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SPORTS:

HARDWOOD HEROES

Sports Editor Mason Wittner releases the All-Covington News Basketball Teams for the 2020-2021 season; [See A8](#)



His Word

And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

Matthew 28:5-6, KJV

Newton Data Center

Facebook awards grants to local nonprofits

STAFF REPORTS
news@covnews.com

SOCIAL CIRCLE. Ga. — Facebook Newton Data Center announced Wednesday that some Newton County nonprofits and schools will receive Facebook Community Action Grants for items like Chromebooks and 3D Printers.

This is the first year that this program has been available in Newton, Walton, Jasper and Morgan counties.

Among the recipients are Newton County Schools, which received \$31,000 to provide Chromebooks and storage carts to Liberty Middle School students.

See [GRANTS, A3](#)



State Politics

Back to Congress?

Broun to seek election to Hice's U.S. House seat

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

ATHENS, Ga. — Dr. Paul Broun says he wants to return to the U.S. House seat representing part of Newton County that he gave up in 2015.

Broun announced Wednesday, March 31, that he will seek the Republican nomination for Georgia's 10th Congressional District seat in 2022 to succeed U.S. Rep. Jody Hice, R-Greensboro.

He said he wants to focus on reducing "out of control" federal spending by both parties, restore economic growth, and beef up the nation's military forces to counter potential military

See [CONGRESS, A3](#)

Dr. Paul Broun

Oxford

Local church helps COVID-19 relief effort with food pantry

By **SARAH DAVIS**
news@covnews.com

OXFORD, Ga. — When the Mount Zion First Baptist Church COVID-19 Relief Center first opened in March 2020, there were only two food tables and one refrigerator in the building next to the church.

A year later, the space is now stocked with many tables of fresh produce and essential items, six freezers and a refrigerator full of food.

Pastor Charlie Williams and his wife Coletta Williams run the food pantry, which is open on Monday's, Wednesday's and Friday's between noon and 2 p.m. The pair started the center because of their belief that churches must be on the front lines during the pandemic.

"I just really want to open the doors and be open for the community," Charlie Williams said. "A lot of these folks out in the community, even though they never step foot in the church, they refer to me as a community pastor because I'm out in the community and people can see me and know who I am."

Unlike other pantries, which offer pre-made boxes of food and essential items, the center allows community members to come into the building and select the specific items they want. Providing choices has cut down on food waste and gets people the things they actually need, Charlie Williams said.

"I've seen a lot of folks who have come here and they've just been so excited about the things that we have and about the ability to be able to shop," he said.

Along with providing fresh produce, the pantry also offers professional clothing

See [RELIEF, A3](#)

Sarah Davis | The Covington News

The food pantry has drawn people from as far as Madison and Monroe, according to Pastor Charlie Williams.

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Inside

Porterdale officer charged with DUI; city taking action

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Easter Weekend Forecast

Saturday, April 3
High: 62° Low: 36°
• Sunny and clear

Sunday, April 4
High: 70° Low: 44°
• Sunny and clear

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Newton County

Local father steps in front of bullet meant for his son

By TOM SPIGOLON
tspigolon@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — A father who stepped in front of a bullet meant for his son was being treated for a gunshot wound and his alleged teen assailant was behind bars in the Newton County jail following a March 26 incident.

Brady Smith was transported to an area hospital and was being treated for a gunshot wound last week after a bullet from a .22-caliber rifle struck him March 26 about 3 p.m., said spokesman Capt. Ken Malcom of the Covington Police Department.

Gabriel Chanunda Bell Jr., 19, of 10144 Allen Drive was arrested and charged with two counts of aggravated assault in the attack, Malcom said.

He said the incident apparently began as a disagreement over money between the suspect and the victim's son, Toddrick Smith, at Bell's Allen Drive residence, Malcom said.

Brady Smith was in an area nearby and was not involved in the original meeting, Malcom said.

However, the father heard the argu-

ment escalating and "became involved in the incident," Malcom said.

"At some point, (the suspect) produced a .22-caliber rifle," he said.

Brady Smith then "stepped in front of his son" and a bullet entered and exited his ribcage, the spokesman said.

The victim's condition was not immediately available Friday, Malcom said.

Bell was being held in the Newton County Jail last week without bond, according to jail records.

Covington woman turns 100 years old

STAFF REPORTS
news@covnews.com

Lifelong Covington resident Eloise Crawford Sherod will turn 100 years old on April 3.

Sherod was born in Covington to parents James Harvey Crawford and Ouida Crawford in 1921.



Eloise Sherod

She has survived six of her eight siblings, including Wallace Crawford, Monta Crawford, Robert Crawford, Raburn Crawford, Elsie Holder and Evelyn Holder. Her two living siblings are Gary Crawford and Edward Crawford.

Sherod currently resides on the property of a dairy farm she ran with her first husband, Jones Thurman "JT" Polk, who died in 1970.

The dairy farm was called Riverbend because of its location on the Yellow River and was the primary source of income for Sherod and Polk, as well as Polk's brothers, Charles and Frank, and his father, Jones Thurman Polk, Sr.

At its peak, the farm, which is no longer active, had 78 milk cows.

Sherod also survived her second husband, William "Bill" Sherod, who died in 1996.

Later in her life, Sherod spent her days with her sister Elsie Holder, who passed away in 2015. The two would shop in Covington and Conyers.

Sherod's family said that she continues to wake up with a smile on her face every day and that they look forward to watching her turn 101 years old next year.

Porterdale

City takes 'appropriate' action after officer charged with DUI

By TOM SPIGOLON
tspigolon@covnews.com

PORTERDALE, Ga. — A Porterdale police officer is no longer employed by the city after she was arrested in Gwinnett County on DUI charges earlier this week.

Terri Jo Lynn Brand, who gave her address as Lilburn, was booked into the Gwin-

nett County Jail Tuesday, March 30, at 10:31 p.m. and released the following morning, according to jail records.

Brand, 43, was held in the Gwinnett jail on charges including Driving Under the Influence, Driving on the Wrong Side of the Road, and Failure to Have License,

according to jail records.

City Manager Frank Etheridge said Thursday that Police Chief Jason Cripps "is addressing the issue with the employee and the city will take appropriate personnel actions."

Etheridge later said Brand was no longer employed with the city as of March 31

but did not give details on the separation.

Cripps declined comment because it was a personnel matter.

A source close to the city police department said Brand was working under a probationary period for the position and was likely to resign.

Newton County Schools

District set to receive \$43 million in federal stimulus funds

STAFF REPORTS
news@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — Newton County Schools will receive almost \$43 million in federal stimulus money from Georgia's share of American Rescue Plan funding.

The funding to Newton County totaling \$42,980,285 was announced recently by

the Georgia Department of Education.

It is among \$3.8 billion — \$3,824,434,000 — that Georgia public schools will receive in federal stimulus funds, a news release stated.

The State Board of Education on March 25 approved State School Superinten-

dent Richard Woods' recommendation to begin allocating the funds to individual school districts.

School districts must set aside at least 20% of the funds they receive to address student learning loss according to the federal legislation.

The remaining funds are flexible and can be used to support at-risk student populations, distance/remote learning, school meals, mental and physical health, supplemental learn-

ing and addressing learning loss, facilities and equipment, continuity of core staff and services, and more, the release stated.

"These funds will help Georgia schools address learning loss and ensure the safety of students, staff, and families," said State School Superintendent Richard Woods.

"I encourage all school districts to take advantage of these resources to continue or expand safe in-person learning options for students."

This is the third

round of federal stimulus funding Georgia schools have received, following CARES 1 allocations in May 2020 and CARES 2 allocations in January 2021.

Like CARES 2 funds, these funds do not have an equitable services provision requiring districts to make funding available to private or independent schools within their geographic area.

Read more about the federal funding at CovNews.com.

Smiles of the Month

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Pursuit of Excellence Award

For the 15th consecutive year, Caldwell & Cowan Funeral Home, Covington, has been named a recipient of the National Funeral Directors Association Pursuit of Excellence Award. This Award is presented by NFDA annually to firms that have demonstrated a commitment to raising the bar on funeral service excellence by adhering to strict ethical and professional standards and providing outstanding service to families and communities.

Congratulations to the Caldwell & Cowan Staff for this achievement!

Molly Shappell

Caldwell & Cowan
Funeral Home

Molly Shappell, of 6114 Floyd Street in Covington, Georgia, lived her final days under hospice care in a hospital bed surrounded by loved ones in her favorite room of her house, her "country cute" sunroom. Through the window, she could see her garden, which she spent countless hours tending, a window box filled with daisies and a ceramic frog holding a sign that says "Gardening Made Me Beautiful." On the fireplace mantle is a photo of her birth-mother, an aspiring actress in a traveling dance troupe in WWII, whom Mom's birth-sisters believed she got her creative flair. Mom's own pottery and hand-painted still lifes of vases and flowers dot the



Molly Shappell

room. Before the hospital bed, there used to be a pink couch where she would often nap in the afternoons with her cat Wabi-Sabi, one of many animals she had rescued throughout her life. On the floor would rest her beloved dog, Indie, whom she'd take with her on numerous trips to her favorite place to vacation: Charleston, South Carolina. Nearby, on a shelf, was Stelaluna, her best-loved children's book that expresses the importance of celebrating people's differences as much as their similarities, which she often read to her students over the many years she spent as an elementary school teacher. Humorous stories from her life were told around her bed, like when she called a doctor, "Dr. Do-little," after he wanted to discharge a close friend of hers too early from the hospital. Being a former aerobics instructor, though bed-bound, she couldn't refuse moving to the workout music we played for her. With a smile, her

feet shifted under the sheets in rhythm to the beat. Even though she followed a healthy diet and lifestyle for most of her life, she splurged on root-beer floats and hot dogs from Dairy Queen in her final days. Whether socializing, gardening, painting, teaching, exercising, or traveling, Mom was always busy. She used to say that staying active was her way of healing and being happy; it is no wonder she couldn't stay in that hospital bed for too long. A celebration of her life will be held in her garden on her birthday, Saturday, April 17, at 11:00 a.m. If attending, do a Molly and please feel free to park on Floyd Street some distance away from her house, so you have the chance to exercise and take in the sun.

This obituary was prepared with love and affection by Mrs. Shappell's family.

Visit www.caldwellandcowan.com to place online condolences.

OBITUARY



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GRANTS:

Continued from A1

Others include the Newton County Library System, which received \$5,000 to host a series of community robotics programs to introduce simple computer coding and engineering concepts primarily for children.

Lace Keaton, director of the Newton County Library System, said, "We are so grateful to receive a 2021 Facebook Community Action Grant for Newton County Library System."

"The grant will provide us with an opportunity to offer a new STEM 'Books and Bots Academy' which will engage patrons ages 8 to 15 in a series of exciting computer literacy workshops," Keaton said.

Boys & Girls Clubs of North Central Georgia received \$35,000 to support technology in clubs and improve STEM access to members. "With a focus on a makerspace

classroom, the equipment will inspire youth to engage in STEM to promote a brighter future," the release stated.

Bob Mackey, CEO of Boys & Girls Club of North Central Georgia, said, "Boys & Girls Clubs of North Central Georgia is blown away by the generosity of Facebook.

"This gift to our youth who need us most will allow us to continue our world-class, life-changing programming from engineering to tech.

"Together we continue to make a difference in the lives of youth because of gifts such as Facebook's."

Other Newton County recipients include:

- Georgia State University, \$19,828; for 3D printers to create a 3D print team within the school's STEM makerspace classroom.

Students at the university, which has a Newton County campus, will be able to learn 3D printing skills while sharing their work in the community.

- Social Circle Primary School, \$3,174; to support the purchase of Google Jamboards.

• Family Promise of NewRock, \$2,000; to "be used to assist the homeless population in Newton County with the tools and equipment they need to get back on their feet," the release stated.

- Sustainable Newton, \$1,500; to support virtual event programming to engage Newton County residents of all ages in activities that involve solving climate and environmental issues locally.

Grant recipients from other counties include:

- Walton County School District, \$52,865; to build both instructional capacity and student interest in programming by introducing a STEM-scopes module for all 900 fifth-grade students.

• Camp Twin Lakes, \$25,000; to keep underserved children, teens and their families connected, both virtually and in person. Camp Twin Lakes near Rutledge "provides year-round, fully-adaptive and deeply impactful camp experiences to nearly 10,000 of Georgia's children and young adults, helping each camper grow in their confidence and experience the joys of childhood."

- Jasper County Charter System, \$35,000; to add technologically-advanced, interactive Smartboards in each classroom to enhance teaching and learning.

CONGRESS:

Continued from A1

challenges from China. An Athens resident, Broun previously represented the district from 2007 to 2015.

He said he brings the advantage of already knowing "how the system works" in Congress.

"I had a good relationship with both the Democrat and Republican sides," he said. "I'm ready to go to work."

Hice recently announced he planned to give up his Congressional seat after four terms to challenge incumbent Brad Raffensperger for the Republican nomination for Secretary of State in 2022.

Others considering a run for the seat include State Rep. Houston Gaines of Athens and State Rep. Jodi Lott of Evans, the Walton Tribune reported.

Broun said he was encouraged to chal-

lenge Hice for the seat in the past but he did not want to run against a friend.

"I applaud Jody for the work he's done," Broun said.

Broun noted that he helped recruit major industries to the 10th district in 2012, including Baxter Pharmaceuticals in Stanton Springs business park near Social Circle and Caterpillar Inc. for a manufacturing plant near Athens. Baxter is now Takeda Pharmaceuticals.

He also chaired the Science, Space and Technology Committee's Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight when Republicans held the majority.

Broun said if he is elected he would already have seven and a half years of seniority, which gives him priority to become the highest-ranking Republican on the subcommittee.

The former practicing physician said he wants to return to his chairmanship to investigate the origins of COVID-19 and the public health response to it.

He said spending by both political parties in Congress is "spiraling out of control." Republicans are more efficient but are "cheap Democrats" who are approving about 10% less than Democrats in the amount of spending above what is being taken in, he said.

That means there is literally "only a dime's worth of difference between the two parties," he said.

"When I left Washington in 2015, things were in bad shape. It's much worse today," Broun said.

He said he never voted for a tax hike, omnibus bill or debt ceiling increase during

his previous time in Congress.

Spending on the scale being done today by both parties could lead to hyperinflation and "eventually the financial collapse of America," he said.

"I never caved in to my own (party's) leadership," Broun said.

A Marine veteran, Broun said he also will focus on increasing the nation's military strength in areas like the Navy where "we don't have enough ships."

He said Democrats favor socialism and he wanted to "expose and block the liberal agenda" which is counter to how the nation's founders wanted the government to operate.

"There are enemies of the principles that made this country great," he said.

"I love freedom and liberty," he said. "I'm

ready to fight for my grandchildren and great-grandchildren. I'm fighting for the future of Georgia."

A strong conservative is needed to oppose the effects of Democrats' current control of the executive and legislative branches, Broun said.

He said he feared that President Joe Biden wants "an endless emergency" to justify "more lockdowns, open borders, nationalized elections with no voter identification, unconstitutional gun controls, critical race theory in our schools, and massive tax hikes."

The 10th Congressional District includes Newton County south and east of Covington.

It also includes all or part of 24 other counties and stretches from McDonough in the west to suburban Augusta in the east, Athens in the

north and Wrightsville in the south.

The part of Newton County not in the district is in Georgia's 4th Congressional District represented by U.S. Rep. Hank Johnson, D-Lithonia.

Broun won a special election in July 2007 to succeed Charlie Norwood in the 10th District seat after Norwood's death in office that year.

He then won a full term in 2008 but left to run for the U.S. Senate seat won by David Perdue in 2014.

Hice then was elected to succeed Broun in the 10th District seat.

Former president Donald Trump handily won a majority of the vote in the heavily conservative district despite losing the statewide vote to Biden in 2020.

RELIEF:

Continued from A1

and children's essentials, such as diapers and nutritional items.

All items in the center are unlimited, except for one table of cleaning supplies. Charlie Williams said this decision was made due to the demand for these items during COVID-19.

On the third Friday of every month, the pantry is closed, but the church serves a hot meal outside of the church during the same noon to 2 p.m. timeframe. Last Friday, 122 people came to the church to get a hot meal.

The center is supplied by local farms and funded by

congregational and community donations.

Oxford College of Emory University's Organic farm began supplying the center with fresh produce in April 2020. The college also supplies hot meals from the Oxford dining hall to the church on Sunday's, which is made possible by a food recovery program led by Oxford students.

In November, when the Oxford Organic farm stopped producing enough food to donate, the community stepped up to supply the food bank with produce and other goods.

"The Lord, I know for a fact, worked things out because when the farm stopped giving us stuff, I was able to start getting stuff from other people," Charlie Williams said.

One man, known only to Charlie and Coletta Williams as "Ricky" stops by once a week to drop off a truckload of food items. "Ricky" is just one of the people Charlie Williams considers "community partners" who help to keep the food pantry stocked for the community.

To spread the word about the food bank, the church advertised on local news

stations and put out informational flyers and posts on their social media platforms. The center has drawn people in need from as far away as Madison and Monroe.

"Even though we're trying to do this for Oxford, I refuse to turn away anybody," Williams said. "Wherever place they are coming from, we give them food."

While the food pantry is generally well-stocked with all the necessities the community needs, Charlie and Coletta Williams said that there are several items people ask for they do not have. These items include eggs,

canned goods, beef and fish.

Charlie Williams stressed the importance of churches being available to communities during the pandemic and the resources they can provide to people undergoing financial and emotional hardship.

"It's important to me to know that we can all still do something even amidst COVID-19," Charlie Williams said. "We can't just sit down, get into a fetal position and wait until things get better. We can't do that."

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OPINIONS

The Covington News

Chris Bridges columnist

Images often paint 1,000 negative words

The actions of Brian Kemp have led to more backlash against the Georgia governor even as he tries to fight for his political life.



Kemp, behind closed and locked doors, signed into a law a bill which changes several aspects of the Georgia voting process. The move has been heralded by some, criticized by most on the left for going too far and even some on the extreme right for not going far enough.

Of course, the irony of all of this is that when Kemp was Georgia's Secretary of State he was in favor of the aspects of voting in our state which in 2021 he has officially outlawed.

Can we really take Kemp at his word on anything now? During the days and weeks following the 2020 general election, the Georgia governor declared there was not a massive amount of voter fraud as former president Donald Trump claimed.

Kemp stood along side, figuratively if not literally, current Republican Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger in claiming that the vote in our state was in

fact legit. Three recounts proved as much. Not liking the outcome of an election does not mean it was rigged.

Of course, the governor was roundly criticized by former President Trump and others on the far right of the GOP.

Apparently now Kemp believes there were issues with how votes were made and signed into law changes which are certainly politically motivated.

Had President Trump won Georgia's electoral votes in 2020 and if Republicans Kelly Loeffler and David Perdue won their respective races, then there would have been no issues with the voting process.

However, there is power in being in charge and in this case being governor. Kemp sees his political future flashing before his eyes. Clearly, he hopes by signing in this piece of legislation it will help him with the far-right wing of the state Republican Party and with those who backed President Trump without question 100% of the time.

It's laughable really. Kemp is going to have primary opposition in 2022. Already two candidates have declared they are going to challenge the governor and even more high-profile names are all but sure to follow.

Perhaps the most lasting memory of the new voter bill signing was how an African-American elected official was arrested and dragged off by three rather physically imposing Georgia State Patrol officers. Park Cannon was seen knocking on the office door of the governor in an attempt to gain entrance to the closed signing.

Meanwhile inside the governor's office, Kemp was surrounded by six white male lawmakers as he put pen to paper.

First, the image of an elected official, regardless of color, being dragged away by state troopers is a horrible image in 2021. The fact the elected official was African-American made the display even worse.

Second, with so many African-American voters in Georgia decrying the bill, it looks completely inappropriate for Kemp to be surrounded by six white males. It is hard to fathom someone on Kemp's public relations team did not say something to the governor beforehand. Perhaps they did.

It was a throwback to a different era in state politics when state troopers arrested African-American citizens without cause for voicing their opinion. While it is now decades later, images still play a

huge role. It was that way in the 1960s when Americans outside the South saw television news footage of what was taking place in their neighboring states.

Had the incident involving Park Cannon only been talked about around the proverbial water color or read about in the newspaper or heard on the radio, it would not have had such a drastic impact. However, to see a female African-American elected official taken away by white state troopers gives the impression that the more things change the more they stay the same.

Make no mistake this voting bill signed into law by Kemp was all about politics. Most Republicans still cannot wrap their mind around the fact that President Biden won the state and that Georgia now has two Democratic US Senators. To them, if that happened then the votes must have been illegal.

This action could easily backfire on Republicans. With Democrats continuing to gain traction in the state, 2022 could be a year where the USS Georgia GOP sinks. This voting bill would be a key reason why.

Chris Bridges is a News correspondent and former sports editor. Email him at pchrisbridges@gmail.com.

US Rep. Jody Hice guest columnist

Our nation's moral dilemma

Dear Friends, In seven days, America has been rocked by two horrific shootings – the Atlanta spa shootings on March 16 and the March 22 attack in Boulder, Colorado.



As we pray for and honor the victims, their families, and first responders, we must also examine the root causes of what leads an individual to pick up a weapon with the intent to commit violence against innocent people.

I served as a pastor for many years before coming to Congress, and I view this violence through the lens of my faith. I firmly believe that mass shootings are a symptom of a profound moral crisis in America – one that cannot be easily solved by simply passing law after law in Washington.

George Washington said that “religion and morality are indispensable supports” of a prosperous nation. These two great pillars have been driven from public life, and until they are restored, we cannot remedy the brutal absence of compassion in our society that leads to mass shootings. We must renew our love and faith in both God and each other.

This epidemic of violence results from the decades-long erosion of the traditional values that once formed the bedrock of American life. I believe, without a doubt, that this absence of decency is inextricably linked to mass shootings. For example, when one looks at the profiles of mass shooters, they are almost exclusively male, and a startling number grew up without a father present in their lives. Fatherless children are significantly more likely to drop out of school, run away from home, abuse drugs and alcohol, commit suicide and, yes, perpetrate gun violence. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, roughly one in four American children now live without a father in the home. Strong family bonds are correlated with religion and morality. I don't believe it is a coincidence that the number of mass shootings has increased as the number of fatherless children has skyrocketed.

Why is this critical link not discussed in the wake of mass shootings?

Unfortunately, the Left would much rather use these horrific events as opportunities to manipulate Americans' emotions and vulnerability to advance their political agenda, and this time is no different. We still don't have all the facts about these shootings, yet President Biden is already calling for a ban on so-called “assault weapons.” Be wary of politicians jumping to offer up their pet policies as prepackaged, ready-made “solutions” to end gun violence. Too often, there is another motive at play.

Last October, I explained in Newsweek that a ban is not only unconstitutional, but it's also far more problematic and far less effective than Democrats claim. An “assault weapons” ban will not end mass shootings, but it will severely restrict the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding Americans – a goal the Left has been pushing towards for years.

President Biden has openly said that he wants to confiscate AR-15 style semi-automatic rifles (the most popular type of firearm in the country), which starts by banning them.

Folks, this proposal isn't about preventing mass shootings. This is merely a steppingstone in a larger political agenda, and Democrats are using Americans' grief over these tragedies to do it.

U.S. Rep. Jody Hice, R-Greensboro, represents Georgia's 10th Congressional District.

Dick Yarbrough guest columnist

Columnist is proud to be son of the South

I am a son of the South and proud of it. Born here, raised here and, God willing, will be planted here. The South is and always will be my home.



Have we always been a perfect place? Far from it. The notion of separate-but-equal was anything but in the South in which I was raised. Blacks rode in the back of the bus and attended substandard schools. They couldn't eat in our restaurants or attend our churches or shop in our stores. They were required to serve in the military but discouraged to the point of intimidation from registering to vote.

Blacks were accused of crimes they didn't commit and too many lost their lives as a result. It was not our finest hour.

The civil rights movement of the '60s changed the dynamics. It was a painful but necessary time. There is disagreement as to just how much things have changed but in my view they have and for the better. There are special interest groups on both sides of the racial divide who will disagree. That is understandable because it is in their political and financial interest to do so. They will never be satisfied.

I grew up thinking that bigotry existed only in the South until I ventured north and heard the locals disparaging Greeks, Italians, Poles, Jews, Irish

Catholics and, yes, Blacks. I discovered that prejudice was not regional. Neither was hypocrisy.

I grieve that what has made being Southern so special has come under attack. It started with the “Fergit, Hell!” crowd glorifying a way of life that no longer exists and probably never did. Their Lost Cause was exemplified by supporters of the old Georgia state flag which resembled the Confederate battle flag; as ornery a bunch of people as I have ever dealt with and I have dealt with a bunch of ornery folks in my long career.

They threatened and bullied and postured but totally misread public support of their cause. The state flag was changed during the Perdue Administration with the overwhelming approval of Georgians.

Now they are reduced to watching the pendulum swing the other way and having to endure politically-correct zealots tearing down statues and trying to obliterate anything having to do with Southern history, without knowing what they are talking about.

The flaggers with their heads turned toward the past and a war long ago lost do not represent my South. Neither do the fanatics trying to rewrite the history of the region by destroying it. In some ways, their actions are eerily reminiscent of the Taliban's efforts to wipe out Afghanistan's history 20 years ago.

My South is gentle and polite. We grew up saying “Yes, ma'am” and “No ma'am” and “Thank

you.” I still do. Friday night football was a social gathering. It still is. We went to church on Sunday and on Wednesday nights, too. Nobody locked their doors. Southern cooking was equal parts lard, salt and fried. We ate supper because dinner was at lunch. And nobody in the South prepared a meal. It was fixed, as in, “Come on in the house and wash your hands. Momma is fixing supper.”

People laugh at how we talk. The laugh is on them. It is everybody else that talks funny. Yes, our speech pattern may be slow but as my daddy used to say, we think fast.

If you want to see the real South, you will need to venture out from the killing fields of Atlanta and environs. That area is about as southern as South Bronx and just about as hazardous. Head in any direction – north, south, east or west – and you will find a South of mountains and lakes, pecan and peach and apple orchards, rolling farmlands and pristine ocean beaches. It is a special place filled with God-fearing people who love their country, sweet tea and one another.

This is the South that I love. This is why I am proud to be a son of the South. If you don't agree that this is hallowed and holy soil, I can only say, “Bless your heart.” It is not a compliment.

Dick Yarbrough is an award-winning, syndicated columnist from Georgia. He may be reached at dick@dickyarbrough.com.

The Covington News

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CLASSIFIEDS & LEGALS

The Covington News

CLASSIFIEDS

Yard Sales

Yard & Estate Sales

LOOK IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN FOR OUR ANNUAL YARD SALE 385 OAK HILL CIRCLE COVINGTON, GA 30016 SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE! FRI APRIL 16, 2021 & SAT APRIL 17, 2021 STARTING @ 8:00AM - UNTIL

NEIGHBORHOOD YARD Sale. Saturday April 17 from 8-3. Avery Place Subdivision off Hwy 162 near County Line. Lots of stuff. Look for balloons.

Items for Sale

Antiques & Collectibles

VERY GOOD condition

General Merchandise

EW-19 SPORTY BRAND NEW SENIOR FRIENDLY \$1000.00 ORG. \$1100.00 CALL 770-787-5576 leave name & number. weight capacity 300LBS



Jobs

Help Wanted

2 POSITIONS: Front Office Assistant and Wellness Therapy Assistant at a Wellness clinic in Rutledge, GA. Both positions Part-time. Please send resume to office@btwclinic.org. Come grow with us!

HELP WANTED general laborers and welders apply at the main office at 2245 Bethel Church Road Monticello Ga 31064

Real Estate

Homes For Sale

A GOOD home with great privacy. Plenty open area. Plus close to Charlie Elliott Nature Preserve. Large rooms with Master on Main and walk-in closets.

LEGALS

Public Notices

Bids

THE CITY of Covington is seeking bids for the purchase of one (1) Trailer mounted brush chipper as specified in exhibit "A" of the bid packet

SEALED BIDS must be delivered to City Hall, 2194 Emory Street NW, Covington, GA 30014, Attn: Scott Cromer no later than 10:00am on Tuesday, April 20, 2021.

REQUEST FOR Bids and additional information may be obtained by applying at the request for proposals on the City's website at <https://www.cityofcovington.org/index.php?section=business-opportunities>

THE CITY of Covington reserves the right to reject any and all bids

PUBLIC NOTICE #200149
4/4,11

Citations

CITATION

BRENDA BAFFORD has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **JAMES KAY WELLHAM**, deceased. (The applicant has also applied for waiver of bond and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. 53-12-232). All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said application should not be granted. All objection must be in writing, and filed with this Court on or before MAY 3, 2021, next, at ten o'clock a.m.

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

NEWTON COUNTY PROBATE COURT
1132 USHER STREET- RM 148
COVINGTON, GA 30014

PUBLIC NOTICE #200154
4/4,11,18,25

CITATION

BRENDA WOOTEN has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **ORA LEE KING**, deceased. (The applicant has also applied for waiver of bond and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. 53-12-232). All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said application should not be granted. All objection must be in writing, and filed with this Court on or before MAY 3, 2021, next, at ten o'clock a.m.

MELANIE M. BELL, JUDGE
MARCIA WYNNE, Clerk Probate Court Newton County, Georgia
NEWTON COUNTY PROBATE COURT

1132 USHER STREET-RM 148
COVINGTON, GA.30014

PUBLIC NOTICE #200059
4/4,11,18,25

CITATION

BRIAN BYARS has petitioned to

Georgia STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS

Run your classified ad in 124+ Georgia newspapers reaching over 1 million readers for only \$350

Call Georgia Newspaper Service - 770-454-6776

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

DRIVERS
CWS - Owner Operators CDL Class A. 1 year driving experience. Dedicated round trips paid weekly paid per mile, regular home time. Call 1-800-832-7036 ext. 1626

EDUCATION /Career Training
Medical Billing and Coding Training. New Students Only. Call and Press 1. 100% Online courses. Financial Aid Available for those who qualify. Call 833-628-2698.

HEALTHCARE
SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY BENEFITS. Unable to work? Denied benefits? We Can Help! Strong, recent work history needed. Call to start your application or appeal today! 877-627-2704 [Steppacher Law Offices LLC Principal Office: 224 Adams Ave Scranton PA 18503]

HEARING AIDS!! Buy one/get one FREE! High-quality rechargeable Nano hearing aids priced 90% less than competitors. Nearly invisible! 45-day money back guarantee! 866-395-1310

Denied Social Security Disability? Appeal! You're 50+ filed for SSD and denied, our attorneys can help you get approved! No money out of pockets! Call 1-855-513-8730.

MISCELLANEOUS
COMPUTER ISSUES? Free Diagnosis by Geeks On Site! Virus removal, data recovery! 24/7 EMERGENCY \$20 off any service with coupon 42522! Restrictions apply 844-739-4842.

Need IRS Relief \$10K - \$125K+ Great Fresh Start or Forgiveness Call 1-855-558-2664. Monday - Friday 7AM - 5PM PST.

SERIOUSLY INJURED in an AUTO ACCIDENT? Let us fight for you! Our network has recovered millions for clients! Call today for a FREE consultation! 855-399-5797

INVENTORS - FREE INFORMATION PACKAGE. Have your product idea developed affordably by the Research & Development pros and presented to manufacturers. Call 1-844-656-1522 for a Free Idea Starter Guide. Submit your idea for a free consultation.

Cash for Cars! We buy all cars! Junk, high-end, totaled—it doesn't matter! Get free towing and same day cash! NEWER MODELS too! 833-882-3437.

Donate your car to charity. Receive the maximum value of write off for your taxes. Running or not! All Conditions accepted. Free pickup. Call for details 866-994-1146.

SAVE YOUR HOME! Are you behind paying your MORTGAGE? Denied a Loan Modification? Threatened with FORECLOSURE? CALL the homeowners Relief Line Now for Help! 855-596-0109.

PROBLEM CREDIT REPORT? Lexington Law helps work to challenge inaccurate negative items including: identity theft, collections, late payments, liens, and more from your credit report. Call for a free consultation 877-250-3937

TV/INTERNET
DISH NETWORK. \$64.99 FOR 190 channels! Blazing Fast Internet. \$19.99/mo. (where available) Switch & Get a FREE \$100 Visa Gift Card. FREE Voice Remote. FREE HD DVR. FREE Streaming on ALL Devices. Call today! 1-866-369-1468.

Cable Price Increase Again? Switch to DIRECTV & Save + get a \$100 visa gift card! Get more channels for less money. Restrictions apply. Call now 844-973-0639.

Earthlink High Speed Internet. As Low as \$49.95/month. (for the first 3 months) Reliable High Speed Fiber Optic Technology. Stream Videos, Music and More! Call Earthlink Today 1-844-510-9951.

BEST SATELLITE TV with 2 Year Price Guarantee! \$59.99/mo with 190 channels and 3 months free premium movie channels! Free next day installation! Call 855-808-6843.

DISH TV \$64.99 For 190 Channels + \$14.95 High Speed Internet. Free Installation, Smart HD DVR Included. Free Voice Remote. Some restrictions apply. Promo Expires 7/21/21. 1-877-740-8994.

DIRECTV - Every live football game, every Sunday - anywhere - on your favorite device. Restrictions apply. Call IVS-1-888-505-3785

AT&T INTERNET Starting at \$40/month w/12 -mo. Includes 1 TB of data per month. Get more for your High-Speed Internet Thing. Ask us how to bundle and save! Geo & svc restrictions apply. Call us today 1-888-581-6815

CITY OF COVINGTON JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

The City of Covington is currently accepting applications for the position of **Engineering Technician** in the **Engineering Department** with a starting hourly rate of \$18.55 to a maximum hourly rate of \$27.25 depending upon qualifications. This position performs routine and complex technical engineering related work for environmental, water, sewer, street, and other public works projects and programs. Minimal education and experience qualifications include graduation from a high school or GED equivalent, supplemented by two years of related technical or college training in drafting, Computer-Aided-Design (CAD), engineering technology, civil engineering or a closely related field, a minimum of two years of related experience, or any equivalent combination of education and experience. Qualified applicants may apply via our website by downloading an application packet at cityofcovington.org or may apply in person at the City of Covington, 2194 Emory Street, Covington, Georgia 30014. This position will remain open until filled. The City of Covington is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **JAMES ALAN MORRIS**, deceased. (The applicant has also applied for waiver of bond and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. 53-12-232). All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said application should not be granted. All objection must be in writing, and filed with this Court on or before MAY 3, 2021, next, at ten o'clock a.m.

MELANIE M. BELL, JUDGE
MARCIA WYNNE, CLERK PROBATE COURT NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA

NEWTON COUNTY PROBATE COURT
1132 USHER STREET-148
COVINGTON, GA 30014

PUBLIC NOTICE #200060
4/4,11,18,25

JAMES M. COLEMAN has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **SHARON ELAINE COLEMAN**, deceased. (The applicant has also applied for waiver of bond and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. 53-12-232). All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said application should not be granted. All objection must be in writing, and filed with this Court on or before MAY 3, 2021, next, at ten o'clock a.m.

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

NEWTON COUNTY PROBATE COURT
1132 USHER STREET- RM 148
COVINGTON, GA 30014

PUBLIC NOTICE #200058
4/4,11,18,25

ROBERT JACKSON IV has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **ROBERT JACKSON V**, deceased. (The applicant has also applied for waiver of bond and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. 53-12-232). All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said application should not be granted. All objection must be in writing, and filed with this Court on or before MAY 3, 2021, next, at ten o'clock a.m.

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

NEWTON COUNTY PROBATE COURT
1132 USHER STREET- RM 148
COVINGTON, GA.30014

PUBLIC NOTICE #200058
4/4,11,18,25

MELANIE M. BELL, JUDGE
MARCIA WYNNE, Clerk Probate Court Newton County, Georgia
NEWTON COUNTY PROBATE COURT

1132 USHER STREET-RM 148
COVINGTON, GA.30014

PUBLIC NOTICE #200059
4/4,11,18,25

MELANIE M. BELL, JUDGE
MARCIA WYNNE, Clerk Probate Court Newton County, Georgia
NEWTON COUNTY PROBATE COURT

1132 USHER STREET-RM 148
COVINGTON, GA.30014

Court Newton County, Georgia

1132 USHER Street RM-148
COVINGTON, GA. 30014

PUBLIC NOTICE #200127
4/4

THE PETITION of Addie Jo White widow of **Curtis White**, deceased, for Twelve Month's Support for having been duly filed, all interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections must be in writing and filed with this Court on or before May 3, 2021, at ten o'clock a.m.

MELANIE M. BELL, JUDGE By: Marcia Wynne, Clerk
PROBATE COURT
NEWTON COUNTY, Georgia

NEWTON COUNTY PROBATE COURT
1132 USHER STREET- RM 148
COVINGTON, GA 30014-2435

PUBLIC NOTICE#200156
4/4,11,18,25

THE PETITION of Brenda Tomm v Maughan, deceased, for Twelve Month's Support for having been duly filed, all interested parties are

HEREBY NOTIFIED to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections must be in writing and filed with this Court on or before May 3, 2021, at ten o'clock a.m.

MELANIE M. BELL, JUDGE By: Marcia Wynne, Clerk
PROBATE COURT
NEWTON COUNTY, Georgia

NEWTON COUNTY PROBATE COURT
1132 USHER STREET- RM 148
COVINGTON, GA 30014-2435

PUBLIC NOTICE #200155
4/4,11,18,25

THE PETITION of Gregory David Rowe, late of Newton County, Georgia, deceased, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law; and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.

THIS 25TH day of March, 2021
MEGAN MASSEY Kittrell, Administrator

DEBRA ROBINSON Law Group, P.C
11030 JONES Bridge Rd, Ste 208
JOHNS CREEK, Ga

Frank B. Turner, Jr.

PUBLIC NOTICE #200123
3/28-4/4

Debtors Creditors
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF SAID STATE AND COUNTY

TO: ALL creditors and Debtors of Kiley Stevenson Payne, deceased All creditors of the Estate of Kiley Stevenson Payne, late of said county, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all person indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to us. **THIS 3RD day of March, 2021**

MELISSA PAYNE Kern
5530 SWEET Creek Lane
MONROE, GA 30655

PUBLIC NOTICE #200049
3/14,21,28-4/4

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

ALL CREDITORS of the Estate of Gregory David Rowe, late of Newton County, Georgia, deceased, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law; and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.

THIS 25TH day of March, 2021
MEGAN MASSEY Kittrell, Administrator

DEBRA ROBINSON Law Group, P.C
11030 JONES Bridge Rd, Ste 208
JOHNS CREEK, Ga

PUBLIC NOTICE #200144
4/4,11,18,25

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

ALL CREDITORS of the estate of JOHN WILLIAM HANEY III, deceased, a resident of Newton County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment. **THIS 29th day of March, 2021.**

JOHN KEVIN Haney
EXECUTOR OF the
ESTATE OF John William Haney, III
C/O MICHELLE Chaudhuri, Esq. Talley & Associates, P.C.
1892 GA. Hwy 138, SE Conyers, GA 30013 (770) 483-1431

PUBLIC NOTICE #200142
4/4,11,18,25

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

ISONOVA TECHNOLOGIES in Social Circle, GA has an opening for a Night Shift Industrial Maintenance Associate.
12 hour rotating shifts / One wk M-T-S-SU—next wk W-Th-F—Hours 7P–7A
Qualified candidates must have initiative, be a self-starter, a minimum of 2 years' experience, in industrial mechanical, electrical, maintenance, welding, and PLC. Must be willing to work weekends.

COMPENSATION & BENEFITS
• Competitive wages \$25.89–\$29.68/hr • \$0.50 an hour shift differential
• Paid vacation • Quarterly Bonus • Deferred Profit Sharing • Paid Vacations
• Medical, Dental and Life Insurance offered
Interested individuals should apply on our Web site.
<http://www.isonovatech.com/careers> • EOA

CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of CLEO ALLEN FULLER deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law. **THIS THE 15th day of March, 2021.**

ALLEN FULLER
544 STARSVILLE Rd
COVINGTON, GA 30014

PUBLIC NOTICE #200086
3/28-4/4,11,18

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of DOROTHY ANN BINION deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law. **THIS THE 15th day of March, 2021.**

BRANDY GOLPHIN
9236 SCARLETT Drive SW
COVINGTON, GA 30014

PUBLIC NOTICE #200089
3/28-4/4,11,18

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of IAN ANTHONY GAYLE deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law. **THIS THE 15th day of March, 2021.**

MARCIA GAYLE
30 ASTERIA Trail
COVINGTON, GA 30014

PUBLIC NOTICE #200083
3/28-4/4,11,18

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of JAMES MICHAEL PETTY, SR deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law. **THIS THE 15th day of March, 2021.**

DEBRA A. Petty
20 PATRICK Court
COVINGTON, GA 30016

PUBLIC NOTICE #200087
3/28-4/4,11,18

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of JOHN MILO ESTES deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law. **THIS THE 15th day of March, 2021.**

CAROLYN B. ESTES
135 DEARING Woods Way
COVINGTON, GA 30014

PUBLIC NOTICE #200090
3/28-4/4,11,18

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of MARGEARET LOUISE JOHNSON MCGIBONEY deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law. **THIS THE 15th day of March, 2021.**

DEBRA GRIFFITH
875 FLAT Rock Rd
COVINGTON, GA 30014

PUBLIC NOTICE #200085
3/28-4/4,11,18

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of MARTHA SUMMER ENGLE deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law. **THIS THE 15th day of March, 2021.**

LYNN NAY Alexander
3209 14TH Ave
PHENIX CITY, AL 36867

PUBLIC NOTICE #200091
3/28-4/4,11,18

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

THIS THE 15th day of March, 2021.

AIMEE OLIVIA Futch
170 HUNTER Keep
COVINGTON, GA 30014

PUBLIC NOTICE #200088
3/28-4/4,11,18

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of PATRICK WAYNE BOSTICK deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law. **THIS THE 15th day of March, 2021.**

DENISE BOSTIC
30 MAPLE Trace
COVINGTON, GA 30016

PUBLIC NOTICE #200084
3/28-4/4,11,18

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of ROBERT L. PLOTT deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law. **THIS THE 15th day of March, 2021.**

WILLIAM D. Compton
100 DOGWOOD Lane
COVINGTON, GA 30014

PUBLIC NOTICE #200092
3/28-4/4,11,18

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of ROGER LEE CANNON deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law. **THIS THE 24th day of March, 2021.**

NED CANNON

LEGALS:

Continued from A5

OF WILLIAM OSCAR TAYLOR deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law. **THIS THE 24th day of March, 2021.**

BEVERLY R. TAYLOR
1346 HENDERSON MILL RD
COVINGTON, GA 30014

PUBLIC NOTICE #200157
4/4,11,18,25

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the **Estate of WINCELL S. JOHNSON** deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law. **THIS THE 15th day of March, 2021.**

SHARON JOHNSON
P.O. BOX 123
NEWBORN, GA 30056

PUBLIC NOTICE #200082
3/28-4/4,11,18

NOTICE TO Debtors and Creditors ALL CREDITORS of the estate of **DENNIS WILLIAM SMITH** late of Newton County, deceased, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.

THIS 2ND day of March, 2021
NAME: ANDREW J. SMITH
TITLE: EXECUTOR
ADDRESS: 3400 BRANDYWINE DRIVE, CHESAPEAKE, VIRGINIA 23321

PUBLIC NOTICE #200018
3/21,28-4/4,11

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF NEWTON

IN RE: ESTATE OF RONALD GLENN RICHARDS ALL CREDITORS of the Estate of **Ronald Glenn Richards**, late of Newton County, Deceased, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to the said estate are required to make immediate payment to:

MARY LILLIAN Heller, Executor
3207 HENDERSON Mill Rd., Apt. M-6
ATLANTA, GA 30341

THIS 9TH day of March, 2021.

PUBLIC NOTICE #200050
3/14,21,28-4/4

Divorces

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

LATOYA SALMON PLAINTIFF,
-VS-
RICARDO SALMON DEFENDANT.

CIVIL ACTION No.: 2021-CV-449-1

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

TO: RICARDO SALMON
431 KIRKLAND RD
COVINGTON, GA 30016

BY ORDER of the court for service by publication dated MARCH 11 2021 you are hereby notified that on FEB 26, 2021(date of filing) **LATOYA SALMON** (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 **JEFFREY L. FOSTER** Judge Superior Court of Newton County.

THIS, THE 11th day of MARCH 2021.
LINDA D. Hays
CLERK OF Superior Court

PUBLIC NOTICE #200072
3/21,28-4/4,11

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

LORRONDA WILLIAMS PLAINTIFF
V.
JAMES WILLIAMS DEFENDANT

CIVIL ACTION NUMBER
2020-CV-2503-5

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

TO: JAMES WILLIAMS
154 FALCON Crest Trl
JONESBORO, GA 30238

BY ORDER of the court for service by publication dated **MARCH 8 2021** you are hereby notified that on 12/10/2020 (date of filing) **Lorronda Williams** (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 **W. Kendall Wynne, JR** Judge Superior Court of Newton County.

THIS, THE 8th day of MARCH 2021.
LINDA D. Hays
CLERK OF Superior

PUBLIC NOTICE #200061
3/21,28-4/4,11

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY STATE OF

GEORGIA

RICHARD ALLEN WILLIAMS PLAINTIFF,
V.
CHAUVET BYTQHINE DEFENDANT,

CIVIL ACTION NUMBER
2021-CV-423-Z

NOTICE OF SUMMONS- SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

BY ORDER of the court for service by publication dated **MARCH 3, 2021** you are hereby notified that on 2/24/2021 (date of filing) **RICHARD ALLEN WILLIAMS** (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 3rd day of MARCH 2021
LINDA D. Hays
CLERK OF Superior

PUBLIC NOTICE #200062
3/21,28-4/4,11

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

MARIA L. RIVERA PLAINTIFF,
V.
LOIS RIVERA-ROSCRIO DEFENDANT,

CIVIL ACTION NUMBER
2021-CV-4559-2

NOTICE OF SUMMONS- SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

BY ORDER of the court for service by publication dated MARCH 24, 2021 you are hereby notified that on 03/15/2021 (date of filing) **MARIA L. RIVERA** (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 24th day of MARCH 2021
LINDA D. Hays
CLERK OF Superior

PUBLIC NOTICE #200146
4/4,11,18,25

Foreclosures

NOTICE OF Sale Under Power

GEORGIA, NEWTON County UNDER AND by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Deed to Secure Debt given by **Courtney Burrell** to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS") as nominee for Countrywide Home Loans, Inc., dated April 27, 2006, and recorded in Deed Book 2176, Page 577, Newton County, Georgia records, and re-recorded at Deed Book 2942, Page 162, Newton County, Georgia records; and as last transferred to The Bank of New York Mellon as Trustee for the Certificate holders of CWABS, Inc. Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2006-8, by Assignment recorded in Deed Book 2918, Page 289, Newton County, Georgia records, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note of even date in the original principal amount of \$171,750.00, with interest at the rate specified therein, there will be sold by the undersigned at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the Courthouse door of Newton County, Georgia, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in May, 2021, to wit: May 4, 2021, the following described property: All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in Land Lot 40 of the 10th District of Newton County, Georgia, being Lot 59 of Glen Echo Subdivision, Phase One, as per plat recorded in Plat Book 42, Pages 195-198 (more particularly described in Page 197), Newton County, Georgia records, which plat is incorporated herein by reference and made a part hereof. **THE DEBT** secured by said Deed to Secure Debt 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 Deed to Secure Debt. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, as provided in the Deed to Secure Debt and by law, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given). **SAID PROPERTY** is commonly known as **40 Glen Echo Drive, Covington, GA 30016**, together with all fixtures and personal property attached to and constituting a part of said property. To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party (or parties) in possession of the subject property is (are): Courtney Burrell or tenant or tenants. **SAID PROPERTY** will be sold subject to (a) any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), (b) any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, and (c) all matters of record superior to the Deed to Secure Debt first set out above, including, but not limited to, assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, easements, restrictions, covenants, etc. **THE SALE** will be conducted subject to (1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code; (2) O.C.G.A. Section 9-13-172.1; and (3) final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the security deed. **PURSUANT TO** O.C.G.A. Section 9-13-172.1, which allows for certain procedures regarding the rescission of judicial and nonjudicial sales in the State of Georgia, the Deed Under Power and other foreclosure

CLUES ACROSS

- One who manufactures
- Science degree
- Database management system
- Desert
- Inventor Musk
- Welsh valley
- Round Dutch cheese
- Saying
- Comedian and TV host
- Uppermost portions of the brain
- City in Transylvania
- Where astronauts go
- Men's hairstyle
- Indicates position
- One point east of due south
- Businessmen may have one
- Grass part
- Running back Gurley
- Unwavering
- Options
- Annoy
- Greek mountain
- Pastas
- Fishes
- Wrap
- Potentially a criminal (slang)
- Seize
- The Constitution State
- Upset
- 1991 men's Wimbledon champ
- Central Chinese province
- Predisposition
- A notice of someone's death
- One-time Kentucky Rep.
- Swiss river
- Dried-up
- Finger millet
- ___ Allan Poe
- German river
- Brew
- Kenyan river

CLUES DOWN

- Millisecond
- Acts as military assistant
- Knot in a tree
- Husband-and-wife industrial designers
- The Ocean State
- Point the finger at
- Parts in a machine

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12
13						14				15			
16						17				18			
19				20						21			
			22						23			24	
25	26	27		28				29			30		
31			32		33		34					35	
36				37		38				39			40
	41					42			43		44		
			45					46		47		48	
49	50			51				52			53		
54			55			56					57	58	59
60						61					62		
63						64					65		
66						67					68		

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

M	A	A	R		A	E	O	N	S		A	B	B	A		
A	B	L	E		A	X	L	E	S		B	R	E	A		
M	I	A	S		R	A	D	A	R		E	A	C	H		
A	B	I	E	S		C	I	R		C	A	S	K	S		
						T	O	T	T	E	N	H	A	M		
C	A	T			R	Y	A			E	A	R		A	M	A
A	B	I	D	E	R		A	S	H		A	B	A	S		
B	A	B	A	S		A	D	S		B	L	I	N	I		
A	C	E	D		P	I	C		A	R	A	B	I	A		
L	A	R			M	A	R		R	N	A		S	A	N	
					S	E	R	E	N	A	D	E	S			
A	A	H	E	D		D	E	C		S	A	B	E	R		
P	L	E	A		C	A	F	E	S		B	A	R	I		
A	B	E	L		P	L	U	M	B		I	B	I	S		
R	A	D	S		M	E	D	E	A		N	E	C	K		

- Biblical judge of Israel
- Isaac's mother (Bib.)
- Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
- Cool!
- Large hotel room

documents may not be provided until final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan as provided in the preceding paragraph.

PURSUANT TO O.C.G.A. Section 44-14-162.2, the entity that has full authority to negotiate, amend and modify all terms of the mortgage with the debtor is: **SELECT PORTFOLIO** Servicing, Inc.

ATTENTION: LOSS Mitigation Department
3217 S. Decker Lake Drive
SALT LAKE CITY, Utah 84119
1-888-818-6032

THE FOREGOING notwithstanding, nothing in O.C.G.A. Section 44-14-162.2 shall be construed to require the secured creditor to negotiate, amend or modify the terms of the Deed to Secure Debt described herein.

THIS SALE is conducted on behalf of the secured creditor under the power of sale granted in the aforementioned security instrument, specifically being **THE BANK** of New York Mellon as Trustee for CWABS, Inc. Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2006-8. **AS ATTORNEY** in fact for **COURTNEY BURRELL** **RICHARD B. MANER, P.C.** **180 INTERSTATE N Parkway, Suite 200 ATLANTA, GA 30339 404.252.6385** **THIS LAW FIRM IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. FC21-023**

PUBLIC NOTICE #200141
4/4,11,18,25-5/2

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER GEORGIA, NEWTON COUNTY

THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

UNDER AND by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by **Lisa Perdomo** to Bank of America, N.A., dated December 11, 2006, recorded in Deed Book 2345, Page 403, Newton County, Georgia Records, as last transferred to U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as owner trustee for Legacy Mortgage Asset Trust 2019-GS1 by assignment recorded in Deed Book 3901, Page 15, Newton County, Georgia Records, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of SIXTY-EIGHT THOUSAND AND 0/100 DOLLARS (\$68,000.00), 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, or at such place as may be lawfully designated as an alternative, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in May, 2021, the following described property: **SEE EXHIBIT "A" ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF**

THE DEBT secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of default, failure to pay the indebtedness as and when due and in the manner provided in the Note and Security Deed. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, as provided in the Security Deed and by law, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given). **SAID PROPERTY** will be sold subject to (a) any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), (b) any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record

superior to the Security Deed first set out above.

U.S. BANK Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as owner trustee for Legacy Mortgage Asset Trust 2019-GS1 is the holder of the Security Deed to the property in accordance with OCGA § 44-14-162.2.

THE ENTITY that has full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the mortgage with the debtor is: **SELECT PORTFOLIO** Servicing, 3217 S. Decker Lake Dr., Salt Lake City, UT 84119, 888-818-6032.

TO THE best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party in possession of the property is Lisa Perdomo or a tenant or tenants and said property is more commonly known as **237 Oxford Road, Oxford, Georgia 30054.**

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, not in its individual capacity but solely as owner trustee for Legacy Mortgage Asset Trust 2019-GS1 **AS ATTORNEY** in Fact for **LISA PERDOMO**

MCCALLA RAYMER Leibert Pierce, LLC
1544 OLD Alabama Road
ROSWELL, GA 30076
WWW.FORECLOSUREHOTLINE.NET
EXHIBIT "A"

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOT 289 OF THE 9TH DISTRICT, NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA, BEING LOT 3, OXFORD ROAD SUBDIVISION. AS PER PLAT RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 12, PAGE 20, NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA RECORDS, WHICH RECORDED PLAT IS INCORPORATED HEREIN BY THIS REFERENCE AND MADE A PART OF THIS DESCRIPTION. SAID PROPERTY BEING KNOWN AS 237 OXFORD ROAD ACCORDING TO THE PRESENT SYSTEM OF NUMBERING HOUSES IN NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA.

MR/CA 5/4/21
OUR FILE NO. 5572619 - FT1

PUBLIC NOTICE #200153
4/4,11,18,25

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER GEORGIA, NEWTON COUNTY

THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

UNDER AND by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by **Frank R. Foster and Carmen M. Foster** to Newton Federal Bank, dated November 29, 2006, recorded in Deed Book 2333, Page 561, Newton County, Georgia Records, as last transferred to HVRML Trust 2019-1 by assignment recorded in Deed Book 3927, Page 390, Newton County, Georgia Records, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of ONE HUNDRED NINE THOUSAND AND 0/100 DOLLARS (\$19,000.00), 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, or at such place as may be lawfully designated as an alternative, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in May, 2021, the following described property:

SEE EXHIBIT "A" ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF **THE DEBT** secured by said Security

Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of default, failure to pay the indebtedness as and when due and in the manner provided in the Note and Security Deed. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, as provided in the Security Deed and by law, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given). **SAID PROPERTY** will be sold subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above.

HVRML TRUST 2019-1 is the holder of the Security Deed to the property in accordance with OCGA § 44-14-162.2. **THE ENTITY** that has full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the mortgage with the debtor is: BSI Financial Services, 11350 McCormick Road, EP II, Ste 903, Hunt Valley, MD 21031, 866-581-4495.

TO THE best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party in possession of the property is Frank R. Foster and Carmen M. Foster or a tenant or tenants and said property is more commonly known as **1275 Mote Road, Covington, Georgia 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. **HVRML TRUST 2019-1 AS ATTORNEY** in Fact for **FRANK R. Foster and Carmen M. Foster**

MCCALLA RAYMER Leibert Pierce, LLC
1544 OLD Alabama Road
ROSWELL, GA 30076
WWW.FORECLOSUREHOTLINE.NET
EXHIBIT "A"

ALL THAT tract or parcel of land lying and being in the 10th Land District of Newton County, Georgia, and being all of Lots 14 and 15 and part of Lots 16, 17 and 18, Block A, of Spring Hill Acres, as shown on plat of survey of same prepared by George W. O'Neill, R.S., dated May 22, 1964, and recorded in Plat Book 3, Page 224, in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Newton County, Georgia, which plat is incorporated herein by reference thereto, and being more particularly described as follows:

COMMENCE AT the intersection of the northeastern right-of-way line of Mote Road with the southeastern right-of-way line of Mote Circle; thence in a northeasterly direction along the southeastern right-of-way line of Mote Circle 480 feet; thence South 0 degrees 21 minutes East 120.3 feet; thence South 67 degrees 56 minutes East 137.89 feet; thence North 75 degrees 59 minutes East 309.07 feet; thence South 05 degrees 07 minutes West 396 feet; thence in a northwesterly direction along the northeastern line of property now or formerly of Cooksey and Eubanks 400 feet, more or less, to the southeastern boundary line of Lot 15, said subdivision; thence in a southwesterly direction a distance of 200 feet along the southeastern property line of Lot 15 to its intersection with the northeastern right-of-way line of Mote Road; thence in a northwesterly direction along the northeastern right-of-way line of Mote Road a distance of 476 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING. **LESS AND EXCEPT, HOWEVER,** the following described property to wit: All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in Land Lot 35 of the 10th Land District, Newton County, Georgia, and being all of Lot 14 and part of Lot 18 of Block A of Spring Hill Acres Subdivision, and being

shown on plat of survey for Carla Foster dated 9/17/94 prepared by John Elwin Knight, Georgia R.L.S. #1945, which plat is incorporated herein by reference thereto for a more complete description, and being more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING AT the intersection of the southeasterly right-of-way of Mote Circle (40-foot right-of-way) with the northeasterly right-of-way of Mote Road (40-foot right-of-way) at an iron pin set; thence run North 56 degrees 04 minutes 5 seconds East a distance of 342.00 feet to an iron pin found on the southe

LEGALS:

Continued from A6

DISCLOSED BY an accurate survey and inspection of the property; and (4) any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above.

SAID SALE will be conducted subject to the following: (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.

THE NAME, address, and telephone number of the individual or entity who has full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the mortgage is as follows:

SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE Servicing 75 Beattie Place, Suite 300 Greenville, SC 29601 866-825-2174 NOTE THAT pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2, the above individual or entity is not required by law to negotiate, amend, or modify the terms of the mortgage.

THIS LAW FIRM IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED MAY BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

NEWREZ LLC D/B/A SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING, as Attorney-in-Fact for MICHELLE FENCH

ROBERTSON, ANSCHUTZ, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC 10700 Abbott's Bridge Road Suite 170 Duluth, GA 30097 Phone: 470.321.7112 FIRM FILE No. 20-038565 - AmE

PUBLIC NOTICE #200147 4/4,11,18,25

Name Changes

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT NEWTON COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: JEANNIE J. PERRY PADGETT

CIVIL ACTION NO: SUCV2021000498

NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

PETITIONER, JEANNIE J. Perry Padgett has on the 2nd day of March 2021 filed a Petition to Change the Name for Jeannie J. Perry Padgett, to JEANNIE J. PERRY. Any interested or affected party has a right to appear in the case and file objection within the period set by law. This 22nd day of March 2021

PUBLIC NOTICE #200048 3/14,21,28-4/4

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE the Name Change of Child(ren): ISABELLA JAYLENNE BUENROSTRO ESCOBAR

MARIA F. BUENROSTRO SOTO PETITIONER, VS.

FERNANDO ESCOBAR RESPONDENT. CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 2021-CV-532-1

NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME OF CHILD

MARIA F. BUENROSTRO SOTO filed a petition in the Newton County Superior Court on MARCH 9, 2021, to change the name of the following minor child

FROM: ISABELLA JAYLENNE BUENROSTRO ESCOBAR to ISABELLA JAYLENNE ESCOBAR BUENROSTRO

ANY INTERESTED party has the right to appear in this case and file objections within the time prescribed in O.C.G.A. §§ 19-12-1(f)(2) and (3).

PUBLIC NOTICE #200073 3/21,28-4,11

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE the Name Change of: FELICIA YVETTE WILSON

CIVIL ACTION Case Number 2021-CV-481-2

NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME OF ADULT

FELICIA YVETTE WILSON, filed a petition in the NEWTON County Superior Court on MARCH 2ND, 2021 to change name from FELICIA YVETTE WILSON to FELICIA YVETTE ROBINSON

ANY INTERESTED party has the right to appear in this case and file objections within 30 days after the Petition was filed.

FELICIA YVETTE WILSON 50 MAGNOLIA WALK COVINGTON, GA 30016

PUBLIC NOTICE #200063 3/21,28-4/4,11

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE the Name Change of: LINDA MICHELLE SIMPSON Bishop

CIVIL ACTION Case Number 2021-CV-421-2

NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME OF ADULT

LINDA MICHELLE SIMPSON BISHOP, filed a petition in the NEWTON County Superior Court on 2/17, 2021 to change name from LINDA MICHELLE SIMPSON BISHOP to SHELLY SIMPSON BISHOP

ANY INTERESTED party has the right to appear in this case and file

objections within 30 days after the Petition was filed.

LINDA MICHELLE SIMPSON BISHOP 75 RAY RD COVINGTON, GA 30014

PUBLIC NOTICE #200019 3/7,14,21,28-4/4

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE the Name change of Child(ren): IFADAMILOLA KORI Hardaway-Febres

CIVIL ACTION Number 2021-CV-410-2

NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME(S) OF CHILD(REN)

YOMARIE DALEIKA Febres filed a petition in the Newton County Superior Court on March 2nd, 2021 to change the name(s) of the following minor child(ren)

FROM: IFADAMILOLA Kori Hardaway-Febres to: Lola Genesis Febres

PUBLIC NOTICE #200020 3/7,14,21,28-4/4

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE the Name change of Child(ren): JAYDYN MIKAYLA GAY

TERESA S. TURNER PETITIONER V. AMANDA DEANNE WARREN SHAWN MICHAEL GAY RESPONDENT.

CIVIL ACTION Number 2021-CV-663-2

NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME(S) OF CHILD(REN)

TERESA S. TURNER filed a petition in the Newton County Superior Court on March 24th, 2021 to change the name(s) of the following minor child(ren)

FROM: JAYDYN MIKAYLA GAY to: JAYDYN MIKAYLA GAY TURNER ANY INTERESTED party has the right to appear in this case and file objections within the time prescribed in O.C.G.A. 19-12-1(F)(2) and (3)

TERESA S. Turner 470 BETHANY Road COVINGTON, GA 30016

PUBLIC NOTICE #200145 4/4,11,18,25

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: XAVIER DEMARCO THURMAN PETITIONER

CIVIL ACTION File No.2021-CV-643-1

NOTICE OF Petition To Change Name of Adult

XAVIER DEMARCO THURMAN filed a petition in the Newton County Superior Court on March 22, 2021 to change the name from XAVIER DEMARCO THURMAN to XAVIER DEMARCO ZACHARY

Any interested party has the right to appear in this case and file objection within 30 days after the Petition was filed.

DATE: 3-23-2021

MARIO S. Ninfo ATTORNEY FOR Petitioner 1198 CLARK Street, NW COVINGTON, GA 30014

PUBLIC NOTICE #200124 3/28-4/4,11,18

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF WALTON COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE Name Change of: ALEXA ARLSBETH CRUZ-LOPEZ, (MINOR CHILD) AND ALYSSA ABIGAIL CRUZ-LOPEZ (MINOR CHILD)

BY: ANGELICA LOPEZ, PETITIONER CIVIL ACTION FILE NO.SUCV2020001268

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

TO: URIEL Cruz, Biological Father

BY ORDER for service by publication filed February 19, 2021, you are hereby notified that on October 1, 2020, ANGELICA LOPEZ, PETITIONER tiled a PETITION TO CHANGE NAME AND AMEND BIRTH CERTIFICATE on behalf of the minor children, ALEXA ARLSBETH CRUZ-LOPEZ and ALYSSA ABIGAIL CRUZ-LOPEZ, seeking to change the name of ALEXA ARLSBETH CRUZ. LOPEZ to ALEXA ARLSBETH CRUZ and the name of ALYSSA ABIGAIL CRUZ-LOPEZ to and ALYSSA ABIGAIL LOPEZ.

THIS NOTICE shall be published once a week for four consecutive weeks. Any interested or affected party has a right to appear and file objections .In addition, you are hereby required to file with the Clerk of the Superior Court and serve upon Gloria Smith-Grimes, plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 189 West Pike Street, suite 102, Lawrenceville, Georgia 30046, an ANSWER in writing within sixty (60) days of the date of the Order granting Service by Publication.

WITNESS, THE Honorable Jeffrey L. Fosters, Judge of this Superior

Court, Walton County, THIS 17TH day of March, 2021

PUBLIC NOTICE #200121 3/28-4/4

NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

FILED IN OFFICE CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA SUCV2021000478

JEFFREY L. FOSTER MAR 03, 2021 01:19PM NEWTON COUNTY, Georgia

NOTICE IS hereby given that Susan Michelle Moore filed her Petition to Change Name in the Superior Court of Newton County, Georgia on the 2nd day of March, 2021 in Civil Action File Number SUCV2021000478, praying for a change in the name of petitioner from Susan Michelle Moore to Michelle Moore Thorne. Notice is hereby given pursuant to law to any interested or affected party to appear in said Court and to file objections to such name change. Objections must be filed with said Court within 30 days of the filing of said Petition. THIS 3RD day of March, 2021.

WALDROP & BOOTCHBCK, LLC 861 CONUNERCE Drive CONYERS, GEORGIA 30094 TELEPHONE: (770) 922-0023 FACSIMILE: (770) 483-0608 EMAIL: MICHAEL@MYWBLAW.COM

PUBLIC NOTICE #200045 3/14,21,28-4/4

Public Notice

CENTRAL GEORGIA ELECTRIC MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION ANNOUNCES ITS UNCLAIMED CAPITAL CREDIT CHECKS FOR 2020

CGEMC IS a not-for-profit organization. This means any excess revenue, after covering operating costs, is returned to our customer-owners in the form of a capital credit check (based on each customer-owner's energy use).

IN DECEMBER 2020, CGEMC issued capital credit refund checks. However, some of the refund checks issued were returned by the U.S. Postal Service as "undeliverable."

A list of the names of these customer-owners can be found by visiting our website, www.cgemc.com, or by viewing the list at our corporate office, located at 923 S. Mulberry Street, Jackson, GA 30233.

IF YOU know the correct address of these individuals or have any helpful information, please contact our office or notify the customer-owner to contact us as soon as possible by calling 770-775-7857 or 1-800-222-4877.

PUBLIC NOTICE #200118 4/4

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

TOWD POINT MORTGAGE TRUST 2017-4, U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE, PLAINTIFF, V. KEVIN LEE RATCLIFF, DEFENDANT.

CIVIL ACTION FILE NUMBER SUCV2020002309

TO: KEVIN Lee Ratcliff 145 TRINITY Drive, COVINGTON, NEWTON County, Georgia 30016

NOTICE FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

BY ORDER for Service by Publication Upon Kevin Lee Ratcliff dated March 8, 2021 and FILED ON this Court's docket on March 9, 2021, you are hereby notified that on November 12, 2020, TOWD POINT MORTGAGE TRUST 2017-4, U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE, filed a Petition to Establish Lost Records and Complaint for Declaratory Judgment and Equitable Relief and named you as a Defendant. YOU ARE required to file with the Clerk of the Superior Court, and to serve upon Plaintiff's attorneys, Tania Tuttle, Sarah Monico and Brett Ledermeier an Answer in writing within sixty (60) days of the date of the Order for Publication. THIS 10TH day of March, 2021. MCLAIN & MERRITT PC 11625 RAINWATER Drive SUITE 125 ALPHARETTA, GEORGIA 30009 PHONE: (770) 200-7000 ttuttle@mmatllaw.com smonico@mmatllaw.com bledermeier@mmatllaw.com/s/

TANIA R. TUTTLE TANIA R. TUTTLE GEORGIA STATE Bar No. 720348 SARAH C. MONICO GEORGIA STATE Bar No. 582691 BRETT LEDERMEIER Georgia State Bar No. 600906 ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE I HEREBY certify that I have this day served all parties and counsel of record with a true and correct copy of the foregoing NOTICE OF SERVICE BY PUBLICATION by placing the same in the United States Mail, postage pre-paid, in a properly addressed envelope, to: KEVIN LEE Ratcliff, 145 TRINITY Drive, COVINGTON, NEWTON County, Georgia 30016 THIS DAY of , 2020. MCLAIN & MERRITT PC 11625 RAINWATER Drive, Ste. 125 ALPHARETTA, GEORGIA 30009 PHONE: (770) 200-7000 FAX: (770) 200-7001 TTUTTLE@MMATLLAW.COM SMONICO@MMATLLAW.COM

bledermeier@mmatllaw.com/s/ Tania R. Tuttle

TANIA R. TUTTLE GEORGIA STATE Bar No. 720348 SARAH C. MONICO GEORGIA STATE Bar No. 582691 BRETT M. LEDERMEIER Georgia State Bar No. 600906 ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

PUBLIC NOTICE #200057 3/17,24,31-4/7

NOTICE OF HIGHWAY 278 COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN as provided in the NEWTON COUNTY COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT ACT that a Caucus of Electors of the Highway 278 Community Improvement District (CID) shall be held on the 13th day of May, 2021 at Newton Federal Bank, Operations Center, 8460 Dr. M.L. King, Jr. Ave., Covington, Georgia 30014. The purpose of the Caucus is to elect Board Members to serve 4 year terms in Posts 1, 3, & 5 on the Highway 278 Community Improvement District Board. Registration for the election shall be held from 11:45 o'clock A.M. to 12:00 o'clock Noon. Voting will occur immediately after each Elector who has arrived at the registration table by 12:00 o'clock Noon has registered. A map of said District may be reviewed in the office of the Newton County Tax Commissioner or City of Covington Clerk. All Electors as designated under the Act are invited to attend and cast their votes.

PUBLIC NOTIC #200112 3/31-4/7,14,21

VARIANCE PETITON GEORGIA, NEWTON County

A PETITION (VAR21-000005) HAS BEEN FILED WITH THE NEWTON COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS FOR A VARIANCE FOR THE PROPERTY BELONGING TO: PAUL D & REBECCA Y WHITE WHOSE SUBJECT PROPERTY ADDRESS/LOCATION IS 375 POPE TRL CONTAINING APPROXIMATELY .83 ACRES BEING ON TAX MAP & PARCEL GP93-073. APPLICANT IS REQUESTING A VARIANCE TO: REDUCE THE 150 FOOT IMPERVIOUS SURFACE SETBACK ASSOCIATED WITH THE SHORELINE OF LAKE JACKSON TO DEMOLISH EXISTING HOME AND CONSTRUCT A NEW PRIMARY RESIDENCE. REFERENCE SEC 420-050 (C). THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE: 22ND DAY OF APRIL, 2021 AT 7:00 P.M. THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE NEWTON COUNTY HISTORIC COURTHOUSE, LOCATED AT 1124 CLARK ST, COVINGTON, GEORGIA 30014. THOSE HAVING CONCERNS ABOUT THIS PETITION SHOULD ATTEND

PUBLIC NOTICE #200150 4/4

VARIANCE PETITON GEORGIA, NEWTON County

A PETITION (VAR21-000006) HAS BEEN FILED WITH THE NEWTON COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS FOR A VARIANCE FOR THE PROPERTY BELONGING TO: ADRIEN & WILLIE SMITH WHOSE SUBJECT PROPERTY ADDRESS/LOCATION IS 96 WEST LAKE DRIVE CONTAINING APPROXIMATELY 2.52 ACRES BEING ON TAX MAP & PARCEL 58-009A. APPLICANT IS REQUESTING A VARIANCE TO: (1) REDUCE THE 150 FOOT IMPERVIOUS SURFACE SETBACK ASSOCIATED WITH THE LAKE 420-120 (C). (2) RELIEF TO THE 40 FOOT FRONT SETBACK ASSOCIATED WITH THE FRONT SETBACK IN THE AR (AGRICULTURAL RESIDENTIAL) ZONING DISTRICT. REFERENCE SEC 215-050 (C) 1. THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE: 22ND DAY OF APRIL, 2021 AT 7:00 P.M. THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE NEWTON COUNTY HISTORIC COURTHOUSE, LOCATED AT 1124 CLARK ST, COVINGTON, GEORGIA 30014. THOSE HAVING CONCERNS ABOUT THIS PETITION SHOULD ATTEND

PUBLIC NOTICE #200151 4/4

Public Sales Auctions

PUBLIC AUCTION

THESE VEHICLES will be sold at Public Auction on the following Saturday, April 17, 2021 All auctions start promptly @1:00pm Registration begins @ 12 noon.

THE AUCTION will be held at: CHANCEY'S WRECKER Service, Inc 539 McDaniel Mill Rd SW CONYERS, GA 30012 TELEPHONE: 770-483-0698 FAX: 770-922-5223

YEAR MAKE Model Vin#: JETSKI ARJ10748C797 2005 VOLKSWAGEN Passat WVVAD63B85E044525 2000 SUZUKI Altima 1N4BL4BVALC231480 1R BOBCAT I203 706201073 2000 TOYOTA Camry 4T1BG22K2YU940900 2011 SUZUKI GSX 1300R JS1GW71A712104109 2006 TOYOTA Corolla 1NXBR32EX62616343 2010 TOYOTA Corolla 1NXBU4EE5AZ230471 2012 NISSAN Altima 1N4BL2APOCC143045 2000 HONDA Accord

JHMC65670YC019781 1996 NISSAN Maxima JN1CA21D2T172897 2007 YAMAHA TT-R 125E 9C6CE11Y470612732 PEACE SPORT PEACE ATV L6ASCHL63BA002444 1996 DODGE Ram Pickup 1500 1B7HC1621TS511375 2018 FORD Transit Cargo 1FTYR2XG1JKA19105 2006 SUZUKI 650 JSTMP41A862103089 2001 CHEVROLET S10 1GCCS195118252161 2009 HONDA CRF450 JH2PE05309K703965 2004 CHEVROLET Silverado 1500 1GCEC14X54Z242701 2007 SUZUKI GSX-R 750 JS1GR7KA872104392 2002 BMW 3 Series WBABN33462PG59110 2002 DODGE Ram Pickup 1500 3D7HU18N42G115198 2016 YAMAHA YZ250 JYACG34C2GA017882 TAOTAO 125CC L5NYAJT10G1401178 2005 CHRYSLER PT Cruiser 3C8FY68B95T529032 2001 INFiniti G20 JNKKP11A81T405432 1999 VOLKSWAGEN Golf WVVGC31J3XW585422 2012 CADILLAC CTS 1G6DP5E31C0140868 2002 SATURN S-Series 1G8ZY1474Z166009 1988 HONDA CH250 JH2MF0107JK300257 2006 LINCOLN Town Car 1L1FM88W86Y642897 2000 FORD Explorer 1FMYU60X7YUA63118 2005 CHRYSLER Pacifica 2C8GM68485R589209 2008 FORD Ranger 1FTYR10D08PA41233 2003 HONDA Accord 1HGCM71653A014683

PUBLIC NOTICE #200126 3/28-4/4

NOTICE IS Hereby Given that the undersigned intends to sell the personal property described below to enforce a lien imposed on said property pursuant to the Georgia Self-Storage Facility Act, Georgia Code Section 10-4-210 to 10-4-215. The undersigned will sell by competitive online bidding beginning Wednesday, April 14th, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. at www.storageauctions.com. Online bidding will end on Tuesday, April 20th, 2021 at 3:30PM.

UNIT 096 Robert Morreira; Door w/frame, Vacuum, tools, luggage, dresser

UNIT 103 Arkeria Dyer; couch, tv, luggage, kitchenware, boxes, tools, bedding, ac unit, golf clubs

UNIT 174 Pamela Hicks-Gude; TV, dresser, totes, bed, computer monitor, baby items

UNIT 182 Wash Smith; clothing, mattresses, toys, box springs, dressers, bags

UNIT 372 Jarvis Crutchfield; mattresses, dressers, huge television, coffee table, clothing, antique stereo system

UNIT 431 Sheila Cullins; outdoor furniture, bed set, mattress, table, nightstand, couch, china cabinet

UNIT 463 Kedarius Malcom; Recliner, TV, dresser, nightstand, headboard, totes, bags

UNIT 468 Mary Snyder; Washer, clothing, dresser, air mattress, printer, artwork, tent, totes

UNIT 482 Elisa Daniels; mattress-es, table, chairs, frames, bags, boxes, toys, kitchenware, clothing

PURCHASE MUST be paid for on the day of the auction with cash and valid ID at the location of the unit. All items are sold as is and must be removed from the property within 72 hours, unless otherwise approved by the Manager, after the time of the sale. Sale is subject to cancellation in the event of a settlement between the owner and the obligated party.

PUBLIC NOTICE #200148 4/4,11

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

A PUBLIC Auction for the non-Payment of storage fees at Speedy Storage will take place on Saturday, April 10, 2021 at 10am located at 2222 HWY 212, Covington, GA. 30016

THE PERSONAL effects and household Goods belonging to the following TENANTS, HAVING been properly notified, Will be sold for CASH to the highest Bidder to satisfy the owner's lien for Rent due, in accordance with the Georgia Self Storage Act-, Section 10-1-210 to 10-4-215

THE PERSONAL effects and household goods belonging to THE FOLLOWING tenants.

LATOYA HESTER.....UNIT 28

PUBLIC NOTICE #200122 3/28-4/4

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

IN ACCORDANCE with the GA Self Service Storage Facilities Act notice is hereby given that the undersigned will be sold at public sale to the highest bidder in order to satisfy lien of the owner. Bidding to take place on lockerfox.com ending Thursday the 15th day of April, 2021 at 10:00 AM. Said property is Space Shop Self Storage, 6177 Jackson Hwy, Covington, GA, 30014 BELL, SHAKELIA B49 Washer, Dryer, Couch, Table, Chairs, Mattress, Wilson, Terry A18 Dryer, Antique Furniture, Sofa, Chairs, Exercise Equipment, Boxes, Armoire. Pitts, Valencia A11 Wooden Furniture, Mattresses, Lamp, Chairs, Sofa. The auction will be listed and advertised on lockerfox.com. Space Shop Self Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of

the personal property.

PUBLIC NOTICE #200044 3/28-4/4

PUBLIC AUCTION NOTICE OF SALE

BUDGET SELF Storage of Covington, pursuant to the Georgia Self Storage Act, 10-4-213, shall conduct a public sale of the following units at 6217 Highway 278 NE, Covington, GA 30014; 770-787-0900; after 1 p.m. and on or after Tuesday, April 6th, 2021. All bids will be accepted online through www.storageauctions.com. Budget Self Storage of Covington reserves the right to withdraw units from such sale and reject any bid. Terms of sale are cash or money order only. The following unit will be sold:

G55 Andrea Lindsey - This unit appears to contain a mattress, bookcase, clothing, totes, exercise bike, end table

PUBLIC NOTICE #200109 4/4

PUBLIC SALE AUCTION

KING'S 24 Hour Towing and Repair LLC 3195 HWY 81 South COVINGTON, GA 30016 PH.770-787-6243

APRIL 10TH, 2021 @ 10:00am

2001 DODGE RAM 1B7HC13Y61J293478 2004 NISSAN SENTRA 3N1CB51A0L562312 2011 HYUNDAI SONATA 5NPEB4ACB199546 1996 MAZDA MIATA JM1NA3537T0702361 2007 FORD FUSION 3FAHP06Z37R279481 2002 DODGE DAKOTA 1B7GL42X825539643 2010 LINCOLN MKZ 3LNHL2G2XAR634452 2008 SUZUKI SV650 JS1VP53A782101078 2005 DODGE DAKOTA 1D7HW48N25S315232 2003 ACURA RSX JH4DC53893C071409 2003 CHEVROLET TRAILBLAZER 1GNDS13S132300810 1999 CHRYSLER CONCORDE 2C3HD46J6XHS97342 1997 HONDA ACCORD 1HGCD5634VA123402 2007 HONDA ODYSSEY 5FNRL387X7B841809 2003 LINCOLN AVIATOR 5MLUE68HX3J21764 1996 CHEVROLET S-10 1GCCS1948T8162256 2004 CHEVROLET MALIBU 1G1ZS52FX4F250468 2007 NISSAN ARMADA 5N1AA08C67N705815 1982 CHEVROLET C10 2GCC14D0C1201333 1998 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS 2MEFM74W3WX699607 1994 MITSUBISHI PICKUP J47LS21G0RP01029 2012 FORD F150 1FTEX1CM2CFC03897 2009 NISSAN CUBE JN8AZ28R19T103419 2016 VOLKSWAGON PASSAT 1VWB7T3A0GC065261 2006 CHEVROLET TRAILBLAZER 1GNDS13S662292143 2005 CHEVROLET EQUINIX 2CNLD63F656116163 2005 CHEVROLET MALIBU 1G1ZT54815F241963 2006 FORD FIVE HUNDRED 1FAFP24136G170055 BOAT TRAILER 4TM12CJ13RB003546

SPORTS

The Covington News

Prep Basketball



Tiffani Johnson, Girls' Coach of the Year

Sanaa Tripp, Girls' POTY

T.J. Clark, Boys' POTY

Dorrian Randolph, Boys' Coach of the Year

Heroes of the Hardwood

By MASON WITTNER
mwittner@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. —Newton County has long been a hotbed for basketball talent.

For proof, look no further than the 2021 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament, where a pair of players who once graced the hardwood at Eastside and Newton competed in college basketball's largest spectacle.

Despite the bizarre circumstances that every athletic program in the country has found itself navigating since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, our area once again proved to be home to some of the best prep basketball talent in the state during the 2020-21 campaign.

Alcovy, Eastside, Newton and Social Circle had varying degrees of success in their most recent boys' and girls' basketball seasons.

But regardless of the final number in the win and loss columns, the county's talent pool was undoubtedly deep in both leagues.

Following a careful examination of the product put on display by all the basketball programs in our coverage area this season, it's now an honor to present the 2021 All-Covington News Basketball Team.

Girls' Coach of the Year: Tiffani Johnson (Newton)

Newton head coach Tiffani Johnson led the Lady Rams to a historic campaign this winter.

With the departure of eight seniors from a team that won 16 games a season ago, as well as a drastically different offseason due to the pandemic, it was unclear what type of squad Newton would field this year. The unanswered questions about the team's chemistry were glaring early on, as they stumbled their way to a 6-10 mark in the regular season.

However, the Lady Rams did just enough to sneak into the Class AAAAAA state playoffs as a No. 4 seed out of the five-team Region

2021 All-Covington News Basketball Teams

Girls' First Team

Ashleigh Norris (Newton)
Lizzie Teasley (Eastside)
Carlajah Jackson (Alcovy)
Taylor Favors (Social Circle)
La'Rekia Terrell (Newton)

Girls' Second Team

Tilyah Sellers (Eastside)
Tre'miyah Berry (Newton)
Luv Llewellyn (Alcovy)
Peyton Brooks (Social Circle)
Natalya McKenzie (Alcovy)

Girls' Honorable Mentions

Markeisha White (Alcovy)
Joselyn Branch (Alcovy)
Akira Thompson (Eastside)
Kyla Price (Newton)
Tara Poole (Social Circle)

Boys' First Team

Qua Brown (Newton)
Jaylen Lelie-Johnson (Eastside)
Stephon Castle (Newton)
Trevon Howze (Alcovy)
KJ Reid (Social Circle)

Boys' Second Team

Marcus Whitlock (Newton)
Steven Moore (Alcovy)
Jaylen Woods (Eastside)
Tyreek Singleton (Alcovy)
Tyrell Branch (Social Circle)

Boys' Honorable Mentions

Ben Hodges (Alcovy)
Jayce Douglas (Eastside)
Jacquez Williams (Eastside)
Mio Kaye Grant (Newton)
Cam Gaither (Social Circle)
Amarion Russell (Social Circle)
AJ Vinson (Social Circle)

4. By the time the tournament rolled around, Johnson had helped her group see their potential when they worked together as a unit.

"There was a weird, unprecedented time that you had to go through to get to where you wanted to get to," Johnson said. "It was one of those seasons where every coach in America was adapting to something never experienced before. I on't think we were an exception to any other team. We just happened to kind of come together at the right time."

The result was an admirable Cinderella story.

The Lady Rams went on the road in the opening round and took down No. 1 seed Tift County, 50-38. They kept their season alive in the second round with another upset victory, this time knocking off No. 2 seed

North Paulding, 55-46, to advance to the Elite Eight for the first time since 2018.

Johnson witnessed her team growing more confident in themselves and growing their trust in one another. The playoff run was ended in the third round by eventual state runner-up Woodstock, but the experience garnered during it will be invaluable going forward.

"I was glad we had the experience of what we look like when we gel," Johnson said. "Looking back, it'll just be all of the little things we were able to overcome. All of the experience and being battle-tested. Knowing that if we were able to get through that, there's not too much else we won't be able to handle next year."

Girls' Player of the Year: Sanaa Tripp (Newton)

One of the catalysts of Newton's Elite Eight run was freshman phenom Sanaa Tripp.

Tripp is a versatile point guard who proved a nightmare for opponents on a nightly basis. She showcased the ability to knock down shots from beyond the arc while also excelling at creating space to get to the bucket. When the ball wasn't in her hands, she traversed the court and found areas that set her up for prime scoring opportunities. "She's an old-school gym rat who loves the game" Newton head coach Tiffani Johnson said of Tripp. "She watches it, absorbs it, does everything with it, so I think she'll be just fine."

Tripp made the jump from middle school basketball in eighth grade to starting at the varsity level in the state's highest classification as a freshman. It was a leap not many could make, but one she found wasn't as difficult as she initially presumed.

"The atmosphere here is very different from middle school, but it wasn't as hard as I thought it would be," Tripp said. "It was easier because I kind of block everything out once I start playing. Of course, the completion was definitely a good jump, but I was still able to work hard in our to fit — well, stand out — as I did."

Tripp averaged 21 points seven rebounds and five steals per game during her freshman season. She credited her coaching staff and teammates with making the transition feel seamless by being welcoming and instructive.

"They all believed in me, which boosted the confidence I had in myself. I wouldn't be here without them," she said. "And honestly we wouldn't have gotten as far as we did without teamwork, without working together. I was glad that I was able to put in as big of a part as I did."

With three years of varsity basketball left to play, Tripp is dedicated to the continued development of her craft. She hopes to work toward becoming a better individual player, as well as being more vocal as a leader and filling in as glue that holds her team together. And when Tripp sets her mind to a goal, more often than not she's going to put in the work needed to achieve it. That's simply the type of person she is.

See HEROES, A9

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Prep Baseball

Tigers complete season sweep of Rockdale

By MASON WITTNER
mwittner@covnews.com

CONYERS, Ga. — For the first time since 2016, Alcovy has swept a region opponent.

The Tigers went on the road Tuesday to play their season finale against Region 3-AAAAAA adversary Rockdale County. After collecting a pair of wins over the Bulldogs earlier this month, they capped off the three-game sweep with a 6-3 victory.

Prior to Tuesday, the last region opponent to be swept by Alcovy in a season series was Lovejoy five years ago.

"It's big for us for a couple of reasons," Alcovy head coach Jimmy Hughes said. "One, it keeps us in playoff contention, which we haven't done since 2013. Second, up until these last couple years, Rockdale has had our number every time Alcovy has gone up against them."

"In order to turn the corner as a program, you have to be able to sweep the area teams."



Mason Wittner | The Covington News

Alcovy freshman Hunter Parker pitched a complete game against Rockdale County on Tuesday as the Tigers finished off the three-game sweep of the Bulldogs with a 6-3 win. The right-hander allowed three runs (one earned) on five hits while striking out seven and walking two.

Freshman right-hander Hunter Parker

was sturdy and reliable on the hill for the

Tigers (8-13, 3-4). He pitched a complete

game, allowing three runs (one earned) on five hits while striking out seven and walking two.

Parker's efforts not only kept Alcovy in the game Tuesday, but also put the Tigers in a favorable position heading into this weekend's series with another area team in Heritage.

"By him being able to go the distance, it saves the rest of our pitching for those two games [against Heritage,]" Hughes said. "He competes, man. You look at him and he's all of 5 feet 8 inches, maybe 140 pounds. But that dude, man, his heart and his want-to is something."

Parker helped his own cause in the second inning by lacing an RBI single to right field to score the game's first run.

An inning later, the Tigers extended their lead when fellow freshman Reece Payne scored on a wild pitch and senior Lamar Williams came home on a sacrifice fly off the bat

of senior Jayden Bishop, making it 3-0.

The Bulldogs took a run back with an RBI single of their own in the third inning, followed by a run-scoring groundout in the fourth. But in the sixth inning, with just a one-run cushion between themselves and Rockdale County, Alcovy doubled its advantage on Payne's two-out RBI single to center field.

The Tigers tacked on two more runs with RBI singles from sophomore Rodgis Ponder and Parker, effectively icing the victory.

Alcovy returned to action Thursday afternoon when the Tigers traveled to fellow Rockdale County rival Heritage for a region battle.

They forced the game into extra innings before suffering a 2-1 loss to the Patriots to dip back below .500 in league play. They had an opportunity to exact revenge on Friday evening when they played a rematch.

HEROES:

Continued from A8

"You're told that hard work beat talent when talent doesn't work hard. Yeah, but when your talent works hard, then it's really tough to beat," Johnson said. "I think she's a great example of that."

Boys' Coach of the Year: Dorrian Randolph (Eastside)

Last June, after taking the head coaching job at Eastside following a season as associate head coach for Salem, Randolph made his primary goal crystal clear.

He wanted to put the Eagles back in the postseason.

Eastside had missed out on the state playoffs three years in a row, and Randolph was determined to instill a culture and game plan that would help change their fortune. One season in, he managed to do just that.

Under Randolph's guidance, the Eagles stormed their way to a runner-up finish in the Region 8-AAAAA tournament to earn their first state playoff berth since 2017.

The celebration didn't last very long. No. 2 seed Eastside drew a date with No. 3 Decatur, which led to a 55-48 defeat on the Eagles' home court. Any time a coach loses the final game of the season,

it's difficult to view the year as a resounding success.

But time heals all wounds. Now, reflecting on his first season in green and white, Randolph has a renewed appreciation for the Eagles' flight to the playoffs.

"Being able to sit back now and actually look at the season, I find myself saying, 'Man, you really accomplished something,'" said Randolph. "Of course you never want the season to end [with a loss,] but I think we had a great year."

Eastside broke try-outs with eight active players on the roster. A lengthy playoff run by the football team kept key players off the court for the first month of the season, and the club worked to grasp the schematic concepts of their first-year head coach.

But the program turned a corner in January after a lethargic start to the season.

The Eagles won eight of their final 10 regular-season games before knocking out Jackson County and Greenbrier in the region tournament in a pair of thrillers to earn a trip to the region title game.

"We just kind of hit the ground running at the right time," Ran-

dolph said

Boys' Player of the Year: T.J. Clark (Newton)

T.J. Clark led the Rams in scoring this season with 14.2 points per game. He was a menace all over the court, registering 3.2 rebounds, 2.3 assists and 1.8 steals per contest as well.

But perhaps what made the Newton junior the leading candidate for Player of the Year wasn't the numbers on the stat sheet, but the off-court qualities of the player behind them.

The program entered the 2020-21 season with no clear leader in place as several projected starters had seen minimal minutes a season ago.

In stepped Clark. "From my sophomore to my junior year, I had to show leadership.

Last year I was basically a role player, so this year was a little different," Clark said. "I had to step up, show leadership and just try to carry the team so we could all play together."

Clark came to the realization that a leader of the team doesn't always have to be the most vocal. Instead, he set an example for his teammates through his actions by setting

the tone in every single practice.

"His energy that he brings everyday to practice, workouts, the weight room, running — anything that we're doing — he is always the most energetic guy," Newton head coach Charlemagne Gibbons said. "I think that kind of set the tone for the rest of the guys and showed them that

you've got to bring your energy in order to be in our program and compete at a high level."

The team's leading scorer, Clark stepped up when the lights were brightest. He poured in a game-high 23 points in a first-round victory over Colquitt County and followed it up with 32 points in a losing effort against top-seed-

ed Pebblebrook.

"He competes every day so you're not surprised," Gibbons said. "Guys surprise you when they don't compete in practice and they play well in games. He competes in every practice, so I'm not surprised when we play these high-level teams and he gives the performance he does."

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BUSINESS

The Covington News

Piedmont Newton

Hospital partners with private company for ambulance services

STAFF REPORTS
news@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — Piedmont Newton Hospital in Covington announced Friday it would be partnering with Priority Ambulance for its 911 and interfacility services. Priority Ambulance is considered one of the largest private ambulance networks in the state of Georgia. The service will now respond to emergency calls in the hospital's designated 911 zone and will serve the hospital's interfacility transport needs.

"At Piedmont Newton, our top priority has always been and will continue to be providing the highest quality medical care and emergency medical services to our community," Piedmont Newton CEO David Kent said in a statement. "In Priority Ambulance, we have an expert partner with the sole focus of elevating ambulance service in Newton County with additional resources and national expertise. Piedmont Newton's leadership will focus on our core mission of providing exceptional services at our hospital."

All current employees of Piedmont Newton EMS will be invited to stay and will maintain seniority within the system, hospital officials stated. In addition, Piedmont Newton's EMS Director Carli Cuendet will be joining the Priority Ambulance team.

"We welcome the Piedmont Newton EMS employees to the Priority Ambulance family," Priority Ambulance Regional President Robby Atkins



Piedmont Newton Hospital administration and Priority Ambulance leadership announce a new partnership for 911 and interfacility ambulance service on Friday, April 2. Pictured, from left, are National EMS Vice President of Operations Huey Atkins; Piedmont Newton Executive Director, Patient Services William Love; Priority Ambulance Regional President Robby Atkins; Central EMS President Gary Coker; Piedmont Newton EMS Director Carli Cuendet; and Central EMS Vice President of Operations Corey Thomas.

Special to The Covington News

said. "Priority Ambulance's Georgia companies National EMS and Central EMS have served Piedmont Health facilities in Georgia for many years. We are proud to be trusted by Piedmont Newton to provide professional, prompt 911 response to the community and to serve their patients and hospital staff. We look forward to a great partnership and are committed to working together to continue to advance medical transportation services."

As result of the partnership, Priority Ambulance will purchase seven ambulances from Piedmont Newton and will maintain the staffing levels currently in the 911 system — five advanced life support ambulances during peak daytime hours.

Piedmont Newton holds the designated 911 zone for ambulance service that encompasses Newton County and will contract with Na-

tional EMS to provide 911 service to its zone.

Separate from those ambulances dedicated to the 911 system, sister company Central EMS will be stationing additional ambulances at the hospital to immediately respond to transport requests between medical facilities or discharges from the hospital.

"With the additional ambulance resources, technology and opportunities for education and advancement that Priority Ambulance has access to as a national company, we are confident that this new partnership will be positive for our EMS and hospital staff, as well as the community," said Kent.

Priority Ambulance will begin an implementation period immediately to transition current EMS staff. The company will begin providing 9-1-1 and interfacility ambulance services in early May.

Piedmont Newton has considered changes regarding its ambulance services before.

In June 2017, the Newton County Board of Commissioners declined to fund Piedmont Newton's request for a \$1.7 million subsidy for ambulance services, which led to the hospital reportedly intending to surrender its EMS license. At the time, the board of commissioners chose not to pursue its own ambulance license and instead have the state pick a provider.

But one week after making that decision, commissioners voted during a June 20 regular meeting to reverse course and pursue the license, citing concerns over the selection process and the public's concern about the state's role in the process as its reasoning.

Three days later, the county reportedly reached an agreement with Grady EMS to provide ambulance

services in the county starting Aug. 1, which caught Piedmont Newton administrators off guard.

In a series of emails obtained by The News at the time, William Love, executive director of patient services, stated he was "very surprised" by the county's move and called the county's communication with the hospital "limited at best."

"No one has inquired as to our status with our EMS license," he stated in the email. "Piedmont has not yet made a final decision as to whether or not we will be surrendering it. [Newton County's] actions last week as part of their reevaluation caused Piedmont to reconsider its position as well."

The county claimed it had been in contact with Piedmont Newton throughout the month of June about the issue.

"When we were told Piedmont Newton was not going to pursue the

EMS license we proceeded on a course to ensure the best EMS service possible for the citizens of Newton County," county officials stated in 2017.

Days later, the hospital announced it would retain its EMS license and provide ambulance services for the county.

At the time, District 1 Commissioner Stan Edwards said the hospital's decision to retain its license was not contingent on any subsidy from the county.

Commissioners later reached a consensus on the county's FY 2018 budget at a work session that included approximately \$450,000 set aside for EMS service if needed.

Chairman Marcello Banes then issued a statement thanking Grady for being "willing to step up to the plate when needed" but was glad residents would continue to receive services from Piedmont Newton.

Georgia Department of Labor

Newton County jobless rate down to 4.9% in February

By TOM SPIGOLON
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COVINGTON, Ga. — Newton County saw more residents with jobs and more entering the labor force in February compared to January of this year.

The February unemployment rate was 4.9%, which was a 0.7% decrease from 5.6% in January, the Georgia Department of Labor reported Thursday, April 1.

Georgia Labor Commissioner Mark Butler said, "February's numbers are a strong indication the state is

getting back to where it was prior to the pandemic."

"Not only are we seeing growth for nearly every indicator in each region and county, but we are seeing the momentum start to switch in our favor," Butler said.

"The unemployment rates are drastically dropping, the labor force numbers are gearing up, and most importantly, we are seeing initial claims decrease in almost every region and county," he said.

Newton County's February unemployment rate was

higher than the statewide average of 4.4% and the Metro Atlanta average of 4.5%.

The number of employed Newton residents increased by 729 — from 49,286 in January to 50,015 in February.

In addition, 319 fewer county residents were listed as unemployed in February compared to January.

Newton County's labor force — all employed residents and all unemployed residents making themselves available for work — also increased in February.

Newton County's labor force increased in February by 410 residents, rising from 52,204 to 52,614.

However, that number is down by 1,158 from February 2020.

A year ago in February 2020, Newton County's unemployment rate was 3.8% in the last month before the COVID-19 pandemic began.

However, the county's rate shot up within two months to 12.5% in April 2020 before beginning a gradual decline since then, the labor department said.

Initial claims for unemployment from Newton County residents increased by 1% in February. When compared to last February, claims were up by about 272%.

Clayton County recorded Georgia's highest county-level February unemployment rate at 7.5%, while Catoosa County in north Georgia on the Tennessee line had the lowest rate at 2.6%.

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