

Cochran City Council terminate interim city clerk due to improprieties



By **CAROLINE WEATHERSBY**
Staff Reporter

The Cochran City Council has voted to terminate acting city clerk Tiffany Fowler after the council learned of “improprieties,” says Mayor Carla Coley.

On Wednesday of last week, the city council called an emergency meeting to

discuss a “personnel matter,” according to the meeting agenda, which led to her termination. The evening before, the council met in an executive session where the only topic listed on the agenda was “personnel.”

Wednesday evening, the council took a vote, and the decision was made to terminate Fowler’s employment.

According to the mayor, the council learned of “improprieties” occurring in city hall, but couldn’t comment further.

Fowler served as interim city clerk since the resignation of previous City Clerk Candice Summerall in March. Previously, she served as Deputy City Clerk. Fowler has worked for

the City of Cochran since August 2022. Just last month, she was honored during a city council meeting as part of Cochran’s Cities Week.

Coley told The Times Journal Post that she doesn’t have any further information to add at this time. Other city officials declined to comment.

Interim City Clerk Tiffany Fowler was terminated last week after the city council learned of “improprieties.” Fowler was recognized at a city council meeting a few weeks prior as part of Cochran’s Cities Week/Photo courtesy of City of Cochran

Farmers Home Furniture re-opens with ribbon cutting

By **LOGAN REYNOLDS**
Georgia Trust For Local News

Soperton’s Farmers Home Furniture christened its rebuilt store with a ribbon cutting ceremony on May 21.

“It’s more than just a rebuilt store,” said Farmers Home Furniture Chief Financial Officer Mickey Hutcheson. “It is a reminder of the continued hand on our company, and the strength of our community. This place holds history, holds memories and it holds our beginning.”

The event saw several speakers address a crowd of Soperton residents and Farmers Home Furniture employees, all speaking on the history of the company in Soperton. Speakers included Hutcheson, CEO Phillip Faircloth, President Gabe Selman, Vice President Jordy Carter, Gary Carter, store owner Jeff Rogers and Soperton Mayor John Koon.

As part of his speech, Selman announced a new line of bedroom furniture named Soperton Home was in development. This will act as an expansion of the company’s Soperton Sleep line of mattresses.

“We’re going to spread this brand to our bedroom category,” said Selman. “We’re going to bring in some really nice bedrooms.”

The event also provided food from Soperton-based food truck Y’all’s Dogs, as well as live music from the Brantley family, from Dublin. Attendees could also sign up for a raffle, where winners received products from Farmers Home Furniture’s vendors.

Following the ribbon cutting, cut by Rogers, attendees were allowed to enter and browse the reconstructed store.

Farmers Home Furniture was founded by Sherwin Glass in 1949 and built its first store in Soperton. The company would then branch out with 265 locations in Georgia, Florida, Alabama, South Carolina, North Carolina,



Farmers Home Furniture held a grand opening ceremony for its rebuilt Soperton location, offering food, music, prizes and speeches from company executives/LOGAN REYNOLDS

Tennessee and Kentucky, with a focus on furniture, décor and appliances.

“Soperton will always hold a unique place in our story,” said Hutcheson. “This was our very first store, a place where Sherman Glass planted seeds – a company that, 77 years later, is still serving families from small towns just like this one.”

The old store did not remain forever, being replaced by a new Farmers Home Furniture in 1972.

Jeff Rogers has worked with Farmers Home Furniture for 27 years, and has served as manager of the Soperton location since 2005. However, the long-standing Soperton staple would take a heavy beating from Hurricane Helene, which made landfall in the United States on Thursday, September 26, 2024.

Roger’s store was hit particularly hard by the storm, so much so that the NOAA noted it had been “completely gutted by the winds” in their write-up.

Roger himself was alerted to the store’s condition when he received a phone call telling him individuals were walking off with store merchandise.

“The storm tore the building down,” said Rogers. “[It] was the fire department that called me and said people were taking my stuff, running down the road with it.”

According to Rogers, “the whole top was peeled back” and the large glass windows lining the front of the store were all blown out.

“It was pretty horrible,” said Rogers. “I mean, that’s how we make a living, and all I could think about was me and all my people – employees – we couldn’t make a living, you know?”

However, Rogers made a promise to build the store back up from the disaster.

“I told somebody when it first happened, I said, ‘You know what?’” said Rogers. “We’re going to build back bigger and better than ever.”

Roger’s team was able to temporarily set up shop first in a tractor trailer, then in an old house right next door to the destroyed store. On Oct. 31, the team rented store space next to the local Piggly Wiggly to use as a new location, which they have used until the grand opening of the new store.



Farmers Home Furniture was founded by Sherwin Glass in 1949 and built its first store in Soperton. The company would then branch out with 265 locations/LOGAN REYNOLDS

The new store comes equipped with all the merchandise a major location would be stocked with, meaning Roger’s staff will no longer have to make weekly trips to the Dublin location to fulfill orders. The walls at the entrances are also lined with commemorative

photographs of Sherwin Glass and past employees.

“It’s beautiful,” said Rogers. “It’s overwhelming. I can’t believe they’ve done this for us, but they did, and I’m thankful to Farmers Furniture.”

Periodical — Mail Label

Wilkinson Co. man charged with malice murder of 25-year-old



Tylan Horne was killed in his home in Ivey on Thursday, May 21/SPECIAL PHOTO

By **CAROLINE WEATHERSBY**
Staff Reporter

A Wilkinson County man has been arrested in connection with the fatal shooting of 25-year-old Tylan Ar’tavious Horne in Ivey last month.

The Georgia Bureau of Investigation arrested 20-year-old Austin Marcus Allred, of Ivey and charged him with Horne’s murder.

Investigators allege that in the early morning hours of May 21, Allred entered Horne’s home on Morningside Drive in Ivey and shot him with a firearm. After being struck, Horne was pronounced dead at the scene.

According to a release from the GBI, Allred fled the home after shooting Horne, but returned sometime later.

The Wilkinson County Sheriff’s Office responded to reports around 1 a.m. and discovered the scene inside the home. The WCSO say they requested assistance with the investigation from the GBI and turned the case over to them shortly after.

Allred was taken into custody and charged with Malice Murder and Aggravated Assault. He is being held at the Wilkinson County Jail without bond.

According to those close with the victim, Horne and Allred were friends. A family member wrote in a post on social media after the news broke that Horne even “defended” Allred in a situation only a month before his death, but details about the situation were unclear.

The GBI has not released a motive for the crime as of June 2.

A celebration of life ceremony was held for Horne on May 28 at Calvary Hill Baptist Church in Irwinton. Those that knew him remember Horne as “smart,” “humble” and “well mannered.” He would have been 26 on June 16.

According to the GBI, the investigation is still active and ongoing. They urge anyone with information to contact the GBI Regional Investigative Office in Milledgeville at 478-445-4173 or anonymously at 1-800-597-TIPS(8477) or online at <https://gbi.georgia.gov/submit-tips-online>

Officials say once the investigation is complete, the case file will be given to the Ocmulgee Judicial Circuit District Attorney’s Office for prosecution.



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Georgia Power to send smaller bills after new rate agreement

By TY TAGAMI
Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA — Georgia Power customers will see a slight reduction in power bills after the state agency that regulates the monopoly utility approved rate changes Thursday.

The Public Service Commission, an elected body with five members, had previously frozen the company's electricity rates for three years. But that decision in early 2025 did not apply to rate adjustments to cover the changing cost of fuel and storm damage.

Rather than raising rates, the agreement Georgia Power made with the

commission will cut typical residential customer bills by about \$4 a month, or about \$285 million collectively per year.

"After recent rate increases caused by inflation, the war in Ukraine and other global phenomenon, it's great to be able to offer some relief to Georgia Power ratepayers," Chairman Jason Shaw said in a written statement after the vote approving the changes.

Georgia Power is reducing the rates in part by using federal tax credits for nuclear power production.

Although the vote for approval was unanimous, two new Democrats on the panel voted unsuccessfully to amend the rate agreements,

with the three Republicans opposed.

Commissioner Peter Hubbard, one of the Democrats, said his four amendments would have saved ratepayers another \$50 million.

"Instead, the majority put the company first," he said in a statement.

Hubbard said he voted for the unamended agreements to lock in "as much relief as possible" ahead of summer, with the revised rates taking effect in June.

During the hearing, critics said Georgia Power was still getting a deal because the company secured authority to purchase more coal than usual at above-market prices.

Under Georgia law, the company can pass along fuel prices to customers if they are "just and reasonable."

Commission staff said during the hearing that Georgia Power had historically purchased about a tenth of its coal at above-market rates. The deal approved Thursday allowed it to purchase up to 15% at higher prices.

Environmentalists had wanted the limit set at 5% but acknowledged the commission staff had negotiated a better deal for ratepayers than Georgia Power had first offered.

The company's initial rate proposal earlier this year would have saved cus-

tomers only about \$1.30 a month.

Georgia Power will make another fuel rate adjustment request in less than three years, in February 2029.

The storm damage portion of the costs being passed to consumers was mostly from Hurricane Helene. Georgia Power has said the historic hurricane caused \$800 million in damage to about 12,000 power poles, 1,500 miles of power lines and more than 5,000 transformers.

The Republican-led commission has become a target for angry voters after allowing Georgia Power to make a half dozen rate increases in recent years. The

commission also approved a 10 gigawatt expansion in December, largely to serve anticipated demand from data centers.

In a special election last year, Hubbard unseated Republican Fitz Johnson. Johnson is back on the ballot and will try to retake the seat from Hubbard in the November general election.

Likewise, Democrat Alicia Johnson unseated a Republican last year, winning a spot on the commission through 2030. Another seat is in play after Republican Tricia Pridemore opted not to run for reelection, creating the possibility of Democratic control next year.

Lieutenant governor hopefuls sharpen attacks in debate about leading Senate

By TY TAGAMI
Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA — Most of Georgia's statewide primary races have been settled on either the Democratic or Republican ticket, but the race for leadership of the state Senate remains up for grabs on both sides of the aisle.

While not a senator, the lieutenant governor presides over the chamber and can control committee assignments and the flow of legislation. The lieutenant governor also fills in for the governor when necessary.

The partisans who survived last month's primary election for the job will face each other in a June 16 runoff. On Sunday, they squared off in person in a studio at Georgia Public Broadcasting in Atlanta, for what will likely be their final debate.

It can be difficult to find daylight between candidates from the same party, so in the first debate the remaining two Republicans attacked each other's leadership skills, pitching themselves as best able to execute on policy.

The Democrats followed a similar script in their subsequent debate.

Both Republicans, Sen. Greg Dolezal of Cumming and former Sen. John F. Kennedy of Macon, said they want to cut taxes further than the GOP-controlled Legislature did this year.

Dolezal said that could be done without reducing services.

"For far too long, the Republican Party has been the party of crony capitalism," said Dolezal, blaming his own partisans for approving budget-eating tax giveaways. "And if we get rid of these crony capitalist tax cuts, we can reduce and ultimately eliminate the state income tax here in Georgia."

Kennedy resigned in early December because Georgia bars lawmakers from raising campaign funds during the legislative session. So he did not have to shoulder responsibility for the Senate's failure to abolish income taxes as planned or the House's similar failure to eliminate property taxes.

Kennedy said he could reduce taxes further if he were lieutenant governor.

"The Legislature was not able to get relief to hard-working Georgians," he said. "I come in with a good reputation of working with all people, working with folks across the aisle, excellent relationships with those in the House and the governor's office. And that's what it takes."

Kennedy noted that he was elected Senate president pro tempore, the highest leadership office for a senator.

Dolezal never made it into one of the top six Sen-

ate leadership spots for Republicans after serving a similar amount of time.

Dolezal described himself as a loyalist to President Donald Trump, noting that he was among a handful of senators who called for a special legislative session to investigate Trump's 2020 election loss to Joe Biden.

"If a close friend came to you and said, 'I'm looking for a conservative fighter,'" Dolezal said. "Who would you recommend? The one who goes along to get along or the one who has a record of standing and fighting?"

He echoed fears voiced in Texas where some Republicans contend that parts of the state are at risk of falling under Islamic legal influence.

"I'm fighting to ban Sharia law," Dolezal said.

The Democratic debate featured bitter exchanges between Sen. Josh McLaurin of Sandy Springs and Nabilah Parkes, a former state senator from Gwinnett County.

Parkes had initially planned to run for insurance commissioner, but she abruptly changed course in March to join the contest for lieutenant governor.

Like Kennedy, she resigned her seat in the Senate so she could raise money for her campaign.

Unlike Kennedy, she waited until the legislative

session had already started, leaving her seat vacant from mid-March into the busiest period of lawmaking.

Kennedy was succeeded by a Republican in February after a special election. A special election to fill the remainder of Parkes' term is set for June 16, the same day as the primary runoff in the race to succeed her next year.

McLaurin called Parkes a quitter, and she called him a feeble campaigner, an insult he returned. Parkes, who is Muslim, has pointed to Dolezal's campaign ads about Islam as her reason for breaking ranks with Democratic leaders to run for lieutenant governor.

Parkes described herself as a fighter from a working-class family who attended public schools and qualified for the free and reduced-price meals there before she attended Georgia State University.

McLaurin attended a private K-12 school in Buckhead, then the University of Georgia and Yale Law School, though he said his parents came from hard-scrabble backgrounds.

McLaurin described himself as a "skillful" operator, able to ridicule Republican lawmakers for supporting Trump while earning enough of their respect and trust to pass legislation. He cited a bill to regulate car

booting and one another for therapies for veterans.

Parkes attacked McLaurin as a Democrat who "coddles" Republicans.

"We don't need a candidate that goes along to get along, like my opponent," she said.

McLaurin said the Senate would likely remain under GOP control after the November general election and that Republicans would almost certainly strip the lieutenant governor of power if a Democrat were to win the office.

He characterized Parkes as ineffective, noting that scores of Democratic lawmakers have endorsed him, as has Stacey Abrams, who twice won Georgia's Democratic gubernatorial nomination. On Monday, Democratic U.S. Sen. Raphael Warnock added his endorsement.

"I imagine that my bipartisan work probably does look like coddling Republicans to somebody who hasn't done any of it," McLaurin said. "So, the bottom line is this: I am a fierce fighter. I have stood up to MAGA Republicans. I've called them narcissist coddlers to their face, but I get stuff done, and that's why I can win in November."

Watch the debates online at <https://www.gpb.org/election/press-club-debates>.

COMMUNITY NEWS

American Red Cross Blood Drive

The blood drive will be held in the Fellowship Hall at Gordon Church, located at 128 N Main St., Gordon, GA 31031 on Monday, June 8, from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The Courier Herald



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POC: Geneva Sanders 478-298-2279
Doris Harris 478-298-9496
UNITY PEACE FREEDOM

NOTICE OF PUBLIC INPUT MEETING FOR FY 2027 BUDGET TWIGGS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

In accordance with State Board Rule 160-5-2-23, the Twiggs County Board of Education will be presenting the budget to be approved on June 11, 2026. In accordance with O.C.G.A. § 20-2-167.1, opportunities for public input will be provided at the June 11, 2026 called Board Meeting at 5:30 pm and will be provided at the June 16, 2026, Regular Board Meeting at 5:30 pm. A copy of the proposed budget and the current budget are posted on the district website www.twiggs.k12.ga.us.



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Court states Georgia's Medicaid rules shortchanged medically fragile child

By TY TAGAMI
Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA — The policies that Georgia uses to approve or deny services for children enrolled in Medicaid fail to satisfy federal requirements for adequate care, according to a new federal court ruling.

A three-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit upheld a federal district judge's order requiring the Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH) to provide nearly five times more in-home nursing care to a child at risk of dying

than the state had approved through a contractor.

The 3-year-old boy, referred to by the court as L.W., has a rare metabolic disease that interrupts his body's ability to store and use glycogen, a kind of fuel.

He must be fed every three hours through a tube inserted into his stomach.

Before moving to Georgia from Virginia, Medicaid was paying for 56 hours of nursing care per week while paying the boy's mother to provide another 40 hours.

After moving to Georgia in 2023, Alliant Health Solutions, a contractor that

manages Medicaid for the state, approved only 21 hours of nursing services with no supplement for the mother, since Georgia lacks such a program.

"Over the months that L.W.'s parents and physician were asking Georgia to increase L.W.'s nursing hours, L.W.'s parents managed to keep L.W. alive," the judges wrote in their May 18 opinion. "But their success came at a tremendous cost to L.W.'s parents and L.W.'s health."

The boy's fatigued mother often slept through the alarms she set to wake her-

self up so she could feed him in the middle of the night. Several times she awoke to find his glucose readings dangerously low. Once, when his parents could not maintain his glucose levels, L.W. had to be hospitalized for about a week.

In 2024, his mother requested a change in the number of nursing hours. When Alliant denied it, she sued in federal court in the Northern District of Georgia. Federal Judge Thomas W. Thrash Jr. decided 21 hours of weekly nursing care was inadequate and ordered the state to pay for at

least 100 hours.

DCH appealed. The agency's failure to win that appeal produced a ruling that could influence how Medicaid is administered in Georgia and in the rest of the Eleventh Circuit's jurisdiction, which includes Alabama and Florida.

"This is telling DCH, 'your responsibility is to ensure that care gets provided,'" said Roland Behm, co-founder of the Georgia Mental Health Policy Partnership.

"As long as it's medically necessary and it can go to correct or ameliorate, then

you have to say yes to that because that's the obligation that you took on as the state Medicaid agency and that you contracted with these other entities to do," he said.

Under the federal Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment standard, states must cover medically necessary services for children that "correct or ameliorate" a physical or mental condition.

A spokeswoman for DCH said Tuesday that the agency was still reviewing the court decision and had no comment.

Invitations for Bid and Request for Proposals by Twiggs County, Georgia

Twiggs County is accepting proposals from qualified Contractors for resurfacing and related road work (the "Work") on Bullard Road. The Work shall begin at the point painted on Bullard Road as point "A-TCRD" and then the Work shall continue along Bullard Road for approximately 1.5 miles until the ending point painted as point "B-TCRD". Point "B-TCRD" is near the intersection of Glover Road and Bullard Road.

All bids must be received by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, June 16, 2026. Proposals/Bids must be signed; late Proposals/Bids will not be considered. A Bid Bond in the amount of five percent (5%) of the total bid amount is required. Proposals/Bids without a Bid Bond shall not be considered. Proposals/Bids for the Project will be sealed and not opened until Thursday, June 18, 2026 at the 6:00 P.M. Twiggs County Board of Commissioners Meeting at the Twiggs County Court House.

The terms and conditions for the Proposals/Bids, specifications for the Project are: (1) a minimum application of 2.0" asphalt for resurfacing; (2) centerline striping and fog line striping are required; (3) a 2-foot apron is required at all driveways and intersections to ensure a smooth transition; (4) work must be completed within 60 calendar days from the notice to proceed; (5) if necessary, clipping in preparation for new pavement is mandatory; (6) Contractor agrees it shall remove all debris from the project site upon completion of the Work; and (7) mobilization, bonding, and insurance is required.

As allowed by Georgia law, this Request for Proposal expressly provides that:

Offerors submitting proposals may be afforded an opportunity for discussion, negotiation, and revision of proposals. Discussions, negotiations, and revisions may be permitted after submission of proposals and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining best and final offers.

In accordance with the request for proposals, all responsible offerors found by Twiggs County to have submitted proposals reasonably susceptible of being selected for award shall be given an opportunity to participate in such discussions, negotiations, and revisions. During the process of discussion, negotiation, and revision, Twiggs County shall not disclose the contents of proposals to competing offerors.

Twiggs County specifically reserves all of its rights under Georgia law as to the proposals it receives pursuant to this Request, specifically including but not limited to, the right to waive any requirements and/or specifications included, to reject any or all proposals, waive technicalities or informalities,

and to accept any proposal that in its judgment best serves the interests of the County and/or is deemed to be best suited for its needs.

Please note that Georgia's law as to the bonding requirements for a county road are applicable to this Project and must be followed, including but not limited to, a performance and payment bond, that must be paid for as part of and included in the contract price awarded to the Contractor selected by Twiggs County.

If there are any questions please submit such questions in writing to the Twiggs County Board of Commissioners Office at 425 N Railroad Street, Jeffersonville, Georgia 31044.

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.

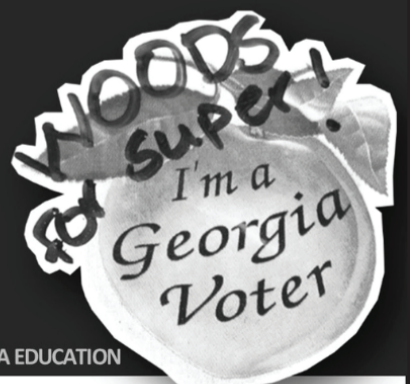
Wilkinson County Board of Elections and Registration
Kelly S. Chatman, Election Superintendent

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REPUBLICAN RUNOFF

June 16th

TWIGGS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION STATEMENT OF ACTUAL FINANCIAL OPERATIONS FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	GENERAL FUNDS	ALL OTHER FUNDS
REVENUES		
State Funds	\$ 4,792,223	\$
Federal Funds	4,278,463	
Taxes	5,289,791	750,742
Other Funds	411,896	5,020
Total Revenues	\$ 14,772,373	\$ 755,762
EXPENDITURES		
Current		
Instruction	\$ 7,431,477	\$ 246,366
Support Services		
Pupil Services	1,100,219	78,106
Improvement of Instructional Services	956,470	
Educational Media Services	184,716	
General Administration	861,851	
School Administration	987,347	17,689
Business Administration	497,382	119,144
Maintenance and Operation of Plant	1,580,580	1,067,602
Student Transportation Services	904,095	75,774
Central Support Services	158,245	
Other Support Services	34,161	
Food Services Operation	756,982	
Other Operations of Non-Instructional Services	53,276	
Capital Outlay		
Debt Service		414,641
Total Expenditures	\$ 15,486,781	\$ 2,037,322
Excess of Revenues over (under) Expenditures	\$ (714,408)	\$ (1,281,560)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)		
Other Sources	\$ 70,000	\$ 3,429,512
Other Uses		(70,000)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	\$ 70,000	\$ 3,359,512
Excess of Revenues and Other Financing Sources over (under) Expenditures and Other Financing Uses	\$ (644,408)	\$ 2,077,952
FUND BALANCE JULY 1, 2022	1,314,864	631,346
Adjustments to Fund Balance		
Prior Year Corrections		
Other		
FUND BALANCE JUNE 30, 2023	\$ 670,456	\$ 2,709,298

Signatures of Board Members and Superintendent

Date

Thomas Cartwright Board-Chair 5/26/26
 Sarah Reese Jr. Vice-Chair 5/26/26
 [Signature] Board Member 5/26/26
 [Signature] Board Member 5/26/26
 [Signature] Board Member May 26, 2026
 [Signature] Superintendent May 26, 2026

Memorial Day

Every Memorial Day, there is a solemnity that touches most of us as we pause in tribute on this sacred holiday. Think of the many who are willing to die for our country. Think of the many who did.

Memorial Day is a time for cookouts or picnicking somewhere along a refreshing stream. Or taking in a sporting event like a baseball game or the Indy 500 auto race—events where the singing of patriotic songs gives you an emotional lift as you reflect on the sacrifices made by our military.

When Memorial Day comes around each spring, I have often driven by places in town that are blanketed in flags, especially the local cemetery or the town square.

Any citizen who gave his—and now her—life to their country is always remembered on Memorial

Day. We can't pay tribute often enough to those patriots.

On this day I often think of the military cemeteries I have visited from the Pacific to Europe, along with those in the U.S. Like many others, I have had the opportunity to learn about the history of the two World Wars and selected landmarks of the Civil War.

On Memorial Day, I think of the gravesites in Belgium where I visited the graves of three brothers from New Victory, Tennessee. I have also visited the memorial tributes to them in their hometown, which is 91 miles east of Knoxville.

It is heart-rending that this farmer, living a hard-scrabble life, had to drive a mule and wagon into town three times to pick up a telegram from the War Department telling him he had another son killed in the war.



LORAN SMITH

Memorial Day is a time to think about the citizens of communities in The Netherlands, who have adopted the graves of American servicemen, making sure the graves are landscaped and maintained with flowers, often putting out American flags on certain U. S. holidays as Memorial Day and July 4th.

There is an obelisk in the beautiful village of Goutrens, France, which contains the names of the

four brothers in two families who gave their lives in World War I.

Archibald Rutledge, the poet laureate of South Carolina, wrote in his book, *Life's Extras*, about a Confederate widow who journeyed to a small town in Pennsylvania where her husband was buried. Apprehensive, but dedicated to her mission, she was the beneficiary of extraordinary hospitality. She was warmly received, including some Union Army veterans, all of whom expressed regrets and best wishes.

"That," Rutledge wrote, "was when a Yankee Band played, 'Dixie.'"

Sometimes there are stories that are close to home that we are not always familiar with. In recent months, I met an Athens lady, who lost her husband, a B-52 pilot, in Vietnam.

She has been told that her late husband, James Mack Turner, was the last person from the state of Georgia to die in the Viet-

nam War. She met me one day last fall at the Georgia Center for coffee and conversation.

Turner grew up in Athens and developed an affinity for flying as a kid. "He enjoyed hanging out at the airport," she said. "He was taken by flying and couldn't get enough of it." As a teenager, he enjoyed the opportunity to help park planes at Ben Epps Field on football weekends, and his fascination with flying grew from there.

Following high school, at Athens High, he entered the University of Georgia where he was graduated with a B.S. degree in geography, a bright student who had dreams of developing a career in the aviation field.

Connie Bradley, his widow, was living in Warner Robins at the time of his death which resulted from a crash of his B-52 bomber in Thailand. Turner and his crew of six were returning from a bombing mission over North Vietnam.

Reports say that the crippled aircraft was returning to base at U-Tapao Royal Thai Navy Airfield after attempting to go around with engines out and other combat damage.

There were two survivors, one of whom was the co-pilot and who was later killed on 9/11 when terrorists crashed a commercial plane into the Pentagon.

Turner and Connie had two small kids at the time of the unfortunate crash, now adults Debbie Lynn and James Mark.

Connie never lost her composure during our conversation, but her voice cracked a couple of times when she said in reflection about the loss of her late husband, "He was a good man."

Good men are willing to give their lives for their country, and our country, fortunately, has had many good men who have kept our country free.

Georgia is two weeks and five months away from our future

Georgia Democrats have settled on the nominations for the top two slots on November ballot. Incumbent Senator Jon Ossoff and former Mayor turned gubernatorial nominee Keisha Lance Bottoms have had their coming out party to headline a unity ticket for the fall elections.

Republicans, meanwhile, remain mired in the present. It is at times unseemly, as politics too often is. Attacks against candidates from the opposition party are not only tolerated but expected in contemporary elections.

After all, our side is for all that is pure and good. The other side represents the darkest forces of evil, and must be stopped at all costs.

If we win, all problems will be solved, economic prosperity will rain down, and we will all live happily ever after. If the other side wins, our state, country, and even life as we know it are doomed.

The above two paragraphs have been internalized by way too many voters. Most have no idea the other party believes it to be as true for their side as they do for their own.

Intra-party contests upset this premise a bit. Over \$100 million has been spent thus far just on the Republican race for Governor. Georgians have been inundated for almost a year hearing how corrupt and self-dealing the two remaining candidates are...from the two remaining candidates. It's awkward.

And yet, this is how we conduct our elections now. We look at this as just part of the game, whether we choose to play this way or not.

The decisions are made by professionals. Their job is to win.

The calculus is simple. A candidate can't win if they first don't get the nomination. Often this requires a Hail Mary ad or action to get adoration from the base



CHARLIE HARPER
GEORGIA POLITICS

in order to secure a head to head runoff fight. See Governor Brian Kemp's 2018 "Jake" ad where he held a gun next to a potential suitor of his daughter for a reference if needed.

Those same consultants will then explain to you — correctly — that the runoff is an entirely separate election. New coalitions have to be formed within hours, and no more than days. New advertising and mail-

ers must be constructed targeting those most likely to return to the polls a second time. It's an entirely different get out the vote strategy and a much narrower focus. And donors must be tapped again to pay for it all, if the candidate doesn't have the luxury of self-funding.

Winners move on to November. Losers go home, often for good. The stakes are high.

When the goal is power — especially power at the highest levels — the game is played with fierce intensity to win at all costs. There is little that is off limits anymore. Scorched earth is not only acceptable, but often the default position.

This may seem quizzical to those who understand that the eventual nominee will need the voters supporting the other candidate in a primary to return and vote for their candidate in November. It shouldn't be.

The professionals are paid to win. Sure, they may have a victory bonus in their

contracts, but the reality is they'll make their retainers and commissions for five more months of campaigning. That alone is incentive to ensure their candidate gets the nomination.

They're not doing this to stop there. Winning a high profile race is both a chit on their resume which sets them up for the next campaign cycle here and in other states, but also gives them the closest proximity to power here — and access to the benefits that come with it.

Winning matters for those running the campaigns. A lot. Losers just go home.

They're well aware this is unseemly. They know they're creating negatives that will have to be dealt with as their own words can and will be used against their party's nominee in the event the other side wins.

That's a July problem. The June problem is best summed up by the late Oakland Raiders owner Al Da-

vis: Just win, baby.

The consultants also know this: Five months is ten eternities in politics. Voters have short attention spans and even shorter memories. Time heals all wounds.

There is a real battle ahead. Georgia is a battleground state. Money will flow from outside sources to determine if the 2027 leadership flags fly red or blue.

Republican candidates and the consultants know many of their voters are miserable now. There's two more weeks of that, like it or (for most of us) not.

The embedded bet here, however, is that voters come home despite the current unpleasantness. Because one flag represents all that is good, and the other the forces of evil.

One side is already rallying around their flag. The other is reasonable sure voters in October & November won't remember nor care much about what was said in June.

Dick Yarbrough: The elections aren't over until they are over

The good news is that the primary elections are over. The bad news is the primary elections are not over. We now have the runoffs. Then it will all be over. Except it won't all be over. The general election is November 3.

The runoffs mean another month of self-serving ads promising us (inhale) lower taxes, reduced crime, shrinking the size of government, creating jobs, standing up to powerful special interest groups, fighting bureaucracy, securing our borders, taking care of our veterans, improving education and last, but not least, fixing Medicare (exhale.)

There have been more self-styled political pundits analyzing what happened in the primary than a yard dog has fleas. But since you pay me the big bucks, consider this clip-and-save stuff that you can trot out at your next church social or cocktail party. Or both.

No one else has access to the expertise of Junior E. Lee, general manager of the Yarbrough Worldwide Media and Pest Control Company, located in Greater Garfield, Georgia. Junior is a highly respected political analyst and a certified pest control professional, as well. The man is one-of-a-kind. Can you imagine Tucker Carlson in your crawl space spraying for termites?

In the governor's race, it will be a runoff between Lt. Gov. Burt Jones and health-care executive Rick Jackson



DICK YARBROUGH

for the Republican nomination. Jones received 38% of the vote in the primary and Jackson, 33%. Junior says pigs down around Garfield have asked him about renting out their styes for the runoff so that both candidates have an ample supply of mud to sling.

Jones comes from a wealthy and politically powerful Georgia family and has contributed \$19 million to his campaign thus far. Billionaire Jackson has already put more than \$83 million into the race. All for a job that pays \$182,000.

Whoever wins the nomination will face Democrat Keisha Lance Bottoms, former Atlanta mayor who won her party's nomination without a runoff. I stopped making predictions after publicly stating that an obscure Republican state senator from Bonaire would never beat a powerful incumbent Democratic governor. We all know

how that turned out. But if the Republican nominee, whichever one it is, can't beat Bottoms, it will be due to the party's predilection for being unable to figure out who the enemy is. (The Cobb County GOP publicly censured Republican Gov. Brian Kemp, if that gives you a clue.)

Bottoms was a totally ineffective mayor and served only one term before getting bailed out by the Biden Administration to be director of nothing in particular in Washington. She couldn't manage Atlanta and we are going to trust her with the whole state?

Speaking of Gov. Kemp, he has shown himself to be one of the few Republicans in the state who isn't a complete and total Trump toady. He promoted Derek Dooley, son of legendary UGA football coach Vince Dooley, for the U.S. senate

seat currently held by Jon Ossoff, and has gotten him into a runoff with Cong. Mike Collins, who professes unyielding fealty to Trump.

Gone from the political scene is Republican state Sen. Steve Gooch who was running for lieutenant governor. This is the guy who said legislation wasn't needed to save our Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge from drilling for toothpaste whitener. Let unelected bureaucrats handle that issue. Albert the Alligator says good riddance.

Also gone are two Democratic candidates for the state Supreme Court, attorney Miracle Rankin and former state Sen. Jen Jordan, who told us how they were going to vote, if elected. I thought judges were supposed to hear all the evidence before making a decision. Fortunately, the voters made the decision for them.



Two nuts dropped from the political tree. Kandiss Taylor got 12.8% of the vote for the GOP nomination in Georgia's 1st Congressional District. She said she represented Jesus. Jesus said that was news to him. Colton Moore, who has all the class of a tree stump, debased the memory of the late Georgia Speaker of the House David Ralston in front of Ralston's family. He got less than 7% in the 14th District GOP pri-

mary. May they both find their way into everlasting political obscurity.

On a personal note, Lee Darragh won reelection as district attorney for Hall and Dawson County with 83% of the vote. He has been DA for over 20 years. He is also my nephew. Well, nephew-in-law but in my family we don't have in-laws. Once you are in, you are in to stay. Congratulations, Mr. DA.

TIMES JOURNAL POST

478-272-5522 | news@timesjournalpost.com

Published every Thursday by the Georgia Trust for Local News

DuBose Porter, Publisher Emeritus
Pam Burney, General Manager
Kyle Dominy, Weekly Managing Editor
Caroline Weathersby, Staff Writer

The Official Legal Organ of
The Twiggs Times New Era
Jeffersonville, GA 31044 (USPS 014-592)
Periodicals postage paid at the Jeffersonville, GA Post Office and at additional mailing offices.

The Cochran Journal
Cochran, GA 31014 (USPS 120-340)
Periodicals postage paid at the Cochran, GA Post Office and at additional mailing offices.

The Wilkinson County Post
Irwinton, GA 31042 (022-564)
Periodicals postage paid at the Irwinton, GA Post Office and at additional mailing offices.

Subscription rates for one year:
In-county: \$31
Out-of-county: \$37
Senior in-county: \$29
Out-of-state: \$41

www.timesjournalpost.com

Legals

Bleckley Co. Legals

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
478-230-9438
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

C26-056
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 TUNSTALL Administrator of the Estate of MARGUERITE BROWN 127 W LAKE-SHORE DR COCHRAN, GA 31014

May 28, June 4, 11, 18, 2026

C26-053
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF BLECKLEY COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA

Lucy Renee Hartman
Plaintiff,
v.
Brandon Charles Hartman,
Defendant
Civil Action File No. 2026V-0069SFV
NOTICE OF SUMMONS-SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

TO: Brandon Charles Hartman, Defendant Named Above: You are hereby notified that the above-styled action seeking Petition of Divorce was filed against you in said court on May 12, 2026, and that by reason of an order for service of summons by publication entered by the court on May 12, 2026, you are hereby commanded and required to file with the clerk of said court and serve upon the Lucy Hartman, Plaintiff, whose address is 491 Frank Cook Road, Cochran, GA 31014, an answer to the petition 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, Sarah F. Wall, Judge of said Court.
This the 14th day of May, 2026.
Carol Evans
CLERK of Superior Court
Bleckley County

June 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

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.

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 in the probate court of the above-named county, courtroom 112 N SECOND ST, Cochran, Georgia. If no objections are filed the petition may be granted without a hearing.
Jonathan R. Fordham
Judge of the Probate Court
By: Jennifer Knight
Clerk of the Probate Court
112 N SECOND STREET
COCHRAN, GA 31014
478-934-3200 EXT. 4

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. Yarbrough, 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 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 Point 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

C26-049
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 1:30 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 legitimate the children; and (2) a notice of the filing of the petition to legitimate 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 8th day of May, 2026.

Christina McCall
(Deputy) Clerk, Juvenile Court
BLECKLEY County, Georgia
May 14, 21, 28, June 4, 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

Twiggs Co. Legals

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

T26-043
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF TWIGGS
IN RE: CARLOS DELMONT DAVISON, DECEASED

All debtors/creditors of the Estate of **Carlos Delmont Davison**, 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 27th day of May 2026.
Doyle E. Mullis, III Attorney For The Estate Administrator:
Shandrina L. Davison (Administrator)
Anderson, Walker & Reichert, LLP.
P. O. Box 6497
Macon, Georgia 31208

June 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

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: **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

T26-039
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

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

T26-036
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

T26-037
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, and must be filed with the Court 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.

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

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:


Georgia

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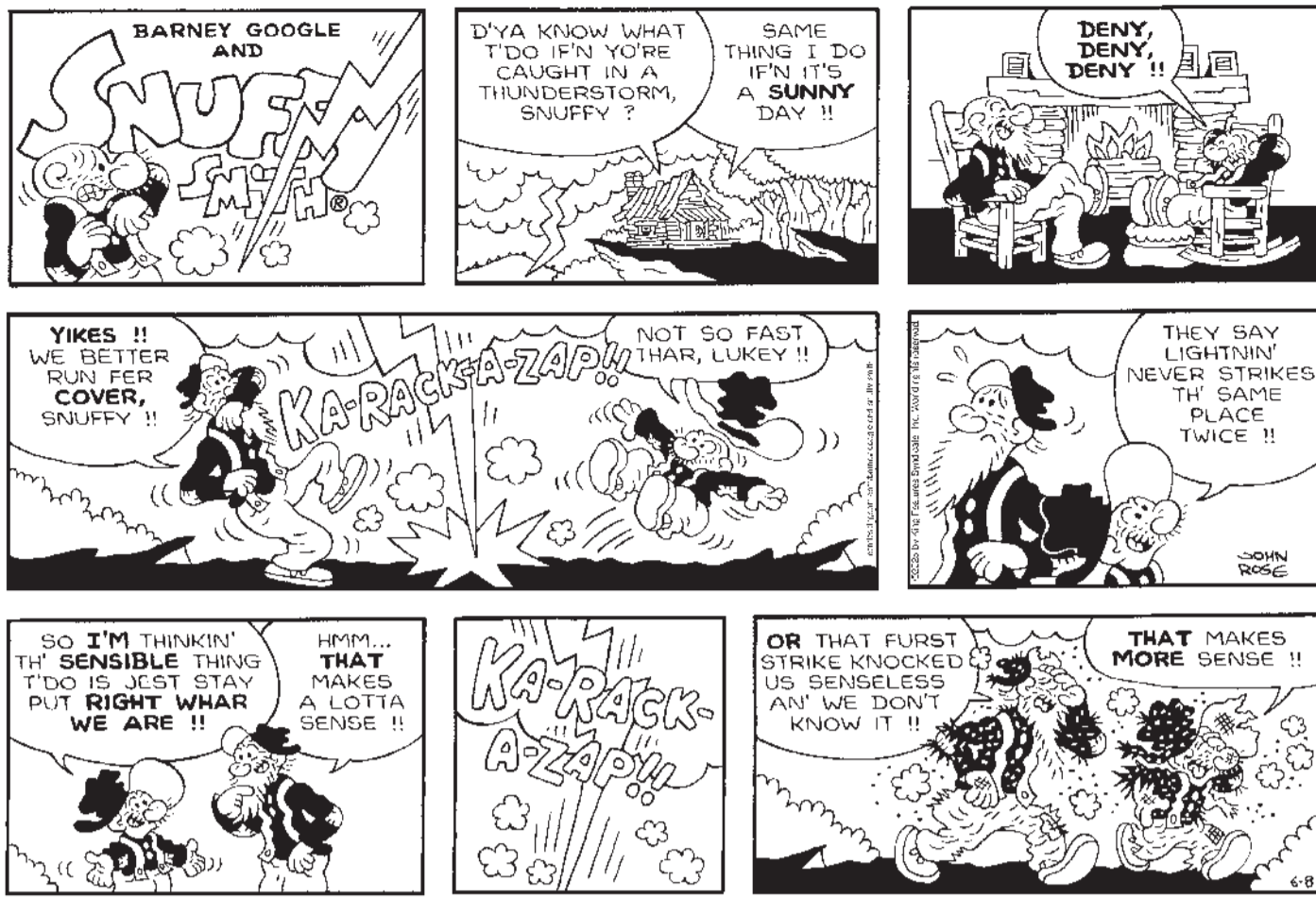
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Call now and have the zip code of the service location when you call! 1-877-917-6746</p> <p>NEED NEW FLOORING? Call today schedule a FREE in-home estimate on Carpeting & Flooring. Call Today! 1-877-914-0502</p>	<p>PEST CONTROL: PROTECT YOUR HOME from pests safely and affordably. Roaches, Bed Bugs, Rodent, Termite, Spiders and other pests. Locally owned and affordable. Call for service or an inspection today! 1-877-236-3738. Have zip code of property ready when calling!</p> <p>HOME BREAK-INS take less than 60 SECONDS. Don't wait! Protect your family, your home, your assets NOW for as little as 70¢ a day! Call 1-877-606-2120</p> <p>MISCELLANEOUS</p> <p>Searching for the 70 yo man I met at Raices Cubanias in Penfield NY. Celebrated his birthday in Switzerland. Lives in Georgia. Info? Call 585-270-1739</p> <p>YMT Vacations. Over 50 guided tours available. Affordable, social and stress-free travel designed for mature travelers. 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Easy three step process: Call, get cash offer and get paid. Get your fair cash offer today by calling Liz Buys Houses: 1-877-399-2113</p> <p>TOP CASH PAID FOR OLD GUITARS! 1920-1980 Gibson, Martin, Fender, Gretsch, Epiphone, Guild, Mosrite, Rickenbacker, Prairie State, D'Angelico, Stromberg. And Gibson Mandolins / Banjos. 1-877-515-0329</p>
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The Elections Office is seeking a professional, organized, and detail-oriented Registrar to support the administration and integrity of elections.

- ∞ High school diploma or GED required; associate preferred.
- ∞ Prior office administration, records management, customer service, or government experience preferred.
- ∞ Strong computer skills and proficiency in Microsoft Office applications.
- ∞ Excellent organizational skills and strong attention to detail.
- ∞ Ability to communicate effectively with the public and coworkers.
- ∞ Ability to handle confidential information with discretion and professionalism.
- ∞ Must be dependable, punctual, and able to work extended hours during election periods when necessary.
- ∞ Must be a resident of Wilkinson County.
- ∞ Interested applicants should submit completed application to the Wilkinson County Commissioners office by noon June 12, 2026.



Juanda Ruth Myrick has petitioned for Juanda Ruth Myrick to be appointed 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

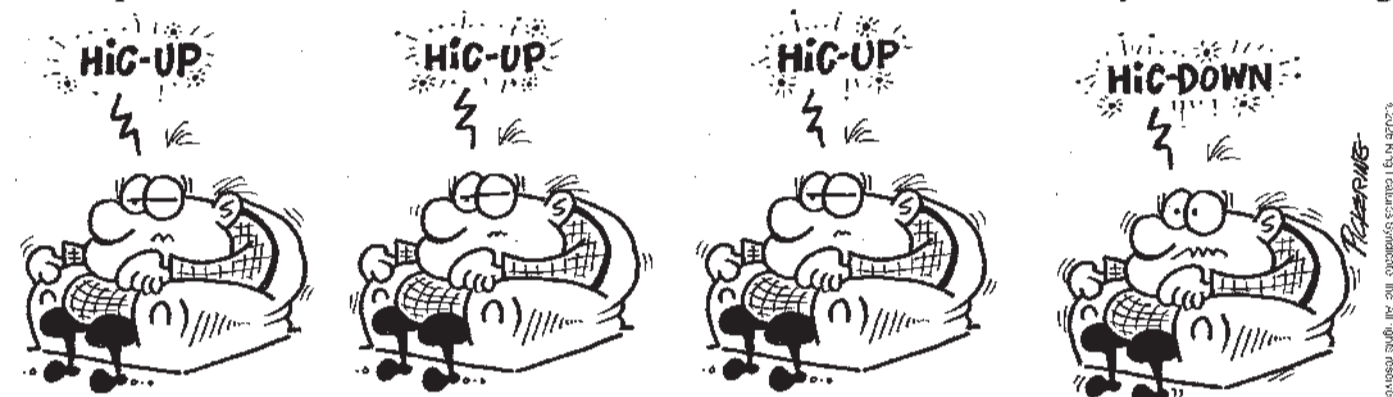
W26-048
NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS
 STATE OF GEORGIA,
 COUNTY OF WILKINSON
 All creditors of the estate of **Joseph Lamar Myrick**, deceased, as of late **March 1, 2026**, Wilkinson County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned, according to law, and all persons 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

W26-052
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF WILKINSON COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
IN RE: ESTATE OF Paul Thomas Rozier, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 286
NOTICE OF PETITION TO FILE FOR YEAR'S SUPPORT
 The petition of Sandra Wynelle Rozier, for a year's support from the estate of Paul Thomas Rozier, 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 29, 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.
 Bradasia A. Mims
 Judge of the Probate Court
 By: Carol Hodnett
 Clerk of the Probate Court
 Wilkinson County Probate Court
 100 Bacon St
 Irwinton, GA 31042
 478-946-2222
 June 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



King Crossword
 Solution time: 23 mins.
ANSWERS
CROSSWORD ANSWERS

MAGIC MAZE ANSWERS

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Idle of Monty Python
- 5 Homer's lament
- 8 Grate
- 12 Sprint
- 13 Geological period
- 14 Intro studio class
- 15 Met melody
- 16 Knee cartilage
- 18 Cough drop flavor
- 20 Valerie Harper sitcom
- 21 Light brown
- 22 Fluffy neck-piece
- 23 Strep of "The Post"
- 26 Patching up
- 30 Lab eggs
- 31 Witty one
- 32 Wrigley product
- 33 Proteges
- 36 Accra's country
- 38 Stein filler
- 39 Zadora of "Hairspray"
- 40 Huge success
- 43 H.L. — (The Sage of Baltimore)
- 47 Cites
- 49 Comic actor Danny
- 50 Oklahoma tribe
- 51 Nonsense
- 52 French 101
- 53 Military VIPs
- 54 GI's address
- 55 Marsh plant

DOWN

- 1 Dutch cheese
- 2 Exceptional
- 3 "The doctor —"
- 4 Talkative
- 5 Fiend
- 6 Pitcher
- 7 Solo in space
- 8 Actress Phylicia
- 9 With the bow, musically
- 10 Poker type
- 11 Galileo's birthplace
- 17 Pressing need
- 19 Actor Linden
- 22 Plead
- 23 Soccer —
- 24 Prior night
- 25 Campaigned
- 26 More, to Manuel
- 27 Polish tennis star Swiatek
- 28 Convent head
- 29 "Today" rival, briefly
- 31 Pint-sized
- 34 Flavors
- 35 K thru 12
- 36 Tom Collins liquor
- 37 Website invader
- 39 Green sauce
- 40 Urban haze
- 41 Apportion
- 42 Shortly
- 43 L-Q bridge
- 44 Designer Spade
- 45 Literary Jane
- 46 Must have
- 48 British singer Rita

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MAGIC MAZE ● WARNINGS

WEB TYENVTQOLIGD
 BYWWHISTLETRPMK
 ISFDAGFUBYWUSRQ
 OMLPNYIKOISFUDB
 ZXWEAURLNHSOQON
 LJRDBSEHDRTFSDC
 AIYYEAAWVEOHTSQ
 SAPRGALFDERHGNL
 MKAIEGATLOVHGIH
 HLLBMRALAFECOL
 FBZGNIMMIWSONYF

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
 Unlisted clue hint: SOUND FROM A PATROL CAR

Alarm bell Foghorn Mayday Red light
 Detour High voltage No swimming SOS
 Fire alarm Labels Pain Whistle
 Flares Lighthouse Red flag

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HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Candle is taller. 2. Arm is resting on table. 3. Back of chair is different. 4. Dial on stove is moved. 5. Light is shorter. 6. Hair is different.

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DID YOU KNOW...?

You are reading the 500th column of "Did You Know...?"

By JACK BAGLEY
Georgia Trust For Local News

In October of 2016, I began this column. The story of how it came to be has been relayed here numerous times; I won't go into it again. That was 500 weeks ago.

This week, you are reading the 500th column in this series. It's a milestone I never once thought would happen. I had actually assumed you'd all get tired of this stuff and stop reading it; far from it, you've asked for more.

Now, 500 columns in, I'm ready to get the next 500 underway. I have to thank all the editors who run this silly stuff I write, sharing it with all of you; and I thank you, the readers, who spend a part of your day with this nonsense, and make me feel good about doing it. Five. Hundred. Columns. Let's keep it going, shall we? Read on!

Did you know...

... seven of the 10 tallest statues in the world are of the same person? If you were to list the ten tallest statues on Earth, numbers two through eight would all be of the same person – Siddhartha Gautama (563 BC-483 BC), known to his followers as the Buddha. The tallest statue is one of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel (1875-1950), former Deputy Prime Minister of India, in Gujarat, India. It stands 597 feet high. Number nine is The Motherland Calls, the tallest statue of a woman in the world at 279 feet just outside Volgograd, Russia. And rounding out the top ten is a statue of Kannon, or Guanyin, 260-foot statue of a Buddhist goddess in Japan.

... a pirate was pardoned by a colonial governor, then returned to piracy? Known as "Calico Jack," John Rackham (1682-1720) was one of the most infamous pirates to operate in the Caribbean Sea. In 1719, Rackham was given a pardon by the governor of Nassau, and he resumed his pirate ways the following year. Additional trivia note: Rackham was an equal opportunity pirate; he employed two women in his crew, Mary Read (1685-1721) and his lover Anne Bonny (1697-1721). (Arrr, mateys!)

... a popular situation comedy star turned down a spot on Saturday Night Live? In 1993, not long before filming began on the popular sitcom Friends, one of its stars – Jennifer Aniston (born 1969) – met with the creator of Saturday Night Live, Lorne Michaels (born 1944), in an effort to become a regular performer on the show. Aniston says she turned down the gig because she'd heard that women were not respected on the SNL set. Not long after that, she auditioned for Friends ... and the rest, as they say, is history. (Comedy history, anyway.)

... a baby was born in 2017 that was actually just one year younger than her mother? Bear with me a moment; this one gets a bit complicated. Emma Gibson was born on November 25, 2017 in Tennessee. Emma was originally conceived on October 14, 1992, then frozen as an embryo. More than 24 years later, she was thawed and used in an in-vitro fertilization process for Tina Gibson (born 1991). Gibson carried the baby – who was conceived the year after she was born – to term and delivered her healthy in 2017. This means that Emma, the baby, was actually just a year younger than her own birth mother. Additional trivia note: Emma isn't the longest time between conception and birth, however. That honor goes to her sister Molly. Molly was conceived in 1992 as well and frozen as an embryo. Two years after Emma's birth, Molly was born – 27 years after being conceived. (Mother's Day is complicated.)

... only one unarmed soldier in U.S. history has earned the Medal of Honor? Desmond Doss (1919-2006), a medic in the U.S. Army during World War II, not only earned the country's highest decoration but also two Bronze Star medals and three Purple Hearts – despite not carrying a weapon at any time. Doss, who was a member of the Seventh-Day Adventist church, refused to carry a weapon but wanted desperately to serve his country during the war. A conscientious objector, he could have been deferred, but he wanted to serve. He became a medic even though he was working in a shipyard (an essential wartime occupation) and on the island of Okinawa in 1944 he single-handedly saved 75 men while he himself had been injured, for which he was awarded the Medal of Honor. Doss' exploits were the subject of the 2016 Academy Award-winning movie Hacksaw Ridge.

... the sandwich is named after a person? John Montagu (1718-1792), Fourth Earl of Sandwich, did not invent the sandwich but he did popularize it. The story goes that Montagu, a prolific gambler, was so involved in a game once that he asked for his dinner to be brought to him, the meat slapped between two pieces of bread. Even though it was not a "new" creation, the fact that someone of Montagu's station in life ate it was impressive to others, and the name "Sandwich" became popularized for the dish.

... a popular candy was originally sold under a different name? Starburst™ candies, the popular fruit-flavor chewy candy, were originally called Opal Fruits when they were launched in the United Kingdom in 1960. When the candy came to America in 1967, the name was changed to Starburst. The original Opal Fruits flavors were lemon, lime, orange, and strawberry. (Tasty stuff!)

Now... you know!

Hunting for a snake in the grass

The first snake sighting of the year occurred on May 21. Eye-witness accounts put a rat snake somewhere along the driveway in a thick clump of grass. It was last seen headed towards the woods.

I didn't lay eyes on this slithering critter myself, but its existence was reported multiple times by both of my children, only one of which actually saw the snake is my understanding. Depending on who was telling the story, the situation became more dire.

Funny how perspective works.

The first version of the tale is this: While performing his job of keeping the sticks and pinecones picked up around the yard, my son came across the snake. They saw each other at the same time, and like most serpent encounters, they went in opposite directions.

And it's a good thing I talked to him first, because it was vastly different from the yarn spun by my daughter. Words can hardly describe the fear and trepidation my precious girl child expressed when the existence of a, dare I mutter the term, snake, was discovered.

Remember, she didn't actually see it. I'm not even sure she was outside, but this animal really got under her skin. There is a passage pretty early in the Scriptures about the relationship between people and snakes. You should check it out, something about enmity for the rest of time.

In her eyes her peace was destroyed, the outside world off lim-



By KYLE DOMINY

its to any living creature (ones we wanted to keep alive at least). If the dog wanted to go out, you might as well go ahead and dig its grave. And don't you even dare to think she was ever going to touch grass again.

So, after hearing these two tales I did what any half-way decent father would do and implored upon me by my snake-terrified child – I patrolled the property. I could have sat her down and explained that snake sightings are common in our area, that I see them every year and as long they are going the opposite direction, which they usually are because snakes are just as scared of us as we are of them, I let them alone.

But it was not a time for rational thought. It was a time for action.

There's more than one way to kill a nuisance snake. Most folks prefer a firearm of some kind but prefer more archaic methods. I keep a garden hoe at the ready, its blade sharpened to a fine edge. I don't do much gardening anymore, so this tool is strictly a weapon. Something about plowshares into swords can also be found in the Bible.

As you can imagine the snake was long gone before I could make my way to the alleged sighting. I gave the all clear and before night-fall the yard was alive again with activity of the human variety.

Even the dog was allowed to go back outside.

COUCH THEATER



Jennifer Lopez and Brett Goldstein star in "Office Romance"/Photo courtesy of Netflix

By DEMI TAVERAS
King Features

The Roses (R)

This black-comedy film, led by Oscar winner Olivia Colman ("The Favourite") and Oscar nominee Benedict Cumberbatch ("The Phoenix Scheme"), is a reimagining of the 1989 film called "The War of the Roses." The original film starred Michael Douglas, Danny DeVito and Kathleen Turner and was directed by DeVito; but the remake went under the radar during its theatrical release this past August. Colman and Cumberbatch, respectively, play Ivy and Theo Rose, an ambitious married couple whose marriage begins to collapse after Theo loses his job. Tension and resentment between the spouses build due to their different parenting styles and Theo's jealousy of Ivy's success, leaving viewers watching between their fingers as the Roses duke it out in their own personal war. Out now. (Hulu)

Off Campus (TV-MA)

This romantic-drama series, based on Elle Kennedy's books, premiered in May and has already generated a huge fan following online. Ella Bright, who once played a young Kate Middleton in "The Crown," portrays music student Hannah at the fictional Briar University. When hockey team captain Garrett (Belmont Cameli) needs help studying, Hannah volunteers to help him under the guise that he pretends to be her fake boyfriend so she can impress the guy she truly likes. (Ah, young love!) Of course, anyone who's seen anything with a similar plot knows where this is going. Steve Howey ("Shameless") and Antonio Cipriano ("The Alto Knights") co-star in the series, and all eight

episodes are out now with a second season already in the works! (Amazon Prime Video)

Margo's Got Money Troubles (TV-MA)

This comedy-drama series has quite the cast to carry its interesting plot off the ground: Elle Fanning ("A Complete Unknown") leads the series with Nick Offerman ("Parks and Recreation"), Michelle Pfeiffer ("The Madison"), and Nicole Kidman ("Scarpetta") rounding out the rest of the main cast. Fanning plays the titular character -- 20-year-old Margo -- an aspiring writer and new mom who turns to OnlyFans for financial support after the birth of her baby. Although some people don't approve of her stream of income, Margo is successful and suspends all logic of what she "should be" doing in life so that she can figure out who she really is inside. All eight episodes are out now to stream. (Apple TV+)

Office Romance (R)

This sexy rom-com hitting Netflix on June 5 stars Jennifer Lopez ("Kiss of the Spider-Woman") and Brett Goldstein ("Shrinking"), who also co-wrote the screenplay. Lopez plays Jackie Cruz, president and CEO of the airline Air Cruz, and she's a no-nonsense type of executive with most of her employees fearing her, a la Miranda Priestly. When new lawyer Daniel (Goldstein) starts working at the company, his warm, kind energy pierces the chilly ice queen in an impactful way. Because of this new relationship with Daniel, Jackie's finally able to turn over a new leaf in life and learn that there's more to it than work and financial success. (Netflix)

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Fat in the state of Georgia's budget may have saved their bacon

By TY TAGAMI
Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA — Things were looking grim for Georgia's wild pigs during this year's legislative session, but they found partial salvation in lawmakers who larded their own budget with too much pork.

Gov. Brian Kemp, in his effort to balance the budget, cut hundreds of millions of dollars in new spending

when he signed it earlier this month.

He highlighted some of the major cuts at that time but did not mention the pig eradication projects nestled deep within the 171-page document.

A \$1 million public-private pilot program to manage feral hogs was a victim of his line-item veto, as was a \$200,000 wild pig eradication program.

"So what we're doing

now is making some tough choices," he said.

The eradication programs had been something of a priority for lawmakers, especially in the House.

Owing to limited time (and attention spans), Rep. Matt Hatchett, R-Dublin, could only detail a small number of items in the \$38.5 billion fiscal year 2027 budget when he presented it on the House floor on March 10.

Hatchett, who chairs the House Appropriations Committee, talked about money for big issues, such as education, health care, prisons and poverty.

But he left time to talk about wild pigs, and the money in the budget to get rid of them.

"Feral hogs are wreaking havoc statewide," he said, "causing millions of dol-

lars of damage to crops and farms each year."

The next week, the Senate sent House Bill 946 to Kemp, a measure that authorizes the use of drones to locate feral pigs while hunting them and allows their capture without a hunting or trapping license if they are killed on site.

The measure passed the Senate unanimously,

after Sen. Lee Anderson, R-Grovetown, implored his fellow lawmakers to help farmers.

"I just ask each and every one of you vote green so we can go kill some hogs this afternoon," he told them.

Kemp signed it earlier this month.

So wild hogs still have some worries.

Invitations for Bid and Request for Proposals by Twiggs County, Georgia

Twiggs County is accepting proposals from qualified Contractors for resurfacing and related road work (the "Work") on Crescent Road. The Work shall begin at the intersection of Marion-Ripley Road and Crescent Road and shall continue along Crescent Road for approximately .4 miles.

All bids must be received by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, June 16, 2026. Proposals/Bids must be signed; late Proposals/Bids will not be considered. A Bid Bond in the amount of five percent (5%) of the total bid amount is required. Proposals/Bids without a Bid Bond shall not be considered. Proposals/Bids for the Project will be sealed and not opened until Thursday, June 18, 2026 at the 6:00 P.M. Twiggs County Board of Commissioners Meeting at the Twiggs County Court House.

The terms and conditions for the Proposals/Bids, specifications for the Project are: (1) a minimum application of 2.0" asphalt for resurfacing; (2) centerline striping and fog line striping are required; (3) a 2-foot apron is required at all driveways and intersections to ensure a smooth transition; (4) work must be completed within 45 calendar days from the notice to proceed; (5) if necessary, clipping in preparation for new pavement is mandatory; (6) Contractor agrees it shall remove all debris from the project site upon completion of the Work; and (7) mobilization, bonding, and insurance is required.

As allowed by Georgia law, this Request for Proposal expressly provides that:

Offerors submitting proposals may be afforded an opportunity for discussion, negotiation, and revision of proposals. Discussions, negotiations, and revisions may be permitted after submission of proposals and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining best and final offers.

In accordance with the request for proposals, all responsible offerors found by Twiggs County to have submitted proposals reasonably susceptible of being selected for award shall be given an opportunity to participate in such discussions, negotiations, and revisions. During the process of discussion, negotiation, and revision, Twiggs County shall not disclose the contents of proposals to competing offerors.

Twiggs County specifically reserves all of its rights under Georgia law as to the proposals it receives pursuant to this Request, specifically including but not limited to, the right to waive any requirements and/or specifications included, to reject any or all proposals, waive technicalities or informalities, and to accept any proposal that in its judgment best serves the interests of the County and/or is deemed to be best suited for its needs.

Please note that Georgia's law as to the bonding requirements for a county road are applicable to this Project and must be followed, including but not limited to, a performance and payment bond, that must be paid for as part of and included in the contract price awarded to the Contractor selected by Twiggs County.

If there are any questions please submit such questions in writing to the Twiggs County Board of Commissioners Office at 425 N Railroad Street, Jeffersonville, Georgia 31044.

Invitations for Bid and Request for Proposals by Twiggs County, Georgia

Twiggs County is accepting proposals from qualified Contractors for resurfacing and related road work (the "Work") on Noah Thomas Road. The Work shall begin at the intersection of Bullard Road and Noah Thomas Road and shall continue approximately .4 miles along Noah Thomas Road until the end of Noah Thomas Road.

All bids must be received by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, June 16, 2026. Proposals/Bids must be signed; late Proposals/Bids will not be considered. A Bid Bond in the amount of five percent (5%) of the total bid amount is required. Proposals/Bids without a Bid Bond shall not be considered. Proposals/Bids for the Project will be sealed and not opened until Thursday, June 18, 2026 at the 6:00 P.M. Twiggs County Board of Commissioners Meeting at the Twiggs County Court House.

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Offerors submitting proposals may be afforded an opportunity for discussion, negotiation, and revision of proposals. Discussions, negotiations, and revisions may be permitted after submission of proposals and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining best and final offers.

In accordance with the request for proposals, all responsible offerors found by Twiggs County to have submitted proposals reasonably susceptible of being selected for award shall be given an opportunity to participate in such discussions, negotiations, and revisions. During the process of discussion, negotiation, and revision, Twiggs County shall not disclose the contents of proposals to competing offerors.

Twiggs County specifically reserves all of its rights under Georgia law as to the proposals it receives pursuant to this Request, specifically including but not limited to, the right to waive any requirements and/or specifications included, to reject any or all proposals, waive technicalities or informalities, and to accept any proposal that in its judgment best serves the interests of the County and/or is deemed to be best suited for its needs.

Please note that Georgia's law as to the bonding requirements for a county road are applicable to this Project and must be followed, including but not limited to, a performance and payment bond, that must be paid for as part of and included in the contract price awarded to the Contractor selected by Twiggs County.

If there are any questions please submit such questions in writing to the Twiggs County Board of Commissioners Office at 425 N Railroad Street, Jeffersonville, Georgia 31044.

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**

