peachtree Corners, GA 30071 Phone: 404-793-1447 Fax: 404-738-1558 26-001204 THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. May 7, 14, 21, 28, 2026

Twigg's Co. Legals

T26-041 IN THE PROBATE COURT OF TWIGGS COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: ESTATE OF MAMIE S. HINSON THOMPSON, DECEASED ESTATE NO. P-26-029 PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO: UNKNOWN HEIRS OF DENNIS HINSON TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN. Virginia Scarborough has petitioned to be appointed administrator of the estate of Mamie S. Hinson Thompson 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 June 15, 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.

Honorable Gary Nobles, Jr. Judge of Probate Court By: Diana H. Robinson Clerk of the Probate Court Twigg's County Probate Court 425 Railroad St. N. P. O. Box 186 Jeffersonville, Georgia 31044 478-945-3390 May 21, 28, June 4, 11, 2026

T26-035 NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER, TWIGGS COUNTY Pursuant to the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by Curtis A Pitts to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for USA Home Loans, Inc., Corporation, its successors and assigns dated 9/24/2008 and recorded in Deed Book 8M Page 105 Twigg's County, Georgia records; as last transferred to or acquired by PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of \$114,863.00, 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 Twigg's County, Georgia (or such other area as designated by Order of the Superior Court of said county), within the legal hours of sale on June 2, 2026 (being the first Tuesday of said month unless said date falls on a Federal Holiday, in which case being the first Wednesday of said month), the following described property:

All that tract or parcel of land lying, being and situate in Land Lot 39 of the 26th Land District of Twigg's County, Georgia, known as Lot 19 according to a plat of survey for Allen Carroll prepared by Daniel R. Riggs, GRLS #1533, on July 20, 1989, a copy of which is of record in Plat Book 9 on page 165 in the Office of the Clerk of Twigg's Superior Court and incorporated herein and made a part hereof by reference. The improvements thereon being commonly known as 96 Family Circle, Jeffersonville, Georgia, 31044. Being the same lot or parcel of ground which by deed dated June 5, 2006 and recorded among the Land Records of Twigg's County in Deed Book 7U, page 378 was granted and conveyed by Hazel McGahee unto Curtis A. Pitts. The debt secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of default, failure to pay the indebtedness as and when due and in the manner provided in the Note and Security Deed. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, as provided in the Security Deed and by law, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given). Said property is commonly known as 96 Family Cir., Jeffersonville, GA 31044 together with all fixtures and personal property attached to and constituting a part of said property, if any. To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party (or parties) in possession of the subject property is (are): Ntzoeka Wimberly or tenant or tenants. PennyMac Loan Services, LLC is the entity or individual designated, who shall have full authority to negotiate, amend and modify all terms of the mortgage, PennyMac Loan Services, LLC Loss Mitigation 3043

Townsgate Road #200, Westlake Village, CA 91361 1-866-549-3583 Note, however, that such entity or individual is not required by law to negotiate, amend or modify the terms of the loan. Said property will be sold subject to: (a) any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), (b) unpaid water or sewage bills that constitute a lien against the property whether due and payable or not yet due and payable and which may not be of record, (c) the right of redemption of any taxing authority, (d) any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, and (e) any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above. The sale will be conducted subject to (1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code; and (2) final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 9-13-172.1, which allows for certain procedures regarding the rescission of judicial and non-judicial sales in the State of Georgia, the Deed Under Power and other foreclosure documents may not be provided until final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan as provided immediately above. PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC as agent and Attorney in Fact for Curtis A Pitts Aldridge Pite, LLP, Six Piedmont Center, 3525 Piedmont Road, N.E., Suite 700, Atlanta, Georgia 30305, (404) 994-7400. 1120-5075A THIS LAW FIRM MAY BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. 1120-5075A May 7, 14, 21, 28, 2026

T26-033 SALE UNDER POWER

STATE OF GEORGIA TWIGGS COUNTY THIS LAW FIRM IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

WHEREAS, on July 30, 2025, J. JEFFERSONVILLE, LLC executed and delivered unto AMERICAN PRIDE BANK 4740 Log Cabin Drive, Macon, GA 31204, a certain Promissory Note and Deed to Secure Debt With Power of Sale in order to secure the indebtedness therein recited, the original principal amount of said indebtedness being \$3,731,477.26, and all other indebtedness then owing or thereafter arising between the parties, as shown by the record of same in Deed Book 11N, Page 229, among the Deed Records of Twigg's County, Georgia. By virtue of that certain Assignment of Deed to Secure Debt dated March 27, 2026 and being of record in Deed Book 11Q, Page 985, among the Deed Records of Twigg's County, Georgia J&J FLIGHT, LLC is the present holder of record of the within referenced Promissory Note and Deed to Secure Debt which conveys the property hereinafter described as follows: WHEREAS, default has been made in the performance of the covenants and agreements secured by the above-described deed to secure debt, and the present holder of record has elected to declare the entire remaining balance of the indebtedness secured by the aforesaid deed to secure debt due according to the terms of said deed to secure debt and the note secured thereby, NOW, THEREFORE, according to the original terms of said deed to secure debt as assigned pursuant to the power of sale contained therein and the laws in such cases made and provided, the undersigned will expose for sale to the highest and best bidder for cash the above described property, after proper advertisement, on the first Tuesday in June 2026, the same being June 2, 2026, between the legal hours of sale before the courthouse door in Jeffersonville, Twigg's County, Georgia.

CITY OF MCINTYRE REQUEST FOR QUOTES

The City of McIntyre is accepting quotes for the installation of fire hydrants on Old McIntyre Road and 441 within the city limit and waterlines on Macon Road. Interested contractors must be licensed and insured. Quotes should include labor, materials, equipment, and estimated completion time.

The City of McIntyre reserves the right to reject any or all quotes.

Quotes may be submitted to: City of McIntyre P.O Box 38 McIntyre, GA 31054

Email: mcincityclerk@outlook.com or mcin@windstream.net

For more additional information, please contact the City of McIntyre at 478-946-2037.

ESTATE COIN AUCTION A Portion of The Frank Wall, Jr. Estate

ONLINE AUCTION

Bidding opens Monday, June 8, 2026, at 10:00 am EST Lots begin closing Tuesday, June 9, 2026, at 10:00 am EST

- U.S. Mint Proof Sets and Commemorative Issues
State Quarter Proof Sets
Presidential Dollar Proof Sets
Traditional U.S. Mint Proof Sets
Silver Proof Sets
Commemorative Silver Dollars
Confederate Currency
Silver and Gold Certificates
Included in this auction will be a few gold coins



Morgans, Peace, Walking Liberty, Barber and Much More. With over 100 lots in this auction, we feel we have something to offer collectors, investors, and gift buyers

10% Buyer's Premium and Valid Credit Card Required for Bidding

For A Complete List of ALL Items Being Offered Visit Our Website



478-743-1511 HudsonMarshall.com

Bidders for the subject property shall produce, at the time of sale, evidence that such bidder has the financial resources to pay the price submitted by such bidder. Proof of financial capability to comply with a bid shall be in the form of cash, letter of credit from a bank or savings and loan association in Twiggs County, Georgia, or cashier's or certified check for not less than the price to be bid by any such bidder. Sale shall continue from day to day until the property is sold. The undersigned may reject any and all bids and withdraw said property from sale and subsequently re-offer the property for sale in the event no reasonable bid is received and accepted. In that event, the property may be re-offered for sale at a day and time as determined, and as publicly announced at the public sale on June 2, 2026.

The proceeds from sale will be used for payment of that certain Deed to Secure Debt with Power of Sale from J. JEFFERSONVILLE, LLC to AMERICAN PRIDE BANK, both principal and interest, insurance premiums, taxes, late charges and expenses, and attorney's fees for which proper notice has been given, and the balance, if any, delivered as provided by law. Said property will be sold subject to taxes for the year 2026 and any prior unpaid taxes, any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants of matters of record superior to the Deed to Secure Debt first set out above. The property described above shall be sold subject to any right of the United States of America to redeem the aforesaid property within 120 days of the above referenced foreclosure sale date to pay Federal Tax Liens.

The persons that have full authority to negotiate, amend and modify all terms of the deed to secure debt on behalf of J&J Flight, LLC with the debtor is: KYLE T. SWANN, 203 E. WASHINGTON ST., THOMASVILLE, GA 31792 ~ 229-228-4333. Please understand that the secured creditor is not required by law to negotiate, amend or modify the terms of the mortgage instrument.

This 27th day of April 2026
J&J FLIGHT, LLC
 as Attorney-in-Fact, for J. JEFFERSONVILLE, LLC Under Power of Security Deed as assigned to J&J FLIGHT, LLC
 WHELCHER & CARLTON, LLP
 Attorneys at Law
 P. O. Box 1677
 Thomasville, GA 31799
 May 7, 14, 21, 28, 2026

T26-037
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF TWIGGS COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF JOANNE THOMAS DECEASED
ESTATE NO. P-26-028
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE
TO: TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.
Janice Thomas has petitioned to be appointed administrator of the estate of **Joanne Thomas** deceased, of said county. (The petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, waiver of statements, and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. § 53-12-261.) All interested persons are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections, and must be filed with the Court on or before **June 15, 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.

Honorable Gary Nobles, Jr.
Judge of Probate Court
By: Diane H. Robinson
Clerk of the Probate Court
Twiggs County Probate Court
425 Railroad St. N.P.O. Box 18
Jeffersonville, Georgia 31044
478-945-3390
 May 21, 28, June 4, 11, 2026

T26-040
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF TWIGGS COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: BOBBY ANDERSON
ESTATE NO. P-26-030
NOTICE OF PETITION TO FILE FOR YEAR'S SUPPORT

The petition of **Ethel Mae Anderson**, for a Year's Support from the estate of **Bobby Anderson**, 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 **June 15, 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
 May 21, 28, June 4, 11, 2026

T26-038
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF TWIGGS
IN RE: ELIZABETH A. PERRY, DECEASED

All debtors/creditors of the Estate of **Elizabeth A. Perry**, 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 8th day of May 2026.
Ethel P. Wyche
 3901 Sylvester Circle W.
 Macon, Georgia 31217
 May 21, 28, June 4, 11, 2026

T26-039
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF TWIGGS COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF MICHAEL BLAKE MARTIN, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. P-26-031
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE
TO: TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

Blake Christopher Martin has petitioned to be appointed administrator of the estate of **Michael Blake Martin** 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 **June 15, 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.

Honorable Gary Nobles, Jr.
Judge of Probate Court
By: Diane H. Robinson
Clerk of the Probate Court
Twiggs County Probate Court
425 Railroad St. N.P.O. Box 186
Jeffersonville, Georgia 31044
478-945-3390
 May 21, 28, June 4, 11, 2026

T26-036
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
TWIGGS COUNTY, GEORGIA
IN RE: Estate of John Donald Hammock, deceased.

All creditors of the estate of John Donald Hammock, 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 5th day of May, 2026.
Linda Sarah McCant, Administrator
 Estate of John Donald Hammock
John D. Newberry
Newberry & Newberry
 Attorneys at Law
 P.O. Box 844
 Gray, GA 31032
 (478) 986-5141
 May 14, 21, 28, June 4, 2026

T26-042
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
IN RE: ESTATE OF ROBERT E. PROFFITT, SR.

All creditors of the Estate of **Robert E. Proffitt, Sr.**, late of Twiggs 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 21st day of May, 2026.
 Send ALL Claims To:
Therese M. Tangires, Executor
 Estate of Robert E. Proffitt, Sr.
 1605 Riggins Mill Road
 Dry Branch, GA 31020
 Attorney for the Estate:
Joe E. Williams, Jr.
 637 Cherry Street
 Macon, GA 31201-2623
 May 28, June 4, 11, 18, 2026

Wilkinson Co. Legals

W26-050
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF WILKINSON COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF Joseph Lamar Myrick, DECEASED
ESTATE NO.348
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO: **Jessica Barbara Evans, Trent Howard, Trinity Howard, Daniel Lewis Myrick, Joseph Lamar Myrick II, Reeb Howard, Julianna Myrick, Barbara Renea Myrick, Chris Myrick, Misty Pollack, Joseph Merritt Myrick** and to whom it may concern:

Juanda Ruth Myrick has petitioned for administrator(s) of the estate of **Joseph Lamar Myrick** 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 **June 15, 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.

Bradasia Mims
 Judge of the Probate Court
 By: **Brittany Jones**
 Clerk of the Probate Court
 Wilkinson County Probate Court
 100 Bacon St
 Irwinton, GA 31042
 478-946-2222
 May 21, 28, June 4, 11, 2026

W26-046
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF WILKINSON COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA

Evelyn Patel
 Plaintiff,
 v.
Keval Patel
 Defendant
 Civil Action File No. 2026CV0010
NOTICE OF SUMMONS-SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

TO: **Keval Patel, Defendant Named Above:** You are hereby notified that the above-styled action seeking a divorce was filed against you in said court on April 27, 2026, and that by reason of an order for service of summons by publication entered by the court on April 27, 2026, you are hereby commanded and required to file with the clerk of said court and serve upon the **Evelyn Patel, Plaintiff**, whose address is 771 Laurel Branch Church Road, McIntyre, Georgia 31054, an answer to the complaint within sixty (60) days of the date of the order for service by publication. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.

Witness the Honorable, Judge of said Court.
 This the 27th day of April, 2026.
Melissa Mims, Ch. dep

CLERK of Superior Court
 Ocmulgee Judicial Circuit
 May 7, 14, 21, 28, 2026

W26-047
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER, WILKINSON COUNTY Pursuant to the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by **Latoria M. Rountree and Bennie Rountree, Jr.** to **Option One Mortgage Corporation**, a California Corporation dated 10/21/2005 and recorded in Deed Book 301 Page 676 Wilkinson County, Georgia records; as last transferred to or acquired by **The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, National Association** fka **The Bank of New York Trust Company, N.A.**, as successor to **JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.**, as Trustee for **Residential Asset Mortgage Products, Inc.**, Mortgage Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates Series 2006-RP3, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of \$70,800.00, 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 Wilkinson County, Georgia (or such other area as designated by Order of the Superior Court of said county), within the legal hours of sale on June 2, 2026 (being the first Tuesday of said month unless said date falls on a Federal Holiday, in which case being the first Wednesday of said month), the following described property: All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in Land Lot 262, 3rd Land District, GMD 330, in the Town of Toombsboro, Wilkinson County, Georgia, being shown at that 2.00 acre tract, more or less, on the Survey of Property for **Herman Ray Orr and Agnes Orr Lord**, recorded in Plat Book 19 Page 393A, Clerk's Office, Wilkinson County Superior Court. Said plat is incorporated herein for the purpose of a more complete and accurate description of the metes, bounds and dimensions of said property. This is the same property as described in a conveyance to **Herman Ray Orr and Agnes Orr Lord**, dated October 6, 2004, recorded in Deed Book 292 Page 392 Wilkinson County Superior Court. The debt secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of default, failure to pay the indebtedness as and when due and in the manner provided in the Note and Security Deed. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, as provided in the Security Deed and by law, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given). Said property is commonly known as **239 Irwinton Rd, Toombsboro, GA 31090-2005** together with all fixtures and personal property attached to and constituting a part of said property, if any. To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party (or parties) in possession of the subject property is (are): **Latoria M. Rountree and Bennie Rountree, Jr.** or tenant or tenants. **Onity Mortgage Corporation** is the entity or individual designated, who shall have full authority to negotiate, amend and modify all terms of the mortgage. **Onity Mortgage Corporation** 1661 Worthington Rd Suite 100 West Palm Beach, FL 33409 (800) 750-2518 Note, however, that such entity or individual is not required by law to negotiate, amend or modify the terms of the loan. Said property will be sold subject to: (a) any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), (b) unpaid water or sewage bills that constitute a lien against the property whether due and payable or not yet due and payable and which may not be of record, (c) the right of redemption of any taxing authority, (d) any matters which

might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, and (e) any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above. The sale will be conducted subject to (1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code; and (2) final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 9-13-172.1, which allows for certain procedures regarding the rescission of judicial and non-judicial sales in the State of Georgia, the Deed Under Power and other foreclosure documents may not be provided until final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan as provided immediately above. The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, National Association fka The Bank of New York Trust Company, N.A. as successor to JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., as Trustee for Residential Asset Mortgage Products, Inc., Mortgage Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates Series 2006-RP3 as agent and Attorney in Fact for **Latoria M. Rountree and Bennie Rountree, Jr.** **Aldridge Pite, LLP**, Six Piedmont Center, 3525 Piedmont Road, N.E., Suite 700, Atlanta, Georgia 30305, (404) 994-7400. 1017-8036A THIS LAW FIRM MAY BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. 1017-8036A
 May 7, 14, 21, 28, 2026

W26-048
NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS

STATE OF GEORGIA,
 COUNTY OF WILKINSON
 All creditors of the estate of **Joseph Lamar Myrick**, deceased, as of late **March 1, 2026**, Wilkinson County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned, according to law, and all persons indebted to said Estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned: **Wilkinson County Probate Court Clerk, 100 Bacon Street Irwinton, Georgia 31042**
 This is the 11 day of May, 2026
Donald Lewis Roberts, Attorney
 May 21, 28, June 4, 11, 2026

JUNETEENTH

A Celebration of Freedom & Resilience

ANNUAL FREEDOM FESTIVAL

JUNE 20, 2026

3:00 – 8:00 PM

NORTH HOUSTON SPORTS COMPLEX
900 N. HOUSTON ROAD

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