

The Covington News

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2020  THE STORY OF YOUR LIFE SINCE 1865

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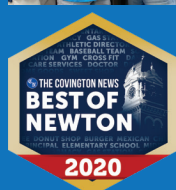
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Martha Malcolm

INSIDE: Here's to 104 and counting!

Local resident celebrates
her big day with
drive-by party

See A6

His Word

For we wrestle not against
flesh and blood, but against
principalities, against
powers, against the rulers of
the darkness of this world,
against spiritual wickedness
in high places.

— Ephesians 6:12, KJV



File | The Covington News
Jammie Phillips, a former band director at Newton County Schools, protests in favor of virtual learning in July. She was terminated last week.

NCSS ousts teacher for social media comments

By **TOM SPIGOLON**
tspigolon@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — A teacher's online commentary and a live broadcast on her personal Facebook page that contained crude and sexually oriented language combined to convince county school officials to fire her this week.

However, Jammie Phillips said she believed her termination was done because she was so outspoken on the issue of teacher safety concerns about in-person learning in the midst of a pandemic.

Comments written under an alias on her personal social media using her own

See OUSTS, A2

Covington rescinds mask mandate

By **TAYLOR BECK**
tbeck@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — Face coverings are no longer a requirement in Covington.

The Covington City Council voted 4-2 Monday night to rescind the mask mandate that had been in effect since Sept. 1. Councilman Kenneth Morgan and Councilwoman Hawnethia Williams opposed the action.

Prior to a motion being made, Horton said rescinding the mandate was a recommendation from the city attorney "due to the fact that the current 14-day case rate has dropped below 100 per 100,000 population."

As of Monday, the Georgia Department of Public Health had recorded only 102 new cases within the last two weeks in Newton County.

Community rallies against 'modern slavery'

By **TAYLOR BECK**
tbeck@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — Several protesters from Newton and surrounding counties gathered Saturday on the Covington Square to rally against human trafficking and child sex trafficking.

For approximately three hours, the group marched around the square hoisting signs, some of which read "save our children," "end human trafficking" and "stop the silence."

One of the event's organizers, Jessi Boleman, of Covington, said the purpose for the peaceful rally was to not only condemn human trafficking and pedophilia but also raise awareness and educate the community. Boleman said the event served as a way for victims to know that 4Sarah, a faith-based nonprofit organization that focuses on providing support for women who are victims of sex trafficking, is available to help them.

"We're out here to try to bring awareness to everybody to show that there's help out here," she said. "To also show these pedophiles that we are not playing. We are mothers — we are families out here that are willing to fight for our children."

"We're here to make a little noise and show them that we're here to make a stand and we're not going away, because the problem's not going away."

"There's been too much silence for far too long," Jamie Gilbert, of Covington, said. "This isn't like something that just happened and came about. It's literally just been ignored by media and by just everyone. Everyone has become just normalized to the whole aspect of child exploitation and trafficking ... we just really want to make a difference."

Shellie Hamilton, of Covington, said trafficking also leads to other problems for victims, including mental

See RALLIES, A3

Georgia
launches
hotline to
report human
trafficking

See A3



Taylor Beck | The Covington News
Pamela Clark, of Monroe, walks behind her granddaughter, Everleigh LewAllen, on Saturday at the Covington Square during a rally against human trafficking and child sex trafficking.

Trafficking victim shares recovery story

By **TAYLOR BECK**
tbeck@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — She had no family and no place to go, but she didn't care as long as her and her unborn baby were safe.

About three years ago, a local woman who spoke to *The Covington News* only under anonymity said her life was in danger.

She was trafficked for sexual exploitation. She was a dancer. Then, she was pregnant.

"Obviously I couldn't keep dancing," the 30-year-old said. "So I literally walked away from an abusive situation. I didn't care what happened as long as me and my baby were safe — didn't care if I was



Taylor Beck | The Covington News
Protesters petition around the Covington Square on Saturday, calling for an end to human trafficking worldwide.

homeless."

That's when she reached out to her family, but no one would come to her rescue.

"I guess they were kind of scared because they knew I was trafficked," she recalled. "They didn't know if anyone was going to come

after them, and I understand that."

With nowhere to turn, the woman found herself living at a nearby homeless shelter. That's when she was connected with 4Sarah, a faith-based nonprofit organization in Conyers that focuses on providing support for women who are victims of sex trafficking and adult entertainers looking for a way out.

Thanks to 4Sarah, the 30-year-old said she was able to turn her life around.

"I was able to move into an assessment house, able to have a baby shower, have people around and love on me," she said. "I got closer

See SHARES, A3

Volume 155, No. 44



6 91868 30003 8

Inside

Check out who earned
Player of the Week
honors

See SPORTS, A8



Dayton Green



Eric Taylor

Index

Local NewsA2, A3, A6
CalendarA3
OpinionsA4
Classifieds/Legals.....A5
SportsA7
Education.....B1

State Supreme Court upholds 2014 murder conviction

By TOM SPIGOLON
tspigolon@covnews.com

ATLANTA — The Georgia Supreme Court has upheld the 2017 murder conviction of a man for the 2014 shooting death of a Newton County resident despite his claim the evidence was legally insufficient to support it.

Horace Coates appealed his March 2017 convictions on charges of malice murder and other crimes connected to the shooting death of Adrian Brooks and aggravated assault of Senchael Clements in mid-2014.

Brooks, a 35-year-old Newton County man, was found dead in the Gum Tree neighborhood off Kirkland Road July 3, 2014, after being shot in the abdomen.

U.S. Marshals arrested Coates in Jacksonville, Florida, in 2015.

He was found guilty in Newton County Superior Court of Malice Murder, Felony Murder, Armed Robbery, Aggravated Assault, and Possession of a Firearm During the Commission of a Felony in 2017.

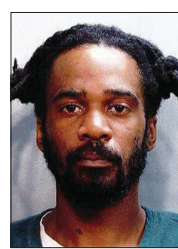
Justices wrote in documents released Monday, Oct. 5, that

they affirmed Coates' convictions after finding the Newton County Superior Court did not make any errors at trial to warrant reversing them.

The evidence was sufficient to support the conviction, according to information from the Georgia Supreme Court.

"The evidence shows that Coates came back to Brooks' home after visiting him that day, pulled a gun on Brooks and told Brooks to "give it up" after Brooks refused to sell him drugs, restrained Brooks when Brooks attempted to run for the door, and left Brooks to die after he was shot," the justices wrote.

They wrote that investigators found Brooks with \$133 in his hand and \$834 in his pants pocket. They also located a sandwich bag of marijuana in Brooks' driveway, a .45-caliber shell casing on the floor inside the door of his residence, and another .45-caliber shell casing in the living room.



Horace Coates

"Investigators also identified a bullet hole in the front wall of the residence and a bullet that went through the wall and into a wooden post on the front porch.

"The medical examiner removed bullet fragments from Brooks and concluded that Brooks died from a single gunshot wound to the right flank area of his torso.

"A GBI firearms examiner testified that the recovered shell casings, bullet in the wooden post, and bullet fragments were fired from the same firearm, a Glock .45 automatic pistol.

"Under two pseudonyms, Coates fled the country and later returned to Florida, where he was arrested on Nov. 6, 2015, and found with a .45-caliber magazine and rounds.

Coates maintained that "this evidence was insufficient to support his convictions as a matter of constitutional due process."

"When evaluating the sufficiency of evidence, this Court views the evidence presented at trial in the light most favorable to the verdict and asks whether any rational

trier of fact could have found the defendant guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. We conclude that the evidence was sufficient," justices wrote.

Coates also contended that he cannot be guilty of malice murder "because neither witness to the shooting asserted that Coates was the assailant who shot Brooks and because the State could not provide any evidence that he intended to kill Brooks," according to Court documents.

"Although the witnesses diverged in their testimonies on whether it was Coates or one of his associates who actually shot Brooks, the evidence was sufficient for the jury to conclude that Coates committed malice murder either as the shooter or as a party to the crime."

The justices cited a 2019 Georgia case in writing that, "A person commits the offense of murder when he unlawfully and with malice aforethought, either express or implied, causes the death of another human being."

"It is for a jury to determine from all the facts and circumstances whether a killing is intentional and malicious."

3 victims identified in Labor Day police pursuit

By TOM SPIGOLON
tspigolon@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — One of three burglary suspects who died in a fiery Labor Day crash as they fled from pursuing Newton County sheriff's deputies was out on bond after being charged in the March shooting of a Clayton County police officer.

Alejandro Guerra, 19, of McDonough; Arthur Harris, 20, of Jonesboro; and Avidan Rojas, 19, of Lithonia, were identified as the suspects who died in the wreck, said spokeswoman Caitlin Jett of the Newton County Sheriff's Office Monday, Oct. 5.

The incident occurred as deputies pursued the suspects along Fairview Road in western Newton County, the Georgia State Patrol reported.

After the identities of the three were confirmed, a Clayton County Police Department officer contacted the Newton County Sheriff's Office and said Guerra had been arrested following the shooting of a Clayton officer March 24, Jett said.

Guerra was out on bond on Sept. 7 after being charged with the crime, which followed the officer responding to a call about an armed male wearing a mask, Jett said.

DeKalb County and Conyers police departments also confirmed the suspects' vehicle matched the description of one used in numerous automobile break-ins reported to their agencies, the spokeswoman said.

In the Sept. 7 incident, Jett said two suspects were attempting to enter automobiles in a neighborhood off Fairview Road at about 2:24 a.m. while the third followed closely behind, possibly as a getaway driver.

After deputies arrived, the suspects fled in a 2010 Toyota Tacoma truck. A marked sheriff's office patrol car with its siren and emergency lights activated pursued the suspects north on Fairview Road, the state patrol reported in September.

As the truck's driver attempted to negotiate a curve to the left, the vehicle failed to maintain its lane.

It went off the east shoulder of Fairview at its intersection with Jack Neely Road, stuck a tree with its front bumper and caused it to catch on fire with the three trapped inside, a state patrol spokesperson said in September.

The victims were transported following the incident to the GBI Crime Lab in Decatur for identification purposes, the spokesperson said.

The sheriff's office also conducted an internal investigation to see if the deputies followed the office's policies on pursuits. That investigation is not complete, Jett said.

PHILLIPS: Continued from A1

equipment at her home also should not have been allowed, she said.

The Newton County School Board on Tuesday, Sept. 29, voted to terminate the teaching contract of Phillips after a six-hour hearing and Superintendent Samantha Fuhrey's recommendation that board members take the action.

It was the first personnel hearing the board had conducted in nine years, said school system spokeswoman Sherri Davis.

Davis said there was "substantial evidence" presented at the hearing that prompted Fuhrey's recommendation that Phillips be fired from the job she held for about three months as Clements Middle School band director.

"A number of witnesses, including the leadership team from

the school and the superintendent, testified about their knowledge of the incidents and why Ms. Phillips could no longer be effective as a teacher in Newton County," Davis said.

During the Sept. 29 hearing, Phillips said a board attorney charged that she had been insubordinate when she refused to turn in a building entry card after she declined administrators' requests to resign in August.

She said she did not believe she needed to surrender the entry key because she was still employed at the school and was owed a due process hearing on the charges.

The board's attorney also asked if she was actively seeking publicity by appearing in TV news segments about her case, Phillips said.

"They painted me as doing it all for publicity," she said.

Phillips said she also was asked if the word "dope" appearing on jewelry she wore on one TV news segment meant she supported illegal drug use — which she denied and noted the word also is a popular term of approval.

She said the hearing left her with a feeling of "(as) if I had killed somebody."

Phillips initially charged in August that her outspokenness about publicly opposing a plan for in-person learning because of COVID-19 safety issues led to administrators looking into her personal social media.

She also said she believed it to be a political move to appease parents opposed to the board opening the school year with all-virtual teaching.

Phillips' personal Facebook page never identified her job or place of employment and the language she used on it should not have been used in reviewing her job performance, she said.

However, Fuhrey said in a Sept. 3 letter that she was recommending Phillips be fired because of "insubordination, immorality and other good and sufficient cause as set forth" in state law.

Fuhrey said in her Sept. 3 letter that Phillips "repeatedly conducted yourself in an unprofessional manner in the public setting of the internet."

"On several occasions you have used social media to pick a fight with other educators and in the course of your exchange you would defame them and use crude and profane language toward and about them," Fuhrey said.

She wrote that in "other posts" Phillips expressed "disdainful and insubordinate

views" of administrators and called them incompetent.

"In the same post you used racist comments, profanity and compared school leaders to slave masters or 'masses,'" Fuhrey wrote.

"In fact these references occur regularly in your social media posts in reference to school system administrators and boards."

The school system hired Phillips in June to lead the band at Clements after 13 years as a music specialist in the Clayton County School System.

After she was hired she was outspoken in her opposition to the Newton County School System's evolving plan to begin the academic year with a mix of virtual and classroom instruction because of the potential for teachers — including herself — contracting COVID-19.

She helped lead a protest outside the school system's Covington headquarters in July and verbally sparred with supporters of in-person learning in the comments section of the school district's official Facebook page Aug. 7.

However, she said she never identified herself as a teacher and was posting comments under an alias.

Officials with her school and the district the following week asked her to resign because of a recording of a livestreaming event they said they found on her personal Facebook page in which she admits using vulgar language and crude sexual references.

Phillips contends she did the broadcast as a private individual intentionally out of view of her employer and the public; and produced it at her home on her personal equipment.

She said she did not identify herself as a teacher and her Face-

book page does not include her legal name.

The district subsequently placed her on administrative leave and locked her out of the school building but kept her on the payroll until a Tuesday, Sept. 29, hearing at which she was terminated, she said.

Fuhrey said in the Sept. 3 letter Phillips then continued to go on social media "in a very public way indicating that you had no wish to continue to work for the school district and proving it by the disdainful attitude you express toward the district and its leadership."

The superintendent said such comments ended any confidence the system had that Phillips could act professionally in a classroom.

She also said previous supervisors had warned Phillips not to use profanity "and other inappropriate language" in the classroom.

Her comments also violated the school district's directives about teacher's use of social media, the Professional Standards Commission's professional conduct standard "and, frankly, any standards of the education profession."

Phillips said she plans to use the record of the hearing to take legal action against the district because of issues related to its alleged breach of her employment contract, as well as racial discrimination and violation of her First Amendment right to freedom of speech.

She said she also has filed a complaint alleging job discrimination with the federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

Phillips also said she is now seeking a teaching job in another county.

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Special to The Covington News

Pictured left, members of the Rotary Club of Covington recently gathered at Rotary park in Covington to celebrate the International Day of Peace with prayer. Pete Carter (top right, center) and Tarrence Houston (middle photo, center) were recently presented Paul Harris Fellow pins. The Paul Harris Fellow recognition acknowledges individuals who contribute, or who have contributions made in their name, of \$1,000 to The Rotary Foundation. John King (bottom) receives the Gold Award, given for outstanding achievement during a Rotary year.

Georgia launches new hotline to report human trafficking

By **BEAU EVANS**
Capitol Beat News Service

Georgia officials have launched a new hotline for alerting authorities to instances of human and sex trafficking as part of Gov. Brian Kemp's crackdown on trafficking cases in the state.

Suspicious or information on human trafficking in Georgia can be reported to law enforcement agents, advocates and first responders by calling 1-866-ENDHTGA.

The hotline also comes with a new website at <https://endhtga.org/>.

The hotline's launch figures among work to reduce human and sex trafficking in Georgia that has been spearheaded by Kemp and First Lady Marty Kemp, whom the governor tapped to lead the trafficking-focused GRACE Commission. "By using this hotline to report suspicious activity, all Georgians

can play a role in advocating for those who are at risk and those who are exploited," Marty Kemp said Wednesday, Sept. 30. "All Georgians can help save lives."

The state Criminal Justice Coordinating Council is funding the hotline via federal grants.

The hotline was announced during a roundtable meeting Wednesday with the Kemps, state and federal law enforcement officials and trafficking victim advocates.

They discussed new Georgia laws aimed at curbing trafficking, efforts by police to rescue victims and federal funding meant to boost services like recovery housing.

Georgia saw more than 400 human trafficking cases in 2019, marking an increase from the prior year, according to the most recent federal data.

"It's recent and it's continuing," said U.S. Attorney Byung J. "BJay" Pak, who attended

the roundtable. "I would like to be out of this business where there's no more cases and there's no more victims, but we all know that's not happening."

State officials have handed the Georgia Bureau of Investigation more funding this year to set up a task force for investigating human trafficking cases. That funding, on top of a sharper focus on trafficking prosecution brought by the governor, has already yielded dividends.

Last month, the agency worked with the U.S. Marshals Service, Georgia Attorney General Chris Carr's office and local law enforcement to rescue nearly 40 missing children in Georgia, many of whom were considered at high risk for trafficking.

"You're not going to sell a human being in this state," said GBI Director Vic Reynolds. "If you do, we'll find you, arrest you and prosecute you."

RALLIES:

Continued from A1

health issues and drug abuse.

According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, human trafficking — also referred to as "modern day slavery" — is now the third-most profitable business for organized crime in the world. It is also the fastest growing form of international crime. According to a February 2019 report from the International Labour Organization, an estimated \$32 billion in total illicit profits are produced in one year by trafficked forced laborers.

According to the U.S. State Department of Homeland Security, 600,000 to 800,000 people are trafficked across international borders every year. Approximately 80% of those people are female, and half are children.

In the U.S., approximately 80% of documented cases of human trafficking are for the purposes of sexual exploitation, according to a study from the United Nations. The U.S. was listed as the most common destination for victims.

Not only is human trafficking an issue in the U.S., but it's also

been an issue close to home. In 2019, there were at least 417 human trafficking cases reported in Georgia, ranking sixth highest among the 50 states, District of Columbia and other U.S. territories, according to National Human Trafficking Hotline. Statistics from the Trafficking Hotline are based on aggregated information learned through signals — phone calls, texts, online chats, emails and online tip reports — received by the Trafficking Hotline.

In August, two people in Newton County were charged among nine total suspects across Georgia after the U.S. Marshals Service Missing Child Unit, in conjunction with the agency's Southeast Regional Fugitive Task Force, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) and other state and local agencies, led a two-week operation to rescue endangered missing children. The operation resulted in the rescue of 26 children and the safe location of 13 children.

In April 2018, a 20-year-old woman from Washington,

who had recently moved to the metro-Atlanta area, was rescued from a trafficking situation in Conyers. The suspect involved was charged with trafficking of a person for sexual servitude and aggravated sodomy.

And as in many other cases around the area, 4Sarah was able to provide housing and other resources for the victim.

At 4Sarah, founded by Kasey McClure, of Conyers, in 2003, the mission is to "empower change in the life direction of women and girls who are adult entertainers, prostitutes, escorts, porn stars, or victims of sex trafficking by offering a holistic approach as well as an educational, emotional, physical, and spiritual support." The organization offers scholarship opportunities to women in the sex industry seeking continuing education or new job skills. Through its intervention program, 4Sarah provides housing assistance, medication assistance, food assistance, transportation, counseling and other resources to women in need.

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SHARES:

Continued from A1

to God ... they just changed my life and perspective.

"They (4Sarah) don't give up on anyone. No matter how many times you mess up, they keep helping you and believing in you and making you feel like family," she continued. "I'm really glad I changed my life, because I was really close to going back. But because (founder Kasey McClure) never gave up on me, I'm still here."

She said she is able

to raise her daughter in a safe environment and has finally returned to school thanks to 4Sarah. The organization is also helping her purchase a new car.

"I'm an esthetician already. I'm working to get my license and eventually start own business," she said. "It's just amazing, and I feel really grateful because it wouldn't have been possible without 4Sarah... This is my family now."

Community Calendar

TUESDAY, OCT. 13

- Snapping Shoals Electric Membership Corp. will host its Annual Meeting as a drive-through event only from 8 a.m. to noon at the Georgia International Horse Park in Conyers. Registration will start at 8 a.m. and end at noon. All members who register will be entered into a prize drawing for a Ford Ranger Pickup retired from the Snapping Shoals fleet and also have a chance to win a \$50 bill credit. Only Snapping Shoals EMC members (electric customers) are eligible to register or be entered into the prize drawing. Traditional yellow buckets (3.5 gallons each) will be given out to the first 1,500 members to register in person. The Georgia International Horse Park is at 1996 Centennial Olympic Parkway NE, off Ga. Hwy. 138, in Conyers. A map of the route for attendees is available by visiting ssemc.com/AnnualMeeting.aspx. Call 770-786-3484 to learn more.

SATURDAY, OCT. 24

- Covington Christian Church on the Round, located at 141 Highway 142 in Covington, will host its Fall Festival from 5 to 9 p.m. Enjoy the season in backyard family style! Everyone is invited to attend for an evening of hay rides, photo stations, food trucks and a bonfire. Break out your best recipes, because there will be an Apple Pie Contest, complete with blue ribbon and a gift card to Applebee's for the winner! Come enjoy s'mores and guitars around the fire, then finish the festivities with a small fireworks display. Admission is free. Visit covingtonchristian.org to learn more.

NOW THROUGH OCT. 30

- New Beginnings art show is an art exhibit of original art by members of Southern Heartland Art Guild. The public is invited to view this new show at Southern Heartland Visual Art Center and Gallery, Monday through Saturday.

NOW THROUGH NOV. 30

- Virtual Vampire Run from Oct. 1 through Nov. 30. All net proceeds from the race will go toward the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Prospective racers can register for the virtual run at runsignup.com/Race/GA/MysticFallsCovington/VirtualVampireRun and help "take a bite out of blood cancers."

ONGOING

- The food pantry at the Covington First United Methodist Church is in dire need of more volunteers now that students and teachers are back in school and unavailable to help with this ongoing and much-needed project. If available to help, email Megan Hulan at foodpantry@covingtonfirst.org to sign up.

- Paint Party at Southern Heartland Visual Art Center has resumed! Hosted by professional gallery artists, this weekly get-together for those in our community interested in painting with others is free and open to the public each Friday from 10-2. Both classrooms will be utilized to insure participants have enough space to social distance from other participants.

- Everyone is invited to join Covington Christian Church on the Round on Sunday mornings at 11 a.m. for worship. The church is located at 141 Highway 142 in Covington.

Send your event announcements to news@covnews.com.

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Tom Spigolon news editor



The White House | Joyce N. Boghosian

President Donald J. Trump works from Walter Reed Medical Center on Sunday as he received treatment for COVID-19. He was diagnosed with the virus Friday and left the medical center Monday evening after a brief stay.

What more does America need to know COVID can infect anyone?

After a crazy week in an even crazier year, someone close reminded me to wear a mask Sunday before I went to the big box grocery store where I regularly shop.



They required it, she reminded me, after my virtual visit to church Sunday morning. All those previous reminders about why we wear masks flooded back: recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Gov. Brian Kemp — as well as the sheriff’s deputy manning the metal detector at the Newton County courthouse entrance. Wear a mask: It’s the most effective way we currently have to stop the spread of a disease which has prompted government leaders to close down whole economies and outlaw traditional forms of gathering with others. There also was a big reminder for anyone who follows the news. President Donald Trump and wife Mela-

nia tested positive for COVID-19 on Friday and was being treated at Walter Reed Medical Center over the weekend. The disease has hit the 74-year-old president’s age group the hardest. It had killed 1.03 million worldwide, 209,000 in the U.S. and almost 7,000 in Georgia by the weekend. I believe the president when he said he didn’t want to alarm the nation in February when he knew the severity of COVID-19 but said nothing. He could have done a better job handling it but he, along with some other leaders like U.K. Prime Minister Boris Johnson, were in uncharted territory and chose their own directions for their countries. Johnson, by the way, also was treated for the disease. In fact, much of President Trump’s staff may have been infected last week as they went mask-less during fundraisers and campaign events — though with the tiny bits of information the White House was giving out it was hard to tell.

CDC guidelines for protecting one’s self from the disease state: “Cover your mouth and nose with a mask when around others. You could spread COVID-19 to others even if you do not feel sick. The mask is meant to protect other people in case you are infected. Everyone should wear a mask in public settings and when around people who don’t live in your household, especially when other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain. “Outside your home: Put 6 feet of distance between yourself and people who don’t live in your household. Remember that some people without symptoms may be able to spread virus.” So, it was a little upsetting when I noticed that no one at the door of the store I was about to enter was telling the hordes of Sunday afternoon shoppers masks were required. Many shoppers didn’t seem to be taking the risk of infection seriously, even after the president and first lady had been diagnosed.

tomers without masks “continue to shop,” according to news sources. One giant retailer reportedly was telling its employees not to enforce the rule to avoid upsetting customers without masks who’d been known to ram employees with their carts or pull guns on other shoppers who wanted them to follow the rules, according to multiple reports. That prompted a national retail workers’ advocate to label mask policies a “publicity stunt” on many stores’ part. Now, the president is a Republican, is one of the most protected people in the world, and has a lot of money. What kind of reminder does one need that anyone in this country, regardless of political persuasion or size of bank account, can get the virus and anyone could be spreading it by not wearing a mask? Masks are not political statements. They’re statements you care about your fellow man. However, in this country, we’ve got to voluntarily follow CDC guidelines. Our government and largest retailers are asking, not telling, individuals to wear masks and practice social distancing. At what point do we want things back to “normal”? I, for one, want them back to normal as soon as possible so we can experience churches filled with the faithful on Sunday mornings now, and Thanksgiving gatherings and Christmas parades in a few months.

At least a third of shoppers (and probably more — I didn’t stop to count) were not wearing masks and didn’t appear to have medical conditions that prompted them not to wear them. Maybe they did, I don’t know. It’s a good bet they did not. Hardly anyone in line or in the aisles was staying 6 feet apart. In July, at least 28 major U.S. retailers required shoppers to wear face coverings before entering their stores. But many of the largest didn’t stick to it and soon said they’d let cus-

David Carroll columnist

Presidential debate sidelines columnist’s squirrel story

I was about to start writing about this squirrel I saw in my backyard. It was the cutest little fella, and we were just staring each other down, and then I got a text message. It was from one of my editors. “Hey DC,” he wrote, “Can’t wait to see your column about the presidential debate. Everyone in town is talking about it.”



I responded, “Aw, that’s old news. Besides, I have a story about a squirrel. Readers really seem to respond to the funny stuff.” Before I could hit “send,” I got a Facebook message. “David, my ears are still ringing from that debate disaster. Those two bozos practically wrote your next column for you!” My response was, “Yeah, that’s what you would expect, but I’m not going to write about that. I’m already trying to forget about it. I’ve been sitting in the backyard exchanging stares with a squirrel.” And on it went. By phone, by email, even face to face, people insisted I comment on “Bully Trump,” “Sleepy Joe,” and “Cranky Chris Wallace.” Each and every time, I said, “I’m not going to write about that.”

Who wants me to rehash this nightmare? I was a child of politics. I got to know all the candidates in my county at my family’s general store, and my dad became a county commissioner after he retired. I attended every political rally, made scrapbooks of the newspaper stories about each presidential campaign, and looked forward to the debates even more than the Super Bowl. It would be ridiculous to write about a debate as childish and offensive as the one I watched last week. I could go on and on about how I hope children didn’t watch it. Had I seen a travesty like that when I was a kid, it would have scarred me for life. Besides, people love animal stories. Like my friend who told me, “We watched the debate, and even my cat was stressed out. He tore up an entire roll of toilet paper. We have lived in this house eight months and he has never done that!” See, that’s what I’m talking about. My squirrel story beats anything I could write about Trump and Biden. Another friend told me, “My parrot left the room right after the yelling started. He said he had to go smoke a cigarette. I know he was lying. He’s bad about drinking, but I’ve never

seen him smoke.” So why should I write about something so negative, when we need light, not heat? Y’all expect better from me, and that’s why I’m sticking with the squirrel story. Before I get into that, I must tell you about my friend who had quadruple bypass surgery two weeks ago. He’s a political junkie, and quite opinionated about this election. His doctors gave him strict orders during recovery: “DO NOT watch the news. DO NOT watch Fox, CNN or MSNBC. Your heart can’t take the stress.” He texted me the morning after the shout-fest. “The doctor just called, and said he knew my heart was acting up again. I’m not even connected to anything. But he knew. And I only watched the first 15 minutes, I swear!” The same day, I visited an elementary school. The principal cornered me. “What did you think about that mess last night?” Before I could formulate a response, she said, “You should write a story on kindergarten teachers. Talk to them about kids bullying, talking over each other, and insisting it’s always their turn. That’s what my teachers have to deal with every day!” I guess I could, but who would want to read about that? Certainly not compared to a laser-focused little squirrel. Then at my TV station, a co-worker in his early twenties asked me if presidential debates had always been like that. I tried to change the subject, but he really wanted to know. I had to be honest. “Nope,” I said. “I’ve never seen anything like it. Not that many years ago, one candidate spoke, while the other one listened. Then it was the other person’s turn. Occasionally there would be a clever, memorable response, like Ronald Reagan’s comeback to Walter Mondale’s concern about his advanced age (73): “I will not make age an issue of this campaign. I am not going to exploit, for political purposes, my opponent’s youth and inexperience.” “Believe it or not,” I told my co-worker, “That’s how it used to be. I was named after President Dwight David Eisenhower. He was president for eight years, left office with high approval ratings, and few people can remember anything he ever said out loud.” My young friend said, “Wow, imagine that.” I nodded in agreement and said, “But I don’t want to talk about that debate. Let me tell you my squirrel story....”

David Carroll, a Chattanooga news anchor and author. You may contact him at radiotv2020@yahoo.com

The Covington News

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CLASSIFIEDS & LEGALS

The Covington News

CLASSIFIEDS

Jobs

Help Wanted

THE CITY of Social Circle POLICE DEPARTMENT HAS A POLICE SERGEANT POSITION AVAILABLE. PLEASE GO TO SOCIALCIRCLEGA.GOV UNDER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES TO REVIEW the ad.

LEGALS

Public Notices

Corporations

NOTICE IS given that articles of incorporation that will incorporate **Heavy Duty, Mobile Lube Oil Solutions Inc.** have been delivered to the Secretary of State for filing in accordance with the Georgia Business Corporation Code. The initial registered office of the corporation is located at 305 Piedmont Cir., Covington, Georgia 30016 and its initial registered agent at such address is William Behrntd.

PUBLIC NOTICE #117389
10/7,14

NOTICE IS hereby given that articles of incorporation that will incorporate Legacify Movement, Inc. have been delivered to the Secretary of State in accordance with Georgia for Profit Corporation Code. The initial registered office of the corporation is located at 92 Usher Lane, Covington Ga. 30016 and it's initial registered agent at such address is LaTanya Folds

PUBLIC NOTICE #117350
9/30,10/7

THE UNDERSIGNED hereby certifies NuSouth Drag Racing League, LLC, a Georgia Corporation, 110 Syracuse Lane, Covington, Georgia 30016 is conducting business as NuSouth Transportation at 110 Syracuse Lane, Covington, Georgia 30016. The type of business being conducted is operation of transportation. This Affidavit is made in accordance with the Act of the Georgia Legislature O.C.G.A. § 10-1-490, approved August 1929, as amended.

THIS 9TH day of September, 2020.

BY: KRISTINE R. Moore Tarrer
ATTORNEY FOR NuSouth Drag Racing League, LLC
SWORN TO and subscribed to this the 10th day of September, 2020.
BY: JERI Robinson, Notary Public

PUBLIC NOTICE #117396
10/7,14

Divorces

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

INGRID BRIDGES PLAINTIFF,
-VS- ERIC BRIDGES DEFENDANT.

CIVIL ACTION No.: 2020-CV-1723-2

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

TO: ERIC BRIDGES
434 SUMMBERHILL CIR
STOCKBRIDGE, GA

BY ORDER of the court for service by publication dated **SEPTEMBER 11, 2020** you are hereby notified that on 9/1/20 (date of filing) **INGRID BRIDGES** (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 **JOHN M. OTT**, Judge Superior Court of Newton County.

THIS, THE 14th day of **SEPTEMBER, 2020.**
LINDA D. Hays
CLERK OF Superior Court

PUBLIC NOTICE #117313
9/23,30,10/7,14

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

KEMOY MCDONALD PLAINTIFF,
-VS- KIMMOYA R. MCDONALD DEFENDANT.

CIVIL ACTION No.: 2020-CV-1709-4

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

TO: KIMMOYA R. MCDONALD
100 DEARING WOODS CT
COVINGTON, GA 30014

BY ORDER of the court for service by publication dated **SEPTEMBER 14, 2020** you are hereby notified that on 8/27/20 (date of filing) **KEMOY MCDONALD** (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 **LAYLA H.**

Fun by the Numbers

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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

Level: Intermediate

ZON, Judge Superior Court of Newton County.

THIS, THE 14th day of **SEPTEMBER, 2020.**
LINDA D. Hays
CLERK OF Superior Court

PUBLIC NOTICE #117312
9/23,30,10/7,14

Foreclosures

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE UNDER POWER NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA

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 **Dorothy M Floyd f/k/a Dorothy Mae Brown** to Wachovia Bank, National Association, dated December 13, 2006, and recorded in Deed Book 2364, Page 163, Newton County, Georgia Records, as last transferred to U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee of the Igloo Series III Trust by assignment recorded in Deed Book 3618, Page 95 in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Newton County, Georgia Records, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of sixty-three thousand four hundred forty and 00/100 (\$63,440.00), with interest thereon as set forth therein, there will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the courthouse door of Newton County, Georgia, within the legal hours of sale on Tuesday, November 3, 2020, the following described property:

ALL THAT CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY SITUATED IN THE CITY OF COVINGTON IN THE COUNTY OF NEWTON AND STATE OF GEORGIA AND BEING DESCRIBED IN A DEED DATED 04/11/1970, AND RECORDED 04/14/1970, IN BOOK 96, PAGE 235, AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF THE COUNTY AND STATE SET FORTH ABOVE AND REFERENCED AS FOLLOWS: DISTRICT OF CEDAR SHOALS, TRACT 1 AND 2, RECORDED PLAT BOOK 7, PAGE 97; BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

TRACT NO. 1 - BEGINNING AT A POINT ON THE WEST SIDE OF GEORGIA HIGHWAY NO. 162 AT THE SOUTH LINE OF PROPERTY OF EVELYN BROWN AND THENCE RUNNING SOUTH 89 DEGREES 41 MINUTES WEST ALONG EVELYN BROWN PROPERTY 1, 004.41 FEET TO PROPERTY OF MANDY BROWN; THENCE RUNNING SOUTH 0 DEGREES 19 MINUTES EAST 210 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE RUNNING NORTH 89 DEGREES 41 MINUTES WEST 904.8 FEET TO THE WEST SIDE OF GEORGIA HIGHWAY NO. 162; THENCE RUNNING NORTHERLY ALONG THE WEST SIDE OF GEORGIA HIGHWAY NO. 162, 232.8 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. SAID TRACT CONTAINING 4.6 ACRES

AND

TRACT NO. 2 - BEGINNING AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE TRACT HEREIN CONVEYED WHERE SAME CORNERS WITH PROPERTY OF FLORIDA BROWN ESTATE, AND PROPERTY OF THE CHILDREN OF ANDREW BROWN; THENCE RUNNING SOUTH 0 DEGREES 19 MINUTES EAST 136.7 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE RUNNING SOUTH 89 DEGREES 41 MINUTES WEST 967.9 FEET TO PROPERTY OF WESLEY; THENCE NORTH 0 DEGREES 05 MINUTES EAST 136.7 FEET TO PROPERTY OF WILLIE CLARENCE BROWN; THENCE RUNNING NORTH 89 DEGREES 41 MINUTES EAST 967.4 FEET ALONG WILLIE CLARENCE BROWN PROPERTY AND THE FLORIDA BROWN ESTATE TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. SAID TRACT CONTAINING 3 ACRES.

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 882 HWY 162 SOUTH, COVINGTON, GA 30016.

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 Security Deed and by law, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect

attorney's fees having been given).

YOUR MORTGAGE servicer can be contacted at 800-327-7861 - Loss Mitigation Dept., or by writing to BSI Financial Services (Servicer), 314 S. Franklin Street, PO Box 517, Titusville, PA 16354, to discuss possible alternatives to avoid foreclosure.

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.

TO THE best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party in possession of the property is Dorothy M Floyd f/k/a Dorothy Mae Brown or tenant(s); and said property is more commonly known as 882 Hwy 162 South, Covington, GA 30016.

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.

U.S. BANK Trust National Association, as Trustee of the Igloo Series III Trust as Attorney in Fact for Dorothy M Floyd f/k/a Dorothy Mae Brown.

BOWEN QUINN, P.A.
25400 US Hwy 19 N, Suite 150
CLEARWATER, FL 33763
PHONE: (727) 474-9603
ESERVICE@BOWENQUINN.COM

BY: /S/ Erin M. Rose Quinn
ERIN M. Rose Quinn, Esq.
GEORGIA BAR Number 547833

PUBLIC NOTICE #117402
10/7,14,21,28

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER

THERE WILL be sold on the first Tuesday in November 2020, before the courthouse door in Newton County, Georgia, during the legal hours of sale, to the highest bidder for cash, the following described property, to-wit:

ALL THAT tract or parcel of land lying and being in Land Lot 268 of the 9th Land District in the City of Covington, Newton County, Georgia, and being shown as Lot 2 containing 5.94 acres, in accordance with that plat of survey prepared and certified by Mark T. Patrick, Georgia R.L.S. No. 2791, said plat being dated August 26, 2004, and recorded in Plat Book 41, Page 264, public records of Newton County, Georgia, and said plat by reference thereto being incorporated herein and made a part hereof for a more particular description of the captioned property.

LESS AND Except:

ALL THAT tract or parcel of land lying and being in Land Lot 268 of the 9th Land District, Newton County, Georgia, and being shown as Tract 5, containing 0.078 acres, in accordance with that plat of survey prepared and certified by Mark D. Patrick, Georgia, R.L.S. No. 2791, said plat being dated July 16, 2006, and recorded in Plat Book 45, Page 70, Public Records of Newton County, Georgia, and said plat by reference thereto being incorporated herein and made a part hereof for a more particular description of the captioned property.

SAID PROPERTY IS CURRENTLY IDENTIFIED AS TAX MAP AND PARCEL NUMBER C043A 078 BY THE NEWTON COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR.

THIS SALE will be made under the Power of Sale contained in a deed to secure debt in favor of Morris Bank, dated June 28, 2019, recorded in Deed Book 3863, Page 504, Clerk's Office, Newton County Superior Court. Said deed secures a note payable in monthly installments. Default has occurred in the payment, and the power of sale in said deed to secure debt has become operative. A copy of the notice of sale is being given to debtor as required by O.C.G.A. Section 44-14-162 et seq. The proceeds of said sale will be applied as provided in said deed. Said sale will also be made subject to all unpaid ad valorem taxes, liens, and assessments.

S/ALEX C. Smith
BY: ALEX C. Smith
CORPORATE COUNSEL for Morris

Bank

PUBLIC NOTICE #117392
10/7,14,21,28

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER GEORGIA, NEWTON COUNTY

BY VIRTUE of a Power of Sale contained in that certain Security Deed from **Alicia Bass-Wilson** to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as grantee, as nominee for Countrywide Home Loans, Inc., its successors and assigns, dated January 07, 2004 and recorded on January 14, 2004 in Deed Book 2983, Page 287, in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Rockdale County, Georgia, said Security Deed having been given to secure a Note of even date in the original principal amount of One Hundred Thirty-Five Thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$135,000.00), with interest thereon as provided for therein, said Security Deed having been last sold, assigned and transferred to Kondaur Capital Corporation, not in its individual capacity but solely in its capacity as Separate Trustee of Matawin Ventures Trust Series 2020-1, there will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash at the Newton County Courthouse, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in November, 2020, all property described in said Security Deed including but not limited to the following described property:

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN THE CITY OF COVINGTON, NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING ON THE SOUTHERN LINE OF HIGHLAND DRIVE (FORMERLY PINECREST LANE) AT A POINT 560.0 FEET, AS MEASURED IN AN EASTERN DIRECTION ALONG THE SOUTHERN LINE OF SAID HIGHLAND DRIVE, FROM THE INTERSECTION OF THE SOUTHERN LINE OF SAID HIGHLAND DRIVE WITH THE EASTERN LINE OF THE RIGHT-OF-WAY OF FLAT SHOALS ROAD (SOMETIMES KNOWN AS COLLUM ROAD); THENCE IN AN EASTERN DIRECTION ALONG THE SOUTHERN LINE OF SAID HIGHLAND DRIVE A DISTANCE OF 90.0 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 02 DEGREES 50 MINUTES EAST A DISTANCE OF 225.0 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 86 DEGREES 43 MINUTES WEST A DISTANCE OF 90.0 FEET; THENCE NORTH 02 DEGREES 50 MINUTES WEST A DISTANCE OF 225.0 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; AND BEING THE SAME PROPERTY AS CONVEYED TO BOBBY GENE ROGERS BY RALPH B. HALE AND DOROTHY C. HALE BY DEED DATED SEPTEMBER 17, 1960, AND RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 55, PAGE 253, NEWTON COUNTY RECORDS, TO WHICH REFERENCE IS HEREBY MADE.

SAID LEGAL description being controlling, however the property is more commonly known as **8233 HIGHLAND DR SW, COVINGTON, GA 30014.**

THE INDEBTEDNESS secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of default under the terms of said Security Deed. The indebtedness remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same, all expenses of the sale, including attorneys' fees (notice to collect same having been given) and all other payments provided for under the terms of the Security Deed.

SAID PROPERTY will be sold on an "as-is" basis without any representation, warranty or recourse against the above-named or the undersigned. The sale will also be subject to the following items which may affect the title: any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, whether or not now due and payable); the right of redemption of any taxing authority; matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or by an inspection of the property; all zoning ordinances; assessments; liens; encumbrances; restrictions; covenants, and any other matters of record superior to said Security Deed.

TO THE best of the knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the owner and party in possession of the property is DANIEL W CREWS, SR., ESTATE AND/OR HEIRS AT LAW OF DANIEL W CREWS SR., or tenants(s).

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.

PLEASE NOTE that, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2, you are not permitted by law to an amendment or modification of the terms of your loan. The entity having full authority to negotiate, amend

or modify all terms of the loan (although not required by law to do so) is: Kondaur Capital Corp., Loss Mitigation Dept., 333 South Anita Drive, Suite 400, Orange, CA 92868, Telephone Number: 888-566-3287.

KONDAUR CAPITAL CORPORATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY IN ITS CAPACITY AS SEPARATE TRUSTEE OF MATAWIN VENTURES TRUST SERIES 2020-1 AS ATTORNEY in Fact for DANIEL W CREWS, SR. THE BELOW LAW FIRM MAY BE HELD TO BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR, UNDER FEDERAL LAW. IF SO, ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. ATTORNEY CONTACT: Rubin Lublin, LLC, 3145 Avalon Ridge Place, Suite 100, Peachtree Corners, GA 30071 TELEPHONE NUMBER: (877) 813-0992 Case No. KCP-20-03011-2 AD RUN Dates 10/07/2020, 10/14/2020, 10/21/2020, 10/28/2020 RLSELAW.COM/PROPERTY-LISTING

PUBLIC NOTICE #117349
10/7,14,21,28

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY OF ROCKDALE

BY VIRTUE of a Power of Sale contained in that certain Security Deed from **Alicia Bass-Wilson** to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as grantee, as nominee for Countrywide Home Loans, Inc., its successors and assigns, dated January 07, 2004 and recorded on January 14, 2004 in Deed Book 2983, Page 287, in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Rockdale County, Georgia, said Security Deed having been given to secure a Note of even date, in the original principal amount of Two Hundred Seven Thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$207,000.00) with interest thereon as provided therein, as last transferred to Citibank, N.A., not in its individual capacity but solely as Owner Trustee of New Residential Mortgage Loan Trust 2019-RPL3 by Assignment recorded in Deed Book 6772, Page 1, aforesaid records, will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the courthouse door of Rockdale County, Georgia, or at such place as has or may be lawfully designated as an alternative location, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in November, 2020, all property described in said Security Deed including but not limited to the following described property:

ALL THAT tract or parcel of land lying and being in Land Lot 179 of the 16th District of Rockdale County, Georgia, and being Lot 42 of the Falls at Bridgewater Subdivision, Unit Two, as per plat recorded in Plat Book 29, pages 203-204 (being more particularly described on page 204), Rockdale County, Georgia Records, which plat is incorporated herein and made a part hereof by reference for a more complete and particularly description.

SAID PROPERTY may more commonly be known as **1240 Falls Creek Court SW, Conyers, GA 30094.**

THE DEBT secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of default, non-payment of the monthly installments on said loan. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given).

THE INDIVIDUAL or entity that has full authority to negotiate, amend and modify all terms of the loan is Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing, 55 Beattie Place, Suite 100 MS 561, Greenville, SC 29601, 1-800-365-7107.

SAID PROPERTY will be sold on an "as-is" basis without any representation, warranty or recourse against the above-named or the undersigned. The sale will also be subject to the following items which may affect the title: a) zoning ordinances; b) matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or by an inspection of the property; c) any outstanding ad valorem taxes, including taxes, which constitute liens upon said property whether or not now due and payable; d) special assessments; e) the right of redemption of any taxing authority; f) all outstanding bills for public utilities which constitute liens upon said property; g) all restrictive covenants, easements, rights-of-way and any other matters of record superior to said Security Deed. To the best of the knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the owners and party in possession of the property are Alicia Bass-Wilson and or tenant(s). The sale will be conducted subject to 1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy code and 2) final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed. CITIBANK, N.A., not in its individual capacity but solely as Owner Trustee of New Residential Mortgage Loan Trust 2019-RPL3 AS ATTORNEY-IN-FACT for ALICIA BASS-WILSON CONTACT: PADGETT LAW Group: 6267 Old Water Oak Road, Suite 203, Tallahassee, FL 32312; (850) 422-2520 AD RUN Dates: 10/07/20; 10/14/20; 10/21/20; 10/28/20

PUBLIC NOTICE #117352
10/7,14,21,28

VARIANCE PETITON GEORGIA, NEWTON County

A PETITION (VAR20-000010) HAS BEEN FILED WITH THE NEWTON COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS FOR A VARIANCE FOR THE PROPERTY BELONGING TO:

JOSEPH & CAROL GARNER

WHOSE SUBJECT PROPERTY ADDRESS/LOCATION IS 160 DYE RD CONTAINING APPROXIMATELY 1.93 ACRES BEING ON TAX MAP &

PARCEL FP74 066.

APPLICANT IS REQUESTING A VARIANCE TO: REDUCE THE 150' FOOT IMPERVIOUS SURFACE SETBACK ASSOCIATED WITH THE SHORELINE OF LAKE JACKSON IN THE MSR ZONING DISTRICT SEC 420-050 (C).

THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE:

22ND DAY OF OCTOBER, 2020 AT 7:00 PM.

THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE NEWTON COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 3RD FLOOR BOARDROOM. THOSE HAVING CONCERNS ABOUT THIS PETITION SHOULD ATTEND THE MEETING.

PUBLIC NOTICE #117398
10/7

VARIANCE PETITON GEORGIA, NEWTON County

A PETITION (VAR20-000011) HAS BEEN FILED WITH THE NEWTON COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS FOR A VARIANCE FOR THE PROPERTY BELONGING TO:

BRADLEY & MARTHA EARNHART

WHOSE SUBJECT PROPERTY ADDRESS/LOCATION IS 260 WATERS BRIDGE CIRCLE CONTAINING APPROXIMATELY .65 ACRES BEING ON TAX MAP & PARCEL 93-025A.

APPLICANT IS REQUESTING A VARIANCE TO: REDUCE THE 150' FOOT IMPERVIOUS SURFACE SETBACK ASSOCIATED WITH THE SHORELINE OF LAKE JACKSON IN THE MSR ZONING DISTRICT SEC 420-050 (C).

THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE:

22ND DAY OF OCTOBER, 2020 AT 7:00 PM.

THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE NEWTON COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 3RD FLOOR BOARDROOM. THOSE HAVING CONCERNS ABOUT THIS PETITION SHOULD ATTEND THE MEETING.

PUBLIC NOTICE #117399
10/7

VARIANCE PETITON GEORGIA, NEWTON County

A PETITION (VAR20-000012) HAS BEEN FILED WITH THE NEWTON COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS FOR A VARIANCE FOR THE PROPERTY BELONGING TO:

MARGIE GREEN CLINE

WHOSE SUBJECT PROPERTY ADDRESS/LOCATION IS 50 MEADOW TRL CONTAINING APPROXIMATELY 68.27 ACRES BEING ON TAX MAP & PARCEL 111-018.

APPLICANT IS REQUESTING A VARIANCE TO: EXTEND THE ACCESS PORTION OF A FLAG LOT BEYOND 300 FEET.

THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE:

22ND DAY OF OCTOBER, 2020 AT 7:00 PM.

THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE NEWTON COUNTY HISTORIC COURTHOUSE, 3RD FLOOR BOARDROOM. THOSE HAVING CONCERNS ABOUT THIS PETITION SHOULD ATTEND THE MEETING.

PUBLIC NOTICE #117400
10/7

Public Notice

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that on October 19, 2020, at 9:30 a.m., at the Newton County Courthouse, Courtroom 4, 1132 Usher Street NW, Covington, Georgia 30014, Judge Eugene Benton of the Superior Court of Newton County will hear the case of **STATE OF GEORGIA vs. NEWTON COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY and LIDL US OPERATIONS, LLC**, Civil Action File No. 2020-CV-1977-1, the same being a proceeding to confirm and validate the Newton County Industrial Development Authority Taxable Revenue Bonds (Lidl US Operations Project), Series 2020, in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$100,000,000 (the "Bonds"), proposed to be issued by the Newton County Industrial Development Authority (the "Issuer") in order to promote and expand for the public good and welfare, commerce and industry within Newton County, Georgia (the "County"), for the purpose of acquiring land in the County, and acquiring, constructing and equipping improvements and related building fixtures and equipment (the "Project"). The Project is to be leased by the Issuer to Lidl US Operations, LLC (the "Company") for use as the Company's warehouse and distribution facility and an economic development project, all in accordance with the terms of a resolution (the "Bond Resolution") adopted by the Issuer, and the Exhibits thereto. In such proceeding, the Court will also (a) hear and determine the validity of instruments relating to and providing security for the Bonds including the Bond Resolution, an Indenture of Trust, a Lease Agreement, a Bond Purchase Agreement, a Guaranty Agreement, a Home Office Payment Agreement and a Project Agreement, as described in the Petition and

See LEGALS, A6

Still backing it up

Newton County resident celebrates 104th birthday with well-wishers, celebrity friend

By TOM SPIGOLON
tspigolon@covnews.com

OXFORD, Ga. — Newton County resident Martha Malcolm was only 100 years old in 2016 when she was featured on national TV, dancing with her walker.

Last week when she turned 104, singer Harry Connick Jr. called Malcolm and sang “Happy Birthday” to her.

The movie and singing star was among her well-wishers as she celebrated her birthday Tuesday, Sept. 29, at her home in Oxford.

Connick’s telephone call preceded a drive-through birthday parade on a rainy day for the lifelong Newton County resident at Merryvale Assisted Living on Ga. Hwy. 142 in Oxford.

She sat under the covered, front dropoff area and sat and waved to those who lined up to greet her in the Merryvale parking lot.

Malcolm’s daughter, Gail Mobley, stood and

received balloons and flowers from those in vehicles who wished her happy birthday.

She said she requested that people just show up and not bring gifts, in part because her mother does not have room for them.

“She loves people,” Mobley said.

A representative of the Covington Police Department dropped by, while a Newton County Sheriff’s Office deputy used a siren and blue lights to greet her.

Connick met Malcolm after featuring a video of her as part of a montage of videos of viewers doing a dance featured on his nationally syndicated talk show.

Friends had submitted a video of her doing Connick’s “Back it Up” dance.

“He spent about 10 minutes talking to her (Sept. 29). He asked if she’d been sick,” Mobley said. “Nice guy.”

Malcolm and her husband, Marion, moved

from Morgan County to Newton County in 1945. He was a mechanic for almost half a century, working more than three decades for an auto dealership, before he went out on his own, Mrs. Mobley said.

They lived in a house on what is now Ga. Hwy. 36 for 57 years, she said.

“She lived there when it was a dirt road,” Mrs. Mobley said.

Malcolm also has been a member of High Point Baptist Church for at least 60 years, her daughter said.

She formerly lived with her other daughter, Margaret, and her husband near Lake Varner until Margaret’s death in 2017. That prompted the family to move the centarian to Merryvale, Mrs. Mobley said.

“She needed to be around people,” she said.

Longtime friend Debbie Anderson said quarantine and stay-at-home orders because of safety concerns around



Tom Spigolon | The Covington News

Vehicles filled with well-wishers pass by the front porch of Merryvale Assisted Living in Oxford during a drive-by birthday party for Martha Malcolm on her 104th birthday Sept. 29.

COVID-19 have “been difficult for all of us, not being able to visit.”

“All her family and friends have missed seeing her in person,” Anderson said. “We stand outside her window that fortunately faces the parking lot,

and visit with her that way.”

Mobley’s husband, Henry, said Malcolm has enjoyed relatively good luck with her health in recent years.

He said she takes almost no medicine currently. She broke her

hip after a fall in 2013 but fully recovered. She stands and moves with the help of a walker, Henry said.

“She has a little trouble with her short-term memory,” he said.

Covington man named to state board for used vehicle, parts dealers

STAFF REPORTS
news@covnews.com

ATLANTA — A Covington man will serve on the State Board of Registration of Used Motor Vehicle Dealers and Used Motor Vehicle Parts Dealers.

Gov. Brian Kemp appointed Gary Keith Massey as the insurance representative of

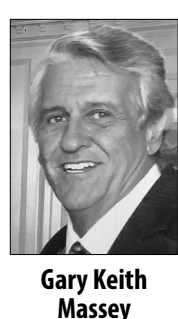
the Board’s Used Motor Vehicle Parts Dealers Division.

Massey is the president and CEO of Gary Massey Agency Inc. in Covington. He has been a licensed insurance agent since 1981.

The 14-member Board is composed of two divisions, a Used Motor Vehicle Division

and a Used Motor Vehicle Parts Division.

Each division determines the qualifications of licensure as set forth by



the law.

The Used Motor Vehicle Parts Division issues a used parts license, which includes used parts dealers, rebuilders, and salvage dealers.

The Used Motor Vehicle Division issues a used motor vehicle dealers license which includes motor vehicle

brokers, independent motor vehicle leasing agencies which sell or offer to sell used motor vehicles, used motor vehicle auction companies and pawnbrokers who sell motor vehicles to the public.

It is unlawful for any person to operate as a used motor vehicle dealer or used motor

vehicle parts dealer without first registering and obtaining a license.

If a licensee is found to have violated the law or Board rules, the Division has the power to impose fines and penalties fees and to revoke or suspend a license for a specified time

Piedmont Newton offering free flu shots during drive-thru clinic Oct. 15

STAFF REPORTS
news@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — Piedmont Newton Hospital is encouraging those wanting a free flu shot to arrive early Thursday, Oct. 15, for its fourth annual drive-thru flu shot clinic from noon to 2 p.m.

Hospital employees will be administering 300 flu shots to those age 15 and older on a first-come, first-served basis in the parking lot at the corner of Newton Drive and North Dearing Street, a news release stated.

Those wishing to receive a vaccination during the drive-thru clinic are encour-

aged to arrive early.

“Receiving an annual flu vaccination is the best way to help prevent contracting the flu,” said Dr. Norris Little, M.D., chief medical officer at Piedmont Newton Hospital. “We will be providing 300 free flu shots to individuals age 15 and older during our event, but we recommend that everyone six months and older receive a flu shot.”

Those who cannot make the event are encouraged to book an appointment for a flu shot with their primary care physician, at a Piedmont QuickCare or Piedmont Urgent Care by WellStreet

location.

This year’s flu season, however, looks a little different than most, because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Currently, there is no vaccine to prevent COVID-19, but vaccine developers and other researchers and manufacturers are expediting the development of a vaccine to prevent COVID-19.

But there’s one major way to help prevent flu and that’s the flu shot.

“A flu shot is the first and most important step in protecting against flu,” Little said. “The flu shot has been proven to reduce cases of the flu and if you do still

contract the flu virus, you’ll likely have milder symptoms and a lower risk of hospitalization and death.”

The flu and COVID-19 are both contagious respiratory illnesses that have very similar symptoms, but different viruses cause these two illnesses and they’re treated differently.

Some of the most common symptoms seen with both flu and COVID-19 are fever, sore throat and cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, a runny nose, headache and body aches or muscle soreness.

Those with symptoms of flu or COVID-19 should call

a doctor’s office or schedule a virtual visit as soon as possible.

“Using preventative measures like washing your hands, wearing a mask in public and watching your distance are more important than ever,” Little said. “We are requesting that anyone planning to attend the drive thru flu shot clinic wear a mask to reduce the risk of spreading germs to others.”

For more information on the benefits of receiving a flu vaccination or to schedule an appointment online to receive a flu shot, visit piedmont.org/flu.

LEGALS:

Continued from A5

COMPLAINT; AND (b) hear and determine such other questions of law and fact pertaining to the right of the Issuer to issue the Bonds and to provide the security therefor. The Bonds shall be a special and limited obligation of the Issuer, payable from funds provided by the Company and shall not be payable from taxes or other public funds and **NO PERFORMANCE AUDIT OR PERFORMANCE REVIEW (AS SUCH TERMS ARE DESCRIBED IN SECTION 36 82 100 OF THE OFFICIAL CODE OF GEORGIA ANNOTATED) WILL BE CONDUCTED WITH RESPECT TO THE EXPENDITURE OF BOND PROCEEDS.**

ANY CITIZEN of the State of Georgia residing in Newton County, or any other person wherever residing who has a right to object, may intervene and become a party to these proceedings.

LINDA D. HAYS
CLERK, SUPERIOR Court Newton County, Georgia

PUBLIC NOTICE #117393
10/7,14

Public Sales Auctions

IN ACCORDANCE WITH GEORGIA LAW 40-11-2: THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED VEHICLES HAVE BEEN

ABANDONED AT Insurance Auto Auction 125 Old Hwy 138 Loganville, GA 30052-4814 AND ARE PRESENTLY STORED AT SAID LOCATION. IF NOT CLAIMED, THE VEHICLES WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER ON 10/23/20 10:00 AM			
YEAR	MAKE	Model	
Color	VIN No		
2000	SUZUKI	Esteem	BLU
JS2GB31S6Y5183015			
2016	FORD	Fusion	
3FA6P0H70GR139441			
2015	DODGE	Charger	
2C3CDXHG0FH826965			
2009	NISSAN	Altima	SIL
1N4AL21E59N479779			
2006	HONDA	Civic	BRN
1HGFA16876L145863			
2017	TOYOTA	Corolla	BLK
2T1BURHE1HC841943			
2017	TOYOTA	Camry	WHT

4T1BF1FK9HU699263

PUBLIC NOTICE #117386
10/7,14

Trade Names

TRADE NAME REGISTRATION AFFIDAVIT
GEORGIA, NEWTON COUNTY

TO WHOM It may Concern: **PLEASE BE** advised that **AZUCAR CUBAN EATS & GRILL**, whose address is 7108 WASHINGTON ST, SW, SUITE D, COVINGTON, GA 30014 and **CARIDAD RODRIGUEZ** whose address is 49 HAZEL ST. #A, PORTERDALE, GA 30014 is the owner(s) of the certain business now being carried on at 7108 WASHINGTON ST, SW, SUITE D, COVINGTON, GA 30014 in the following trade name, to-wit: **AZUCAR CUBAN EATS & GRILL**; and that the nature of said business is: A FOOD TAKE-OUT & CATERING. **THIS STATEMENT** is made in conformity with O.C.G.A. §10-1-490 et seq. requiring the filing of such statement with the Clerk of Superior Court of this county. **THIS THE** 30th day of September, 2020.

PUBLIC NOTICE #117387
10/7,14

TRADE NAME REGISTRATION AFFIDAVIT
GEORGIA, NEWTON COUNTY

TO WHOM It may Concern: **PLEASE BE** advised that **DORINE BALLARD**, whose address is 40 ADELAIDE DR, COVINGTON, GA 30016 is the owner(s) of the certain business now being carried on at 40 ADELAIDE DR, COVINGTON, GA 30016 in the following trade name, to-wit: **SQUEAKY CLEAN HOMES**; and that the nature of said business is: CLEANING SERVICES. **THIS STATEMENT** is made in conformity with O.C.G.A. §10-1-490 et seq. requiring the filing of such statement with the Clerk of Superior Court of this county. **THIS THE** 29th day of September, 2020.

PUBLIC NOTICE #117365
10/7,14

TRADE NAME REGISTRATION AFFIDAVIT
GEORGIA, NEWTON COUNTY

TO WHOM It may Concern: **PLEASE BE** advised that **JESSICA BAUER**, whose address is 215 CHIMNEY RIDGE LANE, COVINGTON, GA 30014 is the owner(s) of the certain business now being carried on at 215 CHIMNEY

RIDGE LANE, COVINGTON, GA 30014 in the following trade name, to-wit: **TRUE IRIS PHOTOGRAPHY**; and that the nature of said business is: PHOTOGRAPHY. **THIS STATEMENT** is made in conformity with O.C.G.A. §10-1-490 et seq. requiring the filing of such statement with the Clerk of Superior Court of this county. **THIS THE** 3rd day of OCTOBER, 2020.

PUBLIC NOTICE #117403
10/7,14

TRADE NAME REGISTRATION AFFIDAVIT
GEORGIA, NEWTON COUNTY

TO WHOM It may Concern: **PLEASE BE** advised that **PREMIER ADVANCED SERVICES, LLC**, whose address is 255 SALEM GLEN WAY, CONYERS, GA 30013 and **JAMES PARKER** whose address is 255 SALEM GLEN WAY, CONYERS, GA 30013 is/are the owner(s) of the certain business now being carried on at 255 SALEM GLEN WAY, CONYERS, GA 30013 in the following trade name, to-wit: **dba PREMIER ADVANCED LENDING**; and that the nature of said business is: CONSULTING. **THIS STATEMENT** is made in conformity with O.C.G.A. §10-1-490 et seq. requiring the filing of such

statement with the Clerk of Superior Court of this county. **THIS THE** 16th day of September, 2020.

PUBLIC NOTICE #117395
10/7,14

TRADE NAME REGISTRATION STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF PUTNAM

TO WHOM It may Concern: **PLEASE BE** advised that **NUSOUTH DRAG RACING LEAGUE, LLC**, whose address is 110 SYRACUSE LANE, COVINGTON, GA 30016 hereby certifies that is is conducting a certain business in Putnam County, under the following trade name, to-wit: NuSouth Transportation and the nature of said business is Transportation.

AS OF this 9th day of September, 2020.

NUSOUTH DRAG Racing League, LLC a Georgia Corporation.
BY: KRISTINE R. Moore Tarrer
ATTORNEY FOR Corporation.

PUBLIC NOTICE #117397
10/7,14

SPORTS

The Covington News

Prep Football

Eastside needs quick turnaround for Thursday night



File | The Covington News

Junior Nicholas Benton and Eastside will hit the field early this week for a Thursday night showdown against Apalachee.

By MASON WITTNER
mwittner@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — Who's ready for Thursday night lights? Eastside (3-1, 1-0) will have to be this week when it welcomes Apalachee (0-4, 0-1) to Homer Sharp Stadium for a Region 8-AAAAA tilt on Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

This isn't a foreign concept for the Eagles. With all three Newton County schools sharing a stadium, each program is usually relegated to Thursday night at least once during any given season. Adjustments must be made, of course, but Eastside head coach Troy Hoff insists they've become easier to make over time.

"Our teams have seemed to respond to the Thursday night games well," Hoff said. "You kind of eliminate the walk-through day, and then just make sure that we've got our legs underneath us Wednesday because it is a quicker turnaround. That changes things a little bit, but like I said, we've been doing this for a number of years so it's not unusual for our guys."

Hoff's team is rolling into the short week riding the high of a blowout victory on the road against Johnson in the region opener last Friday. After jumping out to a 27-0 lead in the opening quarter, the Eagles set the offense to cruise control and glided their way to a 47-7 victory.

Eastside took advantage of a depleted Johnson team that had been outscored 135-3 through its first three games of the season. Even still, it was encouraging to see the Eagles not come out flat following a dramatic win over county rival Alcovy the week prior.

"We went out and did what we were supposed to do," Hoff said. "Johnson's in a tough situation. They're trying to rebuild their program and they're struggling. We just challenged our guys to play to our standard, take care of business and make it about us. They did a good job with that."

Eastside now shifts its focus to yet another team coming in with a goose egg in the win column.

The Apalachee Wildcats enter Week 6 at 0-4 on the year. They were shutout by Clarke Central, 28-0, in their region opener last week, but put up a valiant fight in each of their first three contests against Winder-Barrow (34-27), Habersham Central (56-35) and Madison County (21-10).

Despite ending up on the wrong

See THURSDAY, A8

Prep Softball Roundup



Mason Wittner | The Covington News

Despite a misleading win column, Alcovy remains in the hunt for a postseason spot with just one week left in the regular season.

Lady Eagles split doubleheader

Alcovy remains in playoff picture

By MASON WITTNER
mwittner@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — On the day the calendar flipped to October, the month which will culminate the 2020 softball season with the state tournament, Eastside maintained its position as one of four playoff contenders from Region 8-AAAAA.

The Lady Eagles played host to region rival Loganville and earned a doubleheader split. The visiting Lady Devils captured a 4-2 victory in Game 1, but the nightcap belonged to Eastside, which powered its way to a 9-5 win.

At the end of the night, the Lady Eagles found themselves at 10-9 overall and 6-5 in league play. They're currently slotted at No. 4 in the region, trailing Walnut Grove (13-7, 11-1), Loganville (15-8, 9-3) and Apalachee (16-4, 6-4).

Loganville 4, Eastside 2

The first meeting between the two local programs this season saw the Lady Devils squeak out a 1-0 decision on their home diamond. It was a day in which the Lady Eagles were stellar defensively and in the circle, but couldn't muster enough offense — squandering six runners on base — to compete.

Game 1 of Thursday's doubleheader followed a similar storyline. Following three scoreless frames, Loganville finally broke through for a pair of runs in the fourth inning. Madison Keener led things off with a single and later came around to score on Katie Plummer's infield RBI knock. Plummer would later score on a fielding error, giving Loganville a 2-0 advantage.

Eastside never recovered.

The Lady Devils pushed another pair of runs across in the fifth inning — thanks to an error and groundout, respectively — to double their lead. The Lady Eagles would break up the shutout late, but the hole proved too large to escape.

"Once Loganville scored first, the momentum starting going their way," Eastside head coach Heather Wood said. "We've got to be stronger, understand that's going to happen and just respond a lot better than we did the first game."

Eastside 9, Loganville 5

The Lady Eagles had a strong response at the plate in Game 2. They came out swinging early and pounded Loganville's pitching for five runs in the first two innings.

A trio of consecutive singles off the bats of juniors Megan Coggins, Lauren Burnett and Heather Henderson set Eastside up with the bases loaded and one out in the first inning. Freshman Dezaria Johnson drew a walk to bring in the first run

of the game, and a fielder's choice scored another to make it 2-0.

Coggins collected an RBI single in the second inning before a fielding error committed by Loganville allowed Eastside to extend its lead to 5-1.

The Lady Eagles finished the game with nine runs on nine hits and capitalized on Loganville's three errors. Coggins (2-for-4) and Burnett (2-for-4) finished with multi-hit games, alongside fellow junior Natalie Ray (2-for-3).

With just two weeks remaining in the regular season, Eastside will try

to make up ground lost early in the season due to inclement weather and COVID-19 complications. The club is scheduled to play seven games between Tuesday, Oct. 6 and Tuesday, Oct. 13.

As the Lady Eagles make a push for the postseason, they'll also be looking to establish consistency in a season that has been anything but ordinary.

"We've had to start and stop so much with rainouts and the beginning of the season, so we're ready to start playing consistently. We're

See SPLIT, A8



Re-Elect Tommy Davis Newton County Coroner

Let's Re-Elect Tommy Davis Coroner of Newton County

Trained, Trustworthy, Dependable, Dedicated

I have served Newton County for 17 years, 5 as your Deputy Coroner and 12 as your Coroner. I have thousands of hours of training and experience. I work daily to ensure that the people of Newton County are represented by a trained, trustworthy, dependable, and dedicated Coroner.

I am asking for your VOTE.

Early Voting Starts October 12

Please cast your vote for me and allow me to continue to serve as your Coroner.

PLAYERS OF THE WEEK



Eastside Eagles

#8 Dayton Green, QB

Don't look now, but Green is starting to look comfortable under center. The senior, who was thrust into the starting QB job this season, threw for 133 yards and three TDs in Eastside's dismantling of Johnson on Friday.





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Newton Rams

#99 Justin Benton, DL

Benton wreaked havoc in the backfield against McEachern on Friday night. The sophomore standout anchored an outstanding performance from the Newton 'D' in a narrow loss.





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Social Circle Redskins

#2 Eric Taylor, WR/DB

Taylor hauled in a pair of touchdown receptions to help Social Circle collect its second victory of the 2020 season. The senior stepped up big on the other side of the ball as well, pulling down an interception to ice the game.





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Fax: (770) 464-4018

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Email: scace@socialcircleace.com

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Social Circle, GA 30025



Alcovy Tigers

The Tigers were off last week but will be back in action Friday, Oct. 9, as they play host to South Forsyth.





Mon-Fri: 7:30am-7:00pm
Sat: 8:00am-5:00pm
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Middle School Volleyball



Special to The Covington News
The Peachtree Academy middle school volleyball team won its third consecutive Class AA - District 2 championship in the Georgia Association of Private and Parochial Schools on Sunday.

Prep Football

Rams keep eyes straight ahead

By **MASON WITTNER**
mwittner@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — Time heals all wounds. Unfortunately, time isn't always a luxury teams can afford in high school football. Newton must find a way to put last week's painful loss to McEachern in the rearview mirror — and quick. The schedule won't get any easier for the Rams (2-1) this week as they'll hit the road once again to face another state power in Houston County (3-2) on Friday night. For nearly four quarters of last week's road game against the Indians, Newton looked like the better football team. The offense struggled to find the end zone, sure, but

it was productive in spurts and did enough to provide support for the undeniably dominant defensive unit. But as the old adage goes, football is a game of inches. Sometimes it takes just one or two plays for the entire narrative of a game to be altered. Newton let the game slip away late and wound up on the wrong side of an 8-7 score. Now, there's not time to sit back and play the "what if?" game. Instead, the Rams have wiped their slate clean and devoted all their focus and attention to the next obstacle. "Our message from day one, because of everything that's going on, has been to take the approach that the only day you can control is

today. We don't worry about yesterday, and we're not too focused on what's coming tomorrow," Newton head coach Camiel Grant Jr. said. "So, when we left Friday night, we put that to bed." Grant's Rams will now gear up to face a Bears squad that has collected narrow wins against Perry (17-10), Coffee (17-10) and Statesboro (23-18) this season. They'll come into Week 6 licking their wounds, however, after running into the chainsaw that is Warner Robins and being soundly defeated, 44-10. Friday night's game is scheduled to kick off at 7:30 p.m. For live updates, follow *The Covington News* on social media.

Offensive fireworks could be on display when Alcovy meets South Forsyth

By **MASON WITTNER**
mwittner@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — Last time Alcovy took the football field, it nearly pulled off the stunner of the year. The Tigers squared off against county rival Eastside at Sharp Stadium and put on a show for all of Newton County. They jumped out to an early lead and nearly led wire-to-wire, ultimately falling short of the upset as the Eagles kicked a game-winning field goal at the buzzer. Had Alcovy held on, it would've been the program's first victory over Eastside since 2013. Instead, the

Tigers dropped to 0-4 in heartbreaking fashion. But the final score doesn't take away from the tremendous progress the team showed in the four-quarter effort. Alcovy, which was idle last week, will return to Sharp Stadium this Friday to welcome in South Forsyth (3-0) for a non-region contest. The Tigers are trying to avoid their first 0-5 start since 2015, when they snapped a 17-game losing skid in their sixth game of the year. Defense was at a premium in Alcovy's matchup against Eastside as the clubs con-

tinuously traded blows back and forth. That could prove to be the case once again this week as the War Eagles have produced a lethal offense while also showing weaknesses in their defensive unit. The scoreboard has been put to work in each of South Forsyth's first three games, as the War Eagles put up enough points to outlast Dawson County (63-49), Central Gwinnett (52-27) and Lambert (44-14). For live updates from the game, follow @CovNewsSports and @mason_wittner on Twitter.

THURSDAY:

Continued from A7

side of the scoreboard in all four games, the Wildcats have shown that they're not willing to simply roll over for opponents and accept defeat. "Apalachee is a good football team. I know their record right now doesn't indicate that, but they've been in every game. That's the thing you notice about them," Hoff said. The Wildcats operate a Wing-T offense, which means Eastside's defense must remain disciplined and play assignment football in order to sustain success.

As for the Eagles' offensive attack, they're expected to once again be led at quarterback by senior Dayton Green while Jaylen Woods remains week-to-week with a leg injury. Green, one of Eastside's top wideouts, was asked to step in under center when Woods went down just days before the team's first game of the season. There was a learning curve, but Green has taken the transition in stride and is growing into his new role in the offense. "I think Dayton's

done a great job," Hoff said. "Maybe to an outsider it looks like you just go in and play quarterback. Whatever. But there's a whole lot that goes into it. He's done a really good job off the field and throughout the week in practice to get ready for that. I think he's getting more comfortable every day." For live updates from Thursday night's game, please follow @CovNewsSports and @mason_wittner on Twitter.

SPLIT:

Continued from A7

looking to get in a groove and do whatever we can to make that first round of playoffs," Wood said. "We know the competition is not going to get any easier, so we've just got to get ready to go and compete."

Alcovy High School

The Lady Tigers have had their fair share of struggles in 2020, but for a roster without any seniors, this season was always going to be about more than just wins and losses. Instead, head coach Miranda Lamb wanted to see her club show signs of growth from the first game of the year until the last. She believes they've done just that. Following Monday evening's 14-4 victory over visiting Putnam County, Lamb spoke about the positives that have come out of the campaign up to this point. "I'm proud of this team. Our win column may not look like much, but the progress that they have made goes leaps and bounds over our record," she said. "And I would take that every day because it builds for years to come. "If you look at my freshmen that I have this year, they're starting every single game at the varsity level. That can only help us in the future. I start three freshmen, I start three sophomores, so half of my lineup is young, young, young. It's really exciting." The Lady Tigers went into Monday sitting at 2-13 on the year and 2-8 against Region 3-AAAAAA competition. But with the Rockdale County programs joining the race late, and a week's worth of region games remaining, Alcovy still has a chance to slip into the postseason. "It's crazy. Period," Lamb said of the playoff push. "It really all depends on how we do against the Rockdale schools, how they do against others. We still have two games against Evans that are rainout makeup, plus a game against Rockdale County and two against Heritage, so that all will be taken into account. Everything is up in the air right now. We're obviously hoping for that four seed, but we'll see."

Newton High School
The 2020 season has been kind to the Lady Rams. The club improved to 14-7 on the year late last week when they handled business against South Gwinnett, cruising to a 9-0 win on Senior Night. They enter the week with just four games remaining and residence in the No. 2 spot in Region 4-AAAAAA behind Grayson and ahead of Brookwood and Parkview.

EDUCATION

The Covington News

Porterdale Elementary named National Beta School of Distinction

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS
news@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — National Beta is proud to announce Porterdale Elementary School as a 2019-2020 National School of Distinction. This award is an honor for Beta Clubs striving towards academic achievement, exemplary character, demonstrated leadership and service to others. With an on-going quest to instill these qualities in more students, the National Beta School of Distinction Award is designed to award those schools that show an increase in membership for the current school year.

“We are excited and proud to be named a National Beta School of Distinction,” said Clydia Newell, principal of Porterdale Elementary School. “The Beta Club has provided our students with leadership devel-



Porterdale Elementary School Principal Clydia Newell said she was excited that her school earned the National Beta School of Distinction Award as the Beta Club has been beneficial in providing students with numerous leadership development activities to prepare them for the future.

opment activities and service projects that will prepare them for the future. Our students and sponsors have worked hard this year,

and we are proud to continue to offer the opportunities afforded by the Beta Club for our students at Porterdale Elementary.”

Award recipients received a National Beta School of Distinction banner to proudly display as a symbol of their accomplishment.

“This prestigious honor is a true indication of Porterdale Elementary School’s dedication to academic excellence, leadership development and commitment to celebrating their student’s achievements,” said National Beta’s Chief Executive Officer, Bobby Hart.

About National Beta: National Beta is the largest independent, non-profit, educational youth organization in America. Since its beginnings in 1934, National Beta has been committed to providing students with a positive experience in a supportive manner in grades 4-12. The organization recognizes outstanding achievement, promotes character and social responsibility, encourages service involvement to school and community, and fosters leadership skills.

Newton County offers weekly meal pickup

STAFF REPORTS
news@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — Newton County School System is offering weekly meal pickup every Wednesday from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Heard Mixon Elementary and Live Oak Elementary.

All children under the age of 18, or under the age of 21 for students with special needs, are provided with a week’s worth of free breakfast and lunch meals. Parents or guardians can pick up meals without their child or children present if needed.

Families can pick up weekly meals at the following meal distribution sites every Wednesday from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Weekly Meal Pick Up Locations:

- Live Oak Elementary School, 500 Kirkland Rd, Covington, GA 30016
- Heard Mixon Elementary School, 14110 GA-36, Covington, GA 30014

Other options for meal service include:

- Daily Bus Meal Delivery: Buses are setup to deliver meals directly to or nearby each student’s home address. You can find when your meal will be delivered by downloading the Versatrans MyStop App.

• In-School Meal Service: In-school learners can pick up a FREE breakfast and lunch meal from their cafeteria to eat in the classroom.

• School Site Pick Up: If a parent/guardian misses their bus meal delivery, he/she can visit one of our cafeterias listed below to pick up a meal prior to 1:00pm each day.

When arriving, call the applicable cafeteria phone number and tell the manager how many children need a meal.

NCSS Cafeteria

Contact Information:

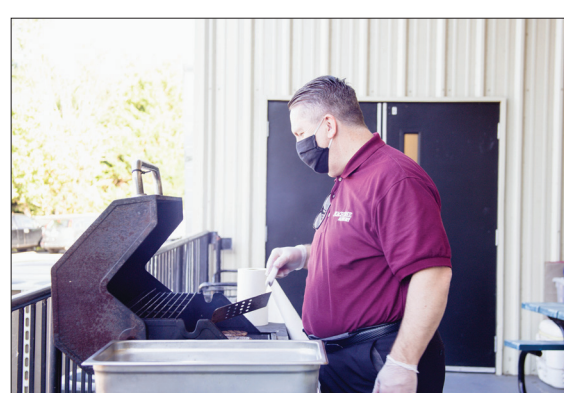
- Alcovy High, Amanda Tyn-dall, 678-342-5642
- Clements Middle, Robin Kinter, 678-342-2492
- Cousins Middle, Ginger Kelley, 678-342-2706
- East Newton Elementary, Cynthia Benton, 678-342-2471
- Eastside High, LaDonna Wommack, 678-342-2752
- Fairview Elementary, Tyra Aycox, 770-784-2940
- Flint Hill Elementary, Kathy Bunn, 678-342-2582
- Heard-Mixon Elementary, Wende Wigton, 678-342-2524
- Indian Creek Middle, CJ Maughon, 678-342-2803
- Liberty Middle, Lori Norris, 678-625-6622
- Live Oak Elementary, Kandi Nash, 678-625-6668
- Livingston Elementary, Shannon Brewer, 770-385-6914
- Mansfield Elementary, Deborah Colbert, 678-342-2581
- Middle Ridge Elementary, Wendy Vines, 770-385-6468
- NC Theme School, Vicki Goldman, 770-784-2960
- NCCA, Gail Lyle, 770-788-5497
- Newton High, Adrian Miltier, 678-342-2821

Taste of Peachtree



Peachtree Academy in Covington recently held its annual Taste of Peachtree event, but with a new twist — a socially distanced tailgate party. Hot dogs, hamburgers and delicious sides

were enjoyed by members of the student body and their families, faculty and community members. The event is sponsored by Peachtree’s Student Government Association and raises money for field trips in April. Offi-



Special Photos to The Covington News

cers from each middle and high school grade level contributed by working in the Panther Den school supply store and served prepared plates and drinks to each guest.



Food Depot

*OUR COST INCLUDES FREIGHT, STOCKING FEES AND ASSOCIATED EXPENSES

**OUR COST PLUS 10%
ADDED AT REGISTER!**

Please visit our website at www.fooddepot.com
Download the Food Depot App for digital
coupons and in-store promotions!

COVINGTON: 6169 Highway 278
Covington Crossing Shopping Center
CONYERS: 2300 Salem Road
CONYERS: 3530 GA 20
Honey Creek Village Shopping Center
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK! MONDAY-SUNDAY 7am-10pm



Fresh,
Any Size Package
**Gound
Beef**
\$2.45
LB.



USDA Inspected,
Fresh
**Boston Butt
Pork Roast**
\$1.25
LB.



Fresh,
Boneless, Skinless
**Claxton
Fryer Breast**
\$1.88
LB.



USDA Select Beef,
Boneless
**Shoulder
Roast**
\$3.98



USDA Inspected
**Cubed
Steak**
\$3.98
LB.



USDA Inspected,
Fresh
**Quarterloin
Pork Chops**
\$2.44
LB.

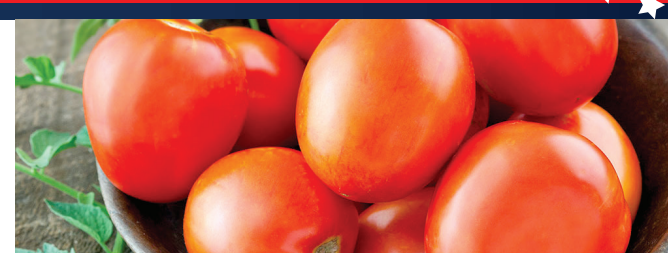
Farm Fresh Produce



3 Pound Bag
Ginger Gold Apples
\$2.69
BG.



Green Cabbage
79¢
LB.



Roma Tomatoes
\$1.19
LB.



5 Pound Bag
Red Potatoes
\$2.99
BG.



5.75 Ounce
Fresh Express Salads Bowls
\$3.29
EA.



Turnip & Mustard Greens
2/\$1.99
EA.



3 Pound Bag
Florida Pink Grapefruit
\$4.29
BG.



3 Pound Bag
Bartlett Pears
\$2.99
BG.



Serrano Peppers
\$1.29
LB.

From Our Dairy Case!



59 Ounce, Assorted
Dole 100% Juice
\$1.69



8 Ounce
Daisy Sour Cream
90¢



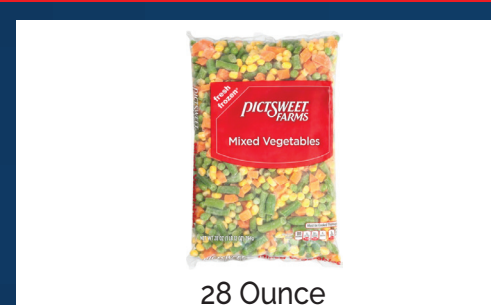
4-10.2 Ounce
**Pillsbury
Grands Biscuits**
88¢



15 Ounce
**Nestle Toll House
Cookie Dough**
\$3.92



19.4-21.1 Ounce
Tombstone Pizzas
\$3.30



28 Ounce
**PictSweet Farms
Vegetables**
\$2.15



15.5-19 Ounce
Stouffer's Large Meals
\$2.83



13.5 Ounce
**New York Garlic/
Cheese Toast**
\$2.25

Food Depot

Watch Your Savings Grow!

OUR COST PLUS 10% ADDED AT REGISTER!

*OUR COST INCLUDES FREIGHT, STOCKING FEES AND ASSOCIATED EXPENSES

OFFERS GOOD OCTOBER 5TH-OCTOBER 11TH, 2020

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Great Quality Brands!



2 Liter, All Brands
Coca-Cola Products
\$1.25



6 Pack, 1/2 Liters or Mini Cans,
All Brands
Coca-Cola Products
\$2.25



6 Pack, Cherry, Grape,
Tropical Punch or Berry Blue
Kool-Aid Bursts
87¢



128 Ounce, All Flavors
Hawaiian Punch
\$2.06



29.5-38 Ounce
Heinz Ketchup
\$2.47



32 Ounce
Duke's Mayonnaise
\$2.95



7.61-11 Ounce, Family Packs
**"Little Debbie"
Sunbelt Bars**
\$1.60



18 Count
**Frito-Lay's
Multipacks**
\$5.80



7.5-13.7 Ounce
**Nabisco
Ritz Crackers**
\$2.28

Low Prices — Name Brand Meats



15 Ounce, Jumbo
or Bun Length
**Carolina Pride
Hot Dogs**
98¢



12 Ounce
**Bar-S
All Meat
Bologna**
91¢



48 Ounce,
Hot or Mild
**Four Star
Smoked
Sausage**
\$6.65



20 Ounce
**Circle B
Hot Links**
\$1.78



16 Ounce
**Buddig
Oven
Roasted
Turkey or
Smoked Ham**
\$3.12



12 Ounce
**Tennessee
Pride Mild
Sausage
Patties**
\$2.25

Stock Up On Freezer Favorites!

Freshway Market

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**Social
Circle City
Schools
Round-Up
Program***

**Over \$91,570
Raised to Date!**
*Ask Cashier for
Details

 <p>Family Pack, Boneless Chicken Tenders \$2.19^{LB.}</p>		 <p>Bone-In Assorted Pork Chops \$1.49^{LB.}</p>	
 <p>CAB, Family Pack Premium Ground Beef \$2.99^{LB.}</p>	 <p>Family Pack, Bone-In Center Cut Pork Chops \$1.99^{LB.}</p>	 <p>12 Pack, Assorted Coca-Cola Products 3/\$12.00</p>	 <p>64 Ounce, Vegetable Only Food Club Vegetable Oil \$2.99</p>
 <p>7.75 Ounce Lay's Chips 2/\$5.00</p>	 <p>1/2 Gallon Blue Bell Ice Cream 2/\$11.00</p>	 <p>89 Ounce Florida's Natural Orange Juice \$4.99</p>	 <p>1 Pound Land O Lakes Butter \$3.99</p>
 <p>CAB Choice, Boneless Bottom Round Roast \$3.29^{LB.}</p>	 <p>USDA Select, Family Pack T-Bone Steak \$7.99^{LB.}</p>	 <p>Honey Suckle Turkey Breast \$1.69^{LB.}</p>	 <p>Family Pack, Bone-In Wafer Thin Pork Chops \$2.49^{LB.}</p>
 <p>Bone-In Quarter Loin Pork Chops \$1.69^{LB.}</p>	 <p>10 Pound Bag Idaho Potatoes \$3.99</p>	 <p>White or Red California Seedless Grapes \$1.69^{LB.}</p>	 <p>Super Select Cucumbers 2/\$1.00</p>
 <p>6 Pack Mini Cans Coca-Cola Products 5/\$10.00</p>	 <p>18.5-19 Ounce Progresso Soups 2/\$3.00</p>	 <p>Family Pack, Bone-In Country Style Pork Ribs \$1.79^{LB.}</p>	 <p>CAB Choice, Family Pack, Boneless Bottom Round Steak \$3.99^{LB.}</p>
 <p>12 Ounce, Regular, Thick or Low Sodium Carolina Pride Sliced Bacon \$3.99</p>	 <p>16 Ounce, Regular, Bun Length or Jumbo Oscar Mayer Meat Hot Dogs 3/\$5.00</p>	 <p>3.1-4.4 Ounce Oscar Mayer Lunchables 2/\$3.00</p>	 <p>Baby Back Pork Ribs \$3.99^{LB.}</p>
 <p>CAB Choice, Family Pack Cube Steak \$3.99^{LB.}</p>	 <p>Red or Black California Plums \$1.99^{LB.}</p>	 <p>California Pomegranates 2/\$5.00</p>	 <p>4 Pound Bag Navel Oranges \$5.99</p>
 <p>Large Stalk California Celery \$1.19^{EA.}</p>	 <p>Fresh Green Onions 59¢^{EA.}</p>	 <p>Haas Avocados 99¢^{EA.}</p>	 <p>Red or White Jumbo Onions 69¢^{LB.}</p>
 <p>10 Count Food Club Butter-Me-Nots 89¢^{EA.}</p>	 <p>16 Ounce Food Club Sour Cream 2/\$3.00</p>	 <p>32 Ounce Food Club Crinkle Cut Fries \$1.99</p>	 <p>Family Pack, Bone-In Thick Cut Pork Chops \$2.49^{LB.}</p>
 <p>CAB Diet Lean, Stir Fry or Stew Meat \$4.99^{LB.}</p>	 <p>Fresh, Family Pack Pork Neck Bones \$1.19^{LB.}</p>	 <p>Fresh, Family Pack Chicken Leg Quarters 59¢^{LB.}</p>	 <p>CAB Choice, Family Pack T-Bone Steak \$8.99^{LB.}</p>
 <p>8 Ounce Kraft Cool Whip 2/\$3.00</p>	 <p>18 Ounce Kraft BBQ Sauce 4/\$5.00</p>	 <p>2 Pound, IQF Sea Best Swai or Tilapia Fillets \$8.99</p>	 <p>24 Ounce, Mild or Regular Carolina Pride Smoked Sausage \$3.99</p>
 <p>Brown Sugar, Off The Bone, Black Forest or Smoked Tavern Kretschmar Ham \$5.99^{LB.}</p>	 <p>Oven Roasted or Hickory Smoked Kretschmar Turkey Breast \$6.99^{LB.}</p>	 <p>Kretschmar Sharp Cheddar Cheese \$6.99^{LB.}</p>	 <p>Deli Made Crab Salad \$4.49^{LB.}</p>

Store Hours: 7 Days 8 am - 10 pm • No Rainchecks

This Ad Good Wednesday, October 7th thru Tuesday, October 13th, 2020

Wed
7

Thur
8

Fri
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Sat
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Sun
11

Mon
12

Tues
13

We Accept EBT Cards, Debit Cards and Credit Cards (Visa, MasterCard, American Express & Discover).

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