



# VISIONS

SIMPLY THE BEST | THE COVINGTON NEWS | 2020

The Covington News is proud to present its 2020 progress edition in the form of a 68-page magazine full of stories about local businesses, education, leaders and more, plus advertisements from the top area businesses. **MAGAZINE INSIDE TODAY**

## The Covington News

SATURDAY–SUNDAY, APRIL 25–26, 2020



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### His Word

And he has given us this command: Whoever loves God must also love his brother.  
— 1 John 4:21

### New chief in town

Athens captain to lead the City of Social Circle police department. A2



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# Governor starts to reopen state in phases

## Some businesses allowed to resume operations Friday

By BRETT FOWLER  
bfowler@covnews.com

COVINGTON — Gov. Brian Kemp announced Monday the state would begin to allow some businesses to reopen prior to the expiration of the statewide shelter-in-place order Thursday night. Gyms, bowling alleys, salons and some other indoor facilities closed under the shelter-in-place order were allowed to reopen Friday as long as they follow social distancing guidelines and other safety standards. In-person dining at restaurants will be allowed again starting Monday once those restaurants meet the requirements released by the state. Bars, nightclubs, music



On his first day back since reopening his doors, Dru Pél Sims cuts his client's hair inside Sims Barber Shop on Friday morning. Mason Wittner | The Covington News

venues and amusement parks will stay closed. Kemp stressed at a news conference Monday that businesses set to reopen must abide by the same social-distancing and sanitation measures as other businesses that were

not forced to close amid Georgia's shelter-in-place order. "I think this is the right approach at the right time," Kemp said. "It's not just throwing the keys back to business owners." When questioned about

the pressure he faced by possibly opening the state too soon, Kemp staunchly defended his decision. "Well I can tell you I don't give a damn about politics now," Kemp said. See REOPEN, Page A2

## Newton eclipses 150 cases of COVID-19

By MASON WITTNER  
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COVINGTON — Three new COVID-19-associated deaths were reported in Newton County this week while the total number of confirmed cases rose to 155 as of noon Friday, April 24. The Georgia Department of Public Health reported last Friday, April 17, that there had been 121 confirmed cases in Newton County and three deaths. The three new deaths in the county that were confirmed this week were a 62-year-old female with underlying health conditions and two males, ages 66 and 52. The prior health status of the two males remained unknown. The DPH announced there had been 22,147 total confirmed cases of the novel coronavirus across the state at noon Friday. This had led to 4,221 hospitalizations, a rate of 19.06%, and 892 deaths, which is 4.03%. The state has ramped up testing over the past month, leading to an influx of new positive cases. As of noon Friday, there had been a total of 107,176 tests administered in Georgia. At the DPH lab, 7,106 tests resulted in 1,315 people testing positive. Commercial labs conducted 100,070 tests and 20,832 came back positive. Fulton County, the site of the first confirmed COVID-19 case in Georgia, remains atop the state in total cases with 2,468. DeKalb currently has the second-most confirmed cases of any county in the state with 1,709. Dougherty is third in total cases at 1,487, as well as 108 deaths — the most in Georgia. A week after becoming the first neighboring county to top 1,000 confirmed cases, Gwinnett clocked in at 1,366 cases and 46 deaths Friday. Henry had 418 reported cases and 10 deaths, followed by Rockdale at 158 cases and six deaths, Butts with 124 cases and two deaths and Walton at 83 cases and three deaths. Follow CovNews on Facebook and Twitter for twice-daily updates on COVID-19 numbers from the DPH.

# Ozburn plans on hanging up his robe

## Served 24 years as a judge and was elected to six terms without opposition

By DAVID CLEMONS  
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COVINGTON — Late in 1995, friends, family and seemingly half of Newton County filled the state House chambers to watch one of their own take the oath to become the Alcovy Circuit's third judge. Covington attorney Samuel D. Ozburn was Gov. Zell Miller's choice under somewhat strange circumstances. There was no questioning Ozburn's credentials, but judicial appointments and elections around the state had been held up for years due to a federal civil rights lawsuit over judgeships. The General Assembly had created a third judgeship — to join Judges Marvin Sorrells and John Ott — but couldn't fill it due to the lawsuit. When the matter finally was resolved, Miller chose Ozburn. It was a popular choice. He'd been an attorney in Covington for years, the first to have a ground-level office on the downtown square. Miller said Ozburn was "very well regarded as a professional leader," according to The See OZBURN, Page A4



Newton County's population has nearly doubled and Walton County's has almost tripled during Ozburn's tenure in the Alcovy Circuit. File | The Covington News

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### DEATHS A8

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# Brinkley new SC chief

## Athens police captain to lead local squad

By DAVID CLEMONS  
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SOCIAL CIRCLE — Athens-Clarke County police Capt. Will Brinkley will lead the Social Circle Police Department starting next month.

Brinkley was a top candidate when Social Circle chose Jeff Fuesting for the position last year. Fuesting has resigned, effective Sunday, to take a job in the private sector.

City Manager Adele Schirmer said Brinkley was a top candidate when the position came open in 2019, upon Tyrone Oliver's appointment as the state commissioner of juvenile justice.

She said Brinkley was still interested when approached this week. He'll begin the job May 4.

Schirmer said Brinkley's

references described him as “a genuine, transparent person of integrity who respects people and achieves success by building long-term positive relationships” through his career.

“He has led officers and shift supervisors through their many stages of training, being attentive to their questions while putting the needs of the citizens as a top priority,” she said.

Brinkley began his law enforcement career in 1989 with the Madison Police Department. He has spent 25 years with Athens-Clarke County, rising from the ranks from officer to captain.

He is a graduate of the Southern Police Institute with a Bachelor of Science in criminal justice. SPI is a division of the University of Louisville College of



Will Brinkley

Arts and Sciences criminal justice department.

Schirmer called Brinkley a “strong proponent and practitioner of community-oriented policing,” with experience in patrol, special operations and school resource officer work.

The Athens-Clarke department has recognized Brinkley for Meritorious Community Service and Leadership Ability, for improving the communication between public housing and police, community policing and facilitating projects that decreased criminal activity and enhanced the quality of life in the community.

“Will Brinkley believes in leading by example, and putting service before self,” Schirmer said.

She said the current social distancing requirements likely will preclude any type of community meet-and-greet for Brinkley but said a Facebook Live program is planned for May 4.

## REOPEN

Continued from Page A1

while noting he's more concerned about Georgians “going broke worried about whether they can feed their children and make the mortgage payment.”

Gyms, fitness centers, bowling alleys, tattoo parlors, barbershops, cosmetologists, hair designers, nail salons, estheticians, massage therapists and schools for those trades were included in the list of businesses allowed to reopen Friday. Dine-in restaurants and movie theaters will be allowed to reopen Monday.

Kemp also said religious leaders can resume in-person services if they adhere to safety policies. Additionally, hospitals would soon be allowed to resume elective surgeries.

“These are tough moments in our state and our nation. I hear the concerns of those that I'm honored to serve,” Kemp said. Kemp also said Georgia's drastic measures helped ease the pressure on the state's healthcare network.

While many praised the governor's efforts to reopen the state, President Donald Trump voiced concerns about Georgia reopening too early.

“When you have spas, beauty parlors,

tattoo parlors and barbershops ... maybe you want to wait a bit longer,” Trump told reporters early Wednesday evening during his daily coronavirus press briefing at the White House.

Trump said he has a good relationship with Kemp and noted he helped Kemp get elected by endorsing him before the 2018 Republican gubernatorial primary at a time he was trailing. Trump has also said that he's leaving the decision to reopen in the hands of governors.

“Do I agree with him [on reopening businesses]? No,” the president said. “But I respect him and will let him make that decision.”

Kemp stood by his decision, describing it as a “measured action” to get Georgians back to work safely. That “measured action” coupled with a continued push to increase the number of tests that can be done per day by local universities and the Georgia National Guard is what led the state's public health commissioner, Dr. Kathleen Toomey, to suggest opening the state up was an option for Kemp.

“This is the way we're going to stop the virus,” Toomey said Monday. “This is the way we're going

to keep spread from occurring even as we begin to gradually open up the state.”

The increase in testing by the state should help reduce Georgia's heavy reliance on commercial tests, which often have resulted in slow turnaround times and incomplete data.

To help with the expanded testing, Kemp and National Guard Adj. Gen. Thomas Carden have instructed The Georgia National Guard to mobilize 10 new “strike teams” to administer tests.

Kemp announced another partnership with Augusta University to help expand COVID-19 testing in the state.

Augusta University has created a free app that lets doctors diagnose a person's symptoms via live video and, if necessary, formally refer that person to a nearby testing site. The school has also started to produce mouth swabs from 3-D printers to help with the availability of testing supplies.

While many businesses are opening back up, Kemp reiterated that schools would “absolutely” remain closed for the rest of the school year.

“I talked with multiple school officials who told me if we couldn't go back by a certain date, it wasn't worth it,” Kemp said.

# State issues guidelines for barbershops and salons

FROM STAFF REPORTS  
news@covnews.com

ATLANTA – A frequently asked question since Gov. Brian Kemp announced some businesses will be allowed to reopen in Georgia this Friday is how people are supposed to get a haircut while practicing social distancing.

The Georgia Board of Cosmetology and Barbers has addressed that issue by releasing a set of guidelines the state's barbershops and hair salons should follow that combines social distancing with screening, cleaning and the use of personal protective equipment.

“Under our sanitation laws and rules, we are charged with the responsibility of protecting consumers from the spread of contagious diseases everyday in our salons,” board Chairman Kay Kendrick said in a prepared statement. “By adding the safety guidelines that have been developed by the board and some of our industry leaders in the

cosmetology and barber profession, we feel that our professionals will be able to do an even better job of protecting themselves and their clients.”

While common sense dictates a barber or hair stylist cannot remain at least six feet from a customer, the guidelines require employees to wear masks at all times and suggest shops consider providing masks to customers. Also, customers should wear masks “to the extent possible” while receiving services.

The guidelines also suggest shops use touchless infrared thermometers to take the temperature of employees each day and of customers entering the premises. Shops should additionally screen customers by asking them whether they have experienced a cough or fever or been near anyone exhibiting these symptoms within the last 14 days.

Shops also should consider seeing cus-

tomers by appointment only and limit the number of customers in their waiting areas.

All shops should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected before reopening. Shops should then maintain regular disinfection of all tools, shampoo bowls, pedicure bowls, work stations, treatment rooms and restrooms.

“As we begin the process of safely reopening our economy, it is critical that business owners, operators and contractors adhere strictly to increased safety and sanitation guidelines to mitigate the spread of COVID-19,” said Kemp, whose reopening announcement drew criticism both inside Georgia and nationally, particularly over reopening barbershops and hair salons. “Working together, I am confident that we can get these sectors back online and work to ensure the health and safety of all Georgians.”

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The Covington News (USPS 136140) is published weekly on Sunday for \$52 a year for home delivery or \$72 a year for mail delivery by Newton Newspapers Inc., 1166 Usher St. NW, Covington, GA 30014. This newspaper is printed at the Jackson County Sentinel in Scottsboro, Alabama. Periodicals postage paid at Covington, Georgia. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Covington News, P.O. Box 1249, Covington, GA 30015. Contents **Copyright © 2020** Newton Newspapers Inc.

Lyn Pace columnist

# The Way It Was Supposed To Be

So many things are supposed to be different right now. The Oxford College campus should be alive with students excited about graduation and nervous about all the work left to do before leaving for the summer. There



should be Frisbees whizzing across our beautiful Quad in the center of campus. Retiring faculty members who have worked for decades should be having their celebrations alongside those graduating students. So much is so different, and I'm trying to do my best with my disappointment. I'm guessing that, for so many of you, there's a list of these "it was supposed to be" phrases too.

Like you, I've had to adjust, be flexible, and wait. In the words of children's book author, Mo Willems, Waiting is Not Easy (check it out, it's a great book for all of us right now). Nevertheless, we must wait.

All of this makes me think of a story about one of our students from some years back, a story I witnessed first-hand.

It was the winter choral concert, your typical December concert with rich music and good direction, a wonderful strings ensemble, and a lively atmosphere.

The string ensemble performed in the middle of the concert. The piece they welcomed us back with after intermission was Bach's Concerto in D minor. Only something was different. For every other piece of music that night – with both the choral and string ensemble – a professional accompanist played. However, for Bach's Concerto one of our students sat down to the piano without sheet music and began to play the piano accompaniment for the string ensemble.

I stretched my neck around the people in front of me to get a better look. Sure enough, no music – all from memory.

She was doing quite well until a couple of minutes into it when she suddenly stopped. No one quite knew what was happening. The other students playing were confused too until we could hear her faintly whisper, "I'm so sorry. I messed up." She looked at them and they looked at her. Then she turned to look to her choral director, Dr. Archetto, who was sitting off to the side. Dr. Archetto looked at her and said calmly, "Start again." So, she did.

They began again, and it was even better this time. A couple of minutes in, though, it happened again. "She forgot her place again," someone next to me whispered. The room was awkwardly quiet for a moment and just at the beginning of her apology to us as a bright shade of red filled her face, the audience erupted in applause. One by one, we all began to stand and offer our applause. Some people whistled and even yelled for her. She was astonished, overwhelmed, and so were we.

She had practiced at length for that moment. She told me, "It wasn't supposed to be like that." Somehow, the audience knew this, which is why, I'm convinced, we erupted in spontaneous applause and turned the way it was supposed to be into the way it was.

Things right now are not the way we have known them. It wasn't supposed to be like this and yet this is the way it is. We will get through it. There will be pain, loss, and grief. We will also learn a lot, rely on each other more (as we've already been doing), and discover new ways to have hope.

In the midst of it all, I encourage us all to remember these instructions from Mary Oliver's poem, "Sometimes" in the book, Redbird:

"Pay attention. Be astonished. Tell about it."

*The Rev. Dr. Lyn Pace is the college chaplain at Oxford College of Emory University.*

### Have your say!

We welcome your letters to the editor on issues of public concern. Please include your full name, hometown and phone number (for verification purposes). Only names and hometown will be published. Editors' decisions are final. Letters must be submitted by noon Wednesday for publication in the weekend edition.

- Mail: Editor: The Covington News, P.O. Box 1249, Covington, GA 30015
- In person: Stop by 1166 Usher St. NW in downtown Covington
- Email: news@covnews.com

Letter to the Editor

## Congratulations Judge Sheri Capes Roberts

The State Bar of Georgia sends well-wishes to Newton County Juvenile Court Judge Sheri Capes Roberts on the announcement of her retirement effective May 1, and we thank her for her distinguished service to the people of Newton County.

Judge Roberts, a 27-year member of the State Bar of Georgia, was the first female judge in the Alcovy Judicial Circuit upon her appointment to the Juvenile Court bench in 2009. During her innovative tenure, she established a Family Treatment Court among other programs and projects to assist children and families involved in the Juvenile Court.

Judge Roberts' colleagues in the Georgia legal community appreciate the many contributions she has made through her service to the public and the justice system. We wish her well in the years ahead.

Sincerely,  
Darrell Sutton  
President, State Bar of Georgia

The Design Consumer: Jeff MacKenzie columnist

# DIGITAL DEMENTIA

True, we now carry the sum total of human knowledge-or at least access to it-in our back pockets.

True, we can now converse real time with anyone across the globe, visually and audibly, as if in the same room.

True, we can consign operation of household appliances, HVAC, and stereo equipment to a small device that responds to verbal commands and activates/manages said household and also looks up restaurant locations, makes reservations, researches questions of history, finance and science that once was the province of reference librarians, and even coordinates the cooking of an exotic dish found on the web.

True, the next decade will probably see vehicles driven by an inboard computer which will sense road conditions, avoiding hazards and traffic snarls while riders snooze or read or-more prevalent of late-consult their Facebook page.

And true, factory workers will soon be efficient robots, carrying in their electronic guts every detail about the factory's operations from blueprints of processes through to loading docks.

True that, all of it, excepting one salient point:

None (in my experience, not one) of these items performs as advertised.

The electronic miracle so widely touted is fraught with two observable hazards:

- 1) The operation of all these systems is widely mysterious to its users-a kind of magic understood only by its geek acolytes and,
- 2) The geeks don't understand the rest of us.

I say this with some trepidation, as geeks interact potentially in the world with shamanlike powers. Like the shamans of say, an Amazon tribe, their rites are mysterious, spoken in a literal code-some of whose terms have leaked into the popular lexicon(interface, debug, hack, etc.) They no doubt resent hearing their words and deeds intoned and critiqued by a clueless civilian.

For example, a columnist in San Francisco once ridiculed the concept of identity theft in the emerging computer age. A day or two later he awoke to geeks' revenge: His bank account had been emptied, credit cards maxed out, his personal ID's-driver's license, passport, tax files-disappeared from the public record, and his credit history salted with fraudulent references.

This could never happen to us, right?

Several years ago I made the mistake of filing taxes online. Another Jeff MacKenzie-I think somewhere in Cobb County-copped my refund. It was September before I convinced the IRS I'd been defrauded.

And last year someone used my credit card number

to buy \$264 of merchandise at a Wal-Mart and a \$171 ticket to Jamaica on Spirit Airlines.

Fortunately, an alert geek credit bloodhound spotted the anomaly, and the charge was eventually erased.

One of the most pernicious aspects of this new digital frontier is this notion of robot call-answering services.

Piedmont doctors in my experience never answer their phones, delegating to staff that critical task. And the staff, being digital savants, delegates that task to robots.

Robots, who answer in a personable machines way (still typically unable to understand slangy human speech, but improving), advise the caller to hang up and dial 911 if it's an emergency, demand a patient ID and ask the nature of my call, offering up a menu including the extensions of staff.

This always reaches their voicemail, with a promise to return my call THAT SAME DAY, which seldom happens.

Robots have taken over answering phones for all corporate America. I'm sure this enhances their bottom lines and maybe their stock prices. But-I think I speak for millions of us-this geek innovation doesn't work very well. So... There's that.

And there's these dumb smartphones...In my lifetime I have owned a flip phone and three smart phones. The flip phone had a tiny screen, relatively simple setup and voicemail commands and few other bells and whistles.

But network pricing often left me with used-up call time, and roaming charges were a pricey hazard when traveling.

Then my brother purchased a smartphone from a network that offered a month-to-month contract, no roaming charges and an unlimited data plan. The phone was expensive, but financed interest-free through monthly phone bills.

I bit. And was reeled in by an Android Note 3, with an enlarged screen and a bunch of mysterious functions-apps.

But calling was relatively simple: dial, hang up, leave and check messages, all on a touch screen that was responsive and tough.My only complaint was a volume button on the unit's side which I regularly squeezed by mistake when retrieving it from a pocket.

Then we moved to Covington.

Coverage was spotty on the network, so we switched. The new network sold me a refurbished phone-an I-phone 7, telling me my Note 3 was incompatible with their system. The Apple had a good camera, decent sound and an inability to port all my contacts from my

old phone to the new one, which was a good excuse to weed them. People unknown, little known and long dead were sorted.

Then the phone took it upon itself to announce my list of voicemails and proceed to read them off. It did this in public, in a tone that drew interest from passers by. Repeated trips to the network store failed to remedy this glaring digital sin. Finally I discovered-well-you can indeed damage an I-phone.

We got by on my wife's phone for a month or two and then I was in BestBuy examining their impressive wares, and a salesman introduced the Google Pixel 3XL, said it had the best camera and because my network didn't sell Pixels I could buy an 'unlocked' version that any plan would accept.

So I did, and discovered my network visual voicemail, which identifies callers with text, does not work on the Pixel. My son downloaded an app that displays calls, but lately the app is insisting I switch to 'professional' voice mail-for a fee, of course.

I refuse that option, so have spotty VM and lately the Pixel has been dropping my calls in mid-sentence. A trip to Best Buy did not fix this, so now I have a smartphone that decides I don't need to be talking and cuts me off.

And even more irritating, it switches screens when I'm answering a call so I can't activate the speaker feature. And the camera, while taking excellent photos, will do the switch screen dance and suddenly I'm seeing not the intended photo subject but an ad for real estate in Forsyth County.

This phone also has a feature it calls 'ask Google' which requires squeezing the bottom edges of the phone, saying 'hey Google' and posing a question. Which works some of the time.

That old flip phone is looking better daily.

And then there's that scary, untethered feeling when the internet goes down. Ours did recently and no amount of unplugging and restarting had any effect. So the network technician, a savvy fellow, traced the line to a gap beneath my flowerbed. It seems in planting gladiolus bulbs 8" deep, I accidentally severed the cable-my lifeline to the sum total of human knowledge.

The cable was dull orange and smooth-like a young tree root. I then recalled severing a length and tossing it in the compost. The severed ends had tiny filaments that looked just like strands of root matter.

Tricky geeks, disguising their cable as a tree root.

*The DESIGN CONSUMER examines issues of design that the citizen consumers use.*



## OZBURN

Continued from Page A1

Covington News at the time. The governor said the new judge “clearly has the experience and it is obvious he has the intellect and the temperament to serve well and to serve wisely.

“Alcovy Circuit has a new judge and a good one.”

Ozburn has served the circuit — Newton and Walton counties — for 24 years as a judge. He now has the second-most seniority in the circuit of five Superior Court judges.

But he has decided to retire at the end of the month. Gov. Brian Kemp will choose his successor.

Ozburn retires having been elected to six terms without opposition.

“The thing about Sammy that’s so refreshing is what a man of integrity he is, and how straightforward,” said Ott, who’s now the chief judge of the circuit.

“He is what you see. He’s real easy to work with as a judge through all these years.

“We’ve worked seamlessly through the years. He’s been a steady

hand to lean on and ask questions, and he’s asked questions of me.”

And as Ozburn’s appointment came under a strange time for Georgia’s courts, so is his departure.

The state is under a judicial emergency due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Ozburn and other judges in the circuit are still going into the office each day, but it’s not the same. They’re conducting more proceedings by video or by conference call, while still available to sign orders as needed.

“I never dreamed I would be retiring during a judicial emergency like this,” Ozburn said recently. “It’s kind of a unique set of circumstances.”

That understatement isn’t a surprise from a man who displays unflappable calm on the bench, whether it’s a murder trial or a day full of status hearings.

In his tenure as a judge, Ozburn’s seen huge growth in the circuit — Newton County’s population has about doubled, while Walton’s is nearly three times more than in 1995 — and some of the types of cases are different too.

“I think it has grown, not just in size but in the variety of cases that we’re faced with,” he said.

He’s continued to see problems like domestic violence, but more complex issues like mortgage fraud and cases related to technology that didn’t exist in the mid-1990s.

“You have to really stay on top of things,” Ozburn said. “The fundamentals are the same, but we are dealing with some more complex issues that we didn’t deal with back then.

“It’s amazing at the population growth that Newton and Walton

counties have experienced in the last 25 years.”

He has also seen different types of substance abuse cases come through the system in the past quarter-century.

“You had basically alcohol, marijuana, cocaine and later crack cocaine,” he said. “As time has gone by, there’s synthetic marijuana and meth. Drugs are probably involved in some way, shape and form in the vast majority of the cases we have to deal with.”

Ozburn said there are more crimes involving abuse of children too.

“I think there were more back then, but now you have mandatory reporting,” he said. “They are required to report anything they see that may indicate abuse.

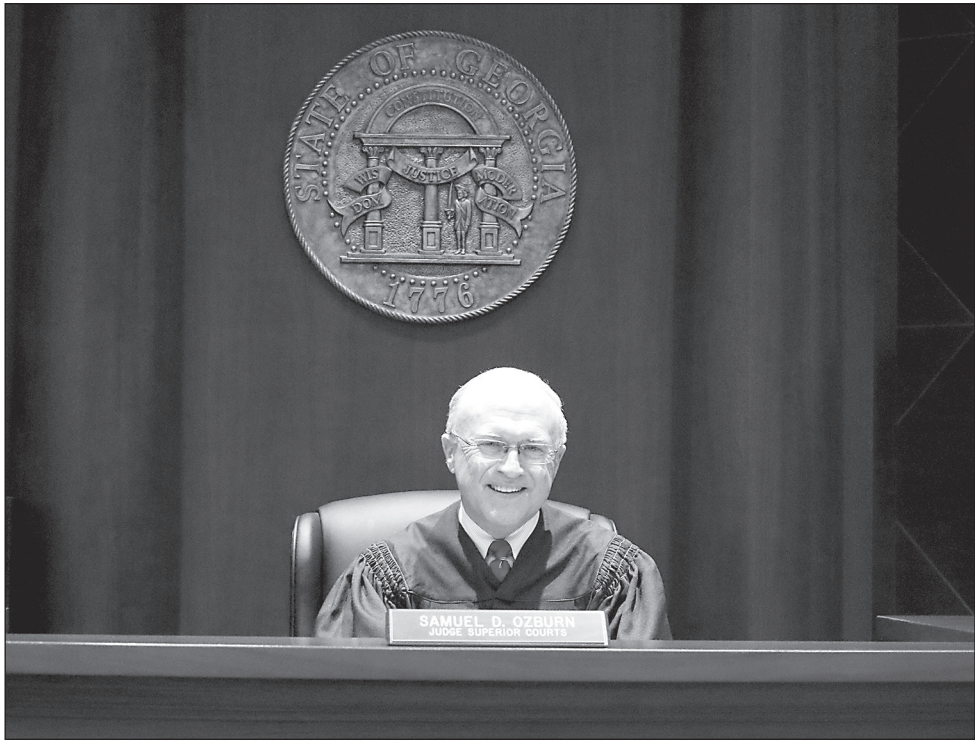
“A lot of times, things were kept within families, and now it’s brought to the forefront. I think it’s always been there, but it’s been brought to the light more.”

The court system has evolved too. For the past nine years, Ozburn has presided over the mental health court in Newton County. Judge Eugene Benton has done so in Walton County for the past five years.

There are also special courts for drug, driving under the influence and veterans cases.

“We deal with people that are nonviolent,” Ozburn said. “They have to be approved by statute.

... They’re individuals that can be adequately super-



**Ozburn has applied to be considered a senior judge, which would allow him to preside over the resource court until his successor is trained.** File | The Covington News

vised in the community under strict supervision.

“We actually change lives. The recidivism in these courts is a fraction of coming out of prison. It has been proven to work.”

He noted it’s a “collaborative model,” featuring buy-in from the probation office, law enforcement, prosecutors, the public defender’s office and treatment coordinators.

“We collaborate and we come up with the best plans for these people,” Ozburn said. “We’ll have some that will just decide to go to the penitentiary rather than go to these courts. We can’t make them do it, but those who make it through typically do quite well.”

Ozburn said these courts didn’t exist 12 to 15 years ago “and Georgia is

leading the nation in it.”

He said conservatives like them because they save money, and progressives like them because they can see the benefit to the individual.

“You see them change over time,” he said. “It’s one of the most gratifying things I’ve done as a judge.”

And he doesn’t want to end it anytime soon. Ozburn has submitted paperwork to be considered a senior judge, a designation ordered by the governor.

Ozburn would be able to preside over the resource court until his successor is trained in its specialized work, and he’d be able to fill in for other judges as needed.

“The fortunate thing is that he’s not dying, and

he’ll still be around to talk to and handle cases in times of need,” Ott said.

Other than work as a senior judge, and more time with golf, Ozburn plans to step up his involvement at Eastridge Community Church, where he is chairman of the deacons.

“I do a good bit there anyway,” he said, “but I plan to do more in the church there in terms of helping with programming and helping with the people who are in the church.

“Beyond that, I don’t know. I’m going to leave my options open and see what it leads to.”

Ozburn and his wife, Rhonda, have two adult sons and three granddaughters.

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# The Covington News

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### Public Notices

#### Abandoned Vehicles

##### ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE PETITION ADVERTISEMENT

**YOU ARE** hereby notified, in accordance with O.C.G.A. Section 40-11-19.1, that petitions were filed in the **MAGISTRATE COURT** of Newton County to foreclose liens against the vehicles listed below for all **AMOUNTS OWED**. If a lien is foreclosed, the Court shall order the sale of the vehicle to satisfy the debt. The present location of the vehicles is: 125 Old Hwy 138 Loganville, GA 30052-4814 **ANYONE WITH** an ownership interest in a vehicle listed herein may file an answer to the petition on or before: 05/15/20

**ANSWER FORMS** may be found in the Magistrate Court Clerk's office located at: 1132 Usher St Room Covington, GA

**FORMS MAY** also be obtained online at [www.georgiamagistratecouncil.com](http://www.georgiamagistratecouncil.com).

**VEHICLEVEHICLE MAGISTRATE YEAR MODEL** Vehicle ID # State **MAKE LICENSE#** Court Case No

<b>FORD</b>	<b>2005</b>	Escape
1FMCU931X5KA93272	20-1866AV	
<b>LEXUS</b>	<b>2016</b>	IS
JTHBA1D2XG5011087	20-1867AV	
<b>CHEVROLET</b>	<b>2014</b>	Camaro
2G1FB1E38E9172246	20-1868AV	
<b>HONDA</b>	<b>2007</b>	Odyssey
5FNRL38707B063838	20-1869AV	
<b>FORD</b>	<b>2011</b>	Fusion
3FAHP0GA0BR337497	20-1870AV	
<b>TOYOTA</b>	<b>2011</b>	RAV4
2T3KF4DVXBW066249	20-1871AV	
<b>KIA</b>	<b>2007</b>	Optima
KNAGE123675122515	20-1872AV	
<b>DODGE</b>	<b>2013</b>	Journey
3C4PDCBG1DT640726	20-1873AV	
<b>DODGE</b>	<b>2010</b>	Avenger
1B3CC5FB6AN234661	20-1874AV	
<b>HONDA</b>	<b>2012</b>	Civic
19XFB2F81CE041326	20-1875AV	
<b>VOLKSWAGEN</b>	<b>2009</b>	Jetta
3VWRM71K79M054956	20-1876AV	
<b>CHEVROLET</b>	<b>2010</b>	Impala
2G1WB5EK1A1183435	20-1877AV	

**PUBLIC NOTICE #116768**  
4/26,5/3

#### Adoptions

##### NOTICE OF ADOPTION

**TO: KALEY LYNN WILLIAMS, the legal mother, and to any known or unknown biological, legal, or putative fathers of Samya Annette Williams, a female child, born on October 4, 2006 in Conyers, Georgia.**

##### WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN

**YOU ARE** hereby notified that on March 23, 2020 a Petition for Adoption was filed in the Superior Court of Newton County, State of Georgia, Civil Action No. 2020-AD-15-4 to adopt the child named above. A hearing will be held on June 17, 2020 at 9:17 AM at the Newton County Courthouse before Judge Horace J. Johnson, Jr.

**THE PETITIONERS** Andre R. Dixon, Jr. and Ryan E. Dixon have requested that your paternal rights and obligations in and to the child named above be terminated. You may appear at the place and time shown above and show cause why your rights should not be terminated.

**FELITA CORNOG**  
**ATTORNEY FOR the Petitioners**  
**GEORGIA BAR No. 747370**  
**P. O. Box 1182**  
**CONYERS, GEORGIA 30012**  
**(404) 298-7373**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #116673**  
4/26,5/3,10

#### Alcoholic Beverage

**NOTICE IS** hereby given that an application has been made to the Newton County Board of Commissioners to obtain a license to sell alcoholic beverages (beer and wine) for off-premise consumption by:

**NAME OF Store:** Kroger # 621

**NAME OF Licensee:** Jennifer Kuller

**STORE LOCATION:** 3700 Salem Road Covington, GA 30016

**OCCUPATION TAX/BUSINESS**  
License Contact  
**TINA WATERS**  
**BUSINESS LICENSE Clerk**  
**TWATERS@CO.NEWTON.GA.US**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #116765**  
4/26,5/3

#### Bids

**ADVERTISEMENT FOR REQUEST OF PROPOSAL**  
**DREDGING AND Dewatering of Cornish Creek's Sludge Lagoons**  
**RFP #20-17**

**SEPARATE SEALED** proposals for Dredging and Dewatering of Cornish Creek's Sludge Lagoons will be received by Newton County Board of Commissioners electronically until 10:00AM, local time, May 12, 2020. **ALL PROPOSALS MUST BE SUBMITTED THROUGH VENDOR REGISTRY'S ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION PORTAL.**

**INSURANCE:**  
**CONTRACTOR SHALL** maintain the following insurance:

**(A) COMPREHENSIVE** General Liability, including blanket contractual, covering bodily injuries with limits of no less than \$1,000,000.00 per occurrence, and property damage with limits of no less than \$1,000,000.00 per occurrence;  
**(B) COMMERCIAL** Automobile Liability, including blanket contractual, covering bodily injuries with limits of no less than \$1,000,000.00 per occurrence, and property damage with limits of no less than \$1,000,000.00 per accident;  
**(C) STATUTORY** Worker's Compensation Insurance, including \$1,000,000.00 employer's liability insurance;

**ALL INSURANCE** shall be provided by an insurer(s) acceptable to the County, and shall provide for thirty (30) days prior notice of cancellation to the County. Upon request, Contractor shall deliver to the County a certificate or policy of insurance evidencing Contractors compliance with this paragraph. Contractor shall abide by all terms and conditions of the insurance and shall do nothing to impair or invalidate the coverage.

**EACH PROPOSAL** will be

considered by the **OWNER**, taking into consideration specific evaluation factors, listed in their order of relative importance, as set forth in the Request for Proposal. **NEWTON COUNTY** reserves the right to reject any or all Proposals, including without limitation, the right to reject any Proposal that the **OWNER** believes would not be in the best interest of the Project.

**DIGITAL COPIES** of the PROPOSAL DOCUMENTS may be obtained at the Purchasing office at no charge by visiting [www.co.newton.ga.us](http://www.co.newton.ga.us) or contacting Randi Fincher at 678-625-1237 or [rfincher@co.newton.ga.us](mailto:rfincher@co.newton.ga.us). Hard copies of the PROPOSAL DOCUMENTS may be obtained upon a non-refundable payment of \$25.00 for each set. The Authority is not obligated to consider the contractor's proposal if they are not on record with the issuing office as having received complete Proposal Documents

**APRIL 22, 2020**  
**LLOYD KERR,** County Manager  
**NEWTON COUNTY** Board of Commissioners

**PUBLIC NOTICE #116766**  
4/26

#### Citations

##### CITATION

**ALLEASSA HARLEY** has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the **Estate of LULA B. H. SMITH**, deceased. (The applicant has also applied for waiver of bond and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. §53-12-232). All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said application should not be granted. All objections must be in writing, and filed with this Court on or before May 4, 2020, next, at ten o'clock, a.m.

**MELANIE M. Bell, Judge**  
**BY: MARCIA Wynne**  
**CLERK, PROBATE COURT**  
**NEWTON COUNTY, GA**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #116710**  
4/5,12,19,26

##### CITATION

**CHARLES GILMON** has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the **Estate of LEE ANN GILMON**, deceased. (The applicant has also applied for waiver of bond and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. §53-12-232). All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said application should not be granted. All objections must be in writing, and filed with this Court on or before May 4, 2020, next, at ten o'clock, a.m.

**MELANIE M. Bell, Judge**  
**BY: MARCIA Wynne**  
**CLERK, PROBATE COURT**  
**NEWTON COUNTY, GA**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #116711**  
4/5,12,19,26

##### CITATION

**CHERYL PRICE ANDERSON** has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the **Estate of ALETHIA CLEMMONS PRICE**, deceased. (The applicant has also applied for waiver of bond and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. §53-12-232). All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said application should not be granted. All objections must be in writing, and filed with this Court on or before May 4, 2020, next, at ten o'clock, a.m.

**MELANIE M. Bell, Judge**  
**BY: MARCIA Wynne**  
**CLERK, PROBATE COURT**  
**NEWTON COUNTY, GA**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #116718**  
4/5,12,19,26

##### CITATION

**KIMBERLY GONZALEZ** has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the **Estate of CATHRYN LAFAYETTE**, deceased. (The applicant has also applied for waiver of bond and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. §53-12-232). All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said application should not be granted. All objections must be in writing, and filed with this Court on or before May 4, 2020, next, at ten o'clock, a.m.

**MELANIE M. Bell, Judge**  
**BY: MARCIA Wynne**  
**CLERK, PROBATE COURT**  
**NEWTON COUNTY, GA**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #116713**  
4/5,12,19,26

##### CITATION

**RE: ESTATE OF CURTIS DOUGLAS BAXTER, DECEASED**

**TAMMI BAXTER, Executrix,** has petitioned to be discharged from Office and all Liability. All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause as to why said petition should not be granted. All objections must be in writing and filed with this Court on or before May 11, 2020, at ten o'clock a.m.

**MELANIE M. Bell, Judge**  
**BY: MARCIA Wynne, Clerk**  
**PROBATE COURT**  
**NEWTON COUNTY, GA**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #116764**  
4/26

##### CITATION

**THE PETITION OF LINDA S SCHELL** widow/widower of **JOHN S. SCHELL, JR.**, deceased, for Twelve Month's Support for having been duly filed, all interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections must be in writing and filed with this Court on or before May 4, 2020, next at ten o'clock a.m.

**MELANIE M. Bell, Judge**  
**BY: MARCIA Wynne, Clerk**  
**PROBATE COURT**  
**NEWTON COUNTY, Georgia**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #116716**  
4/5,12,19,26

##### CITATION

**THOMAS WAYNE BLACKWELL** has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the **Estate of FRANCES TAYLOR BLACKWELL**, deceased. (The applicant has also applied for waiver of bond and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. §53-12-232). All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said application should not be granted. All objections must

be in writing, and filed with this Court on or before May 4, 2020, next, at ten o'clock, a.m.

**MELANIE M. Bell, Judge**  
**BY: MARCIA Wynne**  
**CLERK, PROBATE COURT**  
**NEWTON COUNTY, GA**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #116714**  
4/5,12,19,26

##### CITATION

**THOMIKA RILEY** has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the **Estate of JEREMY TREYON RILEY**, deceased. (The applicant has also applied for waiver of bond and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. §53-12-232). All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said application should not be granted. All objections must be in writing, and filed with this Court on or before May 4, 2020, next, at ten o'clock, a.m.

**MELANIE M. Bell, Judge**  
**BY: MARCIA Wynne**  
**CLERK, PROBATE COURT**  
**NEWTON COUNTY, GA**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #116712**  
4/5,12,19,26

#### Corporations

**NOTICE IS** given that articles of Incorporation which will incorporate Touching Lives Globally Foundation Inc. have been delivered to the Secretary of State for filing in accordance with the Georgia Nonprofit Corporation Code. The initial registered office of the Corporation will be located at 35 Silverton Drive, Covington, Georgia 30016 and its initial registered agent at such address is Irolda C. Douglas.

**PUBLIC NOTICE #116742**  
4/19,26

#### Convictions

##### SECOND/SUBSEQUENT DUI CONVICTION



**NAME: KEITH SCOTT LACKEY**  
**ADDRESS: 6253 COLLINS ST., COVINGTON, GA 30014**  
**DATE OF ARREST: JULY 7, 2017**  
**DATE OF OFFENSE: JULY 7, 2017**  
**TIME OF OFFENSE: 9:42PM**  
**PLACE OF OFFENSE: PIPER STAT/NEAR DEARING ST**

**DISPOSITION:**  
**PLEA OF GUILTY —**  
**DEFENDANT IS SENTENCED TO A TOTAL OF 36**

**MONTHS W/ THE FIRST 90 DAYS TO BE SERVED IN CONFINEMENT IN THE NEWTON COUNTY JAIL AND THE REMAINDER TO BE SERVED ON PROBATION - \$2,500.00 IN FINES PLUS ALL APPLICABLE FEES AND SURCHARGES - DEFENDANT SHALL PERFORM 240 HOURS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE & MUST ATTEND A DUI RISK REDUCTION CLASS**

**SENTENCE DATE: OCTOBER 17, 2017**  
**NAME OF COURT: SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #116753**  
4/26

##### SECOND/SUBSEQUENT DUI CONVICTION



**NAME: BRANDON PHILLIP LAWSON**  
**ADDRESS: 60 PEBBLE CROSSING, COVINGTON, GA 30016**  
**DATE OF ARREST: OCTOBER 30, 2019**  
**DATE OF OFFENSE: OCTOBER 30, 2019**  
**TIME OF OFFENSE: 7:00PM**  
**PLACE OF OFFENSE: 5341 HWY 20 SOUTH**

**DISPOSITION:**  
**PLEA OF GUILTY —**  
**DEFENDANT IS SENTENCED TO A TOTAL OF 24**

**MONTHS W/ THE FIRST 45 DAYS TO BE SERVED IN CONFINEMENT IN THE NEWTON COUNTY WORK RELEASE PROGRAM AND THE REMAINDER TO BE SERVED ON PROBATION- \$1,500.00 IN FINES PLUS ALL APPLICABLE FEES AND SURCHARGES - DEFENDANT SHALL PERFORM 240 HOURS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE & SHALL ATTEND AND COMPLETE A DUI RISK REDUCTION CLASS**

**SENTENCE DATE: FEBRUARY 13, 2020**  
**NAME OF COURT: SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #116754**  
4/26

#### Debtors Creditors

##### NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the **Estate of CLEVELAND JOHNSON**, deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law. **THIS THE 31st day of MARCH,**

2020.

**TAMARCUS SHARMAINE**  
**JOHNSON**  
**90 EAST LAWN WAY**  
**COVINGTON, GA 30016**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #116715**  
4/5,12,19,26

##### NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the **Estate of ELIZABETH PRICE**, deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law. **THIS THE 13th day of APRIL, 2020.**

**TIMOTHY LAMAR PRICE**  
**105 COWAN RIDGE**  
**COVINGTON, GA 30016**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #116762**  
4/26,5/3,10,17

##### NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the **Estate of JOHNNY ALAN DUNN**, deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law. **THIS THE 19th day of APRIL, 2020.**

**DIANA H. WESTBERRY**  
**1280 TIMBER RUN**  
**HAVANA, FL 32333**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #116760**  
4/26,5/3,10,17

##### NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the **Estate of MICHAEL HEDRICK**, deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law. **THIS THE 13th day of APRIL, 2020.**

**JEFFREY HEDRICK**  
**340 E. COUNTRY WOODS DR**  
**COVINGTON, GA 30016**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #116761**  
4/26,5/3,10,17

##### NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the **Estate of SHIRLEY MITCHELL**, deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law. **THIS THE 13th day of APRIL, 2020.**

**DENISE ENDSLEY**  
**W164 N8778 MILL ST**  
**MENOMONEE FALLS, WI 53051**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #116759**  
4/26,5/3,10,17

#### Divorces

##### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

**RHONDA WILLIAMS**

**PLAINTIFF,**  
**-VS-**  
**RASHANN GLOVER**  
**DEFENDANT.**

**CIVIL ACTION No.: 2019-CV-1964-2**

##### NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

**BY ORDER** of the Court for Service by Publication dated the 4th day of December 2019 you are hereby notified that on 17th day of Sept 2019 the Plaintiff herein filed suit against you for Divorce.

**YOU ARE** required to file with Clerk of the Superior court of Newton County, and to serve upon the counsel for the Plaintiff, Miriam Arnold-Johnson, P.C. at 2330 Scenic Highway, Suite 218, Snellville, GA 30078, and answer in writing within sixty (60) days of the date of the Order for Publication.

**THIS, THE 19th day of December, 2019,**  
**LINDA D. Hays**  
**CLERK OF Superior Court**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #116757**  
4/26,5/3,10,17

##### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

**TENNETHIA LESTER**

**PLAINTIFF,**  
**-VS-**  
**CURRY LESTER**  
**DEFENDANT.**

**CIVIL ACTION No.: 2020-CV-1452-3**

##### NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

**TO: CURRY LESTER** 5 0  
**SHENANDOAH DR**  
**COVINGTON, GA 30016**

**BY ORDER** of the court for service by publication dated **MARCH 30, 2020** you are hereby notified that on **MARCH 9, 2020** (date of filing) **TENNETHIA LESTER** (plaintiff) filed suit against you for Divorce. **YOU ARE** required to file an answer in writing within sixty (60) days of the date of the order for publication with the clerk of the Superior Court of Newton County and to serve a copy of the answer upon the plaintiff (if pro se) or upon the plaintiff's attorney (if represented).

**WITNESS THE Honorable SAMUEL D. OZBURN,** Judge Superior Court of Newton County.

**THIS, THE 9th day of APRIL, 2020.**  
**LINDA D. Hays**  
**CLERK OF Superior Court**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #116755**  
4/26,5/3,10,17

##### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

**TRACY NICOLE JONES**

**PLAINTIFF,**  
**-VS-**  
**TONY RICO JONES**  
**DEFENDANT.**

**CIVIL ACTION No.: 2020-CV-599-1**

##### NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

**TO: TONY R. JONES** 1 6 5  
**SUNSET AVE** ATLANTA,  
**GA 30314**

**BY ORDER** of the court for service by publication dated **MARCH 30, 2020** you are hereby notified that on **MARCH 10, 2020** (date of filing) **TRACY NICOLE JONES** (plaintiff) filed suit against you for Divorce. **YOU ARE** required to file an answer in writing within sixty (60) days of the date of the order for publication with the clerk of the Superior Court of Newton County and to serve a copy of the answer upon the plaintiff (if pro se) or upon the plaintiff's attorney (if represented).

**WITNESS THE Honorable EUGENE M. BENTON,** Judge Superior Court of Newton County.

**THIS, THE 9th day of APRIL, 2020.**  
**LINDA D. Hays**  
**CLERK OF Superior Court**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #116756**  
4/26,5/3,10,17

#### Foreclosures

##### NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE OF RIGHT OF REDEMPTION STATE OF GEORGIA/COUNTY OF NEWTON

**TO:** 1) Crooked Creek Development, Inc., 2) Unknown Successors and Assigns of Crooked Creek Development, Inc., 3) Coldwater Creek Community Association, Inc., 4) tenants/occupants/residents, 5) Ameris Bank f/k/a McIntosh State Bank, 6) Newton County Tax Commissioner, and 7) all persons known or unknown who may claim an interest in property known as 175 Coldwater Dr., Covington, Georgia 30016

**TAKE NOTICE THAT: THE RIGHT** to redeem the described property as 175 Coldwater Dr., Covington, Georgia 30016 (Tax Parcel 0008A 00000 051 000), as follows, to wit:

**ALL AND** only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 0008A 00000 051 000, Land Lot 12 of the 10th Land District Newton County, Georgia, being 5.02 acres, more or less, being shown as Lot 52 of Coldwater Creek Subdivision in accordance with the Plat of Survey prepared by Patrick and Associates, Inc., certified Louie D. Patrick, Georgia R.L.S. No. 1757, said plat being dated August 22, 2002 and recorded in Plat Book 58, pages 158-162, known as 175 Coldwater Drive. **THIS BEING** a portion of that property as contained in that Warranty Deed from Kraft Homes, Inc. to Crooked Creek Development, Inc. dated April 24, 2002 and recorded at Deed Book 1213, page 178, Public Records of Newton County, Georgia. **WILL EXPIRE** and be forever foreclosed and barred on and after the 5th day of June, 2020, or 30 days from service of notice.

**THE TAX** deed to which this notice relates is dated the 4th day of December, 2018 and is recorded in the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Newton County, Georgia, in Deed Book 3786, Page 603.

**THE PROPERTY** may be redeemed at any time before the



as Hwy 212, Covington, Georgia 30016

**TAKE NOTICE THAT:**  
**THE RIGHT** to redeem Hwy 212, Covington, Georgia 30016, (Tax Parcel 00320 00000 023 000), as follows, to wit:

**ALL AND** only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 00320 00000 023 000, Land Lot 70 of the 8th Land District, Newton County, being 0.61 acre, more or less, according to the survey prepared by Robert M. Buhler, R.L.S.1403, dated January 10, 1973, further described in Deed Book 147, Page 610, located on Highway 212.

**WILL EXPIRE** and be forever foreclosed and barred on and after the 12th day of June, 2020, or 30 days from service of notice.

**THE TAX** deed to which this notice relates is dated the 4th day of December 2018 and is recorded in the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Newton County, Georgia, in Deed Book 3786, Page 609.

**THE PROPERTY** may be redeemed at any time before the 12th day of June, 2020, or 30 days from service of notice, by payment of the redemption price as fixed and provided by law to the undersigned at the following address: David A. Basil, LLC, 301 Bradley Street, Suite B-7, Carrollton, Georgia, 30117.

**PLEASE BE** governed accordingly.

**PUBLIC NOTICE #116745**  
**4/26,5/3,10,17**

**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE OF RIGHT OF REDEMPTION STATE OF GEORGIA/COUNTY OF NEWTON**

**TO:** 1) Estate John David Sheffield Sr., 2) Unknown Heirs and Assigns Estate John David Sheffield Sr., 3) Dorothy Jean Sheffield, 4) Unknown Heirs and Assigns Dorothy Jean Sheffield, 5) Newton County Tax Commissioner, and 6) all persons known or unknown who claim an interest in 2872 Hwy 212, Covington, Georgia 30016

**TAKE NOTICE THAT:**  
**THE RIGHT** to redeem 2872 Highway 212, Covington, Georgia 30016, (Tax Parcel 00330 00000 066 C00), as follows, to wit:

**ALL THAT** parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 00330 00000 066 C00, Land Lot 92 and 69 of the 8th Land District Newton County, Georgia, being 1.22 acres, more or less, being a portion of Tract 5, on plat of survey for Rodney H. Ogelsby, Jr., and Roy Kuhn by John F. Brewer, Registered Land Surveyor, dated August 24, 1988, recorded Plat Book 23, Page 35, Newton County Records. Said plat and the record thereof is hereby incorporated by reference for description, known as 2872 Highway 212.

**WILL EXPIRE** and be forever foreclosed and barred on and after the 5th day of June, 2020, or 30 days from service of notice.

**THE TAX** deed to which this notice relates is dated the 4th day of December 2018 and is recorded in the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Newton County, Georgia, in Deed Book 3787, Page 10.

**THE PROPERTY** may be redeemed at any time before the 5th day of June, 2020, or 30 days from service of notice, by payment of the redemption price as fixed and provided by law to the undersigned at the following address: David A. Basil, LLC, 301 Bradley Street, Suite B-7, Carrollton, Georgia, 30117.

**PLEASE BE** governed accordingly.

**PUBLIC NOTICE #116722**  
**4/19,26,5/3,10**

**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE OF RIGHT OF REDEMPTION STATE OF GEORGIA/COUNTY OF NEWTON**

**TO:** 1) Estate of Carl W. Hull, 2) Unknown Heirs and Assigns of Estate of Carl W. Hull, 3) Newton County Tax Commissioner, 4) all tenants/residents/occupants, and 5) all persons known or unknown who may claim an interest in property known as **85 Jack Neely Road, Covington, GA 30016**

**TAKE NOTICE THAT:**  
**THE RIGHT** to redeem the described property as 85 Jack Neely Road, Covington, GA 30016 (Tax Parcel 0025A 00000 003 A00), as follows, to wit:

**ALL AND** only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 0025A 00000 003 A00, Land Lot 187 of the 10th Land District, Newton County, Georgia, being 0.92 acres, more or less, further described in Deed Book 257, page 217, known as 85 Jack Neely Road.

**WILL EXPIRE** and be forever foreclosed and barred on and after the 12th day of June, 2020, or 30 days from service of notice.

**THE TAX** deed to which this notice relates is dated the 4th day of December, 2018 and is recorded in the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Newton County, Georgia, in Deed Book 3786, Page 610.

**THE PROPERTY** may be redeemed at any time before the 12th day of June, 2020, or 30 days from service of notice, by payment of the redemption price as fixed and provided by law to the undersigned at the following address: David A. Basil, LLC, 301 Bradley Street, Suite B-7, Carrollton, Georgia, 30117.

**PLEASE BE** governed accordingly.

**PUBLIC NOTICE #116729**  
**4/26,5/3,10,17**

**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE OF RIGHT OF REDEMPTION STATE OF GEORGIA/COUNTY OF NEWTON**

**TO:** 1) Estate of Curtis L. Jones, 2) Unknown Administrators, Heirs and Assigns of Estate of Curtis L. Jones, 3) Estate of Lillian M. Jones, 4) Unknown Administrators, Heirs and Assigns of Estate of Lillian M. Jones, 5) tenants/occupants/residents, 6) Newton County Tax Commissioner, and 7) all persons known or unknown who may claim an interest in property known as Lake Road, Covington, Georgia 30014

**TAKE NOTICE THAT:**  
**THE RIGHT** to redeem the described property as Lake Road, Covington, Georgia 30014 (Tax Parcel 0074B 00000 070 000), as follows, to wit:

**ALL AND** only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 0074B 00000 070 000, Land Lot 82 of the 8th Land District, Newton County, Georgia, being 0.61 acre, more or less, located within Lakeside Grove Subdivision, as per plat recorded in Plat Book 2, Page 49, located on Lake Road

**WILL EXPIRE** and be forever foreclosed and barred on and after the 5th day of June, 2020, or 30 days from service of notice.

**THE TAX** deed to which this notice relates is dated the 4th day of December, 2018 and is recorded in the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Newton County, Georgia, in Deed Book 3786, Page 612.

**THE PROPERTY** may be redeemed

at any time before the 5th day of June, 2020, or 30 days from service of notice, by payment of the redemption price as fixed and provided by law to the undersigned at the following address: David A. Basil, LLC, 301 Bradley Street, Suite B-7, Carrollton, Georgia, 30117.

**PLEASE BE** governed accordingly.

**PUBLIC NOTICE #116709**  
**4/12,19,26,5/3**

**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE OF RIGHT OF REDEMPTION STATE OF GEORGIA/COUNTY OF NEWTON**

**TO:** 1) Estate of Joyce Godfrey, 2) Unknown Administrators, Heirs, and Assigns of Estate of Joyce Godfrey, 3) Estate of Thelma Godfrey, 4) Unknown Administrators, Heirs, and Assigns of Estate of Thelma Godfrey, 5) Estate of Jacqueline Godfrey Evans, 6) Unknown Administrators, Heirs, and Assigns of Estate of Jacqueline Godfrey Evans, 7) John P. Godfrey, Jr., 8) tenants/occupants/residents, 9) Newton County Tax Commissioner, and 10) all persons known or unknown who may claim an interest in property known as Oxford Road, Oxford, Georgia 30054

**TAKE NOTICE THAT:**  
**THE RIGHT** to redeem the described property as Oxford Road, Oxford, Georgia 30054 (Tax Parcel X0610 00000 004 000), as follows, to wit:

**ALL AND** only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel X0610 00000 004 000, 9th Land District of Newton County, Georgia, being 5.55 acres, more or less, located on Oxford Road.

**WILL EXPIRE** and be forever foreclosed and barred on and after the 5th day of June, 2020, or 30 days from service of notice.

**THE TAX** deed to which this notice relates is dated the 4th day of December, 2018 and is recorded in the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Newton County, Georgia, in Deed Book 3786, Page 605.

**THE PROPERTY** may be redeemed at any time before the 5th day of June, 2020, or 30 days from service of notice, by payment of the redemption price as fixed and provided by law to the undersigned at the following address: David A. Basil, LLC, 301 Bradley Street, Suite B-7, Carrollton, Georgia, 30117.

**PLEASE BE** governed accordingly.

**PUBLIC NOTICE #116700**  
**4/12,19,26,5/3**

**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE OF RIGHT OF REDEMPTION STATE OF GEORGIA/COUNTY OF NEWTON**

**TO:** 1) Free Life Church, Inc. f/k/a The Shepherd's Door Community Church, Inc., 2) Unknown Successors and Assigns of Free Life Church, Inc. f/k/a The Shepherd's Door Community Church, Inc., 3) Newton County Tax Commissioner, 4) Tenants/Residents/Occupants, and 5) all persons known or unknown who claim an interest in 4210 Highway 138, Covington, Georgia 30052

**TAKE NOTICE THAT:**  
**THE RIGHT** to redeem 4210 Highway 138, Covington, Georgia 30052, (Tax 00360 00000 032 000), as follows, to wit:

**ALL AND** only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 00360 00000 032 000, Land Lot 266 of the 4th Land District Newton County, Georgia, being 3.85 acres, more or less, as shown on a plat of survey prepared by Louie D. Patrick, R.S., dated May 31, 1983, and recorded in Plat Book 18, page 167, in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court records, Newton County, Georgia, which said plat is incorporated herein by reference, known as 4210 Highway 138.

**WILL EXPIRE** and be forever foreclosed and barred on and after the 5th day of June, 2020, or 30 days from service of notice.

**THE TAX** deed to which this notice relates is dated the 4th day of December 2018 and is recorded in the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Newton County, Georgia, in Deed Book 3787, Page 11.

**THE PROPERTY** may be redeemed at any time before the 5th day of June, 2020, or 30 days from service of notice, by payment of the redemption price as fixed and provided by law to the undersigned at the following address: David A. Basil, LLC, 301 Bradley Street, Suite B-7, Carrollton, Georgia, 30117.

**PLEASE BE** governed accordingly.

**PUBLIC NOTICE #116721**  
**4/19,26,5/3,10**

**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE OF RIGHT OF REDEMPTION STATE OF GEORGIA/COUNTY OF NEWTON**

**TO:** 1) Jackie Dale Jones, 2) Unknown Heirs and Assigns Jackie Dale Jones, 3) Saira C. Sandoval, 4) Unknown Heirs and Assigns Saira C. Sandoval, 5) Newton County Tax Commissioner, 6) all tenants/residents/occupants, and 7) all persons known or unknown who claim Kirkland Road, a/k/a Kirkwood Drive, Covington, Georgia 30016

**TAKE NOTICE THAT:**  
**THE RIGHT** to redeem Kirkland Road, a/k/a Kirkwood Drive, Covington, Georgia 30016 (Tax Parcel 00027E 00000 023 A00), as follows, to wit:

**ALL AND** only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 0027E 00000 023A00, Land Lot 135 of the 10th Land District, Newton County, Georgia being 8.37 acres, more or less, being known and designated as Tract "B2", being more particularly described in a survey for Ray Bridges by Robert Jordan, R.L.S. Number 2902, dated 3/31/2003, said plat is filed for record and recorded in Plat Book 39, Page 202, and revised in Plat Book 41, Page 203, located on Kirkwood Drive.

**WILL EXPIRE** and be forever foreclosed and barred on and after the 5th day of June, 2020, or 30 days from service of notice.

**THE TAX** deed to which this notice relates is dated the 4th day of December, 2018 and is recorded in the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Newton County, Georgia, in Deed Book 3786, Page 613.

**THE PROPERTY** may be redeemed at any time before the 5th day of June, 2020, or 30 days from service of notice, by payment of the redemption price as fixed and provided by law to the undersigned at the following address: David A. Basil, LLC, 301 Bradley Street, Suite B-7, Carrollton, Georgia, 30117.

**PLEASE BE** governed accordingly.

**PUBLIC NOTICE #116703**  
**4/12,19,26,5/3**

**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE OF RIGHT OF REDEMPTION STATE OF GEORGIA/COUNTY OF NEWTON**

**TO:** 1) Jeffrey B. Riley, 2) Unknown Heirs and Assigns Jeffrey B. Riley, 3) Newton County Tax Commissioner, 4) River North Estates Phase 1 Architectural

Control Committee, 5) Tenants/Residents/Occupants, and 6) all persons known or unknown who claim an interest in 125 River North Court, Covington, Georgia 30016

**TAKE NOTICE THAT:**  
**THE RIGHT** to redeem 125 River North Court, Covington, Georgia 30016, (Tax Parcel 00440 00000 178 000), as follows, to wit:

**ALL AND** only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 00440 00000 178 000, Land Lot 132 of the 10th District, Newton County, Georgia being 0.35 acre, more or less, and being shown as Lot 23, River North Estates, on a plat of survey of same recorded in Plat Book 23, Page 72, Public Records of Newton County, Georgia, which plat is by reference thereto incorporated herein and made a part thereof for a more particular and complete description, known as 125 River North Court.

**WILL EXPIRE** and be forever foreclosed and barred on and after the 5th day of June, 2020, or 30 days from service of notice.

**THE TAX** deed to which this notice relates is dated the 4th day of December 2018 and is recorded in the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Newton County, Georgia, in Deed Book 3787, Page 4.

**THE PROPERTY** may be redeemed at any time before the 5th day of June, 2020, or 30 days from service of notice, by payment of the redemption price as fixed and provided by law to the undersigned at the following address: David A. Basil, LLC, 301 Bradley Street, Suite B-7, Carrollton, Georgia, 30117.

**PLEASE BE** governed accordingly.

**PUBLIC NOTICE #116699**  
**4/12,19,26,5/3**

**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE OF RIGHT OF REDEMPTION STATE OF GEORGIA/COUNTY OF NEWTON**

**TO:** 1) Walter Marks, 2) Unknown Heirs and Assigns of Walter Marks, 3) Cynthia Marks, 4) Unknown Heirs and Assigns of Cynthia Marks, 5) Newton County Tax Commissioner, 6) Tenant/Resident/Occupant, and 7) all persons known or unknown who may claim an interest in property known as Oak Street, Covington, Georgia 30014

**TAKE NOTICE THAT:**  
**THE RIGHT** to redeem the described property as Oak Street, Covington, Georgia 30014 (TAX PARCEL 0085A 00000 070 C00), as follows, to wit:

**ALL AND** only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 0085A 00000 070 C00, Land Lot 282 of the 1st District, Newton County, Georgia being 5.0 acres, more or less, located on Oak Street.

**WILL EXPIRE** and be forever foreclosed and barred on and after the 5th day of June, 2020, or 30 days from service of notice.

**THE TAX** deed to which this notice relates is dated the 4th day of December 2018 and is recorded in the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Newton County, Georgia, in Deed Book 3786, Page 618.

**THE PROPERTY** may be redeemed at any time before the 5th day of June, 2020, or 30 days from service of notice, by payment of the redemption price as fixed and provided by law to the undersigned at the following address: David A. Basil, LLC, 301 Bradley Street, Suite B-7, Carrollton, Georgia, 30117.

**PLEASE BE** governed accordingly.

**PUBLIC NOTICE #116702**  
**4/12,19,26,5/3**

**NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER GEORGIA, NEWTON COUNTY**

**THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.** Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by **Sandra Pitts** to NEWTON FEDERAL BANK, dated July 8, 2009, recorded in Deed Book 2735, Page 490, Newton County, Georgia Records and as modified by that certain Loan Modification Agreement recorded in Deed Book 3100, Page 588, Newton County, Georgia Records, as last transferred to McCormick 106, LLC by assignment recorded in Deed Book 3801, Page 42, Newton County, Georgia Records, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of ONE HUNDRED EIGHT THOUSAND AND 0/100 DOLLARS (\$108,000.00) and 0/100 DOLLARS as set forth therein, there will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the courthouse door of Newton 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 May, 2020, 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 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 will be sold subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above. McCormick 106, LLC is the holder of the Security Deed to the property in accordance with OCGA § 44-14-162.2. The entity that has full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the mortgage with the debtor is: BSI Financial Services, 11350 McCormick Road, EP II, Ste 903, Hunt Valley, MD 21031, 866-581-4495. To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party in possession of the property is Sandra Pitts or a tenant or tenants and said property is more commonly known as **75 Otelia Lane, Covington, Georgia 30014**. The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the security deed, McCormick 106, LLC as Attorney in Fact for Sandra Pitts McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC, 1544 Old Alabama Road Roswell, GA 30076 www.foreclosurehotline.net EXHIBIT "A" All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in Land Lot 307, 9th Land District, Newton County, Georgia, and known as Lot 37 of Pine Top Hill Subdivision, as shown on Plat of Survey for Robert L. Stewart dated March 30, 1973, prepared by James P. Knight, Ga. RLS #1776, as recorded in Plat Book 11, page 94, Newton County Records, the same incorporated herein and made a part hereof by reference for the purpose of more particularly describing said lot, and being more particularly described as follows: BEGINNING at a point on the eastern right-of-way line of

Otelia Lane (60 foot right-of-way) 200 feet as measured in a southerly direction along said right-of-way line from the point of intersection thereof with the southern right-of-way line of Stewart Drive (60 foot right-of-way) and running thence South 89 degrees 38 minutes East along the southern boundary of Lot 36 of said subdivision 200 feet to a point; thence South 00 degrees 22 minutes West along the western boundary of Lot 16 of said subdivision 100 feet to a point; thence North 89 degrees 38 minutes West along the northern boundary line of Lot 28 of said subdivision 200 feet to a point on the eastern right-of-way line of Otelia Lane; thence North 00 degrees 22 minutes East along the eastern right-of-way line of Otelia Lane 100 feet to the point of beginning. MFL/wa 5/5/20 Our file no. 5534119 - FT17

**PUBLIC NOTICE #116633**  
**4/5,12,19,26,5/3**

**Name Changes**  
**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA**

**IN RE:** Sanchez Antonio Mann  
**PLAINTIFF V. OBJECTORS AND MARZUETTE ANTONIA SMITH DEFENDANT**  
**CIVIL ACTION No:** 2020-CV-629-1

**TO:** MARZUETTE Antonia Smith

**NOTICE OF PUBLICATION**

**BY ORDER** for service by publication dated the 24th day of March, 2020, you are hereby notified that on the 12th day of March, 2020, Kadey Dominique Mann filed suit against you for a petition to change the name of Sanchez Antonio Mann.

**YOU ARE** required to file with the Clerk of the Superior Court, and to serve upon plaintiff's attorney, James E. Carter, Esq. an Answer in writing within sixty (60) days of the date of the order for publication.

**WITNESS, THE** honorable Eugene M. Benton, Judge of this Superior Court.

**THIS 9TH** day of April, 2020.

**LINDA D Hays**  
**CLERK, SUPERIOR COURT**  
**FOR: JAMES E. Carter, Esq.**  
**C A R T E R**  
**CROMWELL Law Grp**  
**199 WEST**  
**Jefferson Street**  
**MADISON,**  
**GA 30650**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #116767**  
**4/26,5/3,10,17**

**Notice of Proceedings**

**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE OF RIGHT TO REDEEM**  
**[REF. O.C.G.A., Section 48-4-5 et seq.; 48-4-45 & 48-4-46]**

**TO:** LITTON LOAN SERVICING LP or its Unknown Successors, Assigns, or Shareholders  
**TENANT/OWNER/OCCUPANT OF 6120 RUTH STREET, AND ALL PERSONS KNOWN AND UNKNOWN HAVING OF RECORD IN NEWTON COUNTY ANY RIGHT, TITLE, INTEREST IN, OR LIEN UPON 6120 RUTH STREET**

**RE: FORECLOSURE OF EQUITY OF REDEMPTION FOR TAX SALE DEED (REF. O.C.G.A. § 48-4-45, 46)**

**TAKE NOTICE that:**

**THE RIGHT to redeem the following described property, to wit will expire and be forever foreclosed and barred as of four o'clock (4 p.m.) on and after April 2, 2020, or within 30 days after legal service of the Notice pursuant to OCGA 48-4-45 et seq., whichever date is later:**

**ALL THAT** tract or parcel of land lying and being in Land Lots 236, 237, and 250 of the 9th District, Newton County, Georgia; being known and designated as Lot 110 of Walkers Bend Subdivision. Said tract being more particularly described in a survey for Walker's Bend by John F. Brewer, R.L.S. Number 2905, dated 10/06/2004. Said plat is filed for record and recorded 10/21/2004 in Plat Book 42, page(s) 46-59, Newton County Records, the same is incorporated herein, and made a part hereof by reference.

**THAT PROPERTY** known as **6120 RUTH STREET** according to the present system of numbering homes and having tax parcel identification number C063A 110 (a/k/a C063A 00000 110 000).

**THE TAX** deed to which this notice relates is dated December 4, 2018, and is recorded at Deed Book 3786, Page 614 in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Newton County, Georgia.

**THE PROPERTY may be redeemed on or before the time and date stated above by payment of the redemption price as fixed and provided by law to the undersigned at the following address:**

**C/O PROPERTIES GROUP, LLC**  
**C/F JOHN Coleman, Esq.**  
**COLEMAN LAW, LLC**  
**675 SEMINOLE AVENUE, Suite 302**  
**ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30307**  
**404.974.4537**

**PLEASE BE** governed accordingly.

**PUBLIC NOTICE #116743**  
**4/19,26,5/3,10**

**Public Hearings**  
**CITY OF COVINGTON LEGAL NOTICE**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given, in compliance with the City of Covington's Code of Ordinances Title 14: Development Regulations, Chapter 14.08-Platting Procedure, of Article 1, Section 14.08.010: Permitting Authority that the city health emergency. The DDA has received several Small Business Stabilization Program grant request applications from businesses in which certain DDA directors have an involvement or interest. If approved, these interests or involvements could each have a value in excess of \$200 in a calendar quarter.

**THE FOLLOWING** directors' have the below stated interests or involvements in the listed Small Business Stabilization Program grant requests:

**ROBERT FOWLER:** Applicants Maddie Mae, Scoops, Town Square Olive Oil, WildArt LLC and Woven, LLC's landlords are companies in which Director Fowler has a membership interest. Applicant Square One Creative Group, LLC's landlord is a partnership in which Director Fowler has a partnership interest. Applicant Salon 360's landlord is a company in which Director Fowler's daughter has a membership interest.

**CEDRIC HAMM:** Director Hamm has an ownership interest in Applicant The Town House Café.

**BARBARA MORGAN:** Applicants Images Hair Salon, Into The Blue Scuba, LLC, Just a Hair Better and Power House Golf, LLC's landlord

for Title 16 of Section 16.16.020: Permitted Uses to prohibit the keeping and raising of farm animals in Neighborhood Residential (NR-1) and Neighborhood Residential (NR-2) zoning districts.

**THE COVINGTON** Planning Commission will hold a Virtual Public Meeting on May 12, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. and the Mayor and City Council may hold a public meeting on said text amendment on May 18, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

**DUE TO** circumstances necessitated by emergency conditions involving public safety and preservation of public services, public access to this meeting is limited to teleconference and video access. **THE PUBLIC MAY ACCESS THIS MEETING BY CALLING 1-929-436-2866**, use the following Meeting ID Number: 336-686-1958. To view online use the following link: <https://zoom.us/j/3366861958> with the Meeting ID: 336 686 1958

**ALL INTERESTED** parties are invited to attend. For more information, contact Mary Darby, Director of Planning & Zoning at [mdarby@cityofcovington.org](mailto:mdarby@cityofcovington.org), or 770-385-2179.

**PUBLIC NOTICE #116769**  
**4/26**

**Public Notice**  
**ANNOUNCEMENT OF INTENT TO DESTROY SPECIAL EDUCATION RECORDS**

**THE SPECIAL** Education Department of Newton County School System will destroy records that have been collected, maintained, and/or used in providing special education services. This activity is in compliance with federal, state and local policy. The destruction of data policy provides that records may be destroyed when they are no longer needed for educational planning purposes.

**STUDENTS WHO WILL BE AFFECTED**  
**THIS DESTRUCTION** policy only applies to **SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS BORN IN 1997. TO OBTAIN THESE EDUCATIONAL RECORD REQUEST FOR RECORDS MUST BE MADE PRIOR TO MAY 1, 2020.**

**CONTACT THE** Office of Special Education at: Newton County Public Schools – Board of Education, 2109 Newton Dr. N.E. Covington, GA 30014 or by phone: (770)787-1330, Ext. 1221. Records will be provided only to a former student who is 18 years of age or older or the legal guardian. We will notify the individual by phone when the requested records are prepared. The records must be picked up at the Board of Education. Anyone obtaining records will be required to produce identification that contains both picture and signature.

**PUBLIC NOTICE #116681**  
**4/12,19,26**

**CITY OF COVINGTON NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC**</



# AGRICULTURE

## USDA Announces Coronavirus Food Assistance Program

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS  
news@covnews.com

**\$19 billion immediate relief program provides critical support to farmers, ranchers**

WASHINGTON – U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue announced April 17 the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP). This new U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) program will take several actions to assist farmers, ranchers, and consumers in response to the COVID-19 national emergency. President Trump directed USDA to craft this \$19 billion immediate relief program to provide critical support to our farmers and ranchers, maintain the integrity of our food supply chain, and ensure every American continues to receive and have access to the food they need.

“During this time of national crisis, President Trump and USDA are standing with our farmers, ranchers, and all citizens to make sure they are taken care of,” Secretary Perdue said. “The American food supply chain had to adapt, and it remains safe, secure, and strong, and we all know that starts with America’s farmers and ranchers. This program will not only provide immediate relief for our farmers and ranchers, but it will also

allow for the purchase and distribution of our agricultural abundance to help our fellow Americans in need.”

CEAP will use the funding and authorities provided in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES), the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA), and other USDA existing authorities. The program includes two major elements to achieve these goals.

**Direct Support to Farmers and Ranchers:** The program will provide \$16 billion in direct support based on actual losses for agricultural producers where prices and market supply chains have been impacted and will assist producers with additional adjustment and marketing costs resulting from lost demand and short-term oversupply for the 2020 marketing year caused by COVID-19.

**USDA Purchase and Distribution:** USDA will partner with regional and local distributors, whose workforce has been significantly impacted by the closure of many restaurants, hotels, and other food service en-

ties, to purchase \$3 billion in fresh produce, dairy, and meat. We will begin with the procurement of an estimated \$100 million per month in fresh fruits and vegetables, \$100 million per month in a variety of dairy products, and \$100 million per month in meat products. The distributors and wholesalers will then provide a pre-approved box of fresh produce, dairy, and meat products to food banks, community and faith based organizations, and other non-profits serving Americans in need.

On top of these targeted programs USDA will utilize other available funding sources to purchase and distribute food to those in need.

USDA has up to an additional \$873.3 million available in Section 32 funding to purchase a variety of agricultural products for distribution to food banks. The use of these funds will be determined by industry requests, USDA agricultural market analysis, and food bank needs.

The FFCRA and CARES Act provided an at least \$850 million for food bank administrative costs and

USDA food purchases, of which a minimum of \$600 million will be designated for food purchases. The use of these funds will be determined by food bank need and product availability.

Further details regarding eligibility, rates, and other implementation will be released at a later date.

**Additional Background:** USDA has taken action during the COVID-19 national emergency to make sure children and families are fed during a time of school closures and job losses, as well as increase flexibilities and extensions in USDA’s farm programs to ensure the U.S. food supply chain remains safe and secure.

**Feeding Kids and Families**

USDA expanded flexibilities and waivers in all 50 states and territories to ensure kids and families who need food can get it during this national emergency.

USDA is partnering with the Baylor Collaborative on Hunger and Poverty, McLane Global, PepsiCo, and others to deliver more than 1,000,000 meals a week to students in a limited number of rural schools closed

due to COVID-19.

USDA authorized Pandemic EBT in Michigan and Rhode Island, a supplemental food purchasing benefit to current SNAP participants and as a new EBT benefit to other eligible households to offset the cost of meals that would have otherwise been consumed at school.

USDA expanded an innovative SNAP online grocery purchase pilot program in Arizona and California, Florida and Idaho, and DC and North Carolina, in addition to Alabama, Iowa, Nebraska, New York, Oregon and Washington.

**Actions to Ensure a Strong Food Supply Chain** USDA is working to ensure the food supply remains safe and secure.

USDA announced flexibilities to ensure food distribution for certain food products like dairy and eggs reach retail settings.

USDA announced farm loan flexibilities, deferrals, and maturity extensions.

**Whole of Government Response in Rural America**

USDA released The COVID-19 Federal Rural Resource Guide, a first-of-its-kind resource for rural

leaders looking for federal funding and partnership opportunities to help address this pandemic.

USDA opened a second application window (April 14, 2020 to July 13, 2020) for \$72 million of funding under the Distance Learning and Telemedicine (DLT) grant program.

USDA Rural Development lenders may offer 180-day loan payment deferrals without prior agency approval for Business and Industry Loan Guarantees, Rural Energy for America Program Loan Guarantees, Community Facilities Loan Guarantees, and Water and Waste Disposal Loan Guarantees.

USDA will use the \$100 million provided for the ReConnect Program in the CARES Act to invest in qualified 100 percent grant projects.

For all the information on USDA’s work during the COVID-19 pandemic and resources available, please visit <https://www.usda.gov/coronavirus>.

## GEORGIA FOOD BANK ASSOCIATION RECIEVES \$50,000 DONATION

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS  
news@covnews.com

**Farm Bureau help feeds the hungry**

Georgia Farm Bureau announced Tuesday a \$50,000 gift to the Georgia Food Bank Association which represents seven regional food banks across the state.

Georgia Farm Bureau President Gerald Long said, “Georgia Farm Bureau has a long-standing partnership with the Food Bank Association. We believe that it is appropriate to help all Georgia communities during these difficult economic times. It is our hope this gift provides much needed relief to the people in need,” Long said.

The \$50,000 donation will be distributed equally among the foodbanks in Georgia during the COVID-19 crisis.



- Georgia was the first state to charter a state university – The University of Georgia – founded in 1785. It is also the state’s land grant university.

- Georgia was the first state to create a state department of agriculture.

- The first agricultural experiment farm and state were established in Savannah in 1735.

**To learn more about Georgia agriculture and how to become a Farm Bureau member, go to [www.gfb.org](http://www.gfb.org)**

**Newton County Farm Bureau**

PO BOX 390

Covington GA 30015

770.786.7201

**GEORGIA AGRICULTURE: TOUCHING OUR LIVES EVERY DAY.**



### United States Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service Georgia Crop Progress and Condition Report



Cooperating with the Georgia Department of Agriculture and the Cooperative Extension Service  
Southern Regional Field Office - 355 East Hancock Avenue, Suite 100 - Athens, GA 30601 - (706) 713-5400  
[www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)

This report contains data collected each week from respondents across the state whose occupations provide them opportunities to discuss agricultural production with farmers in their counties as well as to make visual observations. We thank all who have contributed to this report.

April 20, 2020

Media Contact: Anthony Prillaman

#### General

According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Georgia, there were 5.3 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending Sunday, April 20, 2020. Precipitation ranged from trace amounts of rain to 7.4 inches. Average high temperatures ranged from the low 60s to the low 80s. Average low temperatures ranged from the mid 30s to the mid 60s.

#### Crops

Many producers in the northern and central parts of the state were assessing damage from the tornadoes and storms that passed through late last week and again early this week. Rains saturated fields slowing some field preparation work and tobacco transplanting. Corn planting was nearing completion and many producers in the southern part of the state continued preparing fields for cotton, peanuts, soybeans, and sorghum planting. Some growers were unable to apply herbicides or burn down to the cotton and peanuts, due to windy conditions. Hayfields were fertilized and cut, and bales were put up in multiple parts of the state. Some small grains were laid over in the central part of the state due to high winds, but most still appeared to be in good condition. Watermelon transplanting and resetting was finished in some southern counties. Some producers were able to spread additional fertilizer to their watermelons. COVID-19 continued impacting fruit and vegetable growers by reducing attendance at u-pick operations.

#### Livestock and Pastures

Some producers in the northern part of the state reported cattle deaths due to the tornadoes. There were reports of damaged chicken houses, fences, barns, and other farm structures throughout the state. Fluctuating temperatures slowed down warm season perennial grasses after winter dormancy. Cattle remained in mostly good condition.

#### Crop Progress for Week Ending 04/19/20

Crop stage	Prev year	Prev week	This week	5 Year avg
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Blueberries - Harvested.....	19	5	18	7
Corn - Planted.....	87	73	86	84
Corn - Emerged.....	75	48	73	69
Cotton - Planted.....	5	1	5	3
Hay - 1st Cutting.....	6	NA	9	5
Onions - Harvested.....	22	NA	21	17
Peaches - Blooming.....	89	85	95	97
Peanuts - Planted.....	1	NA	1	1
Tobacco - Transplanted.....	62	40	65	55
Winter wheat - Headed.....	81	73	85	75

#### Conditions for Week Ending 04/19/20

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Blueberries.....	0	0	22	71	7
Cattle.....	2	5	23	61	9
Oats.....	0	5	33	56	6
Onions.....	1	2	41	52	4
Pasture and range.....	1	8	31	52	8
Peaches.....	0	1	12	38	49
Winter wheat.....	0	2	32	57	9

#### Soil Moisture for Week Ending 04/19/20

Topsoil	Previous week	This week
	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	2	0
Short.....	17	8
Adequate.....	62	71
Surplus.....	19	21
Subsoil	Previous week	This week
	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	1	0
Short.....	10	6
Adequate.....	82	78
Surplus.....	7	16

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

## Dog and Cat Sterilization Program Application Opens Friday, May 1

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS  
news@covnews.com

ATLANTA – Georgia Agriculture Commissioner Gary W. Black has announced the issuance of \$700,000 in grants to assist with spaying and neutering Georgia’s companion animal population. Eligible applicants can complete the online application for grant funds beginning May 1.

“The rising costs of pet sterilization often burden animal protection agencies and pet owners across the state,” Commissioner Black said. “These grants support safe communities and promote healthy animal populations.”

For the first time,

the GDA will utilize an online-only application. State-licensed animal shelters, animal rescue organizations and veterinary associations are eligible to apply for grant funds. Applicants must reside in Georgia and licensed Georgia veterinarians must perform all procedures. The program is funded by the purchase of the Dog and Cat Sterilization Auto Tag, income tax checkoff, and direct contributions to the program. Since its inception, the program has helped to spay and neuter more than 100,000 companion animals.

Grants are awarded based on the highest priority after considering

factors such as targeting critical animal populations, the ability to increase surgical numbers, cost-benefit ratio, record of grant applicant and sustainability.

The online application will be available May 1-June 1, 2020 at <http://agr.georgia.gov/dog-cat-sterilization-program.aspx>.

For more information, to obtain an application or to make a tax-exempt donation to the Dog and Cat Sterilization Program visit <http://agr.georgia.gov/dog-cat-sterilization-program.aspx>, or email us at [DCSP@agr.georgia.gov](mailto:DCSP@agr.georgia.gov).



# OBITUARIES

Donald L. Smith  
J.C. Harwell & Son Funeral Home

Heaven's gates opened this morning April 19, for my beloved husband, Donald L. Smith. He was welcomed by his mother and those who have gone before him. He's home... in the Presence of His Lord and Creator... face to face with Jesus Christ. All who knew him would agree he was a true dignified southern gentleman and a true patriot in every sense of the word!!! He was generous, gentle, loving and so caring of others. He loved playing golf with his special cousin Pat Campbell and other good friends. He was a lawyer in Jacksonville, Fla. for 40 plus years before retiring in Mansfield, Ga. He fulfilled his bucket list by buying a plane and enjoyed the camaraderie with his pilot friends. He went on to get his IFR Instrument rating to fly when he was 80 years old, which was one of his proudest accomplishments. He's truly the greatest man I've been blessed to share my life with for over 40 years! He has the Victor's crown and the crown of Righteousness (Soul winners crown). I'm sure there's a reward for his love and support for Isra-

el and for sending me there 7 times and maybe others that I don't know about, which he is casting at the feet of Jesus!

Mr. Smith is survived by his wife Sherry Smith; his son, Lamar Smith and his wife Kay of Orlando; his daughter, Laci Smith Anglin and her husband, Keaton of Mansfield; his brother, Joe Rogers of Madison, N J. He is also survived by his four grandchildren; Justin Smith, Cole Smith, Zachary Kahaly and Conner Smith and his four great grandchildren; Brooks Anglin, Rivers Anglin, Eli Smith and Anya Grace Smith along with a host of other family and close friends.

Graveside services will be held at Covington City Cemetery. The family regrets due to the COVID-19/Coronavirus pandemic the services must be private. There will be a Celebration of Life held at a later date. Please leave condolences for the family at [www.harwellfuneralhome.com](http://www.harwellfuneralhome.com).



# Kemp, Georgia Department of Labor address unemployment options

By MASON WITTNER  
[mwittner@covnews.com](mailto:mwittner@covnews.com)

Gov. Brian Kemp has partnered with the Georgia Department of Labor to provide Georgians with information about their unemployment options as the state begins a soft re-opening of businesses. Labor Commissioner Mark Butler called upon employers to work alongside employees to compose an efficient plan for returning to work.

"Thanks to Governor Kemp and his support, we were able to issue an emergency rule that increased the earnings exemption amount from \$55 to \$300 allowing individuals to make \$300 a week without reducing their weekly benefit amount," Butler stated in a press release. "If a business opens back up slowly and their employees

are returning to work with reduced hours, employers can continue to file employer-filed partial claims on behalf of their employees."

Individuals are eligible to earn up to \$300 per week without a reduction of their maximum weekly benefit amount. This will allow employees to work condensed hours while still qualifying for state weekly benefits and a federal weekly supplement of \$600.

"As we take measured steps to reopen sectors of our state's economy, it is vital that we continue to support Georgians trying to re-enter the workforce," Kemp said. "Commissioner Butler and the Department of Labor are working around the clock to do just that. Their action under historic circumstances will continue to give our state's workforce viable options to put food on the table for

their families as we fight COVID-19 together."

Employer-filed partial claims make up 75% of the state's 1.1 million claims dating back to March 14. Employers must report an individual's weekly gross wages when certifying on behalf of the employee with the GDOL. Partial claim filed by employers can include both full-time and part-time employees, so long as employers accurately report the individual's weekly wages.

There will be no charge made to an employer's account for

employer-filed partial claims filed at this time.

"Despite claims to the contrary, returning to work does not automatically eliminate an individual's state unemployment eligibility," Butler said. "In fact, we designed this provision to encourage employers to continue to file while returning employees to work to take advantage of the CARES Act (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) benefits."

For more information, please visit [www.gdol.ga.gov](http://www.gdol.ga.gov).

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