

# The Covington News

SATURDAY-SUNDAY, MAY 29-30, 2021

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Several ways to honor heroes  
across area; see B1



Honor Flight helps veterans  
remember comrades; see B5

## His Word

Greater love hath no  
man than this, that a  
man lay down his life  
for his friends.

John 15:13, KJV

# FLOWERS TO THE FALLEN

*We honor our Newton County soldiers who paid the price for our freedom*

## WORLD WAR I

Aubie Goins  
Charlie F. Aaron  
Robert D. Boggus  
Dewey Hooten  
Benjamin A. Peeler  
John R. Blake  
Joe K. Adams  
Homer G. Terry  
Thomas C. Cronan  
William E. Savage  
John L. Bower  
Millard M. Kinnett  
Robert B. Fincher  
Harold W. King  
James L. Higginbotham

## KOREA

Thomas W. Harris  
Ralph Henderson  
Joel McCullough  
Raymond A. Dobbins  
Joseph C. McCullough  
Horace Lane  
Olin S. Clay  
Charles Betts,

## VIETNAM

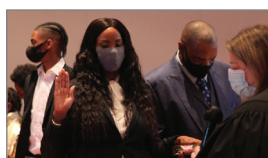
Earl T. Shaffer  
Raymond Jackson  
Robert L. Phillips  
James T. Cofer,  
Robert A. Piper  
Jerry Johnson  
Danny J. Richardson,  
Isaac Thomas Jr.  
Danny D. McGee  
Thomas E. Treadwell  
G. Edward McMullens  
James Curtis Tarrance

## GULF WAR

Carl R. Fuller

## WORLD WAR II

Lundy C. Jackson  
Aubie L. Johnson  
John T. Johnson  
Thomas L. Johnson  
Horace J. Jones  
Jack Jones  
James R. Knight  
Troy Sams  
John H.D. Thompson  
Norris W. White  
John D. Williams  
C.T. Williford Jr.  
Benson C. Adams  
Henry H. Allen Jr.  
Charles R. Berry  
Sidney A. Bruce  
Leonard F. Canup  
Willie G. McDonald  
Thomas W. McWaters  
William P. Minton  
Johnnie W. Palmer  
Marshall S. Penick  
Oscar C. Harper Jr.  
Foybert H. Hinton  
Florence G. Hopkins  
Edgar E. Cline  
Quinton O. Cole  
Marvin E. Cooper  
James M. Faulkner  
Gus Byrd Jr.  
William M. Faulkner  
Liviston Fears  
Luke Hardeman  
Oliver L. Floyd  
Thomas B. Wyatt  
Fred J. Moon  
George H. Grant  
Newt Lenton Casey  
Homer V. Cook  
Lee E. Green  
Clifford W. Harper  
Hugh R. Kelly  
James O. Lawrence  
Oliver W. Porter Jr.  
Loy D. Skelton  
James W. Rye  
Charles E. Polk  
Bonnell H. Stone Jr.



# LOCAL NEWS

The Covington News

Newton County Coroner's Office

## Bailey-Butts steps down

Officials deny her attempt to rescind resignation day after announcement

By TOM SPIGOLON  
tspigolon@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — Gov. Brian Kemp accepted the resignation of Dorothea Bailey-Butts from the coroner's office Thursday, May 27, after a whirlwind week in which she resigned from the job and then unsuccessfully tried to rescind her notice. Kemp sent a letter

dated Thursday, May 27, to Bailey-Butts stating he had been "apprised of your resignation, effective 8:00 a.m. on May 28, 2021."

He also thanked her



Dorothea Bailey-Butts

for her service, according to the letter county officials made public Friday.

"Your resignation as coroner is hereby accepted, and I wish you all the best," Kemp wrote.

Bailey-Butts declined to respond to an interview request from *The Covington News*.

She had removed her items from the coroner's office in the Historic Courthouse Friday before 8 a.m., county officials said.

Kemp's letter followed a Wednesday, May 26, order signed by Probate Judge Melanie Bell based on a letter of resignation from Bailey-Butts dated the same day, according to information from the county government.

In the same order, she appointed former coroner Thomas E. "Tommy" Davis to fill the vacancy.

However, it was unclear Friday from county officials if Davis will serve as an interim coroner until a special election is held by May 2022, or if he will serve the remainder of Bailey-Butts' term that ends in December 2024.

Davis was appointed to replace his successor, Bailey-Butts, who defeated him in the

Nov. 3 election for the job.

Bailey-Butts said on Tuesday in a letter to county officials she was resigning as Newton County coroner effective Friday, May 28, at 8 a.m.

In response, the county government stated on Wednesday, "Whereas the vacancy has arisen unexpectedly and prior to the end of Bailey-Butts' elected term, an appointment ... has been made to fill the vacancy as outlined in (state law)."

It said that Davis, who served three terms as coroner from 2008 to 2020, "has been appointed ... to serve the office of interim coroner until his successor is duly elected and qualified."

"His experience and familiarity with the position as the previous coroner allows for a seamless transition in this critical office," the statement said.

Then, on Wednesday, Bailey-Butts said on her Facebook page that she was rescinding the resignation she had publicly announced the day before.

She told Atlanta TV station Fox 5 she decided to withdraw the resignation after being interviewed by the station.

She then posted on her Facebook page:

"PSA..... I have decided that I am not going to resign as Newton County Coroner. I am withdrawing my resignation effectively today. I am not resigning from my position. The citizens voted me in this position. 'I apologize for the inconvenience.'"

Coroner is an elected position in most Georgia counties and is responsible for such tasks as investigating suspicious deaths and producing death certificates.

Bailey-Butts, a registered nurse, began her term on Jan. 1 and it has been marred by controversy at times, including County Manager Lloyd Kerr's request to a state coroner's training board that it remove her from office.

Complaints also came on social media about an envelope she showed county commissioners in January that she said contained damaging information that she never publicly disclosed.

She showed the envelope during a presentation she made during a public meeting in which she asked commissioners for

See DOWN, A8

## Former coroner fills void

Judge Bell taps Davis to serve remainder of term, until special election

By TOM SPIGOLON  
tspigolon@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — Newton County's newly appointed coroner already has 17 years of experience to guide him in the job.

Probate Judge Melanie Bell last week appointed funeral home



Tommy Davis

owner and former coroner Thomas E. "Tommy" Davis to fill the vacancy left by Dorothea Bailey-Butts following her surprise resignation Tuesday, May 25, and equally surprising effort to withdraw the notice the following day.

The governor accepted her resignation Thursday after her withdrawal was unsuccessful because Bell already had issued an order for an appointment to replace her, officials said.

However, it was unclear Friday whether Davis will serve the remainder of Bailey-Butts' term, which ends in December 2024,

See VOID, A8



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Congratulations to the Caldwell & Cowan Staff for this achievement!



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## Memorial Day Travel

## GDOT officials suspend highway construction over holiday weekend

State Patrol encourages motorists to make safety priority

By TAYLOR BECK  
tbeck@covnews.com

Memorial Day weekend is anticipated to be one of the busiest times of year on the road.

In order to help ease expected traffic congestion, the Georgia Department of Transportation announced it would suspend all construction-related land closures from noon Friday, May 28, until 5 a.m. Tuesday, June 1.

Also in preparation for the 78-hour holiday travel period, the

Georgia Department of Public Safety is encouraging motorists to "practice safe driving habits" over the weekend.

"Now that the state has reopened, CDC has released updated guidelines for those who have been vaccinated, and schools have closed for the summer, we expect the number of people traveling on our roadways to visit family and friends to increase this weekend," said Col. Chris C. Wright, who is commissioner of the GDPS.

In a news release, state officials said Troopers and officers would be on "high-visibility patrols" to watch for impaired drivers as well as other violations that could pose a threat to other motorists.

Over last year's Memorial Day weekend, the Georgia State Patrol investigated 382 traffic crashes that resulted in 256 injuries and 10 fatal crashes, involving 13 fatalities, according to the news release. In addition to the traffic crash investigations, Troopers and Motor Carrier Officers arrested 323 people for driving under the influence, while issuing 9,536 citations, and 9,714 warnings. Citations included 430 Hands Free, 936 Seat Belt, 213 Child Restraint, and 33 Move Over violations.

"The Georgia Department of Public Safety wants everyone to enjoy their Memorial Day celebrations with family and friends, but

See TRAVEL, A8

## OBITUARY

Thomas B. "Tom" Young

In Memory Of  
Thomas B. "Tom" Young

Gainesville, Georgia  
Born September 19, 1937  
Entered Into Rest

May 14, 2021  
Memorial Service

Terry Moore Pavilion  
460 Pine Lane  
Covington, Georgia  
30014

May 29, 2021, at 11 a.m.



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Newton County Planning Commission

# Commission OKs new plan for ‘truck stop’ site

Earlier opposition falls away as convenience store, restaurants approved near Social Circle

By TOM SPIGOLON  
tspigolon@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — A downsized version of a previously controversial plan for a travel center near Social Circle will be considered by Newton County commissioners in June after the planning board unanimously voted to recommend it Tuesday.

The Newton County Planning Commission approved a conditional use permit on 10 acres at I-20 and Georgia Hwy. 11 to allow construction of a convenience store and two attached fast-food restaurants after residents and developers compromised in such areas as operating hours and building appearance.

The zoning board’s Tuesday, May 25, action followed rejections by it and the Board of Commissioners of the same developer’s plan for a travel center, fast-food restaurants and future big-box supermarket on a large part of the overall 46-acre site in February.

The applicant, JPC Design & Construction of Jackson, was denied after area residents and homeowners groups united to oppose the plan.

Many opponents said the former plan was for a “truck stop” because it would have offered fuel and amenities to both commercial tractor-trailers and personal vehicles.

JPC’s revised plan is for less than a quarter of the site and includes a convenience store and two attached fast-



Special to The Covington News

**New plans for the former proposed truck stop site include bringing in a Burger King and Dunkin’, as well as a convenience store off Interstate 20 near Social Circle.**

food restaurants facing Hwy. 11, said JPC attorney Richard Milam.

“This is not a truck stop,” Milam said.

He said the project would be a \$6 million investment and employ a total of about 20 to staff the store and restaurants.

The developer has agreements with Burger King and Dunkin’ Donuts to operate the fast-food restaurants — which he said will each include drive-through windows to lessen the amount of traffic on the site, Milam said.

He said the new design includes gas pumps to serve personal vehicles only and no fuel facilities for tractor-trailers.

Residents had criticized the former travel center’s operating hours because it would have allowed overnight truck parking and lighting.

However, Milam said hours will be limited to 5 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. in the new plan.

Lighting is required to be “down-cast,” and not shine outside the site, said county development services director Judy Johnson.

Johnson said developers also would be required to install a landscape buffer along the perimeter of the site.

Leanne Long, an area resident and representative of some homeowner groups, said residents knew the site will eventually be developed for commercial use even with the restrictions of the Brick Store Overlay District — which places additional requirements for design and appearance on new construction in the northeast Newton area.

“We’re all trying to work together to make this something we can all be proud of,” Long said.

One area resident asked if commissioners could approve conditions to prevent future owners from building a larger, truck-oriented facility on the

site.

Planning commission attorney Paul Frickey said the county government could not prevent future requests for such a use but the Board of Commissioners would be required to approve any action to change the plan presented by JPC.

“It cannot be a truck stop without that process,” Frickey said.

The Board of Commissioners now is scheduled to consider it at its June 15 meeting.

Milam said after the meeting that JPC is waiting to see what action the Board of Commissioners takes on approving the revised plan before deciding if it will proceed with a lawsuit it recently filed in Newton County Superior Court.

The lawsuit was the only legal remedy JPC had to appeal the Board’s February decision to deny the previous travel center plan, Milam said.

Rockdale County

# Multiple shootings leave 3 dead

Covington man charged in one case, another was victim

By TOM SPIGOLON  
tspigolon@covnews.com

CONYERS, Ga. — Covington residents reportedly were the victim and the main suspect in separate shooting deaths in Rockdale County this week.



Javon Price

Javon Price of Covington was arrested Tuesday, May 25, on a murder charge related to the shooting deaths of two 22-year-olds found in a vehicle in Rockdale County last week, the Rockdale County Sheriff’s Office reported.

Sheriff’s deputies responded to a report of a person shot Thursday, May 20, in the 1400 block of Bruce Road and found the bodies of Miykel Blackburn and Trevia Ways, both of Snellville, in a gray Nissan Infiniti.

Both had been shot multiple times, the sheriff’s office reported.

The case is still an active investigation and the sheriff’s office is asking that anyone with information on the case to call 770-278-8059.

In a separate case, the Rockdale sheriff’s office also is asking for the public’s help in finding suspects in the Monday, May 24, shooting death of Kelvin D. Battle, 34, of Covington, while he was riding a bicycle.

Battle was found on a bike shot multiple times on Salem Road at Golfview Drive at about 4:47 a.m., according to Deputy J. Canty of the Rockdale County Sheriff’s Office.

Battle was transported to an area hospital where he later died from his injuries.

Anyone with any information is asked to call 770-278-8150.

# Salvation Army, community partners hold food giveaway



Tom Spigolon | The Covington News

**Volunteers helped give away 500 boxes of food during the Salvation Army’s Fishes and Loaves event.**

By TOM SPIGOLON  
tspigolon@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — Volunteers from throughout Newton County took time off from work or leisure Tuesday to help some fellow area residents in need.

The Salvation Army hosted its Fishes and Loaves food box giveaway Tuesday, May 25, which sought to provide boxes of food free to 500 people on a first-come, first-served basis with “no questions asked.”

Volunteers from Takeda Pharmaceuticals, Solid Rock Baptist Church and Salvation Army board members were among those working in assembly-line fashion at times to load food boxes into car trunks and back seats outside First Baptist Church of Covington.

Salvation Army advisory board member Sam Ozburn praised Takeda workers for helping with the distribution — noting about 50 had helped fill boxes the day before the event.

“They’re a God-send,” the retired judge said of the Takeda workers.

Companies like Food Depot, General Mills and Kroger either donated or sold their food at deep discounts to the agency and were major contributors to the effort, said advisory board member Donna Sneed.

Sneed, who was a main organizer of the project, said she began working on the Fishes and Loaves project in early March.

She said some who came through the line Tuesday were seeking food for three generations of their families. One family was asking for food to feed 13 children, she said.

Volunteers filled two kinds of boxes. One contained non-perishable foods like cereal and apples, while the other had perishable foods like whole fryers, milk, cheese, chicken nuggets and more.

All were filled with copies of the New Testament, she said.

Sneed said numerous retailers and industries assisted with the effort.

General Mills donated 500 boxes of cereal and numerous boxes of Fruit Roll-Ups, while Kroger

See F00D, A8

## PUBLIC NOTICE NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA FISCAL YEAR 2022 BUDGET REVIEW AND ADOPTION

**BUDGET AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW:** Newton County’s FY 2022 proposed budget will be available for public inspection during regular office hours (Monday – Friday; 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM) in the office of the County Clerk inside the Historic Courthouse, located at 1124 Clark Street, Covington, Georgia 30014 beginning Tuesday, June 1. A copy of the budget can also be found on the County’s website at <http://co.newton.ga.us>.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS ON FY 2022 BUDGET:** Two Public Hearings on Newton County’s FY 2022 proposed budget are scheduled for Tuesday, June 8 at 6:00 PM and Tuesday, June 15 at 6:00 PM at the Newton County Historic Courthouse, located at 1124 Clark Street, Covington, Georgia 30014. At this meeting, the Chairman and Board of Commissioners will receive both written and oral comments about the proposed budget for Newton County, Georgia.

**BUDGET ADOPTION:** The Chairman and Board of Commissioners of Newton County, Georgia are scheduled to adopt the FY 2022 Budget at the BOC Meeting on Tuesday, June 15 at 7:00 PM at the Newton County Historic Courthouse, located at 1124 Clark Street, Covington, Georgia 30014.

Your Letters to the Editor

## Celebrating my 50th trip around the sun

Truth be told, birthdays have never been that big of a deal for me.

Yet, I suppose this one is more of a milestone than some.

On May 27 my personal calendar will flip to 50. The big 5-0. Half a century.

The day itself won't really seem different from any other. I will be working at one of my multiple jobs so I probably won't even think about it much.

Confession time: Birthdays in recent years have been tougher. They really have seemed that way since I turned the big 4-0 a decade ago. I'm not sure why. A mid-life crisis I suppose or at least perhaps it was to some degree.

On May 27, 1971 your newspaper columnist arrived in this world, the first son of Paul and Melba Bridges. For it's worth I was born in Macon and grew up in the Middle Georgia town of Monticello, a few miles down Hwy. 11

Recent years though have brought the loss of loved ones. That is actually what I think most about, certainly more so than my current age. Knowing the older I get it means family members from previous generations as well friends will be lost.

It has been 30 years since I graduated high school and we have already lost one member of our small class. Truth to known our class is probably lucky that number is only one.

It's all a part of life but it's still tough to wrap my head around. Or maybe I just don't want to.

I have tried to look at age 50 as simply another birthday. No bigger

See BRIDGES, A8

Taylor Beck editor and publisher

# Take time to honor our fallen heroes

In my adolescent years, my family took a trip to Washington, D.C. To be honest, I don't remember much of the trip, as I'm sure I spent entirely too much time being a teenager whose nose was stuck in his phone.

I do recall visiting most of the iconic destinations, such as the Lincoln Memorial, Washington Monument, Capitol Hill and of course, the White House — unfortunately, we actually didn't get to tour the president's home.

But the unforgettable experience came about 20 minutes away in Virginia, when we got to visit Arlington National Cemetery and witness the Changing of the Guard.

Arlington National Cemetery is 639 acres of beautiful landscape that is the final resting place for thousands of our nation's veterans dating back to the Civil War. To date, there are approximately 400,000 graves on site.

For readers who have seen the cemetery in person, you'll understand when I say that there's a sobering aura to the place that I've never felt anywhere else.

We read the number of soldiers who've died in battles throughout the ages, but on paper it doesn't seem like much. But when you lay your eyes on the grounds at Arlington, as markers upon markers flood the fields, your eyes are



A sentinel from the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) keeps watch over the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia, on May 6.

opened. You finally understand the magnitude of those numbers, and you realize they are so much more than that.

What a sight to behold. He wasn't the most eloquent president in our country's history, but, in 2005, I believe President George W. Bush said it best:

"Looking across this field, we see the scale of heroism and sacrifice. All who are buried here understood their duty. All stood to protect America. And all carried with them memories of a family that they hoped to keep safe by their sacrifice."

An even greater spectacle, in my opinion, is the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and the Changing of the Guard.

No one is buried in the tomb. Rather, it is simply a monument that represents all of our fallen soldiers whose remains are unidentified. An inscription on the tomb states, "Here rests in honored glory

an American soldier known only to God."

The statement, "Honoring and keeping faith with America's missing servicemen 1958-1979," is carved into one of three pavers set in front of the tomb.

Twenty-four hours a day, soldiers from the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment, known as "The Old Guard," stand watch over the Tomb. The Changing of the Guard occurs every half hour from April 1 through Sept. 30 and every hour from Oct. 1 through March 1.

This Memorial Day, my heart goes out to the families of those soldiers — not only those who died, but also the ones who never made it home. So often, we take those lives for granted.

I'm thankful to live in a place where there have been and continue to be so many men and women willing to put their lives on the line to

serve our country and defend our freedoms.

Many of us will enjoy a day off from work Monday, and while doing so, I encourage you to try visiting one of our local memorials or attending a ceremony to honor the fallen. And if you've already committed to other plans, I implore you to take but just a moment to think about the sacrifice of those men and women. Send up a prayer for the families who are still in mourning.

After all, as someone once said, our nation's heroes paid the price for freedom with their lives, and that is a debt we, as a society, will never be able to adequately repay. Nevertheless, we should do all we can to show them our appreciation and respect.

*Taylor Beck is editor and publisher of The News. He may be reached at [tbeck@covnews.com](mailto:tbeck@covnews.com).*

Kasey Carty Jordan religious columnist

# Grief can remind us we've loved and been loved

Last weekend was the 15th anniversary of my youngest sister's death. Every year, May 15 is a sad day for me, not because I don't believe in eternity and the hope of heaven, but because losing someone far too early (she was 22 years old) just doesn't seem right. Granted, losing anyone, whether they are an infant, or 100 years old, brings grief, but when the seemingly natural order of things is broken — chil-



dren dying before parents, a widow raising her children without her spouse, children growing up without a parent — there is a lasting grief that can surprisingly spring up on you, even when you have mostly moved on with your life.

I see a lot more smiles these days. Maybe because I see vaccinated people without a mask, living their lives without the fear of hurting another individual. And then maybe it is hope that seemed buried for quite a while this past year as we tried to optimistically look forward, but saw so many roadblocks ahead. I see people at mass I have not seen in over a year, vaccinated and excited to connect with people again. You can kind of feel the hope in the air, as life starts to look more like it used to.

Yet even with this hope, this weekend reminded me that there are still a lot of people hurting. There are people celebrating their first Mother's Day without their mother. Children dreading a Father's Day without their father. Grandmothers bringing their grandchildren to mass because their husband no longer stands next to them. Many are hurting over the loss of loved ones, but equally, people are

hurting over the loss of relationships and connections with others, the loss of experiences that can't be replaced — prom or going away for a first year of college, or reunions and celebrations.

COVID took away a lot of things this year, but the opportunity to grieve with people was one of the saddest losses. You might hear of someone dying, but you couldn't go to the funeral because of limits on attendance. And then you didn't see their surviving family members because you weren't fully vaccinated and you were trying to follow the health recommendations as best you could. And now, maybe even a full year after some of these losses, you see someone sitting alone and that part of your heart that never got to grieve finally "gets it." The grief that that person has been experiencing for over a year, mostly alone, is finally yours and then what do you do with it?

One of my favorite, and incidentally the shortest, verses in the Bible is John 11:35, "Jesus wept." Jesus came to Mary and Martha after the devastating loss of their brother. He knew he was about to raise Lazarus from the dead, and that his family members would be re-

united with him again. Yet as they grieved next to him, he wept. Sometimes, in the depths of my sorrow, I have imagined Jesus sitting next to me, crying with me. No words. Just him and our tears. It doesn't take away the grief, but I don't feel quite so alone in my grief.

As we join with people who have experienced a loss this year, we can't bring back loved ones or take away the suffering. But maybe we can just weep with someone. Share in their grief, even when there are no words to say, to show them they are not alone in their sorrow.

We can commit to pray for people going through hard times, believing that God can use us, even when the circumstances make it difficult to be physically with them. Prayer should never be a "cop-out," or a way to get away with not actually doing something for another person, but when we pray, we can believe that God is moving, and that He will lead us when there is an opportunity to physically do something for others.

Or maybe we can laugh with them. We can reminisce about the wonderful memories that we have and keep loved ones alive with our stories. There is

no script for what we should say and only the Holy Spirit can really guide us as we seek to be used by Him to bring comfort and connection.

Connection is really the key. Connecting ourselves with others and ultimately allowing our lives to be a tool to connect others with God. We serve a God who is compassionate and loving and listens. I pray that even in my imperfection, I can get out of the way enough to let God work in me and through me so others can experience the only peace that can meet us in our grief.

Grief is not something that you get over, but when we can sit with the author of peace, grief can become an old friend that reminds us that we have loved and been loved in return. And that is something we can share with others and that can never be taken away.

*Kasey Carty Jordan is a former missionary to China and currently serves in youth ministry with her husband Kurt at their Catholic parish. She is also the Executive Director of Camp to Belong-Georgia, a non-profit that serves siblings separated in foster care. She currently resides in Monticello.*

The Covington News

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# CLASSIFIEDS & LEGALS

The Covington News

## CLASSIFIEDS

### Jobs

### Help Wanted

Tree Crew needed in Covington, GA area. ALL positions available. Must have clear MVR and pass pre-employment drug screen. Valid driver's license also required. Experience required for Foreman and Trimmer positions, Groundsman position is entry level.

## LEGALS

### Public Notices

### Bids

**SEALED PROPOSALS** will be received by the CITY OF COVINGTON, at CITY HALL, 2194 Emory Street NW, Covington, GA, 30014 until:

Thursday, June 10th at 11:00 A.M., Local Time

for the: CITY OF COVINGTON, GEORGIA BLANKET CONTRACT FOR MAIN EXTENSIONS – NATURAL GAS SYSTEM

at which time and place the proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud. Proposals received after the designated time will not be considered. The City seeks to enter into an on-demand service contract for providing all labor, tools, skills, equipment and all incidental materials not supplied by the city for the construction of 2" and 4-inch steel and polyethylene gas main and services within the natural gas service territory of the City of Covington Georgia.

Bidders shall inform themselves concerning Georgia Laws, and comply with same.

**A MANDATORY** Pre-Bid meeting will be held on Friday, June 4th at 11:00 A.M. at the Covington City Hall complex located at 2194 Emory Street NW, Covington, GA, 30014. Plans, specifications and contract documents are open to public inspection at the Covington City Hall complex located at 2194 Emory Street NW, Covington, GA, 30014. One contract shall be awarded covering all the work, and maximum time for completion shall not exceed the time frame outlined by the City of Covington. Each proposal or bid must be accompanied by a cashier's check or certified check on a duly organized bank made payable to the City of Covington or a bidding bond executed by the bidder, and surety company authorized to transact business in the State of Georgia, in the sum of not less than five percent (5%) of the total amount of the bid. Said check or bond will be returned to the unsuccessful bidder as soon as the contract or contracts have been awarded and to the successful bidder as soon as he has executed the contract or contracts and furnished the necessary bonds, same having been approved by the City's attorney. All bids must be made out on the proposal form furnished in the contract documents, in accordance with the instructions in the Information for Bidders. No interlineations, additions or deletions must be made in the proposal form by the bidder.

**THE SUCCESSFUL** bidder will be furnished, free of charge, three (3) sets of plans and contract documents. No bid may be withdrawn after the scheduled closing time for receiving bids for a period of ninety (90) days. Bidders are required to have a State of Georgia Utility Contractor License to submit a bid in excess of \$100,000.00.

**THE OWNER** reserves the right to reject any or all bids; to waive formalities; re-advertise; and to reduce or add to the contract from time to time.

**PUBLIC NOTICE #200367**  
5/23,30

### Citations

#### CITATION

**ADRIENNE KIZITO** has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **JOHN WESLEY FREEMAN**, 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 JUNE 7,, 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 #200270**  
5/9,16,23,30

#### CITATION

**BRENDA G. HARPER** has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **GARY TIMOTHY HARPER**, 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 JUNE 7, 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 #200273**  
5/9,16,23,30

## 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.

Portable Oxygen Concentrator may be covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 888-670-0481.

ATTENTION: Oxygen users! Gain Freedom with a Portable Oxygen Concentrator! No more heavy tanks and refills! Guaranteed Lowest Prices! Call the Oxygen Concentrator Store: 844-923-2359.

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 1-855-558-2694. 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

#### CITATION

**DARLENE J. DUKE** has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **OLLIE J. DUKE**, 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 JUNE 7,, 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 #200271**  
5/9,16,23,30

#### CITATION

**ELLA MAE COLE** has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **REGINALD E. ESSEX**, 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 JUNE 7,, 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 #200231**  
5/9,16,23,30

#### CITATION

**GREGORY HAYDEN YATES** has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **BARBARA ANN COLLINS YATES** 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 JUNE 7,, 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 #200312**  
5/9,16,23,30

#### CITATION

**KENNETH L. FARROW** has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **REGINALD LEE FARROW**, 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 JUNE 7, 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 #200203**  
5/9,26,23,30

#### CITATION

**MONICA M. LAWRENCE** has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **SHAKELIA M. BELL**, 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 JUNE 7,, 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 #200232**  
5/9,16,23,30

#### CITATION

**PADRIAC M. DORSEY** has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **ANTHONY JEROME DORSEY**, 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 JUNE 7,, 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 #200313**  
5/9,16,23,30

#### CITATION

**RE: ESTATE OF GAVIN M. WHITE,**  
Former Minor

**ANNA K. BLAKE**, Conservator has petitioned to be discharged from Office and all Liability. All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause as to why said petition should not be granted. All objections must be in writing and filed with this Court on or before July 12, 2021, at ten o'clock am.

**MELANIE M. Bell, Judge By: Marcia Wynne, Clerk Probate Court**  
**NEWTON COUNTY, GA**

**NEWTON COUNTY PROBATE COURT**  
1132 USHER STREET  
COVINGTON, GA 30014

**PUBLIC NOTICE #200388**  
5/30

#### CITATION

**RE: ESTATE OF MORRIS LEE HAMILTON,** Deceased

**KEVIN LEE HAMILTON**, Executor has petitioned to be discharged from Office and all Liability. All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause as to why said petition should not be granted. All objections must be in writing and filed with this Court on or before June 7, 2021, at ten o'clock am.

**MELANIE M. Bell, Judge By: Marcia Wynne, Clerk Probate Court**  
**NEWTON COUNTY, GA**

**NEWTON COUNTY PROBATE COURT**  
1132 USHER STREET  
COVINGTON, GA 30014

**PUBLIC NOTICE #200314**  
5/23,30-6/6,13

#### CITATION

**REBECCA E. SOMMA** has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the

Estate of **AMBROSE WILLIAM GUY**, 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 JUNE 7,, 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 #200201**  
5/9,16,23,30

#### CITATION

**TRUDIE A. WADE** has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **LUCILE U. MCCLLUM**, 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 JUNE 7,, 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 #200272**  
5/9,12,23,30

**THE PETITION OF BETTY DALTON** widow of **RONALD DALTON** 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 June 7 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

**PUBLIC NOTICE #200311**  
5/9,16,23,30

**THE PETITION of Teresa Batson Hardy** widow of **Jeffery Donald Hardy** 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 June 7. 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

**PUBLIC NOTICE #200202**  
5/9,16,23,30

### Corporations

“NOTICE OF Intent to Incorporate

**NOTICE IS** given that articles of incorporation, which will incorporate Canadian Sports Distribution, Inc., will be delivered to the Secretary of State for filing in accordance with the Georgia Business Corporation Code. The initial registered office of the corporation will be located at 5160

**ISONOVA TECHNOLOGIES in Social Circle, GA has an opening for an Industrial Maintenance Associate.**

12 hour rotating shifts / One wk M-T-S-SU–next wk W-Th-F–Hours 7–7  
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

Pratt Street, Covington, GA  
**30014, AND** its initial registered agent at such address is Glenda Koon.”

**PUBLIC NOTICE #200378**  
5/30-6/6

### Debtors Creditors

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS

**ALL CREDITORS** of the estate of **JAMES LINTON SHIPP, III** deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned.

**THIS 10TH** day of May, 2021  
**JAMES GARRETT SHIPP**  
**EXECUTOR OF THE Estate OF JAMES Linton Shipp, III**  
**C/O ROBERT Stansfield, Esq.**  
**GREER, STANSFIELD & Turner, LLP**  
**P.O. BOX 1617**  
**COVINGTON, GEORGIA 30015-1617**  
**(770) 786-4390**

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS

**ALL CREDITORS** of the estate of **HELEN LOUISE DAWKINS** deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned.

**THIS 30TH** day of April, 2021

**JENNIFER LYNN Allen**  
**GREGORY LEE Dawkins**  
**CO -EXECUTORS of the Estate OF HELEN Louise Dawkins**  
**C/O ROBERT Stansfield, Esq.**  
**Greer, Stansfield & Turner, LLP**  
**P.O. BOX 1617**  
**COVINGTON, GEORGIA 30015-1617**  
**(770) 786-4390**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #200293**  
5/9,16,23,30

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS

**ALL CREDITORS** of the estate of **ROGER ANSLEY WALLACE**, late of Newton County, Georgia are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned.

**THIS 10TH** day of May, 2021

**FRANK F. Thach, Jr.,**  
**EXECUTOR OF the Estate OF ROGER Ansley Wallace**  
**C/O ROBERT Stansfield, Esq.**  
**GREER, STANSFIELD & Turner, LLP**  
**P.O. BOX 1617**  
**COVINGTON, GEORGIA 30015-1617**  
**(770) 786-4390**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #200336**  
5/16,23,30-6/6

#### NOTICE TO Debtors and Creditors

**ALL CREDITORS** of the estate of **Jerry Leroy Robinson** 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 4TH** day of May, 2021

**NAME: ARLENE W. Robinson**  
**TITLE: EXECUTOR**  
**ADDRESS: 320 East Clayton Street, Suite 418**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #200310**  
5/23,30-6/6,13

#### NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

**ALL CREDITORS** of the Estate of **WILHELMINA STEWART LATE OF** Newton County, deceased, are hereby notified to rendering their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said Estate are required to make **IMMEDIATE PAYMENT.**

**THIS APRIL** day 27TH of 2021  
**(FILE OF** completing this form or first publication date if left blank)

**MICHAEL T. Byrne** Attorney of the Estate of Michael R. Ford, deceased  
**2138 EAST Main Street**  
**SNELLVILLE, GEORGIA 30078**  
**770-979-4300**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #200282**  
5/9,16,23,30

#### NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

**ALL CREDITORS** of the estate of **DANIEL RAY CONLEY**, 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 18** day of May, 2021.

**ELLEN RUTH Conley** Executrix of the Estate of Daniel Ray Conley  
**C/O MICHELLE Chaudhuri, Esq.**

Talley & Associates, P.C.  
**1892 GA Hwy 138, SE Conyers, GA**  
**30013**  
**770-483-1431**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #200366**  
5/23,30-6/6,13

#### NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **AGNES BLALOCK** 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 12TH** day of MAY, 2021.

**JAMES WATTS**  
**12661 FRANK DR. S**  
**SEMINOLE, FL 33776**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #200354**  
5/23,30-6/6,13

#### NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **BOBBY JACK HUGGINS, 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 5th** day of MAY , 2021.

**JOYCE R. HUGGINS**  
**454 COUNTY LINE ROAD**  
**COVINGTON, GA 30016**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #200318**  
5/9,16,23,30

#### NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **CHARLOTTE MARIE OSLIN TUCK** 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 5th** day of MAY , 2021.

**CYNTHIA TUCK BARKER**  
**160 COUNTRY WALK**  
**SOCIAL CIRCLE, GA 30025**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #200319**  
5/9,16,23,30

#### NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **DONALD A. ROSBORO** 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 29th** day of APRIL , 2021.

**BESSIE ROSBORO**  
**1454 HWY 229**  
**MANSFIELD, GA 30055**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #200321**  
5/9,16,23,30

#### NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **DONALD WAYNE PICKENS** deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the

# LEGALS:

Continued from A5

**DEBTORS AND** creditors of the Estate of **JOSEPH E. SCHELL** 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 11TH** day of MAY, 2021.

**SANDRA SCHELL**  
95 HIDDEN FOREST RE  
COVINGTON, GA 30014

**PUBLIC NOTICE #200357**  
5/23,30-6/6,13

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **LOLA J. PIRKEY** 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 3RD** day of MAY , 2021.

**CAROLA GARVER**  
18659 KEY DEER CT  
PERRY, FL 32348

**PUBLIC NOTICE #200317**  
5/9,16,23,30

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **MARY P. HARRIS** 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 3RD** day of MAY , 2021.

**CECIL ROZIER, SR**  
2106 GINGER ESTATE DR.  
CONYERS, GA 30013

**PUBLIC NOTICE #200326**  
5/9,16,23,30

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **MATTIE LOU 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 12TH** day of MAY, 2021.

**REGIO PROSSER**  
890 NEWTON FACTORY BRIDGE RD  
COVINGTON, GA 30014

**PUBLIC NOTICE #200356**  
5/23,30-6/6,13

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **MOLLY GAYNELLE BURDICK SHAPPELL** 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 21ST** day of APRIL , 2021.

**BRODY LANE SHAPPELL**  
1925 MELANIE LANE, CABIN D  
FAIRBANKS, AK 99707

**PUBLIC NOTICE #200322**  
5/9,16,23,30

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **NADA JANE SCOGGINS** 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 3RD** day of MAY , 2021.

**KATTIE CANNON**  
2300 ROCK EAGLE DR  
MONTICELLO, GA 31064

**PUBLIC NOTICE #200325**  
5/9,16,23,30

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **NELLIE RUTH HOOD** 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 26th** day of APRIL , 2021.

**CYNTHIA BARTON**  
11 CORNISH MOUNTAIN RD  
OXFORD, GA 30054

**PUBLIC NOTICE #200269**  
5/9,16,23,30

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **PATRICIA SCHOENFELD** deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law.

**THIS THE 13th** day of MAY 2021.

**MARIO S. Ninfo**, Attorney for  
**PAIGE STODDARD**, Administrator  
1198 CLARK St., NW  
COVINGTON, GA 30014  
770 784 8000  
ESTATE NO.202-P-133

**PUBLIC NOTICE #200360**  
5/23,30-6/6,13

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **SHARON ELAINE COLEMAN** 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 14TH** day of MAY, 2021.

**JAMES COLEMAN**  
97 GROSS LAKE PARKWAY  
COVINGTON, GA 30016

**PUBLIC NOTICE #200355**  
5/23,30-6/6,13

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **TERRANCE LEE GEALY** 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 20th** day of APRIL , 2021.

**GARY M. GEALY**  
24170 TROWBRIDGE CT  
DAPHNE, AL 36256

**PUBLIC NOTICE #200323**  
5/9,16,23,30

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **TIMOTHY NEAL FRANKLIN** 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 29th** day of APRIL , 2021.

**OLA M. FRANKLIN**  
45 DEAVERDAM CT  
COVINGTON, GA 30016

**PUBLIC NOTICE #200320**  
5/9,16,23,30

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **WAYNE ANDREW SHELNUTT** 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 16th** day of March , 2021.

**TERESA E. GAEHLE**  
150 ELLIS TRAIL  
COVINGTON, GA. 30016

**PUBLIC NOTICE #200342**  
5/16,23,30,6/6

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **WILLE RUTH DAVENPORT** 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 APRIL , 2021.

**CURTIS MICHAEL DAVENPORT**  
2700 WHITE PINE LANE  
MANSFIELD GA 30055

**PUBLIC NOTICE #200375**  
5/30-6/6,13,20

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **WILLIE HENRY DYER** 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 5TH** day of MAY, 2021.

**TERRY DYER**  
155 HIGH POINT FOREST DR  
COVINGTON, GA 30016

**PUBLIC NOTICE #200324**  
5/9,16,23,30

**Divorces**

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

**JAMES STEPHENS, PLAINTIFF, V. LISA HERNANDEZ STEPHENS, DEFENDANT.**

**CIVIL ACTION FILE NO.2017-CV-2456-2**

**ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION**

**THE ABOVE-STYLED** Plaintiff, James Stephen\*s Complaint for Divorce, having been read and considered and it appearing that the Defendant may not be residing in the State of Georgia; and that her actual, physical address cannot be determined after due diligence; **IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED** that the Defendant shall be served by publication  
**SUMMONS AS** provided by law

**SO ORDERED**, this 28th day of April, 2021

**JUDGE JOHN M. OTT**  
**SUPERIOR COURT** of Newton County

**PREPARED BY:**  
**MARIO S. Ninfo**  
**LAW OFFICES** of Mario S. Ninfo  
1198 CLARK Street, NW  
COVINGTON GEORGIA 30014 770-784-8000

**PUBLIC NOTICE #2003001**  
5/9,16,23,30

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

**ROMAINE ANTHONY HINDS PLAINTIFF VS. JADA MONAE WILLIAMS Defendant**

**TO: JADA MONAE WILLIAMS**  
35 CHEROHALA COURT  
COVINGTON, GEORGIA 30016

**CIVIL ACTION FILE NO 2021-CV-406-1**

**NOTICE OF PUBLICATION**

**BY ORDER** of the Court for Service by Publication dated 5 t h

CLUES ACROSS

1. A group of sheep  
5. Of she  
8. This (Spanish)  
12. A type of sorcery  
14. A team's best pitcher  
15. Port in southern Japan  
16. Makes very happy  
18. Trigonometric unit of measurement  
19. From a distance  
20. Winged nut  
21. Consumed  
22. "Heat" director  
23. In all places  
26 Made improvements to  
30. St. \_\_\_ Girl: brand of beer  
31. A type of "seat"  
32. Wood  
33. A brief treatise on a subject of interest  
34. Approval  
39. Basics  
42. Where judges sit  
44. W. African religion  
46. Commentators  
47. Having many different functions  
49. Member of a Semitic people  
50. Flightless, fast-running bird  
51. After the seventh  
56. Small N. Zealand tree  
57. Health care pro (abbr.)  
58. Playground mainstay  
59. Expressing relief  
60. Records brain activity (abbr.)  
61. Fishing net  
62. Beer  
63. Tooth caregiver  
64. Japanese beverage

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

CLUES DOWN

1. Garden tools  
2. Early Syrian kingdom  
3. 500 sheets of paper  
4. Information  
5. Beloved comic strip character  
6. Distinct form of a plant  
7. Replenishment  
8. Semitransparent glassy substance  
9. Expedition to observe animals

day of May 2021. You are hereby notified that on the 22nd day of February 2021, the Petitioner filed suit against you for: COMPLAINT 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 serve upon Plaintiff's attorney: Sam O. Laguda, Esq., The Laguda Law Group, LLC, 2400 HERODIAN Way, Suite 145, Smyrna, GA 30080.

**THIS, THE 5th** day of MAY, 2021.

**WITNESS, THE** Honorable Jeffrey L. Foster Judge of the **SUPERIOR COURT**, Newton County.

**PUBLIC NOTICE #200340**  
5/16,23,30-6/6

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

**ALLYSON BEHLING PLAINTIFF, V. LANCE BEHLING DEFENDANT,**

**CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 2021-CV-720-1**

**NOTICE OF PUBLICATION**

**TO: LANCE BEHLING**  
5153 FLOYD STREET  
COVINGTON, GA 30014

**BY ORDER** of the court for service by publication dated MAY 5, 2021 you are hereby notified that on MARCH 30, 2021 (date of filing) ALLYSON BEHLING (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 JEFFERY L. FOSTER, Judge Superior Court of Newton County.

**THIS, THE 5TH** day of MAY 2021  
**LINDA D. Hays**  
CLERK OF Superior

**PUBLIC NOTICE #200333**  
5/16,23,30-6/6

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

**CHERYL MATTHEW PLAINTIFF, V. ROGER MATTHEW DEFENDANT,**

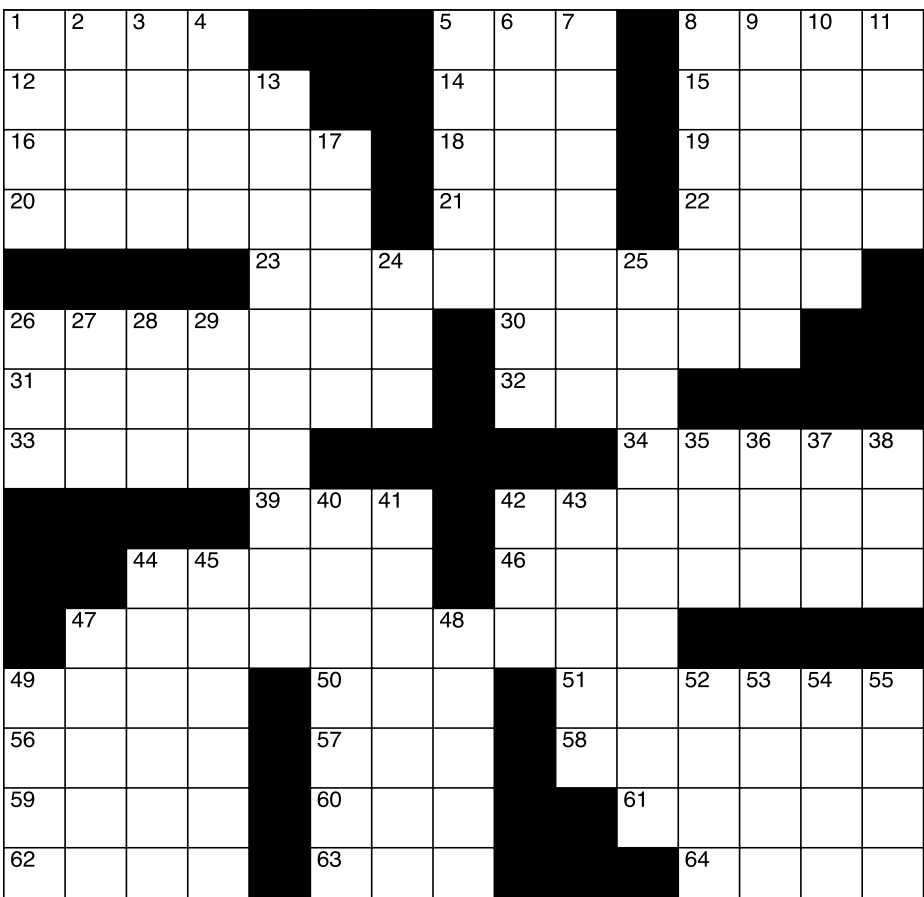
**CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 2021-CV-719-5**

**NOTICE OF PUBLICATION**

**TO: ROGER MATTHEW**  
12607 NW 27 HWY  
MIAMI FL 33169

**BY ORDER** of the court for service by publication dated APRIL 14, 2021 you are hereby notified that on 3-30-21 (date of filing) CHERYL MATTHEW (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 WYNN JR., Judge



- 10. One who held landed grant-ed by Anglo-Saxon king
- 11. Obtain in return for labor
- 13. Inheritable genetically
- 17. One who rescues
- 24. Doctor of Education
- 25. Liberal arts
- 26. Shock treatment
- 27. Disfigure
- 28. When you hope to get there
- 29. Peacock network
- 35. Part of (abbr.)
- 36. The 21st letter of the Greek alphabet
- 37. Not just "play"
- 38. Former CIA
- 40. Reduced to a sloping edge

- 41. Restricted the devel-opment of
- 42. Sciences degree
- 43. Sea eagles
- 44. Saturated
- 45. Joints
- 47. Sailing boat
- 48. Respiratory organs
- 49. Guitarists use them
- 52. Disco act: Bee \_\_\_
- 53. First Chinese dynasty
- 54. Intentionally lose
- 55. Muslim people of China

Superior Court of Newton County.

**THIS, THE 3RD** day of MAY 2021  
**LINDA D. Hays**  
CLERK OF Superior

**PUBLIC NOTICE #200299**  
5/9,16,23,30

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

**MARQUELL BANKS PLAINTIFF V. HEATHER EDWARDS-BANKS DEFENDANT**

**CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 2021-CV-972-4**

**NOTICE OF PUBLICATION**

**TO: HEATHER EDWARDS-BANKS**  
2011 COUNTY RD APT 4343A  
ALEXANDER, AL

**BY ORDER** of the court for service by publication dated MAY 6 2021 you are hereby notified that on APRIL 23, 2021 (date of filing) MARQUELL BANKS (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 CHEVEDA D. MCCAMY, Judge Superior Court of Newton County.

**THIS, THE 7TH** day of MAY 2021.  
**LINDA D. Hays**  
CLERK OF Superior

**PUBLIC NOTICE #200338**  
5/16,23,30-6/6

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

**MATTHEW WALDO PLAINTIFF V. AMANDA WALDO DEFENDANT**

**CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 2021-CV-215-1**

**NOTICE OF PUBLICATION**

**TO: AMANDA WALDO**  
224 CEDAR VALLEY RD LOT 10  
SWEETWATER, TN 37874

**BY ORDER** of the court for service by publication dated APRIL 26 2021 you are hereby notified that on 4/202021(date of filing) MATTER WALDO (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 26TH** day of APRIL 2021.  
**LINDA D. Hays**  
CLERK OF Superior

**PUBLIC NOTICE #200292**  
5/9,16,23,30

**DUI - Second**

**SUPERIOR COURT OF WALTON**

COUNTY



**REBECCA REEVES** of Covington, GA 30014 Newton County was convicted on October 28, 2020 in Walton County Superior Court for her second or subsequent DUI conviction within five years following her arrest on March 7, 2020 **SENTENCED TO** 12 months probation: 60 days confinement: DUI risk reduction class: substance abuse evaluation and treatment: 240 hours community service

**KAREN P. David**, Clerk  
303 S. Hammond Dr, Suite 335  
MONROE, GA 30655

**PUBLIC NOTICE #200376**  
5/30

**Foreclosures**

**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE OF RIGHT TO REDEEM PROPERTY**

**TAKE NOTICE** that: **THE RIGHT** to redeem the following described property, to wit: **20 SHADOWBROOK Trace, Covington GA 30016** according to the present system of numbering properties in Newton County Georgia, having Tax Parcel ID # 032B 00000 029 000 and being further described as follows: **ALL AND** only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 032B 00000 029 000, lying and being in Land Lot 37, 8th District, Newton County, Georgia, and being shown as Lot 81, Shadowbrook Estates, Unit One, on a plat of survey of same recorded in Plat Book 38, Pages 56-59, public records of Newton County Georgia, which plat is by reference thereto incorporated herein and made a part hereof for a more particular and complete description. **WILL EXPIRE** and be forever foreclosed and barred on and after the day of June 22 2021, or thirty days after legal service of this notice, whichever is later. **THE TAX** deed to which this notice relates is dated the 4th day of December, 2012, and is recorded in the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Newton County, Georgia, in Deed Book 3088 Page 51. **THE PROPERTY** may be redeemed at any time before the day of June 22 2021, or thirty days after legal service of this notice, whichever is later, by payment of the redemption price as fixed and provided by law to the undersigned at the following address: Fletcher Law Firm LLC, 2993 Sandy Plains Rd, Ste 225B Marietta GA 30066 Please be governed accordingly.

**SINCERELY,** **HERROL** and Associates, LLC As grantee of Herrol P. Lewis by Warranty Deed recorded in Deed Book 3346 Page 114, Newton County Georgia records **C/O JAMES R. Fletcher II, Esq. (FILE: 2697.0002**

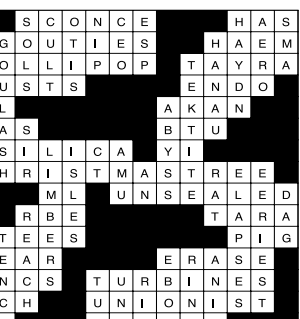
**PUBLIC NOTICE #200332**  
5/16,23,30-6/6

**STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF NEWTON**

**NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER IN SECURITY DEED**

**UNDER AND** by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in the Security Deed from **Kevin A. McLoughlin**, a Georgia resident, to **Mary Ann E. McLoughlin**, a Georgia resident, dated the 1st day of September

## LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:



2005, and recorded in Deed Book 1994, Pages 109-116, Newton County, Georgia Records, and modified at Deed Book 4111, Pages 288-289, Newton County, Georgia (jointly, the "Deed to Secure Debt" or the "Security Deed"), conveying the after-described property to secure an indebtedness in the original principal amount of \$93,872.26, the undersigned will sell, at public outcry, to the highest bidder for cash, before the Courthouse door of Newton County, Georgia, during the legal hours of sale, on the first Tuesday in June 2021, the following described real property, to wit: SEE EXHIBIT "A" ATTACHED HERETO 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 make the payments called for on the indebtedness secured thereby. The sale will be made for the purpose of applying the proceeds thereof to the payment of the indebtedness and interest thereon, attorney's fees and expenses of sale, and balance remaining shall be applied as provided in said Deed to Secure Debt and as provided by law. Notice has been given of intention to collect attorney's fees in accordance with the terms of the underlying note and the Security Deed. **THE PROPERTY** will be sold as the property of Kevin A. McLoughlin and is subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, whether or not now due and payable), the right of redemption of any taxing authority, any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above. **THE ENTITY** and/or person with full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the mortgage with the debtor is: Mary Ann E. McLoughlin, c/o Richard J. Dreger, Esq., Richard J. Dreger, Attorney at Law, P.C., 295 W. Crossville Road, Suite 110, Roswell, Georgia 30075 (678) 566-6900. Please understand that the secured creditor is not required to negotiate, amend, or modify the terms of the mortgage instrument. **TO THE** best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party in possession of the property is Kevin A. McLoughlin, or a tenant or tenants and said property is more commonly known as **6186 Pinewood Drive, SE, Covington, Georgia**. 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. **THIS LAW FIRM IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT; ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.** **MARY ANN E. McLoughlin ATTORNEY IN fact for KEVIN A. McLoughlin RICHARD J. Dreger, Esq. RICHARD J. Dreger, Attorney at Law, P.C. 295 W. Crossville Road, Suite 110 ROSWELL, GEORGIA 30075 TELEPHONE (678) 566-6901 EXHIBIT "A"** **ALL THAT** tract or parcel of land lying and being in Land Lots 240 and 247 of the 9th Land District of in the City of Covington, Newton County, Georgia, and being Lot 7 of Block E of the Town and Country Subdivision as shown on Survey for Carl Irvin Bailey and Connie E. Bailey by Richard E. Nutt, RLS #1797, dated June 20, 1984, and recorded in Plat Book 19, Page 15, Clerk's Office, Newton Superior Court, which plat is incorporated herein by reference thereto for a more

## LEGALS:

Continued from A6

**COMPLETE DESCRIPTION** thereof.**MAP #C0120 00080 001 A00****PUBLIC NOTICE #200287**  
**5/9,16,23,30****Juvenile Court****IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF  
NEWTON COUNTY  
STATE OF GEORGIA****IN THE INTEREST OF:****K.N.** **SEX:**  
Male **DOB:** 10/03/2015

Case #107-21J-0204

**A CHILD** Under 18 Years of Age**SUMMONS****TO:** **ANGELICA NOLLEY,**  
Mother; **DONALD MANNING,**  
Putative Father; JOHN DOE, and  
any other unknown, unnamed  
biological father or other person(s)  
claiming to have a parental interest  
in the minor child named above born  
to Angelica Nolley on the date above  
listed.**YOU ARE** hereby notified that a  
Petition (Dependency) was filed  
on May 11, 2021, in this Court,  
requesting that the minor child be  
placed in the care, custody and  
control of the Georgia Department  
of Human Services, acting by  
and through the Newton County  
Department of Family and Children  
Services.**YOU ARE** hereby commanded,  
personally or by attorney, to be  
and appear at the Newton County  
Juvenile Court, 1132 Usher Street,  
NW, Covington, Georgia 30014, for  
a hearing to be held on the 13th day  
of July, 2021, at 10:00 a.m., then and  
there to answer why the prayers for  
relief as set forth in the Department's  
Petition should not be granted.**A COPY** of said Petition  
(Dependency) can be obtained  
from the Clerk of the Newton  
County Juvenile Court, at the  
aforementioned address.**READ CAREFULLY****THIS IS** a very serious matter. This  
Summons requires you to be present  
at a formal hearing in the Juvenile  
Court.**THE CHILD** and other parties  
involved may be represented by  
a lawyer at all stages of these  
proceedings.**IF YOU** want a lawyer, you may  
choose to hire your own lawyer. If  
you want to hire a lawyer, please  
contact your lawyer immediately.**IF YOU** want a lawyer but are not  
able to hire a lawyer without undue  
financial hardship, you may ask for a  
lawyer to be appointed to represent  
you. The Court would inquire into  
your financial circumstances and if  
the Court finds you to be financially  
unable to hire a lawyer, then a lawyer  
will be appointed to represent you.  
Please contact immediately the  
Newton County Juvenile Court at  
770-784-2060 if you wish to request  
a lawyer to be appointed to represent  
you. **DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE  
DAY OF COURT TO REQUEST AN  
ATTORNEY.****WHETHER OR** not  
you decide to hire an attorney, you  
have the right to attend the hearing  
of your case, to call witnesses on  
your behalf, and to question those  
witnesses brought against you.**WITNESS THE** Hon. Candice  
Branche, Judge of said Court, this  
17th day of May, 2021.**/S/ JANELL** Gaines**DEPUTY CLERK,**  
**NEWTON COUNTY** Juvenile Court**PUBLIC NOTICE #200363**  
**5/23,30-6/6,13****Name Changes****IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF  
NEWTON COUNTY  
STATE OF GEORGIA****IN RE** the Name Change of  
Child(ren):  
**DAMON CALVIN CALDWELL****BRANDI NICOLE CASTLEBERRY**  
**PETITIONER,**  
**VS.**  
**DAMON MILLER**  
**RESPONDENT.**  
**CIVIL ACTION NUMBER** 2021-CV-  
1132-4**NOTICE OF PETITION TO  
CHANGE NAME OF CHILD****BRANDI NICOLE CASTLEBERRY**  
filed a petition in the Newton County  
Superior Court on 14, 2021, to  
change the name of the following  
minor child**FROM:** **DAMON CALVIN**  
**CALDWELL** to **DAMON CALVIN**  
**MILLER** 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).**BRANDI NICOLE CASTLEBERRY**  
**100 WYNFIELD KEEP**  
**COVINGTON, GA 30016****PUBLIC NOTICE #200372**  
**5/30-6/6,13,20****IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF  
NEWTON COUNTY  
STATE OF GEORGIA****IN RE** the Name Change of  
Child(ren):  
**MALIK X HESTER****SOMER HESTER & MALIK**  
**JENNINGS**  
**PETITIONER,**  
**VS.****RESPONDENT.**  
**CIVIL ACTION NUMBER** 2021-CV-  
961-5**NOTICE OF PETITION TO  
CHANGE NAME OF CHILD****SOMER HESTER & MALIK**  
**JENNINGS** filed a petition in the  
Newton County Superior Court on  
APRIL 23, 2021, to change the name  
of the following minor child**FROM:** **MALIK X HESTER** to  
**MALIK, SE'QUAN JENNINGS**  
**JR.** 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).

**SOMER HESTER**  
**160 HOMEPLACE DR**  
**COVINGTON, GA 30016****PUBLIC NOTICE #200287**  
**5/9,16,23,30****IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF  
NEWTON COUNTY  
STATE OF GEORGIA****IN RE: JOSEPH DANIEL PATRICK**  
**FORTIN****CIVIL ACTION FILE NO.****NOTICE OF PETITION TO  
CHANGE NAME****NOTICE IS** hereby given that  
**JOSEPH DANIEL PATRICK**  
**FORTIN** has filed a petition in the  
Superior Court of Newton County,  
Georgia, on the 26 day of APRIL,  
2021, praying for a change in his  
name from **JOSEPH DANIEL**  
**PATRICK FORTIN** to **DANIEL**  
**PATRICK FORTIN.** 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 the Court within  
thirty (30) days of the filing of said  
Petition to  
**CHANGE NAME.****PREPARED BY:**  
**GARLAND C. MOORE** Attorney for  
Petitioner  
**915 CENTER** Street, N.E., Conyers,  
GA 30012  
**P.O. BOX** 81367, Conyers, GA 30208  
(770) 929-3281 [Office]  
(770) 922-1322 [Facsimile]  
**GARLANDMOORE@BELLSOUTH.**  
**NET [E-MAIL]****EFILED IN OFFICE CLERK OF  
SUPERIOR COURT NEWTON  
COUNTY, GEORGIA**  
**SUCV2021000986**  
**W. KENDALL WYNNE, JR**  
**APR 26, 2021 05:49 PM****PUBLIC NOTICE #200335**  
**5/16,23,30-6/6****IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF  
WALTON COUNTY  
STATE OF GEORGIA****IN RE** Name Change of:  
**ALEXA ARISBETH 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  
ARISBETH CRUZ-LOPEZ and  
ALYSSA ABIGAIL CRUZ-LOPEZ,  
seeking to change the name of  
ALEXA ARISBETH CRUZ-LOPEZ  
to ALEXA ARISBETH CRUZ and the  
name of ALYSSA ABIGAIL CRUZ-  
LOPEZ to 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.  
Foster, Judge of this Superior Court,  
Walton County,  
**THIS 17TH** day of March, 2021**PUBLIC NOTICE #200382**  
**5/30,6/6,13,20****Public Hearings****NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
CITY OF COVINGTON, GEORGIA  
NEWTON COUNTY****NOTICE IS** hereby given that the  
Covington City Council will hold a  
public hearing on a modification  
of the City of Covington's urban  
redevelopment plan during the  
Covington City Council's regularly  
scheduled meeting commencing  
at 6:30 p.m. on June 7, 2021 in  
the Council Chambers located  
at 2116 Stallings Street NW,  
Covington, Georgia 30014. The  
modifications include updates  
required by law and are intended  
to incentivize redevelopment within  
the urban redevelopment area,  
including development of affordable  
housing and would establish  
Opportunity Zones within the urban

redevelopment

**PUBLIC NOTICE #200380**  
**5/30****Public Notice****IN THE SUPERIOR COURT  
OF NEWTON COUNTY  
STATE OF GERORGIA****JAMIE MARSHALL**  
**PLAINTIFF**  
**V.**  
**TATIANA BROWN**  
**DEFENDANT****CIVIL ACTION NUMBER**  
**2021-CV-1006-2****NOTICE OF PUBLICATION****TO: TATIANA BROWN**  
**10119 HENDERSON DR**  
**COVINGTON, GA 30014****BY ORDER** of the court for  
service by publication dated  
MAY 6 2021 you are hereby  
notified that on APRIL 28,  
2021 1(date of filing) JAMIE  
MARSHALL (plaintiff) filed  
suit against you for  
**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 7TH** day of MAY  
2021.  
**LINDA D. Hays**  
**CLERK OF Superior****PUBLIC NOTICE #200339**  
**5/16,23,30-6/6****Public Sales Auctions****PUBLIC AUCTION****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****PUBLIC AUCTIONS** on the  
following **Saturday, June 12th,**  
**2021 All auctions start promptly**  
**@ 1:00pm.**  
**REGISTRATION BEGINS @ 12**  
**noon.****YEAR MAKE** Model & Vin#:  
**2012 DODGE** AVENGER  
1C3CDZAB0CN209143  
**2003 JEEP** LIBERTY  
1J8GL48KX3W582038  
**2006 CHEVROLET** COLBALT  
1G1AK55F767715519  
**1992 OLDSMOBILE** 981G3CW53LXN4331957  
**1997 HONDA** CIVIC  
2HGEJ6673VH561680  
**2008 JEEP** GRAND CHEROKEE  
1J8GS48K58C121485  
**2008 CHEVROLET** COBALT  
1G1AL18F687226520  
**2000 ISUZU** TROOPER  
JACDS58X8Y7J10404  
**1994 TOYOTA** COROLLA  
1NXAE09B1RZ225555  
**2002 HONDA** ODYSSEY  
5FNRL18572B048054  
**2001 DODGE** DAKOTA  
1B7GL22X71S337041  
**2004 HONDA** ACCORD  
1HGCM56344A015456  
**1994 CHEVROLET** C1500  
SUBURBAN 1GNEC16K7RJ418128  
**1996 HONDA** ACCORD  
1HGCD5692TA228490  
**1994 HONDA** ACCORD  
1HGCD5661RA104502  
**2004 JEEP** GRAND CHEROKEE  
1J8GX58S24C121185**PUBLIC NOTICE #200387**  
**5/30,6/6****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  
Monday, May 30, 2021 at 9:00  
a.m. at www.storageauctions.com.  
Online bidding will end on Thursday,  
June 3, 2021 at 3:30PM.**UNIT 124,** Luisa Fuentes: Totes  
Shelving, trash can, Christmas  
décor, ladders, blower, toolboxes,  
wheelchair, walker, bedframe,  
trunks, boxes, file cabinet,  
multipurpose sprayer, coolers,  
gas cans, curtain rods, inflatable  
mattress.**UNIT 160,** Ridley Ingram:  
televisions, couch, t.v. stand, tables,  
chairs, ladder, gas can, wheelchair,  
walker, art works, furniture set  
**UNIT 232,** Tasheena Cabell: Day  
bed, totes, dining table, couch,  
mattress, plants, dresser, boxes,  
tables.**UNIT 407,** Jennifer Christian:  
Clothing, hand vacuum, totes,  
luggage, tires, toys, iron board,  
speaker, shoes, pogo stick, bags  
**UNIT 461,** Jennifer Clark: Grill,  
headboard, clothing, saw cutter,  
foreman grill**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 #200386**  
**5/30****NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF  
PERSONAL PROPERTY** In  
accordance with the GA SelfService 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  
Wednesday the 16th day of June,  
2021 at 10:00 AM. Said property is  
Space Shop Self Storage, 6177  
Jackson Hwy, Covington, GA, 30014  
**TATUM, BARBARA** B56 mattress,  
wheel chair, boxes, bags, pictures,  
ironing board.  
**WILSON, TERRY** A18 Dryer,  
Antique Furniture, Couch, Chairs,  
Exercise Equipment, Boxes, Wheel  
Chair, Armoire.  
**DAVIS, KENNESHA** H28 Car seat  
base, Stove.**COX, KIMBERLEY** 1116 Plastic  
bins, clothes, purse, boxes.  
**JOHNSON, KEISHA** E03 Luggage,  
plastic totes, Clothes, furniture,  
mattresses, TV, lamps.  
**DARDAR, SHARELL** 1028 Bicycles,  
table, clothes, plastic bin.**GRESHAM, ANNKA** G01 Cat tree,  
safe, night stand, weight, black trash  
bags. 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 #200381**  
**5/30-6/6****PUBLIC AUCTION:** Sellars Wrecker  
Services, In accordance with the  
OCGA (40-11-2) the following  
vehicle will be sold to the highest  
bidder at public auction that will  
be held on JUNE 12, 2021. Sealed  
bids will be accepted from 10:00  
am to 2:00 pm at Sellars Wrecker  
Services, 295 Hwy 162, Covington  
Ga. 30016.

- **2016 KIA** FORTE  
KNAFK4A64G5570687
- **1996 HONDA** ACCORD  
1HGCD5659TA270314
- **1995 TOYOTA** TERCEL  
JT2EL55D1S003166
- **1998 HONDA** ACCORD  
1HGCG1643WA001348
- **2012 NISSAN** ROGUE  
JN8AS5MV5CW702497
- **2002 BMW** 745I  
WBAGL63442DP59976

**PUBLIC NOTICE #200385**  
**5/30-6/6****Trade Names****NOTICE IS** given that articles of  
incorporation that will incorporate  
Half-Time Promises Kingdom have  
been delivered to the Secretary of  
State for filing in accordance with  
the Georgia Business Corporation  
Code. The initial registered office  
of the corporation is located at 300  
Bridges Way, Covington, GA, 30016,  
and its initial registered agent at  
such address is Neibert David.**PUBLIC NOTICE #200374**  
**5/30-6/6****TRADE NAME  
REGISTRATION  
AFFIDAVIT  
GEORGIA, NEWTON COUNTY****TO WHOM** It may Concern:  
**PLEASE BE** advised that **ADT**  
**CUSTOM WOODWORKING LLC**  
whose address is 155 WHITE  
LAUREL LN COVINGTON, GA  
30016 and the owner(s) of the certain  
business now being carried on at  
155 WHITE LAUREL COVINGTON,  
GA 30016 in the following trade  
name, to-wit: ADT TRUCKING and  
that the nature of said business is:  
TRUCKING, HAULING, ASPHALT,  
ROCK, SAND, GRAVEL This  
statement is made in conformity with  
O.C.G.A. §10-1-490 et seq. requiring  
the filing of such statement with  
the Clerk of Superior Court of this  
county.  
**THIS THE 27Th** day of APRIL ,  
2021.**PUBLIC NOTICE #200379**  
**5/30-6/6****TRADE NAME  
REGISTRATION  
AFFIDAVIT  
GEORGIA, NEWTON COUNTY****TO WHOM** It may Concern:  
**PLEASE BE** advised that **ASHLEY**  
**BENEDICT** whose address is 165  
LAKEFRONT DR COVINGTON, GA  
30016 and the owner(s) of the certain  
business now being carried on at  
165 LAKEFRONT DR COVINGTON,  
GA 30016 in the following trade  
name, to-wit: CANINE COUNTRY  
GEORGIA and that the nature of  
said business is: DOG TRAINING  
SERVICE This statement is made in  
conformity with O.C.G.A. §10-1-490  
et seq. requiring the filing of such  
statement with the Clerk of Superior  
Court of this county.  
**THIS THE 14Th** day of MAY , 2021.**PUBLIC NOTICE #200403**  
**5/30-6/6****TRADE NAME  
REGISTRATION  
AFFIDAVIT  
GEORGIA, NEWTON COUNTY****TO WHOM** It may Concern:  
**PLEASE BE** advised that **THOMAS**  
**J. WILLIAMS** whose address is  
181 RICHARDS CHAPEL ROAD  
COVINGTON, GA 30016 and the  
owner(s) of the certain business  
now being carried on at 270 VEAL  
ROAD COVINGTON, GA 30016 in  
the following trade name, to-wit: BNB  
FARMS; and that the nature of said  
business is: FARM This statement  
is made in conformity with O.C.G.A.  
§10-1-490 et seq. requiring the filing  
of such statement with the Clerk of  
Superior Court of this county.  
**THIS THE 12Th** day of MAY , 2021.**PUBLIC NOTICE #200359**  
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# DOWN:

Continued from A2

funds for training and new office space. TV news stations also ran a video of her refusing to transport a body from a wreck scene — an action previous coroners reportedly typically had done. Kerr also alleged in

his request to the Georgia Coroner’s Training Council that it needed to take action against her because of a series of alleged actions, including improper removal of a suicide victim — which she denied.

The state Attorney General’s Office later told Training Council officials they had no authority to remove Bailey-Butts’ certification because she had not gone through training courses required for the position when the actions Kerr alleged had occurred. Bailey-Butts alleged in her letter on her Facebook page Tuesday, May 25, that “the people who are sup-

posed to help me carry out my tasks well, are making things very difficult.” She also said, “There were too many scandals and issues about how I do my duties which mainly comes from the fact that I am Black. “There were even issues with my office space, my deputies, and other stuff which weren’t a problem with the previous coroner.” In response, the coun-

ty government’s statement issued Wednesday said the Newton County Board of Commissioners and members of its staff “worked with Bailey-Butts to ensure the needs of the residents of Newton County were met.” An amendment of \$50,000 was made to the coroner’s budget in January for operating supplies and any additional training that was needed, the statement

said. “Bailey-Butts was also in the process of moving to a larger office to accommodate the needs she expressed to the Board of Commissioners and the county manager. “Newton County firmly denies any claims of lack of support to the coroner’s office and any allegations of discrimination based on gender or race.”

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or serve in an interim role until a special election is called by May 2022. The former coroner is owner of J.C. Harwell & Son Funeral Home in Covington. He served three terms as coroner from 2008 to 2020 but lost his bid for a fourth term to Bailey-Butts in the Nov. 3 General Election. Before he was first elected in 2008, Davis worked as a deputy coroner for five years under then-Coroner Bob Wheeler after

Davis’ father, who was Wheeler’s deputy at the time, died in 2003. He said in a previous interview in December that there are approximately 700 deaths recorded in Newton County each year, and the coroner’s office is typically tasked with investigating up to 30% of them. He said the five years he worked as deputy coroner helped prepare him to be chief coroner, which is responsible for such tasks as investigating suspicious deaths

and issuing death certificates. Davis said the job requires “empathy, compassion and true understanding” to uphold the position to his best ability, he said. “It’s not a job that can be learned overnight. It’s something you can’t walk into and expect to understand fully until you’ve done it,” Davis said. “It’s a demanding job physically, mentally, emotionally. You’re dealing with people at the most devastating

time in their life. By the time they get to a funeral home, they’ve had a little bit of time to absorb what’s happened. “But when the moment happens and you’re in that moment, it’s a devastating time for them and you have to prepare yourself for this.” He noted the job is a part-time position, “but you’re on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week. So you have to be ever ready.”

# FOOD:

Continued from A3

provided numerous refrigerated items and Food Depot came through with a major last-minute supply of food, Sneed said. One retailer donated 4,000 apples, she said. Quynessa Threatt, a laboratory technician at Takeda, said she was taking part in the effort because there are “a lot of people in need”

and she wanted to join some of her co-workers in helping the Salvation Army. She said Takeda allowed its workers to take time off to volunteer in the community and she “decided to help.” Janene John, the company’s human resources director, helped guide vehicles through the

loading area Tuesday. She said Takeda encourages its employees to assist in the communities in which it operates — though she added she believed most would be volunteering their time anyway. Ozburn, a retired Newton County Superior Court judge, also helped guide vehicles

into the loading area. He said he has worked to assist the Salvation Army in Newton County for 30 years in its mission to help local families in need with everything from clothes to food. “It’s just a blessing to be able to do this,” he said.

# TRAVEL:

Continued from A2

we urge all residents and visitors traveling our roadways and visiting our beaches to obey our laws and practice safe driving habits,” Wright said. State patrol officers will, again, be partnering with local law enforcement agencies for the national ‘Click It, or Ticket’ program over the holiday travel period to continue enforcing Georgia’s seat belt laws and

stressing the importance of wearing seat belts. The GDPS suggested motorists heed to the following suggestions to help ensure safe travels: • Make sure every occupant in your vehicle is buckled and children under 8 years of age are properly restrained in the appropriate child safety seat. • Remember, Georgia is a

“hands-free” state. Put down your phones and pay attention to the road. • Obey the posted speed limit, and • Avoid being an impaired driver by planning a designated driver or the utilize a ride share or taxi during your weekend festivities.

# BRIDGES:

Continued from A4

deal than turning 40 or 30 or 20. Without a doubt, one is no longer young at my age. I am middle-aged at best and getting very close to being described with that adjective termed “old.” Carefree days of youth, while in reality long since departed, are officially in the rear-view mirror now. In so many ways, my mind still thinks I’m a teenager, still in school, still hanging with my friends and still worrying about things that don’t really matter. When I remind myself that so many of those childhood friends now have teenagers themselves, it makes me wonder how in the world I’ve reached this point. It doesn’t seem possible. Wasn’t it us a couple of years ago roaming the halls at our school, playing sports, hanging out on weekends, enjoying every minute of life? How has all of that long ago been replaced by jobs, paying bills, an overload of stress and the realization that those carefree times have indeed long since slipped away? It helps to think about the things I am blessed with as I turn this historic page. Family support when that is not al-

ways guaranteed for everyone. Friends I would do anything for and, in return, I feel they would do the same for me. It’s not a large group of friends because friendship is not something everyone appreciates. So, what is it about being 50 that causes me to pause and thin? No doubt knowing that life is more than half over is part of it. Or it could be the knowing that you truly look old to those who are young. Or perhaps realizing this year’s senior class was not even close to being born when you finished high school. Ouch. Then at work when the younger generation says “hello, sir” or “thank you, sir.” I want to turn and look for my father. Birthday parties, by the time you reach this age, are long gone. For me, it’s usually a quiet night at home with a favorite movie that I’ve seen at least 50 times. It’s about trying to relax, if only for one evening. The sun will come up the day after this milestone. People turn 50 all the time, every day and without notice. Do I feel I’m wiser at this age? In some respects, I do. However, there’s plenty I still don’t know and

plenty I will never know, even if I make it another 50 years. Birthdays aren’t a big deal unless you make them into one. No doubt being 50 is light years from being 18. Yet, I’m not so old that I still can’t remember being young. While nothing about me is “young” anymore, the ability to go back to a time when I was, is still working just fine thankfully. So, here’s to another trip around the sun and enjoying the beauty that comes with every new day. It’s true you appreciate the little things more when you reach this age like a nap and the beauty of the blue, summer sky in Georgia. Perhaps being 50 won’t be such a big deal. I’ve convinced myself that with the right attitude, it’s no different than turning 21. Afterall, we only get one of these days each year. They are still special even if less people notice and remember. Chris Bridges is a former sports editor for The Walton Tribune and The Covington News. You can email comments about this column to [pchrisbridges@gmail.com](mailto:pchrisbridges@gmail.com).

2021 All-Covington News Baseball Team



First Team Catcher Lucas Ballard



First Team Pitcher Connor Coursey



First Team Pitcher Holden Hall



First Team infielder Mason Moore

All-Covington News First Team

- C - Lucas Ballard (Newton)
- INF - Mason Moore (Social Circle)
- INF - Raquis Holmes (Alcovy)
- INF - Sambo Button (Eastside)
- OF - Ripken Maddox (Eastside)
- OF - Zion Ross (Newton)
- OF - Lamar Williams (Alcovy)
- UTIL - Mitchell McCullough (Social Circle)
- P - Holden Hall (Eastside)
- P - Connor Coursey (Alcovy)
- P - Wil Standard (Newton)

All-Covington News Second Team

- C - Tanner Middlebrooks (Eastside)
- INF - Logan Cross (Social Circle)
- INF - Justin Brown (Newton)
- INF - Connor Merritt (Alcovy)
- OF - Jayden Bishop (Alcovy)
- OF - Brayden Mitchell (Social Circle)
- OF - Anthony Bynum (Newton)
- UTIL - Ethan Booth (Eastside)
- P - Ty Lemaster (Social Circle)
- P - Kaleel King (Newton)
- P - Hunter Parker (Alcovy)

Honorable Mentions

Hunter Denney (Eastside); Demetres Jackson (Newton); Jason Ball (Social Circle); Landon Davis (Social Circle); Mason Hill (Social Circle)

RED DEVILS:

Continued from A10

Left-hander Riley Cruce was sharp on the mound for the Red Devils, but a bad break in the fourth inning led to him giving up the game’s lone run. With two outs recorded and a runner on, University of South Carolina commit Thad Ector ripped a line drive into left field. The ball bounced off padding in the left-field corner, giving runner Evan Harrah enough time to round the bases and cross the plate. William Cawthon led off the fifth inning with

a single — the second of two hits the Red Devils would record — but Starr’s Mill quickly shut the door. The Panthers collected five hits in the 1-0 victory, but it was Yeager who stole the show with a gem. He finished the day with eight strikeouts and two walks while allowing just two knocks over seven shutout innings. **Game 2: Starr’s Mill 4, Loganville 2** The first battle proved to be a defensive dog-

fight. But it didn’t take long for the Panthers to cash in a run in the nightcap. Ector connected his barrel to the first pitch of the game and drove it out for a single. He then stole second base and moved up to third on a throwing error, positioning himself to trot home on an infield single from Josh Tate. Starr’s Mill threatened again in the second inning, but nothing came to pass. In the third, however, Yeager smoked a one-out dou-

ble to deep left-center that cleared the heads of both Loganville fielders. He later scored on an RBI knock from Eli Jones, making it 2-0. With the threat of elimination looming, a break finally went Loganville’s way in the fourth inning. The Red Devils loaded the bases with one out for Matthew Heard, who put the ball in play then used his speed to beat the throw and prevent a would-be double play, allowing Chandler

Haulk to score from third. As the Panthers attempted to throw Heard out, first baseman Eli Jones fell over. Loganville’s Michael Mason saw this as he rounded third, making the heads-up decision to race home and score the tying run. It suddenly appeared as though tides had turned and things were swinging back in Loganville’s favor. That proved to be short-lived. The Panthers went

right back at it in the fifth inning as Alex Ukleja delivered a pinch-hit RBI double with two outs. A wild pitch and a fielding error tacked on another run in the sixth inning, necessary insurance that helped put the club over the top. “Starr’s Mill made plays and they put pressure on you and they produced when it mattered,” Segars said. “At the end of the day, that’s what you’ve got to do to win a championship game.”

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# SPORTS

The Covington News

Prep Baseball

## Red Devils swept in state finals

Loganville's title run ends after 3 straight

By MASON WITTNER  
mwittner@covnews.com

ATLANTA — All good things must come to an end.

Loganville's streak of consecutive state titles was halted at three Tuesday night as the No. 2 seed Red Devils were swept by top-seeded Starr's Mill in the Class AAAAA state finals at Truist Park.

The Panthers rode the arm of ace right-hander Chay Yeager to a 1-0 victory in Game 1. In Game 2, a scattering of nine hits, mixed with a dominant outing from left-hander Daniel Courtney, resulted in a 4-2 win that gifted Starr's Mill's its first state title in program history.

Loganville closed out the year at 30-11. It marks the club's first runner-up finish since falling to Houston County in 2016.

On the eve of graduation, Loganville head coach Jeff Segars spoke about the impact his senior class — which posted a 103-28 record with a pair of state titles over the last four years



Brett Fowler | The Walton Tribune

Loganville came up short in its quest for a fourth consecutive state title on Tuesday. The No. 2 seed Red Devils were swept in two games by No. 1 seed Starr's Mill, 1-0 and 4-2, in the Class AAAAA state finals at Truist Park. It marks the Red Devils' first runner-up finish since 2016.

— had on the Loganville program.

"They meant everything," he said. "They've put together a very impressive run. I'm super proud of them — their effort, their production, who they are, what they represent."

The Red Devils were striving to become just the second team in

GHSA history to win four consecutive state titles, and the first to do it since Richmond Academy won six straight from 1951-1957. A daunting task in its own right, Segars and his staff understood it would take a high level of execution to knock off a talented Starr's Mill squad. The Panthers' roster

is loaded from top to bottom with freakishly athletic kids at every position, as well as a deep pitching staff. They showcased both strengths Tuesday. "I knew it was going to be tight. I knew we needed to make plays," Segars said. "I thought we'd be a little bit more successful offensively. But, you know, they

had a lot of speed and they covered a lot of ground. It was tough to get balls to them on the infield. Anything in the air was caught. They could really run."

**Game 1: Starr's Mill 1, Loganville 0**  
The Panthers' elite defense was on display early and often in the first leg of Tuesday's

doubleheader. Yeager worked his way around a two-out walk in the first inning. He found himself in a jam an inning later, but fell back on the guys behind him as he induced an inning-ending groundout to strand a pair of Red Devils on the bases.

See RED DEVILS, A9



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# 'SUPREME SACRIFICE'

Legion leader says it is important to remember who died for this country



Special Photo | Don Floyd

Members of American Legion Post 32 in Covington placed 83 crosses at the intersection of Church and Monticello streets with the names of Newton County residents who died in five wars.

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

COVINGTON, Ga. — A leader of a military veteran organization says Newton County residents need to remember who gave the ultimate sacrifice so they can remain free.

That's why Don Floyd and wife, Marcia Floyd, will lead a Memorial Day ceremony at the war memorial on the northwest corner of the park in the center of the Covington Square.

"I think it's very important that they never be forgotten," said Don Floyd, commander of American Legion Post 32. "They gave the supreme sacrifice fighting for the United States of America."

"If you forget history, you tend to repeat it," he said.

Post 32 will host the ceremony on Monday, May 31, at 10 a.m.

"As commander of Post 32, I will make a few comments then the names of those who gave the supreme sacrifice will be read," he said.

Don Floyd will read the names of 83 Newton County residents who lost their lives in World War I, World War II, Korean War, Vietnam War and the Gulf War, he said.

The names are inscribed on the Covington war memorial, which is a stone obelisk maintained by the American



The Walk of Heroes / Veterans War Memorial is a three-acre memorial park on the shores of Lake Randy Poynter at 2825 Black Shoals Road in north Rockdale County and has operated since the early 2000s.

Special Photo | Walk of Heroes

Legion.

He said it was important to remember their families, as well, who waited in Newton County but never saw their loved ones return.

"It's very hard to send someone off to war and never be sure you'll be seeing them again," he said.

Floyd is a Vietnam-era

Coast Guard veteran and current Covington City Council member. He served as city fire chief for 12 years at the end of a 40-year career with the department before retiring in 2012 and winning election to the council in 2019.

Marcia Floyd, who is president of Auxiliary Unit

32, also is set to make a few comments about the Memorial Poppy during the ceremony.

The red Flanders Field poppy is known internationally as a symbol of remembrance of those who lost their lives in battle.

It was popularized by Walton County native Moina

Michael, who was a teacher in Monroe and professor at the University of Georgia.

Michael made it her life's work to create a national symbol of remembrance before her death in 1944.

• Another major Memorial Day event is planned for Conyers.

The annual Walk of Heroes/Veterans War Memorial ceremony is set for Monday, May 31, at 11 a.m., at the Main Stage of Walk of Heroes Veterans Memorial Park at 3001 Black Shoals Road.

It will return to being a live event this year after being done virtually in 2020 because of safety concerns around COVID-19.

Keynote speaker is scheduled to be Lt. Col. Stacey L. Hanson of the U.S. Air Force Reserve.

Hanson has served as the wing chaplain at Dobbins Air Reserve Base in Marietta.

He is currently the Individual Mobilization Assistant to the Deputy Commandant and a senior staff instructor at the Air Force Chaplain Corps College, at Maxwell Air Force Base in Alabama.

He also has served as a United Methodist pastor in north and south Georgia and South Carolina for 18 years and is the pastor of Bremen First UMC in Bremen.

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Mason Wittner | The Covington News

The Covington VA Clinic opened on Eagle Drive last February as a medical center for veterans in Newton County. The clinic offers health care services such as primary care, mental health integration, Telehealth and phlebotomy.

# OPEN FOR BUSINESS

## Covington VA Clinic eager to serve area veterans

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

COVINGTON, Ga. — It's time to spread the word.

The Covington VA Clinic opened its doors on Eagle Drive in late February 2020. Unfortunately, due in large part to the COVID-19 pandemic immobilizing in-person care and forcing the clinic to provide much of its care virtually, the establishment is still largely unknown to veterans in the community.

With vaccines now widely distributed and the clinic doors fully reopened, Darkita McColumn, RN, and her staff are hoping to get the word out that they're here and ready to provide health care to former military members in the area.

"We are seeing a lot of our veterans in the Newton County community, but a lot of veterans still just don't know that we're

here," McColumn said. "They're riding for several miles to get to the main facility [in Atlanta.] It helps to have this clinic here so they can have immediate services."

Operated by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, the Atlanta VA Health Care System exists to provide health care services to veterans in and around the Metro Atlanta Area. Covington's location — plotted at 10155 Eagle Drive, down the street from Eastside High School — is Newton County's branch of the system.

Among services the Covington VA Clinic provide to veterans in the area are primary care, mental health integration and Telehealth. They also offer phlebotomy services, a procedure in which needles are used to draw blood or introduce fluids.

"I was so excited for this to open because I



Mason Wittner | The Covington News

The staff at the Covington VA Clinic is eager to welcome patients into the facility and supply them with top-notch health care services.

was going to the VA Clinic in Stockbridge," said Covington City Councilman Don Floyd. "I was really excited about this location opening because of the convenience and the great care they provide."

The building currently houses three primary care providers, but McColumn stated that they hope to ultimately expand to five providers.

The clinic is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Those interested in enrolling at the Covington VA Clinic are encouraged to call 404-321-6111 and dial extension No. 202222. However, prospective enrollees may also sign up in person at the clinic.

More information about Covington's clinic, as well as other members of the Atlanta VA Health Care System throughout Atlanta, can be found online at [atlanta.va.gov](http://atlanta.va.gov).

## In Memory of Our Veterans!



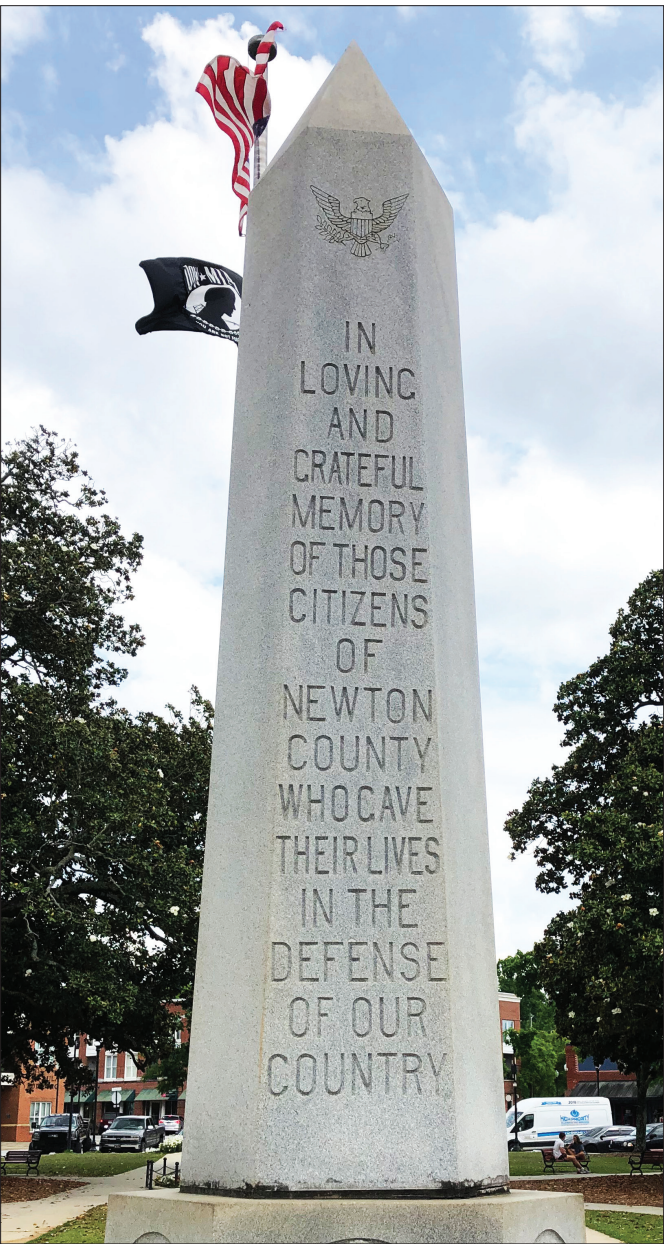
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The American Legion war memorial, facing the Historic Courthouse on the Covington Square, contains the names of 83 Newton County residents killed in five foreign conflicts between 1917 and 2005.

Tom Spigolon | The Covington News

# Area veterans memorials honor sacrifices of soldiers, sailors

By TOM SPIGOLON  
tspigolon@covnews.com

The American Legion is responsible for installing two of Newton County’s most visible memorials to the nation’s war dead. The Legion’s Post 32 in Covington maintains the stone obelisk war memorial on the northwest corner of the park in the center of the Covington Square, and the “Eternal Flame” in the park at the intersection of Monticello and Church streets, said Commander Don Floyd. Its members also placed crosses near the Eternal Flame to represent the 83 Newton Countians who lost their lives in the two world wars, Korea, Vietnam and the Gulf War, he said. Floyd said the Covington-based group was instrumental in raising the money, doing the research to find the names, and erecting the obelisk in the 1970s. The Legion worked over several years to create the monument, including working with the Department of Veterans Affairs for some of the names, he said. The 83 names include its latest, Army soldier Carl Fuller who died in the Gulf War. Fuller died in Baghdad, Iraq, on July 24, 2005, when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle while he was on patrol. “I hope that’s the last one,”

Floyd said. The Legion also maintains the Eternal Flame memorial for fallen soldiers, which was installed in the 1970s, Floyd said. Members placed the crosses in a park near the Eternal Flame to continue a tradition begun by the late Davis Morgan, Floyd said. The group originally placed them in the grass median of U.S. Hwy. 278 but were forced to move them after GDOT complained, he said. Their location has changed several times but the Legion has placed the crosses near the Eternal Flame in recent years, he said. Members have worked to keep the crosses in good repair over the years and added names to them after repairing them last year, Floyd said. Another veterans memorial in Newton County is the Porterdale Veterans Memorial Park at 33 Elm St. It was established in 2013 and honors all the branches of the military. Among its features are a park, covered pavilion and flagpoles for American and Georgia flags. Some other area veterans memorials include: • Walk of Heroes Veterans War Memorial at 2825 Black Shoals Road in Conyers. A key feature is the Walk of Heroes which spans the length of

the memorial and is crossed by 70 marble bands engraved with the actions of America’s military during that year, according to information from its website. “Each marble band represents a year where American armed forces were deployed overseas in armed conflicts and as peacekeepers and is engraved with the year, the country and a brief description of the conflict.” For more information, visit [www.walkofheroes.org](http://www.walkofheroes.org). • Heritage Park Veterans Museum at 99 Lake Dow Road in McDonough “is dedicated to all veterans and their families and to those that serve now and in the future.” The museum includes vehicles, uniforms and artifacts; a display of the two Henry County Medal of Honor recipients; and a “Henry County Fallen Hero” area. “The staff of the museum consists of retired military veterans and are most knowledgeable in the history of all the uniforms and artifacts and will gladly spend as much time as you would like to tell you the history. A library room is available and you are welcome to sit, reflect, heal, and learn,” the website states. For more information, visit [www.heritageparkveteransmuseum.org](http://www.heritageparkveteransmuseum.org).

# Ways to honor active military as nation remembers soldiers lost

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS  
news@covnews.com

Memorial Day is celebrated each May to commemorate the people who died in service of the United States of America. Even though barbecues and visions of the upcoming summer weather may command much of the attention come Memorial Day weekend, the holiday really serves as a remembrance for those military members who paid the ultimate sacrifice for their country, as well as the personnel who continue to protect and serve today. Memorial Day was first known as Decoration Day and was borne out of the Civil War. On May 30, 1868, General John Logan, a national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, decreed General Order No. 11, which designated the day for the “purpose of strewing with flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village and hamlet churchyard in the land.” May 30 was chosen because it wasn’t the anniversary of any particular battle. It took several years for the first state to recognize the holiday, which New York adopted in 1873. By 1890, all northern states recognized Decoration Day. When the holiday changed from commemorating those who died fighting the Civil War to honoring Americans who died fighting in any war after World War I, the South began to recognize it as well. Although Memorial Day pays homage to the brave people who perished fighting for their country, it also is an opportunity to recognize the military men and women and their families who continue to work to ensure the freedom of Americans. The United States Armed Forces is renowned for its size and strength. Various sources suggest the size of the United States military is somewhere between 1.4 and 1.6 million active service people. The military is comprised of the Army, Army National Guard, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard. Each of these military branches also has its own reserves. There are many ways to honor active, reserve and former veterans, as well as those who died in service of their country. • Help Veterans of Foreign Wars distribute red poppies as a visual reminder of the military’s efforts. • Volunteer at a veterans’ hospital or visit a wounded veteran at home. • Offer financial, legal or career expertise through the Corporation for National & Community Service ([serve.gov](http://serve.gov)). • Help to maintain the veteran area of a nearby cemetery. Place flags on all of the graves. • Befriend military families who frequently relocate, making a concerted effort to welcome them into your community. • Educate children about past wars and the services the military provides. • Visit a military museum or historic site. • Observe the National Moment of Remembrance at 3 p.m. local time for one minute. • Post a message to the troops at the USO website ([uso.org](http://uso.org)).



Though words could never repay the debt of gratitude we owe, we salute you and say, “Thank You.”



May we never forget the immeasurable sacrifice of all who served.

**“THIS IS THE DAY WE PAY HOMAGE TO ALL THOSE WHO DIDN'T COME HOME. THIS IS NOT VETERANS DAY, IT'S NOT A CELEBRATION, IT IS A DAY OF SOLEMN CONTEMPLATION OVER THE COST OF FREEDOM.”**

**— TAMRA BOLTON**  
JOURNALIST

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Nowell Briscoe guest columnist



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The origin of Memorial Day dates back to 1862. From 1868 to 1970, the federal holiday was formally observed May 30.

## Monroe native recounts holiday's history, local connection to poppy symbol

Memorial Day, once known as "Decoration Day," is a federal holiday in the United States for honoring and mourning the military personnel who have died in the performance of their military duties while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces.

The holiday is observed on the last Monday of May. From 1868 to 1970, the holiday was formally observed on May 30.

Memorial Day is considered the unofficial beginning of summer in the U.S. while Labor Day, the first Monday in September, marks the unofficial start of autumn.

According to the Library of Congress website, "Southern women decorated the graves of soldiers even before the Civil War's end. Records reveal that by 1865, Mississippi, Virginia and South Carolina all had precedents for Memorial Day. The earlier Southern Memorial Day celebrations were simple, somber occasions for veterans and their families to honor the dead and tend to local cemeteries. In following years the Ladies' Memorial Association and other groups increasingly focused rituals on preserving Confederate Culture and the Lost Cause of the Confederate narrative."

"In July 1862, women in Savannah, Georgia, decorated the graves at Laurel Grove Cemetery of Col. Francis S. Bartow and his comrades who died at the Battle of Manassas the year before."

"The United States National Park Service and numerous scholars attribute the beginning of a Memorial Day practice in the South to a group of women in Columbus, Georgia. These women were the Ladies Memorial Association of Columbus. They were

See BRISCOE, B7

# Honoring fallen one flight at a time



Honor Flight

Since taking off in 2005, Honor Flight has flown nearly 270,000 veterans to the nation's capital for a one-day tour of its veteran memorials. More than 23,000 veterans were taken on trips in 2019 alone.

## Nonprofit program offers veterans one-of-a-kind experience to remember lost comrades

By TAYLOR BECK  
tbeck@covnews.com

CONYERS, Ga. — Numerous memorials have been erected in and around Washington, D.C., dedicated to thousands of troops who served as early as World War I and made the ultimate sacrifice while defending Americans' freedom.

While these are considered an admirable tribute to fallen American soldiers, many veterans across the country have never laid eyes on the monuments. But Honor Flight has vowed to change that.

Honor Flight is an organization that flies veterans to Washington on an all-expenses-paid trip to see the memorials. There are approximately 245 Honor Flight hubs across 45 states, including four in Georgia.

Blair Smith, who is a president of the Honor Flight hub in Conyers, recently spoke to the Rotary Club of Covington about the veteran program. The local program serves veterans across metro-Atlanta and works to provide the free trips for them, because Smith said program leaders have learned many veterans, unfortunately, can't afford such a trip.

Since taking off in 2005, Smith said the national nonprofit program has flown nearly 270,000 veterans to the nation's capital for a one-day tour of its veteran memorials. More

than 23,000 veterans were taken on trips in 2019 alone.

Currently, the program's primary focus is serving veterans who served in World War II to the Korean War and through to Vietnam. However, the program is open for participation of all veterans, especially terminally ill veterans, from



Honor Flight is a nonprofit that works to fly veterans across America to tour the memorials at Washington D.C.

any era of service.

Due to the pandemic, Honor Flight was forced to suspend trips, but Smith said he looks forward to starting trips again on Aug. 15.

Smith said the program has become an esteemed organization, which often results in their veterans getting the "red carpet" treatment.

"Honor Flight is very well respected by D.C. in what we do so

much that when we come to [Arlington National Cemetery], we are the only group that can bring a bus all the way to where the Changing of the Guard is," he said.

"We also have a police escort for the entire day in D.C.," Smith continued. "And if anybody's been in D.C. traffic, it kind of makes Atlanta look quite not so bad... We get the same treatment as the president."

For every veteran that goes on a trip, Honor Flight includes a "guardian" participant. Guardians are typically non-veterans and are required to pay for their trip outright or through donations. Smith said guardians escort veterans throughout the day.

Smith said the program is a great way for veterans to open up by sharing their stories and experiences with each other — something many are hesitant to do with their families.

"It's an incredible experience," Smith said. "You could learn more from that veteran than you will in a history book, that's for sure."

For a while, the program did not allow family members to attend as guardians, but Honor Flight has changed its course over the years.

"It used to be family couldn't go with their veterans, and the reason we did that was a lot of people, especially those that served in World War II, had not opened up about what they did and what they saw. You have to understand, when they

See FLIGHT, B7



*Remember and Honor*  
their service and sacrifice on Memorial Day and EVERY DAY.

# Travel tips for holiday weekend

**SPECIAL TO THE NEWS**  
news@covnews.com

Memorial Day weekend is one of the busiest travel weekends of the year. In 2017, the automotive group AAA estimated that 40 million Americans would travel 50 miles or more on Memorial Day weekend. Those estimates also projected that 34.6 million vehicles would be used to make those trips.

Often referred to as “the unofficial beginning of summer,” Memorial Day and the weekend that precedes it has become synonymous with beach trips and backyard barbecues. Travelers who want to avoid traffic jams and ensure their weekends get off on the right foot can benefit from employing these three travel-savvy strategies.

1. Start the weekend early. In its “State of American Vacation 2017” survey, Project: Time Off found that 662 million vacation days were unused in 2016. People traveling for Memorial Day who typically leave some vacation days on the table can start their weekends early this year. Many offices close early the Friday before Memorial Day, and workers who aren’t so lucky may just leave work early, meaning Friday afternoon traffic figures to be heavy. By leaving Thursday afternoon or evening, travelers can avoid the Friday rush to the beach.

2. Take public transportation.



Travel during the holidays, including Memorial Day weekend, can be hectic. However, being flexible and patient when traveling can pay off by making trips less stressful.

Travelers who can’t take an extra day off or leave work early the Friday before Memorial Day may want to consider taking public transportation to their beach destinations instead of driving themselves. In 2016, the U.S.-based data firm Inrix noted that a traffic-free Friday jaunt from New York City to Long Island’s East end would take 90 minutes, while the same trip would take three hours and 40 minutes on the Friday of Memorial Day weekend. Travelers who can’t leave ear-

ly can save themselves from the stress of holiday traffic jams by letting someone else do the navigating.

3. Be patient and depart on Saturday morning.

Travelers who can be patient may find that waiting to depart for their destinations until Saturday can save them from dealing with much of the stress of traveling on Memorial Day weekend. The benefits of being patient may depend on where travelers live, as the Inrix study noted that Friday was the busiest

day to leave Los Angeles on Memorial Day weekend, while San Diego residents tended to deal with the most traffic on Saturday. An added benefit of waiting until Saturday is the likelihood that such travelers will not return home until Tuesday, avoiding traffic on Monday, which tends to be the busiest return travel day of the weekend.

Memorial Day weekend travel tends to be hectic. But savvy travelers with some flexibility can take steps to make their trips less stressful.



Memorial Day is set aside to honor soldiers who died in battle.

## Memorial Day differs from Veterans Day

**SPECIAL TO THE NEWS**  
news@covnews.com

Memorial Day and Veterans Day each honor the military, though the two holidays are not the same. Memorial Day, which is celebrated annually on the last Monday in May, honors the brave men and women who lost their lives while serving in the American military. Many communities host memorial ceremonies honoring their fallen soldiers on Memorial Day, ensuring such soldiers’ bravery and sacrifices are never forgotten. While many people now view Memorial Day weekend as the unofficial start of summer, the weekend should not be celebrated without also pausing to reflect on and recognize the military personnel who lost their lives in defense of freedom and the American way of life.

Veterans Day is celebrated annually on Nov. 11 and recognizes all men and women who have served in the military. Veterans Day coincides with Remembrance Day, which is celebrated by the Commonwealth of Nations, an association of 53 member states with connections to the British Empire. Though Veterans Day and Remembrance Day are each celebrated on Nov. 11, the latter recognizes armed forces members who died in the line of duty, making it more similar to Memorial Day than Veterans Day. It’s not uncommon for people to recognize fallen soldiers on Veterans Day, but many use the holiday to express their appreciation to existing veterans.

# More ways to show military appreciation

**SPECIAL TO THE NEWS**  
news@covnews.com

United States military personnel serve both domestically and abroad. Active-duty personnel are following in the footsteps of retired veterans and protecting the freedoms of their fellow Americans while also playing a vital role in protecting millions of non-Americans across the globe.

United States military personnel make myriad sacrifices every day. Recognition of those sacrifices is just one of the many ways Americans can show their appreciation for the military, even during the era of social distancing.

• Help a veteran. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, as of 2019 there were 17.4 million military veterans living in the United States. More than half of those veterans are 65 or older. As difficult as social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic has proven for everyone, perhaps no group has sacrificed more than men and women over 65,



It’s important to recognize the sacrifices of military veterans—including those who died in battle, and those who fight today.

millions of whom have been separated from their families. Aging men and women spent a year or more isolated at home to protect themselves from a virus that public health officials acknowledged was especially lethal to people over 65. Adults who want to show their appreciation for military veterans can reach out to local veterans’ organizations and offer to lend a hand. Such organizations

may be delivering meals to vulnerable veterans, driving veterans to appointments to see their doctors or get vaccinated or organizing events for veterans who have already been vaccinated. Pitching in to help with such efforts is a great way to show veterans their efforts are still appreciated, even if it’s been decades since they last served.

• Help a military family. Data from the Office of the Undersecretary of Defense indicates that there were roughly 1.3 million active-duty military personnel in 2018. Many of those service members serve overseas for months at a time. Their families back home can use a helping hand even in the best of times, but they might be especially needy while confronting the pandemic. Though vaccination projections suggest hundreds of millions of Americans will be fully vaccinated by mid-summer, in the meantime neighbors can help local military families handle life at home.

Invite a local military family over for a weekly meal, offer to take kids to a sports practice if it’s safe to do so or help out with chores like mowing the lawn or washing the car.

• Donate to charities that serve the military. Adults who have not been vaccinated and are hesitant to be around others can still show their appreciation for military service members. Various organizations help both active-duty military and veterans, and donating to such charities can be a great way to help an excellent cause. If you’re unsure about which organization to support, visit Charity Navigator at charitynavigator.org. Charity Navigator evaluates hundreds of thousands of charitable organizations and can be an invaluable resource for prospective donors.

Veterans and active military personnel deserve support. There are various ways for people to express that support, even as the world continues to confront the pandemic.

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## BRISCOE:

Continued from B5

represented by Mary Ann Williams (Mrs. Charles J. Williams) who, as secretary, wrote a letter to the press in March 1866 asking their assistance in establishing an annual holiday to decorate the graves of soldiers throughout the South. The letter was reprinted in several southern states and the plans were noted in newspapers in the North. The date of April 26 was chosen and the holiday was observed in Atlanta, Augusta, Macon, Columbus and elsewhere in Georgia as well as Montgomery, Alabama, Memphis, Tennessee, Louisville, Kentucky, New Orleans, Louisiana, Jackson, Mississippi and other regions across the South.

“Gen. John A. Logan commented on the observances in a speech to veterans on July 4, 1866, in Salem, Illinois. After General Logan’s General Order No. 11 to the Grand Army of the Republic to observe May 30, 1868, the earlier version of the holiday began to be referred to as Confederate Memorial Day.

“A year after the war’s end, in April 1866, four women of Columbus, Mississippi, gathered together to decorate the graves of the Confederate soldiers. They also felt moved to honor the Union soldiers buried there and to note the grief of their families by honoring their graves as well. The story of this gesture of humanity and reconciliation is held by some writers as the inspiration for the original Memorial Day despite its occurring last among the claimed inspirations.”

The name “Memorial Day”, which was first attested in 1882, gradually became more common than “Decoration Day” after World War II but was not declared the official name by federal law until 1967. On June 28, 1968, Congress passed the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, which moved four holidays, including Memorial Day, from their traditional dates to a specified Monday in order to create a convenient three-day weekend. The change moved Memorial Day from its traditional May 30 date to the last Monday in May. The law took effect at the federal level in 1971, and all 50 states adopted Congress’ change of date within a few years.

The American Legion members were always about during my youth prior to Memorial Day and on the actual day, distributing paper versions of the poppies, due in fact to two important people: Lt. Col. John McCrae, a physician with the Canadian Expeditionary Force, who wrote the poem, “In Flanders Fields,” describing the fields of poppies that grew along the soldiers’ graves in Flanders, and Miss Moina Michael, a YWCA worker, who was also inspired by McCrae’s poem, when she attended a YWCA Overseas War Secretaries’ conference, she wore a silk poppy pinned to her coat and



Special to The Covington News  
**“Poppy Lady” Moina Belle Michael, who is a Walton County native, planted poppies on the Health Sciences Campus at the University of Georgia.**

distributed over two dozen more to the members present.

In 1920 the National American Legion adopted it as its official symbol of remembrance.

One of a number of great Walton County citizens who brought fame and honor to our county and town, Moina Michael was born on Aug. 15, 1869, and lived on what is now known as 3698 Moina Michael Road in Good Hope. She was the eldest daughter and second of seven children of John Marion Michael, a Confederate veteran of the American Civil War, and Alice Sherwood Wise. Both sides of her family had Huguenot ancestry, with origins in Brittany and Flanders respectively. Her family was wealthy and owned a cotton plantation until 1898. She was educated at Braswell Academy in Morgan County and the Martin Institute in Jefferson, Georgia.

She became a teacher in 1885, initially in Good Hope and then in Monroe. She also taught at the Lucy Cobb Institute and Normal School, both located in Athens. During 1912-13, Miss Michael studied at Columbia University in New York.

Moina Michael visited Europe in June and July 1914. She was in Germany when the First World War broke out in August 1914, and

traveled to Rome to return home to the U.S. In Rome she assisted around 12,000 US tourists to seek passage back across the Atlantic. She returned to the U.S. on the RMS Carpathia and returned to teaching at the Normal School in Athens.

She was a professor at the University of Georgia in April 1917 when the U.S. entered the war. Taking a leave of absence, she volunteered to assist in the New York-based training headquarters for overseas YWCA workers.

On Nov. 9, 1918, she was so inspired by McCrae’s poem, “In Flanders Fields,” she wrote a poem in response called, “We Shall Keep the Faith.” Miss Michael vowed to always wear a red poppy as a symbol of remembrance for those who served in the war.

At the completion of the war, she returned to the University of Georgia, where she taught a class for disabled servicemen. She saw immediately the need to provide financial aid and occupational support for these servicemen and came up with the idea of selling silk poppies as a means of raising funds to assist the disabled veterans. In 1921 her efforts resulted in the poppy being adopted as a symbol of remembrance for war veterans by the American Legion

Auxiliary and by Earl Haig’s British Legion Appeal Fund, later named The Royal British Legion.

Miss Michael retired from the University of Georgia in 1934 and published an autobiography, “The Miracle Flower: The Story of the Flanders Fields Memorial Poppy,” in 1941. Copies of this book can be obtained by contacting the Walton County Historical Society.

After her death on May 10, 1944, the May 12 issue of The Walton Tribune carried a front page obituary: “Poppy Lady” Dead After Noble Career, which read in part, “News of the death of Miss Moina Michael, renowned “Poppy Lady,” at the Athens General Hospital early Wednesday morning, was received with much sorrow in Monroe where Miss Michael had been born and reared.

“Funeral services were to occur at the First Baptist Church of Athens this Thursday afternoon at three o’clock and interment will follow at Rest Haven Cemetery in Monroe.

“Miss Michael suggested the poppy as a fitting emblem for Memorial Day and lived to see her suggestion observed throughout the United States, Great Britain and 53 other nations of the world, as it brought in annually approximately \$7 million for the aid of veterans.

“Two weeks before her death Miss Michael completed work on 300 poppies for the huge poppy anchor, which will be launched at Annapolis on May 30th. She had fashioned these anchors with her own hands since 1919, and all these years later these launchings have been an event of national interest.

“Miss Michael resided in Athens for many years where she was director of Winnie Davis Hall, a dormitory on the Co-Ordinate College campus for 35 years, but was a frequent visitor to Monroe. She retired in 1938.

“It was said Miss Michael planned much of her funeral service during her long illness. Her body was to lie in state for an hour preceding the service and an American flag she made will drape her simple mahogany casket.”

On Nov. 9, 1948, the Post Office released a 3-cent stamp honoring Moina Michael. At the left of the stamp is Miss Michael’s portrait and name. At the left: “Founder of Memorial Poppy.”

Monroe was fortunate in having a citizen of such magnitude and foresight to bring honor to our town and is forever known far and wide as “The Poppy Lady.”

*Monroe native Nowell Briscoe writes a history column monthly for The Walton Tribune. His email address is nowellbriscoe@bellsouth.net.*

## FLIGHT:

Continued from B5

get with other people who’ve had the same experiences who are not their family, they open up and talk about it. So, we found it was better for veterans to do that. In

fact, we’ve had people come back and tell us their veterans are now talking about things they would not talk about before, so it helped them. But as people have

gotten older, in some cases, especially with World War II, it’s better to have a family member who knows their health and knows what to do to take care of them.”

Smith said trips are funded through donations, which can be made at honor flight.org.

Local residents who would like to learn more about

getting their veterans to participate in the program may visit [honorflightatlanta.org](http://honorflightatlanta.org), call Smith at 678-509-5270 or email [HonorFlightGA@gmail.com](mailto:HonorFlightGA@gmail.com).

**Memorial Day Service,  
 May 31 @ 11:00 a.m.  
 honoring Veterans.  
 Lunch will be served  
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**Blood Drive from  
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**[www.rockdalepost77.org](http://www.rockdalepost77.org)**



**American Legion Post #77  
 674 Legion Drive  
 Conyers, GA 30012**

**“A hero is someone who has given his or her life to something bigger than oneself.” – Joseph Campbell**

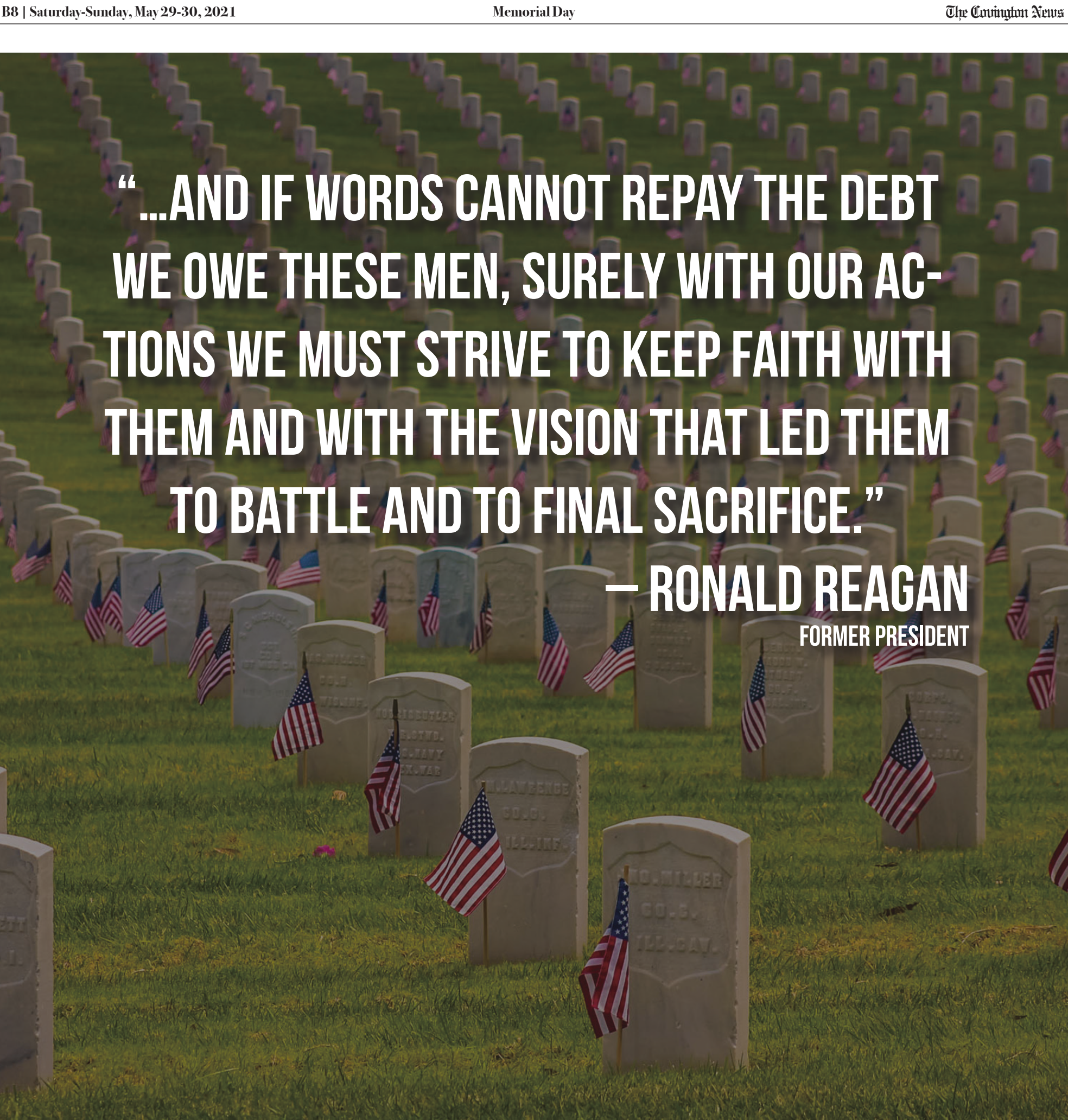
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WE OWE THESE MEN, SURELY WITH OUR AC-  
TIONS WE MUST STRIVE TO KEEP FAITH WITH  
THEM AND WITH THE VISION THAT LED THEM  
TO BATTLE AND TO FINAL SACRIFICE.”

— RONALD REAGAN  
FORMER PRESIDENT



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Remembering Their Lives.  
Celebrating Their Memories.

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pause to honor and  
remember the brave  
men and women of our  
military who made the  
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and immeasurable  
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**By TAYLOR BECK**  
tbeck@covnews.com



The right wing moved south via McDonough to faint at Macon, crossed the Ocmulgee River at Seven Islands (nine miles southeast of Jackson), and concen-



Some historians report that no cities or communities were technically destroyed by Sherman's army as they marched to Savannah. However,

Sgt. Walter Clark, who was an attorney-turned Orderly Sergeant, Company B, 9th

**See MARCH B10**

  
**NEWTON COUNTY COMMITTEE ON  
BLACK HERITAGE PRESERVATION**  
**President, Terri James**  
**Would like for us to**  
**Remember the true meaning of Memorial**  
**Day and Pay Honor to the Men and Women**  
**who died while serving our Country.**  


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# Covington American Legion Post 32

Rep. Dave Belton guest columnist

# Thank a veteran for your freedom

[Editor's Note: This column originally appeared in the May 26-27, 2018, edition of The Covington News.]

This week we honor those who died, but especially to honor the fallen. It is fitting that we remember. I have traveled the world round and round. The thing that strikes me most in my many wanderings is how truly blessed we are to be American.



Americans live in a land of plenty. Our lives are peaceful and we enjoy the blessings of liberty. Yet very few of us have any idea how uncommon our blessings are.

Democracy is fragile – freedom is rare – despotisms and dictatorships are the tendency of man. Most of the world

– even today – lives under the boot of tyranny. China, far from becoming more democratic, is actually more autocratic than before. So is Russia, North Korea, Iran, Syria, and most of the Islamic extremists who are trying to create a new caliphate.

The vast majority of people who have ever lived on this planet lived in want and tyranny. In fact, if you added up all the billions of people who have ever lived, less than 2% of humanity has ever known freedom.

Never mind the “1%” that many malign; each and every American is the luckiest 2% of humanity.

Worse, almost every country has been conquered at one time or another. Almost every nation knows the horrors of suffering under a foreign master. Thanks to the American veteran, we have never been conquered. In fact, since the end of World

War II, our country has basked in a time of blessings that is now referred to as “Pax Americana.” Thanks to the “greatest generation,” we’ve enjoyed 75 years of stability similar to the historic eras of “Pax Romana” and “Pax Britannica.” We’ve had small wars, of course. We mourn every soldier that fell in those wars; each honored, hallowed and precious. But the true victory of those brave fallen can be measured by how very few we lost.

It is almost incomprehensible, but the 20th Century was by far the bloodiest in all of history. 16 million people died in World War I, 60 million fell in World War II, Stalin murdered 20 million his own citizens and Mao murdered another 65 million. Compared to these epic figures, the 100,000 Americans we’ve lost since World War II is blessedly low. What did our veter-

ans win? They won the rights of minorities, the rights of women, your religious freedom, and your right to vote. They ended Nazism and crushed Communism. They defended Capitalism, the economic engine that doubled the prosperity of everyone on the planet, and defended racial tolerance for most of the people on the planet. But most important; they purchased lasting peace for you and me.

As a Navy and Air Force pilot stationed overseas, I often felt the pang of loneliness, wondering why I was fighting in distant jungles and deserts. The reason is quite simple: Americans fight on other’s shores so that aggressors don’t fight in America.

In a perfect world, there’d be no war. But there will always be men who want what other men have. To think otherwise is to ignore all of history.

“In a world where the lion lies down with the sheep,” said Texas Sen. Phil Graham. “It is important that America remains the lion.” The American soldier is the grantor of peace, not only for our own citizens, but of the entire world.

Theodoric the Goth – the barbarian who extinguished the Roman Empire – famously remarked, “Every Goth wants to be a Roman; no Roman wants to be a Goth.” The quote is ironic in many ways, but mostly because even he – the pitiless destroyer responsible for the murder of hundreds of thousands – understood what he had destroyed...and rued what had been lost.

The Romans were far from perfect. But the collapse of their civilization – who had once enjoyed a “Pax Romana” of their own – ushered in a thousand years of misery we now know as the Dark Ages.

If the American soldier were ever to fail, the globe would collapse into a ruthless period of ruin, anarchy, and poverty.

Remember, “It’s the VETERAN, not the preacher, who gives you freedom of religion.

It’s the VETERAN, not the reporter, who gives you freedom of the press.

It’s the VETERAN, not the poet, who gives you freedom of speech.

It’s the VETERAN, not the politician, who gives you the right to vote.”

Our flag still waves over the land of the free, because of the sacrifices of our brave.

It is fitting that we remember.

Rep. Dave Belton is Republican from District 112, representing Morgan and Newton counties in the Georgia House of Representatives.

## MARCH:

Continued from B9

Regiment, “the Oglethorps” Georgia State troops, shared insight on Union soldiers’ arrival to Newton County:

“The raiders scattered throughout the village.

Pillaging to some extent private residences, destroying government cotton and burning the home of Mr. Irving, an old citizen of the place.”

At a home near Cov-

ington, Clark writes: “... As I sat there on the piazza a federal brigade passed in a short distance from the house followed by a crowd of contrabands (slaves).

“One of the soldiers

came in and took a ham from the party without taking the trouble to ask for it. Others passed through the yard on other errands. Nothing was said to me and I made no special effort to attract their attention.

“I was saying nothing but I was doing some pretty tall thinking.”

Dolly Lunt Burge, who lived southeast of Covington off present-day Georgia Hwy. 142, watched the Union soldiers converge on her farm:

“... Like Demons they rush in. My yards are full. To my smoke house, my Dairy, Pantry, kitchen, and cellar like famished wolves they come, breaking locks and whatever is in their way.”

Burge was said to be a widow native of Maine who lived with her 9-year-old daughter at the time. They could see large fires burning in the direction of Covington.

“... Sherman (himself) with a greater por-

tion of his army passed my house all day,” she wrote. “All day as its sad moments rolled on were they passing, not only in front of my house, but they came up behind; tore down my garden palings, made a road through by backyard and lot field, driving the stock and riding through, tearing down my fences and desolating my home, wantonly doing it when there was no necessity for it. Such a day, if I live to the age of Methuselah, may God spare me from ever seeing it again.”

Burge said she was left without anything to eat, but noted her greatest fear was being homeless.

Union soldiers finally made their way out of Newton County by around Nov. 20, 1864, and Sherman’s march concluded in Savannah on Dec. 21 (about three weeks after taking Atlanta). Upon arrival, the city was left without defense as approxi-

mately 10,000 Confederate troops fled days earlier.

The Civil War, which began in April 1861, came to an end the following spring as Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee surrendered to Union General Ulysses S. Grant on April 9, 1865, at the Battle of Appomattox Court House in Virginia.

Approximately 1 million soldiers served in the Confederate army while 2.2 million served in the Union Army. By the war’s end, more than 1 million total people were recorded dead — roughly 50,000 were considered free civilians; 80,000 were slaves; and the remainder were soldiers.

Data and historical facts were collected from the “History of Newton County Georgia,” written and compiled by the Newton County Historical Society.



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While many are familiar with the U.S. flag's origin, most do not know the proper etiquette and responsibilities that come with flying the flag.

# United States flag facts and handling etiquette

## SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

As Memorial Day has arrived and Independence Day draws near, many will be looking to put up their United States flag to honor the nation's fallen soldiers and celebrate the country's founding.

But how should they go about replacing a damaged or old flag? And where should they fly their flag? For how long?

The U.S. flag was first imagined after the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776. The Continental Congress authorized creation of the first national flag on June 14, 1777. It was decided that the flag should have 13 stripes, alternating red and white, to represent the original 13 colonies, and that the new union be represented by 13 white stars in a blue field to signify a "new constellation." Francis Hopkinson, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, is most

- often credited with the original design.
- Today there are 50 stars on the flag to represent the 50 states, while the 13 stripes still represent the 13 British colonies that became the first states.
- While this may be common knowledge, Public Law 94-344, known as the Federal Flag Code, may not be as widely known.
- The code dictates that the flag is to be treated with respect and proper etiquette. The code is extensive, but the following guidelines can help private individuals interested in displaying their flags do so in accordance with the law.
- Flags should only be displayed in public from sunrise to sunset, unless the flag can be properly illuminated during darkness. In this instance, it may be displayed at all times.
  - When displayed with other flags, such as on a single staff or lanyard, the U.S. flag should be above all other flags. If flags are displayed in a row, the U.S. flag goes to the observer's left.
  - State and local flags are traditionally flown lower than the American flag.
  - During marching ceremonies or parades with other flags, the U.S. flag should be to the observer's left.
  - The flag should be displayed at every public institution and at schools during school days.
  - When displayed vertically and not on a staff, the union should be on the left when observed. It should be suspended so its folds fall freely as though the flag were staffed.
  - The flag should be hoisted briskly and lowered ceremoniously.
  - The flag is often displayed at half-staff on days of mourning, including Memorial Day. The flag should first be hoisted to the peak for an instant, then lowered to half-staff position, which is half

- the distance between the top and bottom of the staff.
- On a vehicle, the U.S. flag should be displayed from a staff firmly fixed to the chassis. It should not be draped over the hood, top, sides, or back of a vehicle.
  - The flag should never touch anything beneath it, such as the ground, the floor, water, or merchandise. It also should never have anything placed on it.
  - A flag in poor condition should be destroyed with dignity, preferably by burning. Most American Legion posts and local Boy Scouts troops will have the resources to retire flags accordingly.



## Honoring the Memory of Our Heroes in Uniform

On Memorial Day, we pause to reflect on the service and sacrifice of the men and women of our Armed Forces. We honor the memory of those who lost their lives protecting our nation's freedom, and we salute all those who have served in our military past and present. Their selfless dedication reminds us that freedom is not free, and we will never forget their courage and extraordinary contribution to our country.

## Honoring Their Service & Sacrifice



On Memorial Day and every day, we honor the men and women who sacrificed everything to defend and protect the values we as a nation hold so dear. We recognize that freedom is not free, and we thank all those who serve for their valor and dedication.



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— ELMER DAVIS  
FORMER DIRECTOR OF U.S. OFFICE  
OF WAR INFORMATION, JOURNALIST



They sacrifice so much every day, from spending months away from their families to facing peril on the battlefield. They are our nation’s heroes, the men and women who serve in our armed forces. We commend them on their service and salute all who have died in the name of freedom this Memorial Day. We are forever in your debt.



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★ **Remember...  
Freedom is not Free!**

On Memorial Day, we dedicate our thanks to those who dedicated their lives to this great country. Their courage, service and sacrifice will never be forgotten. We salute the military heroes we have lost, and those who continue to protect our freedom today.

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