# The Communa Aeus

Wednesday, February 10, 2021

**RAMS TAKE** 

DIAMOND

Newton baseball among

other programs

**SPORTS:** 



and stay informed on local issues at CovNews.com



#### His Word

He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust

Luke 16:10, KJV

## County manager petitions to oust coroner

'Unable to ensure safety' among allegations including extortion, open records violations

By TOM SPIGOLON tspigolon@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. -Apetition seeking Coroner Dorothea Bailey-Butts' removal from office states her actions while on the job demonstrate "she cannot reasonably perform her duties and ensure safety of citizens and others."

County Manager Lloyd Kerr filed a petition Jan. 29 with the Georgia Coroners Training Council to remove

**Bailey-Butts** from office and to seek an emergency injunction to prevent her from continuing in the elected position "effective immediately."

The coroner is an elected position in most Georgia



Dorothea **Bailey-Butts** 

counties. It is charged with investigating suspicious deaths and determining whether the state medial examiner needs to conduct autopsies.

Bailey-Butts, a Democrat, won election Nov. 3 by defeating three-term Republican incumbent Tommy Davis after losing to Davis in 2016 for the coroner's office.

She stated on her Facebook page that she responded to

42 cases in January.

Kerr's petition includes a series of allegations against Bailey-Butts that show that "she is wholly unable to competently serve as the county's coroner" because of actions she took between taking office on Jan. 1 and Jan. 29.

"She has held office for 29 days and (her) behaviors and lack of professionalism not only reflects negatively

on Newton County but for coroners across the State of Georgia," the petition stated.

Among the allegations:

• On Jan. 22, Bailey-Butts arrived at the scene of a fatal vehicle wreck. She argued with a sheriff's deputy about a prior traffic ticket she personally had received, and then refused to transport a body from the scene in a coroner's transport van.

See OUST, A7

**Alcovy Judicial Circuit** 

## McGinley announces changes in DA's office leadership

Staff members receive various office-wide awards By TAYLOR BECK

tbeck@covnews.com COVINGTON, Ga. Alcovy's Judicial Circuit, which includes

Newton and Walton counties, will have two chief assistant district attorneys. District Attorney

Randy McGinley announce his decision to promote Amber Dally and hire Cliff Howard as chief assistant district attorneys for two counties' offices. McGinley said after reviewing the structure and policies of the district attorney's office, he felt the minute change in leadership was necessary.

"Historically, we've had one chief assistant

See CHANGES, A3



Stephen Milligan | The Walton Tribune

Cliff Howard, left, signs documents inside the Walton County Courthouse in Monroe shortly after being sworn in as the Alcovy Judicial Circuit's second chief assistant district attorney. Chief Superior Court Judge John Ott, right, looks on.

#### **Newton County Schools**



**Newton County Schools** 

Porterdale Elementary fourth-grader Malachi Brock shows his trophy for winning the recent Newton County School **System Spelling Bee.** 

### Porterdale student wins 'different' NCSS Spelling Bee

**STAFF REPORTS** 

Porterdale Elementary School fourth-grader Malachi Brock emerged victorious in Newton County School System's 2021 District Spelling Bee.

Brock edged out all of the NCSS elementary and middle school

See BEE, A3

school-level champions to walk away with "Super Speller" bragging rights this year, a news release stated.

He will now represent Newton schools in the Regional Spelling Bee on Feb. 27.

"I love to read so I'm good at spelling," Brock said after he accepted his





Inside **Newton resident's Yono Clip** gains investor

### Weather

Wednesday, Feb. 10 High: 62°; Low: 50° 50% chain of rain.

Thursday, Feb. 11 High: 64°; Low: 47 90% chance of rain.



#### Index

Obituaries ...... A2 Classifieds/Legals......A5 Food and Entertainment .... B1

**SINCE 1865** 

Get breaking news updates, manage your subscription, place an advertisement and read the e-edition at CovNews.com





11290 Brown Bridge Rd. Covington, GA 30016 www.dwairflow.com 770-788-7700

**High-Quality Air Conditioning** Services Since 1986



## Spreading love by letters

Chamber of Commerce encourages community to submit letters, drawings to assisted living facilities

#### By TAYLOR BECK

COVINGTON, Ga.

 Since the COVID-19 pandemic began nearly one year ago in Newton County, residents of assisted living facilities have been quarantined and been forced to stay away from their loved ones.

With Valentine's Day approaching, the Covington-Newton County Chamber of Commerce decided to take action and spread the love to residents of the areas local facilities with letters, drawings and other gifts.

"This is just a little project we wanted to get off the ground after hearing from several of our member businesses that are assisted living facilities regarding some of the difficulties they are facing right now," said Amelia Fazio, who is the chamber's membership director. "We know their residents have been challenged during COVID in more ways than many as they are not able to spend time with loved ones. We hoped to coordinate and facilitate a way to brighten their day. We are encouraging members and

community members to send in letters, drawings, etc., which we can then deliver to the various facilities for distribution to their residents.

"Our hope is their staff can share these words of encouragement with their residents," she said.

Fazio said anyone wishing to participate could contact her at 770-786-7510 or afazio@ newtonchamber.com to arrange delivery times at the chamber, located at 2101 Clark Street in Covington, by Feb. 11.

"We are working remotely many days due to COVID but if they contact me, I can ensure someone is there to receive the items or where to drop them off safely," she said.

Fazio said the chamber would deliver the gifts on Feb. 12, evenly dividing the items between Merryvale, The Oaks at Ashton Hills, Benton House and Pruitt Health.

If unable to meet the chamber's deadline, community members are encouraged to make someone's day by creating and sending gifts on their own by mail.

#### **Newton County**

### Commissioner says fire station funding to be approved despite 'hostage' comments

By TOM SPIGOLON tspigolon@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — The chairman of Newton County's Public Facilities Authority says funding will be approved for a new fire station despite allegations other commissioners were holding it "hostage" to gain their projects' approval.

District 2 Commissioner Demond Mason said at the end of the Newton County Board of Commissioners' Feb. 2 meeting that he "supported and voted for the new fire station to be built" in 2020 on Big Woods Road near the Starrsville community.

"I understand the need of establishing more fire safety throughout Newton County. Therefore, the funding for this fire station will be approved," he said.

"I was elected to not only serve District 2, but to serve the entire citizenship of Newton County," Mason said.

He said after the Public Facilities Authority meeting Jan. 19 "there were some negative and misleading media published" which referred to District 1 Commissioner Stan Edwards' comment that he believed other Authority members were holding the fire station bond funding "hostage."

"I would like to clarify, that this is the farthest from the truth," Mason said.

"In 2020, I supported and voted for the new fire station to be built. This proves my point that the fire station was never being held hostage as publicized," he said.

The other Authority members Jan. 19 also were Board of Commissioners members who said they wanted proposed projects in their central and west Newton districts considered for bond funding, in addition to the fire station.

Edwards wanted bond financing for the fire station to be voted on first but Mason allowed other board members' recreation-related projects to be considered before voting on issuing bonds for the planned Fire Station No. 4.

After Edwards and District 5 Commissioner Ronnie Cowan voted against adding the other commissioners' projects to a list under consideration, the authority then voted 3-2 to delay action on the fire station bonds for 30 days.

Mason said, "We must understand, as a community, all projects have value, (whether) it is categorized as economic development, parks and recreation or establishing infrastruc-

"It should be noted that all projects have value. Citizens in all districts pay property taxes and deserve an enhanced quality of life within all five districts," Mason said.

"It is disingenuous to state that recreation is less important than other projects. I invite all of our citizens, as well as each of my fellow commissioners to go back to the Newton County website and read the Strategic Plan that was voted on and

implemented in 2019," he said. Mason has proposed con-

struction of an aquatic center in west Newton with funding from a number of possible sources, including bonds. He said that under the Stra-

tegic Plan's "Enhance Quality of Life" section, it states that the county should provide non-traditional programming options for family and youth such as health and nutrition classes, yoga, pickleball and boot camps. It should also host youth en-

gagement activities in various parks throughout the county such as Kids Wildlife Day, Fun Days and Youth Skills and Drills — which he emphasized were all recreation-related.

"Therefore recreational facilities and activities are indeed important to the citizens of Newton County, as written in our current Strategic Plan," Mason said.

He said he wanted the county manager to find grants, state dollars, corporate sponsors or seek "investment dollars from our municipalities that would be willing to invest in this strategic plan implementation since all of Newton County, along with the citizens from our local municipalities will benefit greatly from this center."

"I hope that this statement brings clarity to the matters needed to be addressed amongst this board and that we will move forward in the spirit of unity and progression," Mason said.

### Covington could save \$1.5 million over 20 years with new energy plan

#### By TAYLOR BECK

tbeck@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. In partnership with Schneider Electric, the city of Covington's pursuit to be more environmentally friendly could pay off handsomely in the long run.

According to a study conducted by Schneider Electric, the city could save up to \$1.5 million over the next 20 years by taking necessary steps to cut energy usage. Steps would include installing interior and exterior LED lighting, street lighting upgrades, smart controls for lighting, smart buildings and HVAC

servation and envelope/ weatherization.

LED lighting lasts more than 20 years before it needs to be replaced. It also uses half the wattage of a typical T8/HID lamp, of common fluorescent lamps.

Switching to LED lighting for street lamps would reduce the energy output by 70%.

Currently, it costs the city \$245,630 annually to operate nine facili-

ties. By making necessary upgrades at various city properties and venues, including fire and police stations, city hall and the airport among others, Schneider Elec-

tric suggests Covington could save between \$46,400-\$55,000 annually. The upgrades would also result in a 22% decrease in energy usage, according to the

"I think anytime you can do what needs to be done and save money at the same time, that's good," Mayor Steve Horton told The Covington News.

During its meeting Monday, Feb. 1, the city council voted 5-1 (Kenneth Morgan opposed) to hire Schneider Electric to complete an "Investment Grade Audit" that will further detail potential projects, as well as all cost and savings figures later this spring. Then, the city will determine what projects — if any they want to move forward with.

"If the City elects to move forward with any of the items Schneider proposes, then the City will pay the cost of that project, and utilize the energy savings to do so," a city spokesperson said. "Schneider Electric guarantees the

energy savings associated with any project it completes for 20 years. If the city elects to move forward with none of the proposed projects, the city will receive the full audit and pay Schneider Electric \$39,000 for the cost of the audit and not retain Schneider Electric."

If Covington were to opt into completing any suggested projects by Schneider Electric, City Manager Scott Andrews said it would be beneficial to the city in more ways than one.

"This energy savings program will help prepare the entire community for the future by updating city buildings and infrastructure," he said. "Getting this agreement in place allows the city to make improvements that will enable the team to fund needed projects with minimal impact to the current budget."

In other business, the council:

 Approved the purchase of an aerial bucket truck from Ginn Chrysler Commer-

cial in the amount of \$132,596. Horton said the purchase was to replace the current one in the telecommunications division. Ginn's was the lowest of five total bids. The truck will be available within 180-210 days, according to city documents.

 Approved the \$183,850 bid from GTG Traffic Signals for the installation of the traffic signal at the intersection of Alcovy Road and Covington Town Center Boulevard.

 Approved the Planning and Zoning Department's proposed fee schedule 5-1 (Fleeta Baggett opposed).

· Approved an encroachment agreement with ER Snell Contractor Inc. for Georgia Hwy. 142 roundabout water main relocation.

 Approved a resolution after briefly holding an executive session, agreeing to fund up to \$14 million being spent to fund various upgrades associated with the Eastside sewer outfall line and basin, as discussed in a

recent study performed by Carter & Sloope Engineers, fund all acquisition and legal fees associated with any necessary land purchase or easement transaction including appraisals, filings and other costs as may be required, and file for a Georgia Environmental Finance Authority loan, which will serve as the funding mechanism for the project and associ-

ated costs. Tabled discussion of rezoning property located on Jackson Highway to Feb. 15. This marked the second time the item has been tabled (first tabled Jan. 4). It was originally tabled to wait on results of a traffic study. Traffic study results are in, but Horton said there was other "housekeeping items" to take care of before discussion could

 Approved a contract extension with Ice Days to allow the ice skating rink currently at Legion Field to operate for an additional week. The last day of operation is Feb. 21.

properly be had.

## automation, water con-WORKOUT AT COVINGTON'S FAVORITE GYM! RST VISIT IS ON US WHEN YOU MENTION THIS AI



WE ACCEPT SILVER SNEAKERS!



10100 ALCOVY RD, COVINGTON, GA 30014 ALCOVYFITNESS.COM | (770) 385-8550



#### **TIRES-WHEELS-ALIGNMENTS-BRAKES-**PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE

#### **Betty Jane Dunevant**

Caldwell & Cowan Funeral Home The world gained an angel with the passing of Mrs. Betty Jane Dunevant on Saturday, February 6. She died peacefully in her home

surrounded by family.

She was born on January 25, 1930 in Lowellville, Ohio to Lawrence and Josephine Rotz. Betty was a devoted wife and mother of five. She was an avid cook, masterful pizzelle maker, and a friend to all that she came in contact with. She loved spending time with her children and grandchildren, playing bingo and entertaining those around her with funny remarks.

#### **O**BITUARY

Betty is survived by her loving husband Walter "Reggie," four daughters: Sandy, Shelley, Sherri, Sheryl, and son Charles, along with nine grandchildren, six great-grandchildren and one greatgreat grandchild. A Memorial Service for Mrs. Dunevant was

held Tuesday, February 9, 2021, 6:00 P.M., at the Chapel of Caldwell & Cowan, 1215 Access Road, in Covington, with Father Roberto A. Orellana This obituary was prepared with love and affec-

tion by Mrs. Dunevant's family. Visit www.caldwellandcowan.com to place

online condolences.

### Newton resident's Yono Clip gains 'Shark Tank' investor

By TOM SPIGOLON tspigolon@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga.

— Newton County resident Bob Mackey was able to convince one of the "sharks" on ABC-TV's "Shark Tank" to invest \$150,000 in his invention.

Mackey and his business partner, Decatur resident Michael Green, pitched their product called the Yono Clip to the group of famed investors on the episode that aired Friday, Feb. 5.

Daymond John agreed to invest \$150,000 in Mackey's product in exchange for 30% of the profits.

Mackey said those interested in the product after the show crashed the website yonoclip. com.

"After the show, we became the No. 1 search on Google, and our site couldn't hold the volume," he said.

Daniel Lubetzky, an occasional shark on the

show and founder of snack company Kind, tweeted: "Wow, @The-SharkDaymond, that was awesome! You are such an inspiration and role model to so many, including me, and I am proud to count you as my friend! Very excited for you and the guys at @YonoClip."

Mackey and Green said they applied for the show to gain an investor to allow them to go from producing a few Yono Clips on a 3-D printer to mass production with more advanced injection molding equipment.

A Jackson County native, Mackey is CEO of the Boys & Girls Club of North Central Georgia. He has worked with the organization for almost a decade and a half and has served as its CEO since mid-2017.

Green is the president of Science4Every1, which offers science-based presenta-



Special Photo

The Yono Clip display is shown on the 'Shark Tank' set.

tions for a wide range of groups including schools and youth organizations.

Mackey said he got the idea for the Yono Clip while working out at a Covington gym after seeing that other gym users had left their bags on the floor because they did not want the bags located where they could not see them. He said he drew the rough design of the product on a napkin and eventually asked friends on social media if they were in position financially to work with him on producing what would become the Yono Clip. Only Green answered the call, Mackey said.

After some months of testing and design, they used the 3-D printers to

begin slowly producing small batches of their product.

They then appealed to the public with a Kickstarter campaign and raised almost \$8,000 in 24 hours, Mackey said.

Then, after contacting producers in an effort to appear on "Shark Tank," the duo was chosen to be among the

few to travel to Las Vegas to pitch their product on the show out of about 40,000 applicants annually, according to information from the show's producers.

John and Mark Cuban, Kevin O'Leary, Lori Greiner and Barbara Corcoran were the "sharks" on this episode.

#### **CHANGES:**

Continued from A1

district attorney working out of one office or going back and forth to manage both offices," McGinley said. "This change gives us a a chief (assistant district attorney) in both offices, which will help with the increased workload ... We have about 61

ney's office in both counties, so I thought this made sense.

total employees

working within

the district attor-

"I think branching out

— spreading out leadership
helps growth, which will ultimately help this office operate
more efficiently."

Dally is set to lead as chief assistant for the Newton County office, McGinley said.

"As a career prosecutor,
Amber has been prosecuting
with our Newton office since
2014," he said. "Amber has
been a supervising attorney
for a number of years that also
handled the prosecution of the
most complicated and difficult
cases. Additionally, Amber has
been the prosecutor assigned
to the Newton County Felony
Drug Court Program for about
two years."

Howard stepped into the role of the Walton County office's chief assistant after being sworn in Friday, Feb. 5, at the Walton County Courthouse, McGinley said.

Amber

Dally

Cliff

**Howard** 

"Cliff has been a prosecutor in Walton County since 2006," McGinley said. "He has prior experience in private practice representing victims of crimes and was previously the chief assistant in the DeKalb County Solicitor's Office in the mid-1990s. He has handled many of the most serious and complicated cases in our Walton Office for years. Additionally, he has years of experience supervising attorneys and assisting the many agencies that we work with."

Dally and Howard's main responsibility will be to assist McGinley in supervising and managing each office, McGinley said, and handling many violent felonies and other complicated cases. Additionally, they will be heavily involved in collaborating with all of the agencies that work with the district attorney's office, including law enforcement, Division of Family and Children Services, child advocacy centers and others.

Each office will also have a deputy chief assistant district attorney, McGinley said — Rich Vandever in Newton and Jennifor Handagin Wolfer

fer Hendee in Walton.
Another change involved
Deputy Chief Assistant District
Attorney Jillian Hall, who was
assigned to Resource Courts
in each county, Veterans Court
in Newton County, and as a
supervising attorney in Newton

Jacqueline Fletcher and Bailey Wilkinson are the senior assistant district attorneys in each office. They will assist in the supervision of other assistant district attorneys while handling a "wide range of cases including murders, sex crimes and other complicated matters," McGinley said.

Four receive Newton county DA's Office awards

The District Attorney's Office in Newton County recently presented annual awards to its top staff members.

Lisa Brown was named
Investigator of the Year. Sheila
Cornelius was awarded Legal
Assistant of the Year and Shay
Payne was named Victim Advocate of the Year.

"The year 2020 was different than any year ever before," McGinley said. "All three of those ladies were a huge part of keeping the office going. That's why they were all chosen this year. The stepped up and did so many things for the county and this community."

As a surprise, the office teamed up to award McGinley as the office's top assistant district attorney.

"I was not expecting it at all,"

he said. McGinley served the majority of 2020 as acting district attorney while maintaining his role as chief assistant district attorney after former DA Layla Zon was appointed an Alcovy Judicial Superior Court judge in May by Gov. Brian Kemp. The Walton County native was later elected district attorney in November after defeating opponent Destiny Bryant. Before becoming district attorney, McGinley served as chief assistant district attorney for three years.

## BUSINESS DIRECTORY





ore Opening for CNA or PCA in Covington. Shirts available: in, Tues & Wed 8:00am to 2:30pm or Thur, Fri & Sat 8:00am pm. CNA & PCA Positions also available in Atlanta, College Park, Decatur & Ellenwood.

If interested in positions go to www.advirhealthcare.com and click on careers to apply for interview. or call 404.348.2643 ext 702. Now Accepting Clients in most counties. We accept Wellcare, Peachstate, Amerigroup & CCSP/Source.

#### JOB OPPORTUNITY

#### WANTED: OTR CDL DRIVER.

Must be over 25 years of age and have over 2 years of experience. Call 770-786-5510 ext. 317 or 301.

#### AUTOMOTIVE



Gearheadz Automotive Repair 3114 Emory St, NW Covington, GA 30014 470-444-1447 470-865-2846

Gearheadztech17@gmail.com

15% Off Service of \$250.00 or More



### TAX PREPARATION



"Loyalty Means Everything"

BUSINESS • SELF-EMPLOYMENT INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR Owner: Laquil Walker • laquil@loyaltytax.org

470-441-9393 • Loyaltytax.org

### BEE:

Continued from A1

winner's trophy. "I read a lot of books and work on vocabulary."

Clydia Newell, principal of Porterdale Elementary School, said, "I am so proud of Malachi and his performance in the county spelling bee."

"Malachi is a wonderful student. He is a voracious reader, and I am confident that his reading has contributed to his ability in spelling. I am excited that he will be representing Porterdale Elementary School and the Newton County School system in the regional spelling bee."

Penny Moseley, director of Elementary Schools for Newton County Schools, said, "I am so impressed by Malachi's performance in the district spelling bee." "To win the cham-

pion's trophy as a fourth-grader is a remarkable accomplishment. I can't wait to hear how he fares in the regional bee and look forward to him competing in our district bee for many years to come."

Iyana Black of Live Oak Elementary School and Aiden Jarvis of South Salem Elementary School tied for second place in the District Spelling Bee. Helena Foster, Ele-

mentary Curriculum and Instruction Specialist for the school system, said this year's spelling bee was different from previous years due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"This year's Bee

was conducted using an online assessment platform created by Scripps," Foster said. "Students were give

Scripps," Foster said.
"Students were given
50 words to spell. The
computer called the
words for the students

and they had to type the

words correctly within

still had the option to ask for a definition and a sentence like they do in the traditional bee. "The students mov-

30 minutes. Students

ing on to the regional bee will test in the same format. They will be given 30 minutes to spell 50 words and they will also have a multiple choice vocabulary test."

Brock seemed unfazed by the prospect of competing in the regional bee.

"I'm going to keep reading and working on my vocabulary," he said. "I want to keep going all the way!"

#### Mail: Editor: The Covington News, P.O. Box 1249, Covington, GA 30015 In person: Stop by 1166 Usher St.

NW in downtown Covington Email: news@covnews.com

## **OPINIONS**

The Covington News

U.S. Rep.

Greene, of

**Marjorie Taylor** 

Georgia's 14th

**Congressional** 

District, was re-

cently removed

from her seat

on the Educa-

tion and Labor

and the Budget

**Associated Press** 

**Committee** 

Committee.

Tom Spigolon news editor

## Should the past dictate your job in Congress?

In fact, it seems the more

outspoken or outrageous

you get on social media or

the traditional media, the

better chance you have of

getting elected to the U.S.

House. Look at freshman

a St. Louis Democrat who

riot at a jail in her district.

Hice, by the way, is

his words on Twitter and

January riots at the U.S.

Videos have shown,

since 2015, Greene said

believed a body double

Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

had been working on the

Supreme Court in place of

She said she had doubts

9/11 happened, and that a

shooting that killed scores

Her Education and Labor

Committee seat became a

major focus for opponents

rewarding her despite being

berating the survivors of a

mass shooting at a Florida

has said in the past that she

believed the 2018 shooting

and another in 2012 were

high school in 2018. She

who saw it as seemingly

shown on a 2019 video

of people at a Las Vegas

concert was intended to

demonize gun owners.

she agreed with those who

Capitol.

Congresswoman Cori Bush,

appeared to support a recent

facing his own criticism for

elsewhere leading up to the

t can happen to the best

Having to deal with those skeletons in your

closet ... or on youtube, or Twitter. A few months ago, we published a series of



stories about a teacher who lost her fight to regain her job. School district officials had fired her in part because of her interactions with others in comments on a Youtube channel, and also because of a video she posted on her personal Facebook page.

She claimed a right to privacy for a video which had nothing to do with her work and included some rough language. Her employers saw it differently and said her words on the video reflected badly on her job working with young people, and her employer. So, now, we hear and see

that U.S. Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene, of Georgia's 14th Congressional District, supported outrageous conspiracy theories and promoted them on a variety of platforms in recent years. Her defenders, such as

U.S. Rep. Jody Hice who represents eastern Newton County, says she made her remarks and "liked" Facebook posts before she ran for office and shouldn't have been booted from her assigned committees "for things she said years ago (and) has now apologized for," Hice wrote on Twitter.

There is also criticism of the Democratic majority in the U.S. House for not doing the same thing against some of their members for past actions and words.



The House voted to remove Greene from her seat on the Education and Labor Committee and the Budget Committee, with 11 Republicans joining with Democrats to do so.

Before the vote, Greene delivered what appeared to be a heartfelt denunciation of past conspiracy theories she supported that had been promoted by groups like QAnon and InfoWars.

However, after the Feb. 5 vote she lashed out at "morons" in both parties who voted to kick her off her committees, the Associated Press reported. She also has said "teams of people" managed her social media, attempting to deflect blame.

Afterward, she also bragged that the attention her actions brought her was prompting her supporters to send money to her reelection campaign.

Should we not hold people accountable for their actions before we hire them for a job as important and influential as the U.S. House of Representatives? It will be up to future voters to decide.

Tom Spigolon is news editor of The Covington News. He may be reached at tspigolon@covnews.com.

**Dorothy Piedrahita** columnist

## Newton County is rich in Black history

hat is the meaning of America's Black History Month? Each year Black History is

celebrated in February. How did it come to be? Who created it? And did Black Americans needed a month? Is there a compelling purpose

for the continuation of America's Black History Month? I will answer in the affirmative. Yes! Black History Month was established as an annual

observance originating in the United States, where it is also known as African-America History Month. Black History Month was never referred to as Colored People's Month.

Black History Month should be seen in a larger conversation. A starting point. How to incorporate a larger conversation in America. And included in America History as a whole. This isn't only a conversation Black American's should be having among themselves.

Black American's history in Covington, Georgia, is valuable if its only known in Newton County, Georgia. History demands truthfulness.

Newton County is rich in history of Black residents, past and present. Take, for instance, the Spring Hill Community on Hwy. 162.

I do not have the complete historical data on the history of Spring Hill Community at this time. I have been given a few verbal historical facts. My goal is to seek funding to do more in-depth research into the Spring Hill Community by interviewing families. Newton County should become richer and prouder.

Expanding knowledge should be specific. Not buried. Not deliberately forgot-

Deliberately concealing facts in our educational system has done a grave injustice to our United States. The road to information is rocky. And it will always be.

Generations come and they go. That's just how it is. But the written word is forever. Black Americans have contributed to America and our world. As a child my parents purchased a set of encyclopedias for me. I would read those books with great intensity. Those books were mine! I was an only child at that time. At the age of 9.

I was in a Spelling Bee. The word which knocked me out in the last round was

the word encyclopedia. Go

figure! I leave you with a few Black history facts that shouldn't be forgotten:

Carter Godwin Wooden was an American historian, author, journalist and the founder of Association of African American Life and History. Wooden has been called the "father of Black history."

Frederick Jones, a Black American, invented the refrigerators used in trucks, ships and airplanes, plus 60 other patents.

Three brilliant African-American women at NASA — Dorothy Vaughan, Mary Jackson and Janelle Monae — served as the brains behind one of the greatest operations in history: the launch of John Glenn into orbit, which turned the Space Race around.

Dorothy Piedrahita is a Covington resident who has worked as an activist and in government and business throughout her career.

Dave Belton guest columnist

## Serving on several committees in busy session

ow that the 'small" or amended budget for 2021 is done in the House

and off to the Senate. we spent the last week



starting up our committee work.

I am on many committees. I chair Special Rules, which primarily oversees the study committees that will be conducted the following year. I am also the secretary of Education, which oversees

the largest bite of the budget at 43%. I'm also on Economic Development and Tourism, Energy and Telecomm, Appropriations, Creative Arts and Entertainment, and Interstate Cooperation.

The committee I am most active with is a

combined House and Senate body that I created. The Governor's Joint Defense Commission works to make Georgia the friendliest state in the nation for our 120,000 service members and 750,0000 veterans.

I am working on many bills this year.

The first is HB 32, the Teacher Tax Credit bill. It is exactly the same as last year's HB 736 which passed unanimously in the House but was lost in the Senate because of COVID. It would be an incentive for teachers who choose to work in a very rural or poorly performing school \$3,000 for five years. The pilot program would be capped at

1,000 total teachers, so the cost would be \$3

million a year.

The second is HB 33, involving Military Retirement Income Tax Credits. Only eight states in the nation tax military retirement, and Georgia is one of them. Almost all our bases are near the borders of South Carolina, Alabama, and especially Florida, which do not tax military retirement income. Thus, Georgia is losing tens of thousands of well-qualified, patriotic, hard-working veterans to our neighboring states. HB 33 is based on the South Carolina model, which phases the cuts in over five years. The cost is \$30 million. We spend nearly a billion dollars to attract movie stars; why don't we do that

for our veterans? HB 34 is an Audiology Compact bill that would allow speech therapists to work in Georgia if they have a license in another participating Compact state. I have passed several Compact laws be-

fore. They are request-

ed by the military so their dependent spouses can easily practice their trade when they move to a new duty station. Compacts also increase healthcare accessibility, especially to rural

areas. HB 288 would revise minimum sentences before a convict would be up for parole. It arose from the horrible Peter Mallory case where a convicted peddler in child-pornography was sentenced to 1,000 years of prison for his loathsome deeds. However, much to everyone's disgust, he was given parole after

serving only 7 years. HB 289 would simplify the requirements for a young person to get a driver's license. The current law is a bizarre mish-mash, haphazardly passed on the floor of the Senate that is nearly impossible to understand. This bill would also allow young people who enlist in the military to take the driver's test without having to wait a full year. This is

important to the mili-

tary, as well as to our brave Georgia sons and daughters who devote their lives to protecting our freedoms.

I am also the co-sponsor of a Return to Work bill that would allow retired teachers to return to the classroom at full pay if the local system is willing to pay their TRS portion. I have been working on this bill for four years now, and am glad the governor has included it in his Teacher Pipeline Package.

If that seems like a lot of bills, it is. Most legislators do not pass any bills at all. I have been blessed to fully pass more than 20 bills of my own over the past few years. More importantly, because of my work with my Military Affairs committee, I have led the passage of more than 45 new laws to help our military.

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

## The Covington News

**Newton Newspapers Inc.** 

**OWNER** 

Patrick Graham pgraham@covnews.com

#### PUBLISHER and EDITOR

Taylor Beck

#### **ADVERTISING DIRECTOR**

Cynthia Warren cbwarren@covnews.com

#### **CIRCULATION DIRECTOR**

Amanda Ellington aellington@covnews.com

#### tspigolon@covnews.com **SPORTS EDITOR**

**NEWS EDITOR** 

Tom Spigolon

Mason Wittner mwittner@covnews.com

#### **LEGALS CLERK**

Lee Ann Avery lavery@covnews.com

Phone 770.787.6397 (NEWS) | Fax 770.786.6451 Online at covnews.com | email news@covnews.com

The Covington News (USPS 136140) is published bi-weekly on Sunday and Wednesday for \$60 a year for home delivery or \$80 a year for mail delivery by Newton Newspapers Inc., 1166 Usher St. NW, Covington, GA 30014. This newspaper is printed at the Jackson County Sentinel in Scottsboro, Alabama. Periodicals postage paid at Covington, Georgia. POSTMASTER:

Send address changes to The Covington News, P.O. Box 1249, Covington, GA 30015. Contents Copyright © 2021 Newton Newspapers Inc.

The Covington News

the order in which the numbers will

appear by using the numeric clues

already provided in the boxes. The

more numbers you name, the easier

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

8 6 4

1 2 5

6 5 1

5 1 2

2 7 8 1 5

4 9 3 2 8

3 8 9 6 1

7 4 6 8 3 2

9 4

it gets to solve the puzzle!

4 9

6 5

2 7

5 1

3 8

#### **CLASSIFIEDS**

#### **Announcements**

#### For Your Information

BEN F. Windham, P.C. Attorneys at Law welcomes Rebay Fielder as head real estate paralegal at their Covington Law Office location, Rebay joins Ben F. Windham, P.C. with over 30 years of real estate experience. Ben F. Windham, P.C. has had an office on at 2115 Usher Street NW in Covington in the old Pope Law Firm building for over three years The Covington office is managed by firm partner Kara Foskey Hooks, a Covington native. The attorneys in the firm practice law in the areas of real estate, personal injury, criminal defense and civil litigation. The law office has four locations; Covington, Locust Grove, Morrow and Lake Oconee. Kara, Rebay and the entire Ben F. Windham, P.C. team look forward to continuing to provide high level legal representation to the people of Newton County. The contact number for Ben F. Windham. P.C. is (678) 565-8686.

#### **Yard Sales**

#### Yard & Estate Sales

ESTATE / Yard Sale (big and small

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 13, 2021

8:00 A.M. - 12:00 p.m.

5234 PINECREST Dr. COVINGTON, GA 30114

CASH SALES ONLY

JANET DYAL

#### **Jobs**

#### **Help Wanted** "LIVE IN Augusta, GA"

LEADING MANUFACTURER OF Polyethylene

Film & Bags seeks positive self-motivated problem solving Supervisors & Lead Operators with 3+ years of blown file experience. Salary based ON EXPERIENCE. Send Resume

to: HR@amcorplastics.com and Visit our website: amcorplastics.com/jobs

ANGEL'S SEAFOOD & More LLC is looking for a Safe Serve Certification Food Service MGR Must have the skills to operate & run a existing Seafood restaurant. Must be able to work at least 4 days a week. Hours & salary will be discuss upon interview please call Alfreda Armstrong @ 404-484-4474 restaurant is located at 2308 Hwy 212 Covington, Ga. 30016

#### **LEGALS**

#### **Public Notices**

#### **Abandoned Vehicles**

#### PETITION ADVERTISEMENT

YOU ARE hereby notified, in

accordance with O.C.G.A. Section 40-11-19.1, that petitions were filed in the Magistrate Court of Newton County to foreclose liens against the vehicle (s) listed below for all amounts owed. If a lien is foreclosed, the Court shall order the sale of the vehicle to satisfy the debt. The present location of the vehicle (s) is: 9179 Aaron Dr. Covington, GA 30014. Anyone with an ownership interest in a vehicle listed herein may file an answer to the petition on or before: 2/25/2021 Answer forms may be found in the Magistrate Court Clerks office located at: Newton County Court House Forms may also be obtained online at

www.georgiamagistratecouncil.com

4T1GK13E9RU055537 20-4666AV 2008 NISSAN SENTRA 3N1AB61E98L675214 20-4667AV 2000 FORD RANGER 1FTZR15X4YTA01817 20-4665AV 1998 CHEVROLET CAVALIER

1994 TOYOTA CAMRY

1G1JF12T9W7227535 21-145AV 1991 NISSAN SENTRA 1N4EB31B2MC766453

21-143AV **1996 FORD** F150 1FTEF15N5TNA14773 21-147AV 2004 CADILLAC CTS

1G6DM5770191632 21-146AV

PUBLIC NOTICE #119925 2/10,17

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION HILL TOP TOWING INC

LOCATION: 8360 Nolley Drive COVINGTON, GA 30014 DATE: FEBURARY 18th 2021

BIDS STARTS AT \$2800

CASH ONLY, SOLD AS IS

LIST OF VEHICLES
1.1994 FORD EXPLORER, VIN-1 F M D U 3 4 X S R U C 1 1 7 5 8 (WRECKED) 2.2006 CHEVY TAHOE.VIN-

1GNEC13V76J149428 (WRECKED) 3.2003 HONDA ACCORD, VIN-1HGCM66593A038141(WRECKED) 4.2002 FORD FISO, VIN-1FTRW07L72KB19872 (WRECKED) 5.2012 DODGE JOURNEY, VIN-

### Fun by the Numbers

#### Here's How It Works:

3C4PDCAB6CT324369

JHMFC1F30JX025481

7.2012 KIA OPTIMA, VIN-

KNAGM4A75C5297664

8.2013 KIA OPTIMA, VIN-

SXXGM4A75DG241708

**9.2005 VOLK** JmA,VIN-3VWRA69M6SM035138

**PUBLIC NOTICE #118856** 

Bids

THE CITY of Covington is seeking

Tourism & Hospitality Board, 501c6

motel tax collection. A membership

body for the 501c6 is required by

state law and the City is soliciting

for building a membership base.

SEALED PROPOSALS must be

delivered to City Hall, 2194 Emory

Street NW, Covington, GA 30014,

Attn: Purchasing Department, no

later than 10:00am on Tuesday,

**REQUEST FOR** Bids/Proposals

accessing the request for proposals

php?section=business-opportunities

THE CITY of Covington reserves the

right to reject any and all proposals.

**Debtors Creditors** 

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND** 

NOTICE IS hereby given to the

debtors and creditors of the Estate

of FRANCINE LOUSIE BENNETT

Georgia. You are required to

render your demands and/or make

payments to the undersigned estate

THIS THE 27TH day of January,

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND

**CREDITORS** 

NOTICE IS hereby given to the

debtors and creditors of the Estate

of HELEN KELLY JOHNSON.,

deceased, late of Newton County,

Georgia. You are required to

render vour demands and/or make

payments to the undersigned estate

THIS THE 22ND day of January,

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND** 

NOTICE IS hereby given to the

debtors and creditors of the Estate

of JEANETTE MARIE GRIGGERS.,

deceased, late of Newton County,

Georgia. You are required to

render your demands and/or make

payments to the undersigned estate

THIS THE 27TH day of January,

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND

**CREDITORS** 

NOTICE IS hereby given to the

debtors and creditors of the Estate

of RALPH HODGES., deceased,

late of Newton County, Georgia. You

representative according to law.

JAMES G. GRIGGERS

COVINGTON, GA 30016

PUBLIC NOTICE #118876

699 FINCHER RD

02/3,10,17,24

representative according to law.

representative according to law.

**BOBBIE A. BLAKLEY** 

LITTLETON, CO 80128

**PUBLIC NOTICE #118877** 

7270 S. DEPEW ST.

02/3,10,17,24

2021.

JOEY JOHNSON

02/3.10.17.24

225 LAKEVIEW TRAIL

COVINGTON, GA30016

PUBLIC NOTICE #118873

deceased, late of Newton County,

and additional information may

on the City's website at https://

www.cityofcovington.org/index.

PUBLIC NOTICE #118883

be obtained at City Hall or by

March 2, 2021.

development and execution of a plan

entity responsible for expending

the advertising portion of hotel /

proposals for the recruitment of

membership to the Downtown

(WRECKED)

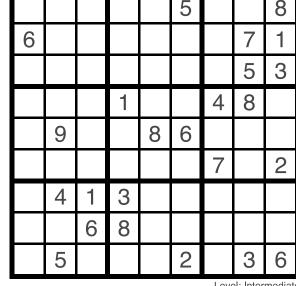
(WRECKED)

(WRECKED)

02/10,17

6.2018 HONDA CIVIL VIN-

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out



Level: Intermediate

are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law. THIS THE 20TH day of January,

**HARRY HODGES 4282 HWY** 81S **COVINGTON, GA** 30016

**PUBLIC NOTICE #118875** 02/3,10,17,24

#### NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of RITA HARDEN CORLEY., deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative THIS THE 27TH day of January,

LYNN SPOHN 75 WELLSLEY DR COVINGTON, GA 30014

PUBLIC NOTICE #118871

#### NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND **CREDITORS**

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of WINDFORD E. BATES., deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You 2021equired to render your demands and/or make payments to the MAIRILININEBATESSate representative 2400 WIGHTE AMNE LANE THANSTHIELD 2010 300 bis of January,

PUBLIC NOTICE #118874 02/3,10,17,24

#### **Foreclosures**

STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF NEWTON

#### NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER

BECAUSE OF a default under the terms of the Security Deed executed by Shirley K. Russ and Eddie R. Scofield to The CIT Group/Sales Financing, Inc. dated March 22, 2000, and recorded in Deed Book 912, Page 212, Newton County Records, said Security Deed having been last sold, assigned, transferred and conveyed to U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee, for Lehman **ABS Manufactured Housing Contract** Senior/Subordinate Asset-Backed Certificate Trust, Series 2001-B. securing a Note in the original principal amount of \$90,369.00, the holder thereof pursuant to said Deed and Note thereby secured has declared the entire amount of said indebtedness due and payable and, pursuant to the power of sale contained in said Deed, will on the first Tuesday, March 2, 2021, during the legal hours of sale, before the Courthouse door in said County, sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, the property described in said Deed, to-wit:

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN CEDAR SHOALS DISTRICT, NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA, DESCRIBED FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT THE INTERSECTION OF MORNINGSIDE DRIVE AND A NEW ROAD (NORTH LAKE DRIVE), AND RUNNING IN A SOUTHEASTERLY DIRECTION ALONG THE NORTHEASTERLY SIDE OF MORNINGSIDE DRIVE A DISTANCE OF 158 FEET TO AN IRON PIN. COMMON CORNER PIN OF BOUNDARY OF WALTER ALLGOOD'S PROPERTY LINE AND MRS. DORA G. BENEDICT'S PROPERTY LINE: THENCE RUNNING ALONG MORNINGSIDE DRIVE IN A SOUTHEASTERLY DIRECTION A DISTANCE OF 125 FEET TO AN IRON PIN: THENCE IN A NORTHERLY DIRECTION A DISTANCE OF 230 FEET ALONG PROPERTY OF MRS. DORA G. BENEDICT TO AN IRON PIN: THENCE IN A NORTHWESTERLY DIRECTION A DISTANCE 99 FEET ALONG PROPERTY OF MRS. DORA G. BENEDICT TO AN IRON PIN; THENCE IN A SOUTHWESTERLY DIRECTION A DISTANCE OF 230 FEET ALONG PROPERTY LINE OF WALTER ALLGOOD TO BEGINNING POINT. THIS BEING PART OF THE LAND DEEDED BY HOWARD PIPER TO JOHN R. BENEDICT (HUSBAND OF MRS. DORA G. BENEDICT,

NOW DECEASED). MRS. DORA G. BENEDICT, HEIR TO SAID PROPERTY, CONVEYED BY DEED AS RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 50. PAGE 229, SEE ALSO DEED BOOK 35, PAGE 449, PUBLIC RECORDS OF NEWTON COUNTY.

THE BEING SAME PROPERTY CONVEYED MRS. DORA G. BENEDICT (MRS. JOHN R. BENEDICT) TO GERALD E. BENEDICT BY WARRANTY DEED DATED APRIL 16, 1960 AND RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 54 PAGE 284, PUBLIC RECORDS OF NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA.

TOGETHER WITH THAT CERTAIN HORTON MODEL MOBILE HOME BEARING SERIAL NUMBER H171773GLRAB **IMPROVEMENTS** 

THEREON BEING KNOWN AS DRIVE, MORNINGSIDE COVINGTON, GEORGIA - 30016 TAX PARCEL Identification Number: 0045A00000008000 SAID PROPERTY is known as 415

Morningside Dr. Covington, GA 30016, together with all fixtures and personal property attached to and constituting a part of said property,

SAID PROPERTY will be sold 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, ordinances, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set

THE PROCEEDS of said sale will be applied to the payment of said indebtedness and all expenses of said sale as provided in said Deed, and the balance, if any, will be distributed as provided by law.

THE SALE will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the secured creditor.

THE PROPERTY is or may be in the possession of Shirley  $\acute{\text{K}}$ . Russ and Eddie R. Scofield, successor in interest or tenant(s).

U.S. BANK National Association, as Trustee, for Lehman ABS Manufactured Housing Contract Senior/Subordinate Asset-Backed Certificate Trust, Series 2001-B as Attorney-in-Fact for Shirley K. Russ and Eddie R. Scofield FILE NO. 20-076940

SHAPIRO PENDERGAST & HASTY,

ATTORNEYS AND Counselors at 211 PERIMETER Center Parkway,

N.E., Suite 300 ATLANTA, GA 30346 (770) 220-2535/HG SHAPIROANDHASTY.COM

\*THE LAW FIRM IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

PUBLIC NOTIC #11750

#### **Public Notice**

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF

STATE OF GEORGIA **COVTANI UMBLE-EFIJEMUEH** PLAINTIFF,

FRANKLIN EFIJEMUEH DEFENDANT,

**CIVIL ACTION NUMBER** SUCV2021000151

SERVICE BY ORDER FOR

**PUBLICATION** IT APPEARING by Affidavit, that the above named defendant on whom service is to be made in this case resides out of the State, or has departed from the State, or cannot after due diligence, be found within the State, or conceals himself or herself to avoid service of the Summons, and it further appearing, either by Affidavit or by verified Complaint on file, that a claim exists against the Respondent in respect to whom service is made, and that he or she is a necessary or proper party to the action.

IT IS hereby considered, ordered, and decreed that service be made by

PROVIDED BY law.

SO ORDERED, this 4TH day of

February 2021.

**PUBLIC NOTICE #119926** 2/10,17,24-3/3

NOTICE OF LOCATION AND **DESIGN APPROVAL** P. I. 0015095

**NEWTON COUNTY** 

NOTICE IS hereby given compliance with Georgia Code 22-2-109 and 32-3-5 that the Georgia Department of Transportation has approved the Location and Design of this project.

THE DATE of location and design approval is: January 27, 2021

THIS PROJECT proposes intersection improvement of Access Road NW at Crowell Road, just south of I-20, including the re-alignment of Access Road NW. This re-alignment is approximately 3,300 feet in length and diverges from the existing Access Road NW to the south and intersects with Crowell Road approximately 515 feet south of the existing intersection. In addition, Crowell Road would be improved by widening the existing roadway to accommodate proper turn lanes for vehicles entering and exiting I-20 and the newly aligned Access Road. The project length is approximately 0.7 miles and located within Land District 9 in Land Lots 188, 189, 196, and 197 in Newton

TRAFFIC WILL be maintained during construction on the existing Access Road and Crowell Road. Traffic will be shifted to the realigned Access Road after completion. Access to Harold Dobbs Road from the Access Road east of Crowell Road may be closed for a short duration (up to 2 weeks) to allow for the construction of a retaining wall and the minor realignment of the intersection of the Access Road and

DRAWINGS OR maps or plats of the proposed project, as approved, are on file and are available for public inspection at the Newton County, Public Works: CHESTER CLEGG, Newton County

Transportation Director CCLEGG@CO.NEWTON.GA.US 65 PIPER Road COVINGTON, GA 30014 (678) 625-1300

ANY INTERESTED party may obtain

a copy of the drawings or maps or plats or portions thereof by paying a nominal fee and requesting in writing KIMBERLY NESBITT, State Program Delivery Administrator

**GDOT OFFICE** of Program Delivery ATTN: BRUCE Anderson BRANDERSON@DOT.GA.GOV 600 WEST Peachtree St NW ATLANTA, GA 30308 (478) 538-8595 **PUBLIC NOTICE #118878** 

02/3,10,17,24 NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

9:30 o'clock a.m. at the Newton County Judicial Center, 1132 Usher Street, Covington, Georgia 30014, a presiding Judge of the Superior Court of Newton County will hear the case of STATE OF GEORGIA vs NEWTON COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY and NEWTON COUNTY, Civil Action File No. 2021-CV-225-2 in the Superior Court of Newton County, the same being a proceeding to confirm and validate Taxable Industrial Development Revenue Bond (Stanton Grove Project), Series 2021 (the "Series 2021 Bond"), in the principal amount of \$16,100,000, to be issued by the Newton County Industrial Development Authority (the "Issuer") pursuant to the terms of a resolution adopted by the Issuer, in order to promote and expand for the public good and welfare, industry, trade, commerce and employment opportunities within the "area of operation" of the Issuer in Newton County, Georgia (the "County"). The Series 2021 Bond is to be issued to pay certain costs of the acquisition, development and improvement (including, without limitation, the installation or provision of public . CLEANING CO. infrastructure) of a parcel of vacant land that includes approximately 335 acres and that fronts U.S. Highway 278 and Interstate Highway 20 at Exit 101 in the County (collectively, the "Project). In such proceeding, the Court will also (a) hear and determine the validity of instruments relating to and providing security for the Series 2021 Bond, and (b) hear and determine such other questions of law and fact pertaining to the right of the Issuer to issue the Series 2021 Bond

LINDA D. Hays CLERK, SUPERIOR Court, **NEWTON COUNTY, Georgia** 

party to these proceedings.

PUBLIC NOTICE #119921 2/10,17

#### NOTICE PETITION OF Rhonda Oliver-Bell,

and to provide the security therefor. The Series 2021 Bond shall be

special and limited obligations of the

Issuer, payable from funds pledged

by the Issuer for such purpose, and

NO PERFORMANCE AUDIT OR

PERFORMANCE REVIEW SHALL

BE CONDUCTED WITH RESPECT

TO SUCH BOND ISSUE. Any citizen

of the State of Georgia residing in

Newton County, or any other person

wherever residing who has a right to

object, may intervene and become a

to Probate Will in Solemn Form, Estate of Harlen Bell, UPON WHICH AN ORDER FOR SERVICE WAS GRANTED BY THIS COURT ON January 22, 2021

TO; TREY M. BELL THIS IS to notify you to file objection,

if there is any, to the Petition of Rhonda Oliver-Bell to Probate Will in Solemn Form, Estate of Harlen Bell.

#### **BE NOTIFIED FURTER: All** objection to the petition must be in

writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All pleadings objections must be signed before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your pleadings/ objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel at the following address/telephone number for the required amount of filing fees. All objections must be filed by March 1, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

MELANIE M. BELL PROBATE JUDGE

BY: MARCIA Wynne **CLERK OF PROBATE COURT** 1132 USHER STREET COVINGTON, GA 30014 770 784 2045

PUBLIC NOTICE #118872 2/3,10,17,24

WOOD

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

ENVIRONMENTAL

proposing to collocate public safety antenna on a water tank not to exceed a height of 136-feet located at 15100 Harland Drive NE, Covington, Newton County, GA 30014 (33° 37' 34.44' North and 83° 49' 37.19" West). Public comments regarding potential effects from this site on historic properties may be submitted within 30-days from the date of this publication to J. Ivey, Terracon, 2105 Newpoint Place, Suite 600, Lawrenceville, GA 30043; 770-623-0755; joann.ivey@terracon. com. Reference Terracon Project No. 49207D62

PUBLIC NOTICE #119919

THIS IS A DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTSOR INVOLVMENTS BY A DIRECTOR OF THE COVINGTON DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MADE IN ACCORDANCE WITH O.C.G.A. §

THE COVINGTON Downtown Development Authority (the "DDA") operates a façade grant program providing matching funds for exterior improvements to qualifying properties within its area of operations. The DDA has received a grant request application from member JAMES CHAPMAN for a \$5,000 façade grant. NO ACTION to approve or deny

on the listed façade grant request shall be taken for at least 30 days following the date of this published notice. The director having the substantial interest or involvement shall not be present at that portion the DDA meeting during which discussion of such matter is conducted and shall not participate in any decision of DDA relating to

PUBLIC NOTICE #119920 ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that on February 22, 2021, at

#### **Trade Names**

**NOTICE OF Filing of Articles of** 

NOTICE IS given that certain Articles of Amendment of The Burge Club, Inc. have been filed with the Secretary of State's office in accordance with the Georgia Business Corporation Code. The registered office of the Corporation is located at 1110 Jeff Cook Road, Mansfield, Georgia

PUBLIC NOTICE #118892

TRADE NAME **AFFIDAVIT GEORGIA, NEWTON COUNTY** 

TO WHOM It may Concern: PLEASE BE advised that REGINA MINOR., whose address is 35 GLEN RIDGE CT COVINGTON, GA 30014the owner(s) of the certain business now being carried on at in the following trade name, to-wit: LETS WIN that the nature of said business

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 20th day of January 2021

PUBLIC NOTICE #118842

TRADE NAME REGISTRATION AFFIDAVIT

**GEORGIA, NEWTON COUNTY** TO WHOM It may Concern: PLEASE BE advised that RICK WESTBROOK., whose address

is2131 HWY 81, OXFORD, GA 30054the owner(s) of the certain business now being carried on at in the following trade name, to-wit: RKREATIONSthat the nature of said business is: . ONLINE SALES OF CUSTOM MADE WOOD PRODUCTS THIS STATEMENT is made in conformity with O.C.G.A. §10-1-490 et seq. requiring the filing of such statement with the Clerk of Superior Court of this county. THIS THE 29th day of January 2021

**PUBLIC NOTICE #118878** 02/3,10

Subscribe today for only \$5 a month! Call 770-787-6397 or visit CovNews.com.

## The Covington News



A great way to start the day.

The Covington News

# Stay Connected... Only \$5 a month!

Home Delivery
The Covington News
The News & Advertiser

Online Only E-Edition

Use offer code 0221

Get home delivery of The Covington News and you'll have a lot to look forward to:

- Know what's happening in your local schools and neighborhood.
- Save money with sale ads and coupons in our Sunday and Wednesday editions.

Start home delivery now! Call 770-787-6897 or go to covnews.com

The Communation Aeus

### No more video-only final visits for dying COVID-19 patients in Georgia bill

By BEAU EVANS

Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA — Hospitals and nursing homes would have to allow in-person family visits during public-health emergencies like the COVID-19 pandemic under a bill filed in the General Assembly.

The bill, sponsored by state Rep. Ed Setzler, R-Acworth, would prohibit Georgia hospitals and nursing homes from limiting patients' ability to visit with family members in the event treatment or hospitalization lasts more than 24 hours – including during any "declared public health emergency."

Family members approved by the facilities would be permitted to visit with ailing loved ones in-person for at least two hours daily, according to the bill.

Setzler said his legislation aims to relieve the despair families have faced during the COVID-19 pandemic, when dying loved ones often were reduced to spending their final moments with family via an electronic touchscreen.

"Watching your mother die in a four-inch screen on an iPhone is simply unacceptable," Setzler said. "Every corner of this state has been devastated by the reality of not being able to visit sick or dying family members in times of great need."

Hospital and assisted-living advocates say they're reviewing Setzler's bill, noting the COVID-19 pandemic has prompted tragedy for family members unable to see their dying loved ones but that federal rules on visitation have handcuffed them.

"I don't think there's anybody who's more sympathetic and would like to be able to reunite families than our centers," said Tony Marshall, president and CEO of the Georgia Health Care Association. "We just want to be sure that any efforts to allow visitation are certainly done in the best interests of the safety and protection of the residents.'

Currently, Georgia allows visitation at nursing homes and long-term care facilities based on levels of COVID-19 positivity rates in a given community, under federal guidelines.

State Rep. John LaHood, R-Valdosta, who owns a local assisted-living facility, said he is still reviewing the bill but does see "some potential conflicts" with federal regulations – though he also stresses families have been devastated by the inability to see loved ones stricken with COVID-19 and should have an avenue to seek better

"The whole situation is just gut-wrenching to watch and be a part of," LaHood said. "It feels like a no-win situa-

Setzler pointed out his bill would allow hospitals and

nursing homes to impose "reasonable safety requirements" for visitation, though specific rules are not outlined in the bill. He said the bill aims to "give the provider control" over setting safety measures for how and where loved ones could be visited.

The bill also includes liability protections aimed at shielding Georgia hospitals and nursing homes from legal consequences for allowing visitors during public-health emergencies, mirroring legal guardrails businesses gained last August amid the pandemic, which House Republicans have proposed extending until June 14, 2022.

Setzler said he expects debate over his bill to center on what level of negligence hospitals and nursing homes would need to show for those liability protections to be waived in court. Lawmakers battled last year over whether to set the bar at "gross negligence" for bringing coronavirus-related suits against businesses and hospitals – a high legal hurdle but not impossible to meet, experts said.

COVID-19 measures in the 2021 legislation session now underway come as more than 1 million Georgians have received at least their first dose of COVID-19 vaccines, an amount constrained by the short supply of vaccines currently being sent out by the federal government.

### Initial jobless claims down in Georgia as labor department warns of potential tax fraud

By DAVE WILLIAMS Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA — First-time unemployment claims in Georgia fell by 7,896 last week to 28,016, reflecting a weekly decline at the

national level, the state Department of Labor reported Thursday. The agency paid out

more than \$238 million in state and federal benefits last week as it continued to implement the 11-week payment extensions provided in the latest COVID-19 relief package Congress passed late last month.

Additional U.S. Department of Labor requirements contained in the legislation must be integrated into the state systems before eligible payments can be released.

The state labor department is encouraging claimants to continue requesting weekly payments for those who have exhausted benefits or are waiting on determinations on eligibility.

Meanwhile, the agency is warning about the potential for fraud as it begins to send out more than 1.1 million 1099-G tax forms to Georgians who received unemployment benefits last year.

Anyone who receives a 1099-G form but did not file a claim in 2020 is urged to notify the labor department. The agency will investigate any reports of identity theft, make any necessary adjustments to the potential

victim's 1099-G and resubmit an amended form to the Internal Revenue Service.

"We are asking Georgians to be vigilant of their credit information and help us combat the fraudsters who are unlawfully taking funds from the [state Unemployment Insurance] program, Georgia Commissioner of Labor Mark Butler said Thursday. "This is a critical issue that is plaguing labor departments across the United States involving local, state, and even international criminals."

Since the coronavirus pandemic broke out in Georgia last March, the labor department has paid out almost \$17.6 billion in state and federal benefits to more than 4.3 million Georgians, more than the last nine years before the pandemic combined.

During the week ending June 23, the job sector accounting for the most initial unemployment claims in Georgia was accommodation and food services with 6,064. The health care and social assistance job sector was next with 3,145 claims. followed by manufacturing with 3,052.

More than 170,000 jobs are listed online at Employ-Georgia.com for Georgians to access. The labor department offers online resources for finding a job, building a resume, and assisting with other reemployment needs.

#### OUST:

Continued from A1

She eventually returned to the scene and did so but only after the body had been left on the side of the road for more than three hours, the petition states.

 After Bailey-Butts went to the home of the mother of the victim of a motor vehicle accident and informed her child had died, the mother collapsed upon hearing the news. Bailey-Butts then attempted to perform CPR on

the mother despite her being

"very much alive." After arriving at the scene of a 13-year-old boy's suicide, Bailey-Butts "began berating the family and first responders for messing up her crime scene." She then "mishandled" the body while the family was still present and potentially destroyed ev-

complaint. "She did not ask the family to step outside so she could complete her duties," the complaint states.

idence, according to Kerr's

"(Bailey-Butts) is directly responsible for these acts and must be made accountable for her misdoing(s)."

• On Jan. 16, Bailey-Butts and her "staff" went to a Covington hotel after a guest died in one of the rooms. Bailey-Butts and others assisting her took more than three hours to remove the body because of her "insistence that she would not transport the body."

She also allegedly left the body in a hallway in view of other workers and guests, the complaint alleges.



Tom Spigolon | The Covington News

**Newton County Coroner Dorothea Bailey-Butts poses with Shirlene** Parks and Shamon Hill whom Bailey-Butts said would be deputy coroners after she took the oath of office Dec. 17 at the Historic Courthouse in Covington.

 Attempted "extortion" of county commissioners to get the board of commissioners to give her more money for her budget.

The "extortion" included showing county commissioners during a Jan. 19 public meeting a manila envelope she said contained enough allegedly damaging information "to take Covington down."

• Bailey-Butts refused a request for a copy of the contents of the envelope despite a warning from the county's open records clerk it was required under the Georgia Open Records Act.

The refusal "subjects the county to liability" for her "blatant disregard of the law," Kerr stated.

Bailey-Butts has refused an open records request from The Covington News, saying the contents of the envelope were her "personal property" and not subject to the law.

 She accused Davis of malfeasance because she said she processed 81 reports he had not completed before he left office.

"(Davis) refutes this claim and there is no evidence to suggest she did undertake this effort," the petition

• Bailey-Butts independently hired three deputy chief coroners she "has not paid" and had not informed the county of their identities or other pertinent information needed to process them for payment for their services.

"If (Bailey-Butts) seeks to designate these individuals as employees, the county must follow all applicable state and federal laws including E-Verify to ensure the individual is eligible to work in the United States. Failure to do so is illegal."

It noted that the coroner is not a constitutional officer that state law allows to manage its own office. The county needs to know the individuals' identities to verify they have the "necessary skill set to serve as deputy

coroner."

"She is a county official and must comply with county policies governing employment," the complaint states.

"These three individuals are subject to the county's recruitment and onboarding policies of new employees or contractors."

• Bailey-Butts "even seemed mentally unstable" and has made it "abundantly clear" she "has no clear understanding of her role as a coroner."

"She complains of hidden cameras and items being moved in her office. Such paranoia is very concerning given the importance of the coroner's role," the petition states.

#### **CORONER RESPONDS**

Bailey-Butts did not respond to emailed and telephone requests for comment by the newspaper's deadline Tuesday.

However, she told WSB-TV on Monday that the allegations about the hotel worker and suicide victim were not true.

She said it "was a heated day for me" when she told first-responders at the scene of a fatal wreck Jan. 22 she would not transport bodies

 despite also telling the Newton County Board of Commissioners the same

thing three days earlier. The claim of mishandling a body and possible destruction of evidence involved cutting off the clothes of a

13-year-old suicide victim in

front of the victim's family. "I would never ever do anything like that to a 13-year-old," Bailey-Butts told WSB.

She said a training class, which included policies and procedures, was canceled before she took office because

of COVID-19. And because she did not know how the office operated and did not get the proper training, she was "set up to fail" by Kerr and County Chairman Marcello Banes,

Bailey-Butts said. She also told WSB she was taking training classes this

Kerr's petition noted that in 2019 the Georgia General Assembly expanded the Council's duties to allow it to review complaints "and make recommendations concerning the retention, suspension, or removal of a coroner from his or her position."

State law says the Council can suspend or withdraw a coroner if it determines the holder of that office cannot perform the duties of the office with "reasonable skill and safety to citizens" for a number of reasons including "a physical or mental condi-Training Council mem-

ber Richard Stanley, who is coroner of Laurens County, said the agency likely would gather information in the next two weeks before deciding if any action is needed on Newton County's petition.



Suite D Covington, GA 770-787-8400 



Our Mission.



Free Kitchen Appliance Cleaning With **Any Basic or Deep Cleaning!** Please call for details 770-500-2926

www.premierqueenscleaningga.com



are looking for in a Real Estate Agent. Whether you are selling or buying.





## **SPORTS**

The Covington News

#### Prep Baseball

## Rams ready to get rolling in 2021

Newton aiming to pick up where it left off

**Bv MASON WITTNER** 

mwittner@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. On March 13, 2020, Newton traveled to Rockdale County for the 10th game of its season.

The Rams entered the matchup red hot, riding the high of an offensive explosion that had produced 65 runs over the course of a four-game winning streak. They continued putting bats on balls as they boatraced the Bulldogs, 18-2, to move to 6-4 on the year.

Newton's offense had hit its stride. The pitching was coming into its own. It appeared as though the Rams were gelling and poised for a memorable campaign.

But just as quickly as the season took off, it suddenly came to a screeching halt. The Rams never

returned to the diamond after torching Rockdale County that Friday afternoon. What began as a two-week hiatus as a preventative measure due to COVID-19 turned into three weeks, a month and, eventually, the season. "It almost seemed

like a horrible dream you were going to wake up from and we were going to have baseball again. But as the days and weeks went on, it kind of started to set in that we may not come back," Newton head coach Darrell Helm said. "It



Mason Wittner | The Covington News

When the 2020 season came to an abrupt halt, the Rams were in the midst of a winning streak that saw the offense explode for 83 runs in five games. While the pitching staff took a hit, Newton's offense is poised to repeat the heat from last spring.

was heartbreaking for our seniors; a group of guys I'd coached since they were freshmen. A lot of different emotions were felt, but the biggest was just disappointment.

"We had everything going our way and somebody snatched the rug out from under us."

A lost season left nothing but speculation about what could've been, but Helm and his staff are choosing not to dwell on that. Instead, they've shifted their focus toward what can be obtained in 2021.

The Rams return a plethora of talent from last year's squad. The pitching staff will be forced to replace the production of Blake Peacock, Brody Landreau and Logan Arwood, but a formidable trio has risen in their place. Leading the way will be lanky left-hander Jevarra Martin Jr., who enters his junior year as the undoubted ace of the

"Jevarra's going to be the anchor," Helm said. "If he can come in, locate and really dominate the way we know he can, I think we're going to have a really good chance in the region — and even in non-region play to take some games that people really think we shouldn't."

Listed at 6 feet, 5 inches, and weighing 220 pounds, Martin has the frame — and work ethic — to blossom

into one of the brightest pitchers in the area. He'll be joined on staff by senior southpaw Kaleel King, who relies heavily on his fastball movement and off-speed pitches, and senior right-hander Will Standard, who's been a reliable arm throughout his career.

Behind the mound, the Rams are seeking to fill the holes of departed shortstop Israel Dixon and centerfielder Garrett Mitchell. Replacing a pair of team

captains is no small task, but with six other defensive starters set to reprise their roles this spring, Newton feels confident about the chemistry of the team.

"The major core of what we're doing is back this year," Helm said. "I'm excited about

Newton's path to the postseason won't be easy. As a result of region realignment, they'll be brushing shoulders with three preseason top-10 teams in Parkview (No. 2), Brookwood (No. 3) and Grayson (No. 6) in Region 4-AAAAAA. But they believe if they stick to their brand of baseball, there's no reason they can't beat one of those three — or South Gwinnett — out for a playoff berth.

"We know they're good teams. We know they're going to come out here with talent that we've never seen," Helm said. "Really, what we've got to do with our kids is not necessarily focus so much on the ranking or the name, but just just go out there and execute our style of baseball."

Newton is scheduled to open the 2021 season at home against Mount Paran Christian on Monday, Feb. 15, at 5:30 p.m. They'll then travel to Jasper County on Wednesday, Jan. 17, before returning home Saturday, Feb. 20, to host Prince Avenue Christian and Stockbridge for Diamond Day.

#### **Prep Wrestling**

#### Local wrestlers shine at region tournaments

STAFF REPORTS news@covnews.com

COVINGTON,

Ga. — Newton senior Kawaskee Teemer put on a brilliant show for the Rams on Saturday as he wrestled his way to a Region 4-AAAAAAA title.

Grappling with Grayson's Daniel Leiva in the 145-pound finals, Teemer pinned his opponent to collect the victory and improve to 10-0 on the year. Meanwhile, fellow Ram Jahaad Sowell earned a second-place finish in the 220-pound bracket while Newton placed fifth as a team.

Teemer and Sowell punched their tickets to the upcoming traditional state tournament. They'll be joined by teammates Landyn Camp (132 pounds) and Keshawn Haywood (138 pounds), both of which placed third in their respective weight classes after winning in the consolation finals.

Alcovy and Eastside also produced positive results in their region tournaments over the weekend.

At the Region 3-AAAAAA tournament, Tiger teammates Armani Russ (182 pounds) and Desmond

Page (285 pounds) qualified for the state tournament with top-

four finishes. Eastside powered its way to a fifthplace finish in Region 8-AAAAA behind the perfomances of state qualifiers Hunter Fuquad (113 pounds), James Brundage (126 pounds), Jatarus Reed (170 pounds), Kyan Bennett (182 pounds), Chase Barney (195 pounds) and Cameron Fleming (220 pounds).

The GHSA Traditional State Wrestling Champiohships will take place Feb. 9-13 at the Macon Centreplex.



Special to The Covington News

Newton senior Kawaskee Teemer captured the Region 4-AAAAAA crown on Saturday. He was one of four Rams who qualified for the upcoming state wrestling tournament.



FOOT AND ANKLE CARE Dr. Javan S. Bass DPM, FACFAS Dr. Tommy Tally DPM

#### SAME DAY APPOINTMENTS

We treat Turf Toe, Ankle Fractures, Sprains, Flatfeet, Heel Pain and so much more!

8225 Mall Parkway • Suite 230 • Lithonia GA 30038 • 770-484-9599

Wednesday, February 10, 2021

## FOOD & ENTERTAINMENT

The Covington News

### History, tradition of Valentine's Day



Metro Creative Services

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

Sweethearts who want to keep their relationships running strong know that Valentine's Day is celebrated each year on Feb. 14. But even the most ardent Valentine's Day enthusiast might not know just why this day designed for lovers to express their affections for one another is celebrated in mid-February. According to the Library of Congress, it's hard to pinpoint exactly why Valentine's Day is celebrated on Feb. 14, though the date might have ties to the ancient Roman celebration of Lupercalia. Lupercalia was a spring festival celebrated each year on Feb. 15. The holiday was moved to Feb. 14 after the spread of Christianity. The Christian faith had several early martyrs named Valentine, and each of them were celebrated with a saint day on Feb. 14. But the unique history of Valentine's Day and its association with Feb. 14 as well as its romantic sentiments does not end there. The Library of Congress also notes that, in the Middle Ages, people believed birds selected their mates

#### Valentine's Day tradition of **Purse Puzzles**

on Feb. 14. As a result, it

was not uncommon for

lovers to recite prose to

one another on this date.

Greeting cards are popular ways to express love and affection on Valentine's Day. However, those looking to say "I love you" and much more in a creative way may want to harken back to a tradition that is several centuries old.

Purse puzzles were once

an innovative way to send notes and illustrations and express other sentiments. Purse puzzles became popular around 1720 and remained so until roughly 1840. The puzzles consisted of a sheet of paper folded into smaller parts. When unfolded, the purse puzzle would reveal several messages and handdrawn art.

In the 19th century, purse puzzles were a clever way for lovers to send love notes on Valentine's Day or other times of the year. Purse puzzles were a form of paper art, similar

to origami.

Valentine's celebrants can rekindle the magic of purse puzzles to add creative flair to this year's celebrations. They can be made easily with tutorials found on websites such as Snapguide.com (https:// snapguide.com/guides/ make-puzzle-purses/). The finished puzzle will take a square shape and open up like a pinwheel until the full sheet of paper is revealed.



Metro Creative Services

This "Arrogant Bastard Ale Avocado Tacos" recipe is great for avocado lovers and vegetarians or anyone who simply enjoys a good taco.

### Unlikely ingredient takes dish to next level

#### **SPECIAL TO THE NEWS**

news@covnews.com

Tacos are a beloved dish, and few things complement a tasty taco better than a cold beer. Ambitious home cooks who want to combine these two tailor-made companions can thank the Stone Brewing Co. for the following recipe for "Arrogant Bastard Ale Avocado Tacos," which can be found in John Holl's "The American Craft Beer Cookbook" (Storey). This recipe is great for avocado lovers and vegetarians or anyone who simply enjoys a good taco.

#### **Arrogant Bastard Ale Avocado Tacos**

Makes 6 to 8 servings Ingredients:

#### Salsa Fresca

1 1/2 cups seeded and diced plum tomatoes

1/4 cup diced yellow onion 1/4 cup seeded and finely diced jalapeño peppers

1/4 cup lime juice

2 tablespoons finely chopped fresh cilantro leaves Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Arrogant Bastard Ale **Battered Avocados** 

2 cups Stone Arrogant Bastard Ale, chilled

3/4 teaspoon Cajun spice blend

1/2 teaspoon ground dried chipotle chiles

1/2 teaspoon granulated garlic

1/2 teaspoon kosher salt 1/2 teaspoon smoked papri-

1 cup all-purpose flour

1 teaspoon baking powder

4 1/2 ripe avocados, peeled, pitted and quartered

2 cups panko breadcrumbs Salt

#### **Tacos**

1 cup Stone Levitation Ale BBQ Sauce, or similar barbecue sauce

18 small corn tortillas

1 cup grated Asiago cheese Microgreens or chopped fresh parsley, for garnish

Directions: 1. To make the Salsa Fresca: Combine the tomatoes, onion, jalapeños, lime juice, and cilantro in a bowl and stir to combine. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Cover the bowl with plastic wrap and refrigerate for at least 30 minutes or up to three days to

allow the flavors to mingle. 2. To make the batter: Pour the ale into a narrow, high-sided container. Stir in the Cajun spice blend, chiles, garlic, salt, and paprika.

3. Sift the flour and baking powder together in a small bowl, then add them to the beer mixture slowly, whisking well until the ingredients are thoroughly incorporated. Add more flour if necessary to

create a tempura-style batter for coating the avocados. Set the batter aside.

4. Preheat the oven to 200 degrees. Prepare a deep fryer or pour two to three inches of oil into a deep cast iron or heavy pot that is at least four inches deep. Heat the oil to 360 degrees. Pour the breadcrumbs into a shallow dish.

5. Use tongs to grab the avocado quarters and dunk them in the prepared batter. Shake off any excess and roll the avocados in the breadcrumbs to coat all sides. Fry the avocados in batches until golden brown, one to two and a half minutes each. (Do not overcrowd the pot, as this will lower the temperature of the oil significantly.)

6. Transfer the cooked avocados to a parchment paper-lined baking sheet. Season with a sprinkling of salt and keep them in the oven until the entire batch is ready.

7. Assemble the tacos: Heat the barbecue sauce in a medium saucepan over medium-low heat, stirring occasionally, until heated through. Warm the tortillas on a griddle or in the oven, if desired.

8. Place one avocado quarter on each of the tortillas. Top each avocado with the warm barbecue sauce, salsa, cheese, and microgreens. Serve immediately.



Metro Creative Services Slow cookers do not require constant attention, making them ideal for people who want to prep meals before leaving the house and then

return to a hot meal in the

evening.

Turn to slow cookers for easy meals

#### **SPECIAL TO THE NEWS**

news@covnews.com

Busy families who do not have the time to spend an hour or more in the kitchen preparing weeknight dinners can turn to slow cookers to do the work for them. Slow cookers cook foods on a low temperature over several hours. Slow cookers do not require constant attention, making them ideal for people who want to prep meals before leaving the house and then return to a hot meal in the evening.

Many foods, from breakfasts to appetizers to desserts, can be prepared with slow cookers. But slow cookers are perhaps best suited for hearty meals, such as this recipe for "Creamy Ham 'n' Broccoli" from "Casseroles, Slow Cooker & Soups" (RDA Enthusiast Brands) by Taste of Home editors.

#### Creamy Ham 'n' **Broccoli**

Serves 6-8 Ingredients:

3 cups cubed, fully

cooked ham One 10-ounce package frozen chopped broccoli,

1 can condensed cream of mushroom soup, undi-

1 jar processed cheese

1 can sliced water chestnuts, drained

1 1/4 cups uncooked instant rice

1 cup milk 1 celery rib, chopped

1 medium onion, chopped 1/8 to 1/4 teaspoon

pepper 1/2 teaspoon paprika

#### Directions:

In a 3-quart slow cooker, combine the first 10 ingredients. Cover and cook on high for two to three hours, or until the rice is tender. Let stand for 10 minutes before serving. Sprinkle with paprika.





Have a recipe you'd like to share?

Email it to news@covnews.com and be featured in a future edition of The Covington News.

# Bood Depot

OUR COST PLUS 10% ADDED AT REGISTER!



Fresh, Any Size Package Ground **Beef** 



**USDA** Inspected Country Style Ribs



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



USDA Inspected, Boneless **Center Cut Pork Chops** 



Skinless Claxton **Split Fryer Breast** 

Fresh, Boneless,

USDA Select Beef, Boneless Chuck **Roast** 

## Food Depot

Watch Your \$avings Grow!

**\*OUR COST INCLUDES FREIGHT, STOCKING FEES AND ASSOCIATED EXPENSES** 

OFFERS GOOD FEBRUARY 8TH-FEBRUARY 14TH, 2021

QUANTITY RIGHTS RESERVED. NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR TYPOGRAPHICAL OR PICTORIAL ERRORS.

## Great Quality Brands!



**Riunite** Wine





6 Pack, .5 Liter or 7.5 Ounce Coca-Cola **Products** 



15 Ounce, Original Hunt's **Manwich** 



Frito-Lay's **Multipack** 



Select Varieties **Gatorade** 



**Nabisco Chips Ahoy** 



16 Ounce, Select Varieties Mueller's

8.27-9.75 Ounce,

**Select Varieties** 

**Little Debbie** 

**Pasta** 

## Farm Fresh Produce



14 Ounce Bag **Fresh Express Old Fashion** Slaw or Southern Slaw \$430



**Food Depot Russet Potatoes** 



4 Pound Bag Florida Oranges



Chips GOOD



Sour Cream Lay's Stax



Cheese Curls, Puffs or Puffed Corn **Golden Flake** 



Laundry **Detergent** \$178

**Snacks** \$160



**Turnip & Mustard Greens** 



**Snap Beans** 



**Jalapeno Peppers** 



**Large Cosmic Crisp Apples** 



**Roma Tomatoes** 



#1 Yellow Squash

## Low Prices — Name Brand Meats



16 Ounce Sunnyland Jumbo **Franks** 98¢



**Stock Up On Freezer Favorites!** 











12 Ounce, Regular or Thick **Bar-S** Bacon



20 Ounce Circle B **Hot Links** \$198 EA



32 Ounce **Top Chick** Chicken **Fingers** or Bites \$525 EA.

## From Our Dairy Case!



















# Freshway Market

1261 North Cherokee Road • Social Circle, GA • 770-464-0040 Visit Our Ad Online @ www.covnews.com

Online Grocery Shopping Available at www.freshwaymarketsocialcirclega.com

**Schools Round-Up Program\*** Over \$102,000 Raised to Date! \*Ask Cashier for

Social

**Circle City** 



Fresh Chicken Leg Quarters



Family Pack, Bone-In **Assorted Pork Chops** 



CAB Choice, Boneless Chuck Roast



USDA Select, Ribeye Steak

10 Pound Bag

Idaho

**Potatoes** 



Ketchup 3 Pound Bag Yellow





24 Pack, 12 Ounce Cans Coca-Cola **Products** 

CAB, Family Pack

Premium

Ground

Chuck



Family Pack, Bone-In

**Center Cut** 

Pork Chops



Family Pack, Bone-In Country Style

**Onions** 





12 Count Kellogg's



100 Count **Food Club** Tea Bags



Luck's **Peas and** Beans

15 Ounce



Gallon, Selected Flavors Hawaiian Punch

Peruvian

Seedless

**Grapes** 



16 Ounce Mayfield **Dairy Farms** Ice Cream



Kraft Mac & Cheese

7.25 Ounce



Ribeye Steak

CAB Choice, Family Pack



Family Pack Chuck Steak

CAB Choice,



CAB Choice Stew, **Diet Lean** or Stir Fry



CAB Choice, Family Pack Cubed Steak



Vacuum Pack Baby Back Ribs



Vacuum Pack St. Louis Style Ribs





20 Ounce, Assorted Varieties Land O Frost Sub Kit



Family Pack, Bone-In Quarter Loin **Pork Chops** 





Haas Avocados

1 Pound



Bosc, Danjou or **Red Pears** 



52 Ounce Florida's **Natural** Orange Juice





Sunnyland **Spread** Quarters



3.2-4.3 Ounce Oscar Mayer Lunchables







16 Ounce Sheboygan **Brats or Italian** Sausage





26 Ounce Cooked Perfect Meatballs



Sara Lee BBQ



Fresh Broccoli Crowns



Cauliflower







Kretschmar Medium **Roast Beef** 



Kretschmar **Swiss** Cheese



Deli Made Chicken Salad

16 Ounce Package

Peeled



**Brown Sugar** Ham

**Tues** 

Store Hours: 7 Days 8am-9pm • No Rainchecks This Ad Good Wednesday, February 10th thru Tuesday, February 16th, 2021

Wed Thur Fri Sat Sun Mon **12 13 10** 11 14 **15**