



SPORTS:
**ALCOVY
OUSTED**

Tigers' GHSA state
playoff hopes ended
by Rockdale County
[See A8](#)

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His Word

Behold, I will do a new
thing; now it shall spring
forth; shall ye not know it? I
will even make a way in the
wilderness, and rivers in
the desert.

Isaiah 43:19, KJV

Covington man charged in Alabama bank robbery

Nature of co-conspirators' arrests at fast-food restaurant sparks brief controversy

By **TAYLOR BECK**
[tbeck@covnews.com](#)

ALBANYVILLE, Ala. — Three Georgia men, including a Covington native, were arrested Thursday, Feb. 18, after allegedly robbing a bank.

Nekyle Andreas Chaney, 45, of Covington; Theodore David Kemp, 46, of Decatur; and Ronnie Lee Jones, 31, of Atlanta; were

apprehended by police following a robbery at Regions Bank in Albanyville, Alabama, according to Albanyville Police Chief Jamie Smith.

“This was a great effort on the part of law enforcement,” Smith told The Sand Mountain Reporter, a local newspaper. “I can’t brag on the Albanyville and Boaz Police De-



Nekyle Andreas Chaney



Theodore David Kemp



Ronnie Lee Jones

partments enough. Job well done by officers from both agencies.”

Chaney reportedly was the only one to

enter the bank. Smith told reporters Chaney attempted to cash a counterfeit check before forcibly taking

cash from the nearest teller drawer and fleeing.

The police chief said a customer saw what happened and chased Chaney into a nearby shopping center until police were able to quickly respond.

Chaney was charged with first-degree theft of property, conspiracy to commit first-degree theft of property and

criminal possession of a forged instrument. He was being held under a \$40,000 bond.

After a white Chevy Equinox was seen leaving the bank, police in the neighboring city of Boaz soon located the vehicle at Jack’s Restaurant. Police then arrested Kemp, Jones and a third person —

[See ROBBERY, A6](#)

Newton Co. Board of Commissioners

Fairview Park community center funding denied

Money was informally planned for Boys & Girls Club, officials say

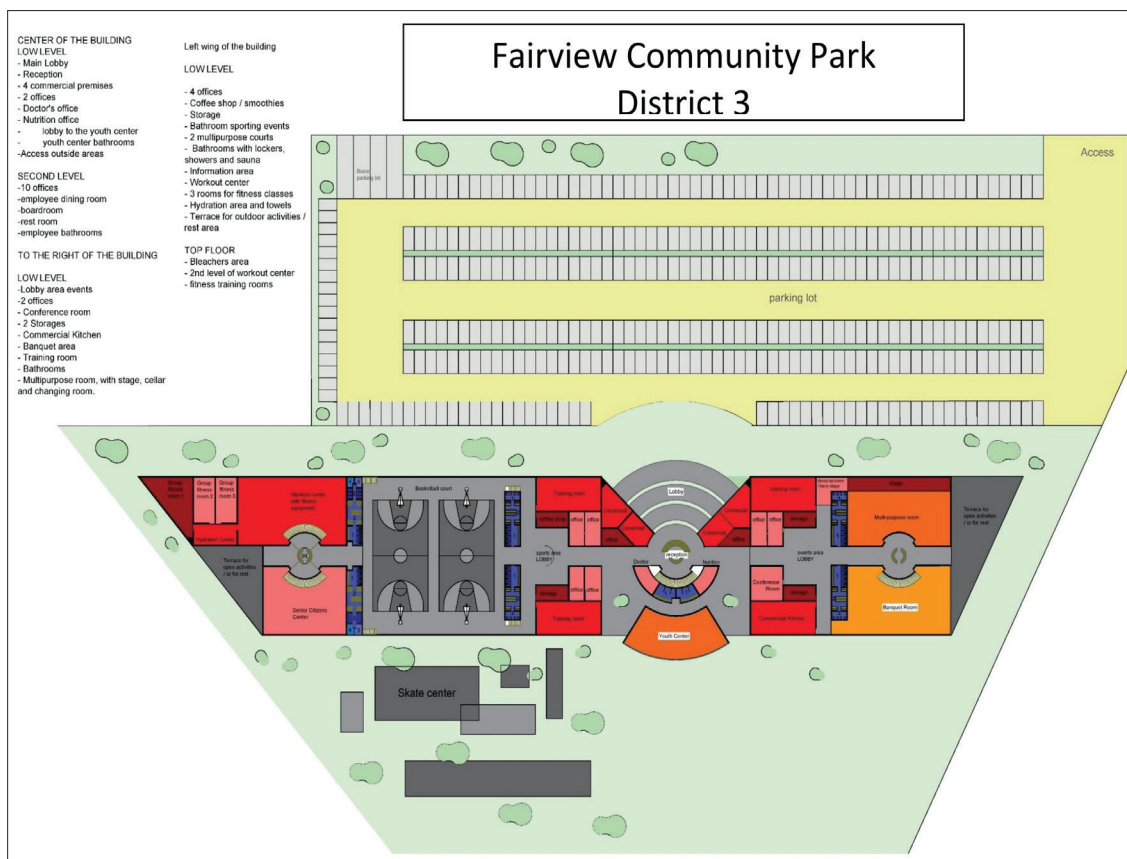
By **TOM SPIGOLON**
[tspigolon@covnews.com](#)

COVINGTON, Ga. — Pushback from two separate groups last week likely helped end planned sales tax funding of a county commissioner’s proposed west Newton community center.

Supporters of the Newton County Boys & Girls Club and residents of the area near the community center site spoke against District 3 Commissioner Alana Sanders’ plan for funding the project in Fairview Community Park during the Feb. 16 Newton County Board of Commissioners meeting.

Commissioners voted 3-2, on Chairman Marcello Banes’ tie-breaking vote, to deny using almost \$500,000 of 2017 Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) funds for the community center — which Sanders said would include programming area teens preferred and needed rather than the Club’s “antiquated” programs.

The money is reserved on the 2017 SPLOST projects list for a “Westside Youth



Special | Commissioner Alana Sanders

Shown is Commissioner Alana Sanders' plan for a community center in Fairview Community Park.

Outreach Facility.”

County Manager Lloyd Kerr said the county and Boys & Girls Club leaders had discussed using the funds for a county-owned building for the Club. However, no formal agreements

had been reached, he said.

County Attorney Megan Martin said the SPLOST law requires the county to use the money for buildings it owns but allows it to lease to an organization it believes is doing work in

the public interest.

“It is not abnormal to have such transactions,” Martin said.

The two-year-old Newton County club is part of the

[See DENIED, A6](#)

Newton Co. Coroner's Office

Bailey-Butts' attorney says removal from office unlikely

Says evidence in county's petition inaccurate, based on hearsay

By **TOM SPIGOLON**
[tspigolon@covnews.com](#)

COVINGTON, Ga. — The Newton County coroner’s new attorney predicted a petition to remove her from office will be unsuccessful because the charges in it are inaccurate and based on hearsay evidence.

Fayetteville attorney Wayne Kendall said he and Coroner Dorothea Bailey-Butts are waiting on the Georgia Coroners Training Council to respond to his inquiry about the procedure for dealing with County Manager Lloyd Kerr’s petition seeking to remove her from office.

Kerr alleged her actions during her first 29 days in office

[See ATTORNEY, A6](#)



Dorothea Bailey-Butts



Inside

**Upcoming downtown
filming to cause
road closures**

[See BUSINESS, A7](#)



Weather

Wednesday, Feb. 24
High: 71°; Low: 44°
Sunny and clear skies.

Thursday, Feb. 25
High: 67°; Low: 44°
Partly cloudy.



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Kickball coming to Covington in March

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

COVINGTON, Ga. — Adults looking for more fun activities in and around the Metro Atlanta area may soon flock to Newton County and enjoy adult kickball.

The city of Covington initially announced its partnership with the Covington Family YMCA in November 2020 to start offering more programs that can't be found close by, including kickball and flag football.

"The city made the decision to make quality of life initiatives a priority starting in 2020," said Trey Sanders, community development director for the city of Covington. "With all facets of calling Covington home were explored, one of the areas we

saw room for improvement was an increase in activities." Sanders said the YMCA's current long-term lease agreement with the city and its close proximity to Legion Field, coupled with its reputable recreational programming, made the Y the "perfect choice" for a partner.

"The Y's focus on meeting community needs and expertise in recreational sports made this opportunity an excellent match."

Tuesday, Feb. 16, the city announced its adult coed kickball league would begin March 18 at Legion Field. Games would be played every Thursday night through April 29.

Kickball is a game similar to baseball, where the players attempt to round the bases

and score by reaching home plate, except instead of using a bat to hit the ball, players instead kick an inflated rubber ball.

The cost to participate is \$30 per person or \$275 for teams of 10. Covington Family YMCA Executive Director Louly Hay-Kapp said scholarship opportunities were available through the Y to help cover costs for those who may need financial assistance. Childcare would also be provided.

Sanders said offering new programs such as kickball and flag football could also act as an economic development driver.

"Hopefully parents will bring their kids to Covington

See **KICKBALL, A3**



Special Photo | Wikimedia Commons

Covington Family YMCA is now offering adult kickball. Games are scheduled to start March 18 at Legion Field.

Council nods park master plan, downtown Covington traffic study firms

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

COVINGTON, Ga. — Covington City Council has chosen the companies that will create a master plan for Central Park and recommend ways to improve downtown parking and traffic.

It also voted Feb. 15, to select a company to rebuild a former wooden trestle railroad bridge near Covington City Hall for use as part of the Cricket Frog Trail.

The council approved Atlanta-based Perkins & Will at a cost of \$50,028 to create a Central Park Master Plan.

Special Projects Director Randy Conner told council members the staff chose four finalists out of numerous bidders to create the plan for the 250-acre park.

Amenities proposed in a Request for Proposals included pavilions, hiking and walking trails, a mountain bike trail, skate park, playgrounds, multi-purpose fields, botanical gardens, and restrooms.

However, Conner said the plan also included establish-

ment of stakeholder groups from throughout the city that will be interviewed up to 10 times virtually on what should be included in the park

The firm also will recommend what should be included in a public input survey planned for the city's social media platforms.

Conner said the company would determine what could be included in the new park and present a final cost estimate, as well as recommendations on possible financing and grant options.

It also would complete three concept plans and present its work to the council for final approval, according to plans given to the council.

- Duluth-based Keck & Wood will do a comprehensive study of traffic patterns and parking in the downtown area and the Monticello Street corridor.

Covington City Council chose Keck & Wood's bid of \$85,240 out of nine bidders.

Keck & Wood will study the area roughly bounded by Mill Street on the east,

Emory Street on the west, U.S. Highway 278 on the north and Conyers Street on the south.

The Monticello Street part would study the road's corridor between the downtown area and the Jackson Highway/Bypass Road intersection, officials said.

It would provide a study of parking inventory, pedestrian accessibility, bicycle accessibility, sight distance evaluation and more, the firm said in its proposal.

The study also would give ideas about intersection improvements and other proposals to improve safety and traffic flow.

Keck & Wood will give final recommendations and a comprehensive plan report to the council in July, according to a proposed schedule.

The firm also completed a 2020 study of the Pace Street corridor for the city.

- The council also voted to approve a \$393,418 bid from Lewallen Construction to rebuild the Dried Indian Creek Trestle for use as a pedestrian bridge for the Cricket

Frog Trail.

Conner said Lewallen was the lowest of four bids and had worked with the nonprofit Path Foundation on a bridge for another trail project in metro Atlanta.

The Path Foundation and the nonprofit Newton Trails helped the city study and fund the project.

Path provided engineering work to help city officials determine what was needed to convert the long-unused wooden railroad bridge into a pedestrian bridge over Dried Indian Creek, he said.

Newton Trails contributed \$170,000 to offset the cost of the work, which is being funded by proceeds of the city's share of a Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST).

The trestle bridge is located in an area bounded by Covington City Hall, Emory Street, U.S. Highway 278 and Pace Street.

Conner said after the meeting the beams and supports for the 247-foot bridge are in relatively good shape because the structure was de-

signed to carry trains loaded with cargo.

Lewallen Construction will replace the parts in need of repair and place a 12-foot concrete surface over the 247-foot length of the bridge, Conner said.

The bridge is about 24 feet high and supported by a series of timber beams.

The nonprofit leases 15 miles of former railroad right of way in Newton County from Norfolk Southern Railroad to build the Cricket Frog Trail on the former railroad bed of the historic Central of Georgia Railroad.

Covington has budgeted \$1.6 million in SPLOST funds to build the part of the trail within the city.

Also Feb. 15, the city council approved:

- A request for an oil change business to place a dumpster on city property.
- Appointment of Monique Snow to the Covington Redevelopment Authority, and Jeffrey Johnson and Megan Hulkan to the Downtown Development Authority.

Newton commissioners approve fire station bond funding after delay

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

COVINGTON, Ga. — Commissioner J.C. Henderson said he was "a man of his word"

Feb. 16 before he led the county commission in voting to guarantee bond financing for a new fire station in eastern Newton.

He was part of the Newton County Board of Commissioners' unanimous vote to guarantee the Public Facilities Authority's issuance of almost \$5 million in bonds for construction of Fire Station No. 4 on a five-acre site on Big Woods Road.

But Henderson and other commissioners also received commitments from County Manager Lloyd Kerr Feb. 16 to begin work on finding financing for the millions of dollars' worth of projects they proposed.

Henderson and other Authority members had delayed a vote on the bond issuance Jan. 19 after saying they wanted the same consideration given to recreation projects in

their districts as given to the fire station.

District 1 Commissioner Stan Edwards — whose district includes the fire station site — vocally objected and accused them of holding the station "hostage" by using their votes on the fire station bonds to bargain for their projects' funding.

East Newton residents also sharply criticized Henderson and commissioners Alana Sanders and Demond Mason on social media for delaying the action — leading Mason to issue a public statement Feb. 2 saying he had voted to approve the station in 2020 and its funding would be approved.

Henderson on Feb. 16 said there was "no way" he was holding

the fire station "hostage" and noted he also approved the station in 2020.

He then made the motion to approve the bond financing during the Authority meeting and, later, when the full commission voted to approve it.

"I said I was going to support it," he said. "I'm a man of my word."

Kerr said he researched available grant funding and other alternatives to bonds or Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax funds since the Jan. 19 meeting.

He said he found grants available for trail construction and furnishings for community centers and gyms — but none for new construction.

In addition, he found that those interested in corporate funding of projects typically

would have to wait for corporations to invite proposals — and nonprofits mostly were the recipients.

He noted that funding for large capital projects typically took months to secure.

Officials began work to find funding for the fire station in early 2020 and was using proceeds from a county fire tax to make the payments on the bonds, he said.

The county reportedly saw the need for the station after the Insurance Services Office (ISO) revised its fire service rating for the area following the closing of a volunteer fire department station on Dixie Road.

The new station is anticipated to be similar in design to station No. 8 that is under construction on Gum Creek Road in northern Newton County.

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CORRECTIONS

A story published on Page A2 of the Feb. 17 edition of *The Covington News* should have listed Davis Morgan among the county chairmen the Rev. Harold Cobb served with on the Newton County Board of Commission-

ers.

A story published on Page A9 of the Feb. 20-21 edition did not give the full name of the Bessie Willingham Tift Scholarship.

The Covington News regrets the errors.

Eastside senior awarded QuestBridge full-ride scholarship

STAFF REPORTS

news@covnews.com

The incredible burden of paying for college has been lifted for Ziana Benjamin.

The Eastside High School senior was recently awarded a four-year, all expenses paid QuestBridge National College Match Scholarship.

Out of 18,500 applicants, Benjamin was one of only 1,464 to receive a College Match Scholarship. She will attend Grinnell College in Grinnell, Iowa.

According to a spokesperson for QuestBridge, the scholarship, worth over \$200,000, includes full tuition, fees, room and board, books and supplies, and travel expenses.

“My teacher, Mr. (David) Hornbeck, texted me that decisions were out early so I checked and I saw the confetti,” said Benjamin, recalling the day she learned she won the

scholarship. “When I learned I was accepted to Grinnell I was very emotional. My mom was there with me so that made it extra special.”

Founded in 1994, QuestBridge is a national nonprofit based in Palo Alto, California, that connects the nation’s most exceptional, low-income youth with leading colleges and opportunities.

By working with these students — beginning in high school through college to their first job — QuestBridge aims to increase the percentage of talented low-income students attending the nation’s best colleges and to support them to achieve success in their careers and communities.

Eastside High School math teacher David Hornbeck referred Benjamin to the program and was thrilled upon learning she received one of the scholarships.

“Ziana’s combination of intellect, determination, and character make her incredibly deserving of a QuestBridge National College Match scholarship, and I am so excited for her to attend Grinnell in the fall,” he said. “I have no doubts that she will thrive there and genuinely make Grinnell and the surrounding community a better place.”

Although she has not had the opportunity to visit the Grinnell College campus yet, Benjamin said she’s already done a lot of research and likes what she’s learned.

“They have a very accepting environment and I appreciate that,” she said. “They have a lot of programs not



Ziana Benjamin

only for people of color but people who identify with different genders and more and that’s very important to me. I just find them to be very accepting and understanding and I really like that.”

While she’s unsure of a college major at this point, Benjamin is considering either computer science or psychology.

“I know it sounds cliché, but I love helping people so I would think psychology would be a very interesting choice,” Benjamin noted. “Computer science is also an option. I’m taking it right now and I find it very, very intriguing to me. I have always liked technology — I was in robotics. I just like to find out how things work.”

Benjamin feels she’ll be well prepared academically when she enters Grinnell as she’s been enrolled in Quest or AP classes all throughout high school.

Covington council OKs zoning for additional Town Center housing, new subdivision

By TOM SPIGOLON

tspigolon@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga.

— The city council cleared the way for more housing of all kinds in Covington with changes to zoning in a high-profile multi-use project and a planned residential subdivision on the south side Monday night.

The council voted to rezone land on Jackson Highway for a new subdivision containing single-family homes and townhomes; and allowed more multi-family housing to be developed in the Covington Town Center project.

The Town Center is a 160-acre mixed-use development that has been in the works since 2016. It is located on Alcovy Road between City Pond Road and Ga. Highway 142.

It is set to include apartments, hotels, a retail area that includes a supermarket, and office space.

Council members voted 5-1 to amend the city’s zoning overlay area for the project to allow for a 275-unit increase in the amount of residential space — from the current 350 units to 625 units.

Developer Harry

Kitchens said he believed the demand for residential units from workers at area industries would outpace the need for new office space.

Many workers live outside the Newton County area and have found a lack of housing in Covington. The number of workers likely will increase, he said.

“When we started this, the (Three Ring) Studios and Facebook were not contemplated,” Kitchens said.

The addition of more residential units also has increased the planned developer’s enthusiasm for the project, which could include a chain supermarket, Kitchens said.

In response to one council member’s concern about the addition of more rental units, Kitchen said leases would be for at least one year.

“This is not a B&B,” Kitchens said. “This is a \$60 million master planned development.”

Developers recently hosted a groundbreaking for the project’s first apartment complex called The Cove at Covington Town Center — a 26-acre, \$57 million project that

will provide 350 “Class A” apartments starting in 2022.

Two hotels also are nearing start of construction and developers are negotiating with a grocery store chain for the anchor position in the retail part of the project, said city planning director Marc Beechuk.

Kitchens said he planned to reduce the more than 100,000 square feet of office space planned for the area.

The COVID-19 pandemic showed companies the benefits of their employees working from home rather than in commercial spaces, Kitchens said.

In other action, Covington City Council members voted to approve the rezoning of 21 acres at 9155 Jackson Highway for construction of townhomes and single-family homes in the planned Reserve at Jackson subdivision.

Attorney Phil Johnson — representing the Malcolm estate that owns the land — said the new plan was a modification of an older one seeking multi-family development on the site bordered by McCullough

Drive on the north and Magnolia Heights Circle on the south.

He said developer KCG Development of Marietta decided to submit a new plan with 111 single-family homes each “with a small footprint” and 34 townhomes.

Council members asked about plans to make the project safer for residents as they walk inside the subdivision or on major roads. Johnson said plans call for sidewalks allowing foot access to nearby retailers at the intersection of Jackson Highway and Covington Bypass.

Traffic was a concern for city planning commissioners when they voted to recommend that the council deny the project, Beechuk said.

However, a traffic study released after the planning commission meeting showed the project would not significantly increase traffic in the area, officials said.

Council members voted 5-1 for the rezoning with the stipulation that any rentals would be required to have at least one-year leases.

“I enjoy the rigor of the classes,” she explained.

While she’s excited about the opportunity, Benjamin said she’s also a little nervous about attending school up north.

Most of all, however, Benjamin feels like a weight has been lifted off her shoulders.

“Honestly one of my biggest fears was not being able to afford college,” said Benjamin. “Money has always been a struggle,

so it was stressful to me to feel like I’m going to be a burden to my mom to make her have to provide for not only me but also her own household.

“To have all of that lifted with this scholarship is almost unbelievable. It feels amazing. I can concentrate and just enjoy school rather than constantly thinking that I’m going to have to take out a loan and spend the rest of my life paying it off.”

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KICKBALL:

Continued from A2

or adults will participate in the adult sports leagues,” he said. “These are people that don’t currently live here and will support our local economy by grabbing dinner while they are in town or do some shopping. Ideally, they will see what Covington has to offer and make it a point to come visit again. Additionally, when people look for places to call home, entertainment options and a sense of community are always major considerations.

“On a very small scale, things like this partnership could entice people to choose Covington when looking for a place to live,” Sanders added. “As a community organization that

never turns anyone away, the Y hopes to provide more opportunities for activity and interaction through this partnership.”

To prove the concept, Sanders said, the city decided to start with the two most wanted programs: adult kickball and flag football.

“People routinely call the YMCA to inquire about flag football and adult kickball,” he said. “Social media polling also indicated these two programs were of the highest demand. Additionally, these sports were not offered by the Y or in this area. Offering something new and different was part of the plan.

“One of the goals of the Y is to support community with

social connection and recreational activity,” Sanders said. “The value will be found as we increase numbers of people who enjoy these opportunities.”

In a November letter directed to the city’s leadership, Hay-Kapp suggested other high-demand programs on the horizon included whiffle ball and volleyball.

To learn more about the new adult kickball program or other programs taking place at the Covington Family YMCA, call 770-787-3908, email janettes@ymcaatlanta.org or stop by the facility located at 2140 Newton Drive in Covington.

Dave Belton guest columnist

Washington, Lincoln did most for cause of freedom

Last week was short with President’s Day, though we did pass some important bills.

House Bill 146 provides state employees additional three weeks of paid parental leave for the life events of giving birth, adoption, or foster care. HB 154 makes it even easier to adopt children. HB168 protects the confidentiality of inmates with serious felonies by allowing district attorney access to inmate files. The minority party voted against this.

In a surprise move, my Teacher Tax Credit bill that passed unanimously in two committees – and last year on the floor – has been sent back to yet another different committee. But my military-friendly bills that allow speech pathologists, occupational therapists, and counselors to more easily operate in Georgia should be on the floor this week. These compacts also increase healthcare accessibility via telehealth, especially to rural areas.

In honor of President’s Day, I’d like to celebrate the two men in all of history (except for our Savior) who did more for the cause of freedom than any other.

George Washington fought in two wars. He was nearly gunned down countless times – his hat and his coat, riddled with bullet holes – and



From left, Mount Rushmore National Memorial features presidents George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt and Abraham Lincoln.

had two horses shot from under him in one battle alone.

Washington fought over 20 battles. He lost nearly almost all of them. But he understood that as long as he kept his army alive, he could purchase freedom for his nation.

The British called him the “old fox.” Cornwallis – commander of the best army on the planet – bragged that he would “bag him in the morning.” But it was Washington who bagged Cornwallis at his very complicated tri-nation/quad army, land and sea victory at Yorktown.

Washington didn’t write a single word of the Constitution. But his towering leadership, presiding over the impossibly divided delegates, led to the great compromises that created the single most important document in history.

Washington’s unassuming leadership as the first president of these United States ensured that all future presidents should lead with a servant’s heart. But his decision to step down from his lofty perch after two terms of service was his great-

est achievement of all. When King George III of England heard what he had done, he called him the “greatest man in the world.”

Yet this giant was so humble, that in his Farewell Address, he actually apologized to the nation, saying, “I am too sensible of my defects not to think it probable that I may have committed many errors.” He beseeched the almighty and his countrymen to look upon his “incompetent abilities with indulgence” after 45 years of faithful service.

Everyone knows the first line of Abraham Lincoln’s Gettysburg address. But few know the second and most important line. “Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether this nation, or any nation, so conceived in liberty and so dedicated, can long endure.”

This wasn’t a rhetorical question from a confident leader. It was heart-wrenching query from an embattled president, an admission of doubt from a beleaguered man who sent 600,000 to their deaths in what was,

at the time, a losing effort to preserve a fledgling democracy.

Did Lincoln know that his sacrifice would create the most powerful, most prosperous, most just nation on this planet? Of course not. America in 1863 was a weak, backwater nation.

But he did know that, “a new nation, conceived in Liberty, dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal,” was worth the cost, so that the “government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.”

Washington freed his own slaves in 1799, and framed a Constitution that would soon end slavery altogether. Just 64 years later, “the Great Emancipator” completed his work, freeing all of America’s slaves.

“First in war, first in peace, first in the hearts of his countrymen.”

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

Your Letters to the Editor

Physician says ‘stop beating a dead horse’

Dear Editor:

As a primary care physician, I always want to treat my patients in the most cost effective manner while providing the best treatment outcomes. Like most physicians early in the pandemic, I was excited about a cheap, oral drug for the treatment of mild to severe COVID-19 with hydroxychloroquine/+- Azithromycin/zinc. However, despite promising in vitro studies and small testimonial success, after 1,800 clinical studies (from treating mild to moderate to severe COVID-19, or prophylaxis in contacts), the outcomes have been either no better than standard care or placebo or even harmful. As an ex-chemist, I can tell you that what looks promising in test tubes or petri dishes, don’t necessarily translate to clinical efficacy in complex biological systems such as human bodies. The early promise of hydroxychloroquine has met this same fate. The cheap, oral dexamethasone showed great mortality benefits in very ill, hospitalized patients but may harm early COVID-19 infection by depressing our immune response and may have harmed hospitalized COVID-19 patients not on oxygen. In the meantime, colchicine, also a cheap oral drug, in a huge double blinded, randomly controlled clinical trial (the best type of clinical trial) in almost 5,000 non-hospitalized COVID-19 participants is a clear winner. Colchicine reduced hospitalizations by 25%, the need for mechanical ventilation by 50%, and deaths by 44% in COVID-19 patients. In fact, when President Trump got COVID-19, the wonderful doctors who treated him followed the data and did not use hydroxychloroquine (most likely the monoclonal antibodies by Regeneron which Emory gives my patients who qualify, turned the corner for him). These monoclonal antibodies reduce hospitalization by 72% and risk of contacting COVID by 54%. So why are some physicians still promoting a debunked therapy for outpatient management of COVID-19 as well as inpatient therapy? That is another editorial altogether.

Christy Blanchford, MD
Covington

Dorothy Piedrahita columnist

There could be a ‘Mars culture’ in the future

What is the meaning of culture? The

word culture has many meanings. There is popu-



lar culture. Corporate culture, family culture, religious, social culture and Southern culture. All cultures have bottom lines. There are shared attitudes, values, goals, and they practice all characteristics of said groups. Some cultures wear colors and wear

symbols of their allegiance to their cultures. Do other animals have cultures? There is sound evidence animals show evidence of behaviors which can be transmitted socially.

Are humans smarter than other animals? I have concluded animal culture fundamentally different from human culture. Some culture behavior is rejected by all animals.

At the end of the day all animals show some degree of cultural knowledge.

Human communities and traditions vary. Traditions vary from country to country and from state to state in America. With that being said, people are more similar than some of us may think. Humans gather together in groups like other animals. We argue to get our points over to others. We get embarrassed, we sometimes walk away like other animals. So, we aren’t

any different from apes, dogs, birds and the list goes on. So, what makes humans believe we are superior to other animals? Humans practice hypocrisy. Is this a trait only human beings possess?

Animals teach their young in ways like humans. Take fishing! My father taught me to fish as a small child. Mother would never go with us. However, she would clean our catch. Daddy and I would go to our favorite fishing spots. He would always take his gun in case we came upon any animals that could harm us. Humans or reptiles. Daddy was a WWII veteran. Thinking back on those times. I wasn’t the only girl a dad would take fishing.

Our father was a master bricklayer. These men had a bricklayers organization. They were masons. These men would go fishing with their children. The men would take their sons. If a man didn’t have a son, that father would take his daugh-

ter.

There were times when Daddy and I would go fishing by ourselves. I loved those times. We would sit and talk. I remember one time we went cat fishing. Dad forgot the net. And the fish took his line. He wanted me go into the pond and get the fish. Dad handed me a lawn chair to get that fish. We laughed and laughed. We didn’t catch any fish that day. Daddy brought fish from another man. He told mother he caught those fish. Mother didn’t care. As long as we had catfish for dinner.

This was the culture I grew up in.

The last gift I gave my father on Father’s Day, was a rod and reel. He never got an opportunity to go fishing.

We as human beings can’t be knowledgeable about all cultures. Some of us are fortunate to travel to other countries. Metro Atlanta is rich with different cultures. Their neighborhoods abound with

strange and unfamiliar sounds, foods and the way these groups dress. COVID-19 is still with us. It may not be the time to visit all these communities which would enrich us. Covington, Georgia, is rich also.

On Feb. 18, news media reported about NASA’S Perservance. The rover touch down on the surface of Mars. What is the future meaning of this touch down? I will be long gone when humans inhabit Mars. There will be a Mars culture. The Greeks called Mars Ares (pronounced Air-EEZ) because the planet resembles the color of blood. There will be a Mars culture. Sir Isaac Newton (1643-1727) would be astonished and so am I.

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

The Covington News

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CLASSIFIEDS

Jobs

Drivers Wanted

PI-JON, INC. IS HIRING!

PI-JON IS seeking a CDL B Hazmat driver. To make local gas and diesel deliveries. Flexible Monday-Friday scheduling. Help with Hazemat certification for a good fit.

CALL PAIGE at 770-786-2705 or send your resume to pjoninc@bellsouth.net

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

THE LICENSE and Boat Registration Unit announces a vacancy for a part-time position located at the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Wildlife Resources Conservation Center in Walton County. Under general supervision, this position provides excellent service to walk-in customers and over the phone for issues related to commercial licenses, hunting and fishing licenses, disability licenses, lifetime licenses, quota hunts, and boat registrations. **Pay Rate:** \$8.95/hourly up to 29 hours per workweek
APPLICATION DEADLINE: March 6, 2021
FOR SPECIFIC job-related information and instructions on how to apply, please go to <https://georgiawildlife.com/careers-internships> and look under Available Positions: Seasonal/Part-Time. You may also contact Daniel Brown via phone at 706-557-3251 or email Daniel.Brown2@dnr.ga.gov.

LEGALS

Public Notices

Adoptions

NOTICE PUBLICATION

TO: MATTHEW GERALD DURHAM.

YOU ARE hereby notified that a Petition for Adoption was filed in this Court requesting the termination of your parental rights in the referenced male child.

ALL PARENTAL rights you may have with respect to the referenced male child will be lost, and you will receive neither notice of nor be entitled to object to the termination of your parental rights and the adoption of the referenced male child unless, within thirty (30) days of receipt of this notice, you file: (1) a petition to legitimate the referenced male child in the Superior Court **OF NEWTON** County, Georgia, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 19-7-22; (2) notice of the filing of such petition to legitimate the referenced male child with the Adoption Clerk of the Superior Court of Newton County, Georgia, at 1132 Usher Street, Room No. 338, Covington, Georgia 30014; and (3) notice of the filing of such petition to legitimate the referenced male child with the Petitioners attorney, William F. Elliott, at 1140 Brown Street, Covington, Georgia 30014.

YOU MUST make known such other objection as you may have to the adoption of the referenced male child within thirty (30) days of receipt of this notice.

THIS NOTICE of Publication shall be published for three (3) consecutive weeks and personal service of said notice is perfected upon the last day of publication.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 11 day of February, 2021

WILLIAM F. Elliott
ATTORNEY PETITIONERS
GEORGIA BAR No. 244905
1140 BROWN Street
COVINGTON, GEORGIA 30014
770-788-9400

PUBLIC NOTICE #119947
2/17,24

Bids

THE CITY of Covington and the Newton County Water & Sewerage Authority, (JV, Joint Venture) jointly seek Proposals (RFP) from qualified and experienced firms or contractors for the development of a bio-solids handling and disposal program to serve their collective waste water treatment systems. Requested services should include the following project descriptions.

PART 1: Pilot Program: Develop a scaled demonstration project that receives dewatered sludge from the JV's wastewater treatment plants and converts same to a stable, Class A, bio-solid as defined by Georgia EPD. The demonstration project would examine alternatives for converting the dewatered sludge to a stable product for use as a soil additive for agricultural or landscaping uses. The JV feels that Newton County community has the potential to support composting of bio-solids, as

Fun by the Numbers

Here's How It Works:

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

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

Level: Intermediate



CITY OF COVINGTON JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

The City of Covington is currently accepting applications for two **Equipment Operator I** positions in the **Gas Department** with an hourly entry-level rate of \$15.54 to an hourly maximum rate of \$22.82 depending upon qualifications. This position requires the abilities and skills to operate and maintain heavy equipment used in the installation and repairs of the natural gas system, as well as transporting equipment and crews to the job-site. Required training and experience include graduation from high school or GED equivalent, the ability to read, write and perform mathematical calculations at a level commonly associated with the completion of high school or equivalent, and possession of a valid driver's license issued by the State of Georgia for the type of vehicle or equipment operated. **CDL Class A preferred. Must be able to obtain CDL within the first six months of employment.** Qualified applicants may apply by downloading an application via our website at www.cityofcovington.org or may apply in person (**Drive-thru only**) at the City of Covington, 2194 Emory Street, Covington, Georgia 30014. The position will remain open until 4:00 p.m. on Thursday March 4, 2021. *The City of Covington is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

an example.

PART 2: Full Scale Program: Based on a successful Pilot, scale up the operation to receive all the **JV'S RESIDUAL** bio-solid stream on an ongoing basis. The Full-Scale Program may or may not lead to a multi-year agreement to be negotiated at the conclusion of Part 1.

OFFERORS SHALL submit Proposals to the Owner Contact by 4:30 p.m., April 12, 2021.

ON MARCH 3, 2021, the Joint Venture will host a mandatory pre-proposal conference consisting of overview and tour of existing facilities. The conference will meet at 10:00 a.m. at The Center, 2104 Washington Street, SW; Covington, Georgia, 30014. A project overview will be presented with questions and answer session to provide additional context, followed by caravan visits to the JV's facilities located around Newton County.

THE OWNER Contact will act as the sole point of contact for this RFP and will administer the RFP process. All communications should be submitted in writing via email, and specifically reference this RFP. This RFP is subject to revision after the date of issuance via written Addenda. Any such addenda will be distributed directly to known Offerors via email. All questions and responses will be shared by Addenda with all parties having acknowledged the RFP. Please direct questions to the Owner Contact as follows:

MS. LINDSEY Chambers
ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN
NCWSA
11325 BROWN Bridge Road
COVINGTON, GA 30016
PHONE: (770) 385-3923
EMAIL: LC@NCWSA.US

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

PUBLIC NOTICE #119952
2/14,24

Corporations

NOTICE IS given that Articles of Incorporation that will incorporate. She Serves, Inc will be delivered to the Secretary of State for filing in accordance with Georgia Nonprofit Corporation Code (O.C.G.A.14-3-202) The initial registered office of the corporation will be located at 75 Drummond PL, Covington, GA 30014 and it's initial registered agent at such address is Adriane King.

PUBLIC NOTICE #119981
2/24-3/3,10,17

Debtors Creditors

ALL CREDITORS of the estate of **LINDA MARIE MOORE**, late of Newton County, deceased, 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: **NAME OF** Executor: **Cheryle Denise Brooks**

CHERYLE DENISE Brooks
C/O SHANNON D. Sneed
ATTORNEY AT Law
P.O. BOX 1245
COVINGTON, GA 30015

THIS 11TH day of February, 2021.

PUBLIC NOTICE #119948
2/17,24-3/3,10

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS

ALL CREDITORS of the estate of **MAE EPPINGER HARDY** 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 17TH day of February, 2021

SUSAN H. Aiken
EXECUTOR OF the Estate
OF MAE Eppinger Hardy
C/O ROBERT Stansfield, Esq.
GREER, STANSFIELD & Turner, LLP
P.O. BOX 1617
COVINGTON, GEORGIA 30015-1617
(770) 786-4390

PUBLIC NOTICE #119973
2/23-3/3,10,17

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the **Estate of** FRANCINE LOUSIE BENNETT ., 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 27TH day of January, 2021.

BOBBIE A. BLAKLEY
7270 S. DEPEW ST.
LITTLETON, CO 80128

PUBLIC NOTICE #118877
02/3,10,17,24

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 your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law.

THIS THE 22ND day of January, 2021.

JOEY JOHNSON
225 LAKEVIEW TRAIL
COVINGTON, GA30016

PUBLIC NOTICE #118873
02/3,10,17,24

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

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 representative according to law.

THIS THE 27TH day of January, 2021.

JAMES G. GRIGGERS
699 FINCHER RD
COVINGTON, GA 30016

PUBLIC NOTICE #118876
02/3,10,17,24

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 are required to render your demands and/ or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law.

THIS THE 20TH day of January, 2021.

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** WINDFORD E. BATES., 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 22ND day of January, 2021.

MARILYN BATES
2400 WHITE PINE LANE
MANSFIELD, GA 30055

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

Divorces

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

GUY PITTERSON
PLAINTIFF,
-VS-
KENEISHA PITTERSON
DEFENDANT.

CIVIL ACTION No.: 2021-CV-229-4

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

TO: KENISHA PITTERSON
45 WIMBLERLY Way
COVINGTON, GA 30016

BY ORDER of the court for service by publication dated **FEBRUARY 9, 2021**you are hereby notified that on JFEBRUARY 12, 2021(date of filing) **GUY PITTERSON** (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 10th day of **FEBRUARY 2021.**

LINDA D. Hays
CLERK OF Superior Court

PUBLIC NOTICE #119950
2/17,24-3/3,10

DUI - Second

SECOND/SUBSEQUENT DUI CONVICTION

NAME: CHRISTOPHER MILLER
ADDRESS: 530 ALMOND RD., COVINGTON, GA 30014
DATE OF ARREST: MARCH 4, 2019
DATE OF OFFENSE: M A R C H 4,2019
TIME OF OFFENSE: 3:30AM
PLACE OF OFFENSE:F L A S H FOODS SALEM RD/BROWN



Christopher Miller

BRIDGE RD DISPOSITION: P L E A OF GUILTY - DEFENDANT IS SENTENCED TO A TOTAL OF 24 MONTHS W/ THE FIRST 20 DAYS TO BE SERVED IN CONFINEMENT IN THE NEWTON COUNTY JAIL AND THE REMAINDER TO BE SERVED ON PROBATION - \$1,700.00 IN FINES PLUS ALL APPLICABLE STATUTORY FEES AND SURCHARGES- DEFENDANT SHALL PERFORM 30 HOURS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE - SURRENDER HIS DRIVER'S LICENSE AND' I LICENSE PLATES & SHALL ATIEND AND COMPLETE A DUI RISK REDUCTION COURSE
SENTENCE DATE: JANUARY 14, 2021
NAME OF COURT: SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA

PUBLIC NOTICE #119982
2/24

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, AND DESCRIBED AS 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 OF 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.

THIS BEING THE SAME PROPERTY CONVEYED BY 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 2000 HORTON MODEL NT6 MOBILE HOME BEARING SERIAL NUMBER H171773GLRAB.

THE IMPROVEMENTS THEREON BEING KNOWN AS 415 MORNINGSIDE DRIVE, 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, if any.

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, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above.

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 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, LLP*
ATTORNEYS AND Counselors at Law
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
02/3,10,17,24

Name Changes

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

YOU ARE hereby notified that on the 9 day of Feb, 2021 Maurice Akpan, filed a Petition to Change Name in the Superior Court of Newton County. Maurice Akpan desires to change his/ her form Maurice Johnson Akpan to Maurice Mightly Johnson. Any interested party has the right to appear in this case and file objections within 30 days after the Petition to Change Name was filed.

MAURICE AKPAN
240 CREEKVIEW Blvd
COVINGTON, GA 30016

PUBLIC NOTICE #119951
2/17,24-3/3,10

Public Notice

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF Newton STATE OF GEORGIA COVTANI UMBLE-EFIJEMUEH PLAINTIFF, V. FRANKLIN EFIJEMUEH DEFENDANT,

CIVIL ACTION NUMBER
SUCV2021000151

ORDER FOR SERVICE BY 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 publication as

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 in 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 an 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 County.

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 Harold Dobbs Road.

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 to:

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

See LEGALS, A6

LEGALS:

Continued from A5

(478) 538-8595

PUBLIC NOTICE #118878
02/3,10,17,24

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that there will be heard before the Judge of the Superior Court of Newton County, Georgia, on the 8th day of March, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., at the Superior Court of Newton County, Georgia, the case of the State of Georgia v. Newton County Public Facilities Authority and Newton County, Georgia, Civil Action No. 2021-cv-354-2, the same being a proceeding to confirm and validate the issuance by the Newton County Public Facilities Authority (the "Authority") of its Revenue Bond (Fire Station and Equipment Project), Series 2021 (the "Bond"), in an original principal amount of \$4,990,000. The proceeds from the sale of the Bond will be applied for the purpose of (a) financing the acquisition, construction and equipping of a fire station and the acquisition of two fire trucks (the "Project") and (b) paying the costs of issuing the Bond. **IN SUCH** proceeding, the Court will also pass upon the validity and enforceability of an Installment Sale Agreement, dated as of March 1, 2021 (the "Contract"), between the Authority and Newton County, Georgia (the "County"), pursuant to which the Authority will agree to, among other things, issue the Bond and sell the Project to the County, and the County will agree to, among other things, (a) acquire, construct, equip and operate the Project and purchase the Project from the Authority, (b) pay the Authority amounts sufficient to enable the Authority to pay the debt service on the Bond (the "Contract Payments") and (c) levy an ad valorem property tax, unlimited as to rate or amount, on all property in the County subject to such tax in order to make such Contract Payments. **PURSUANT TO** O.C.G.A. 36 82 100 (the "Audit Statute"), the Authority notifies all interested parties that no independent performance audit or performance review will be conducted with respect to the Bond. However, the Authority will continue to ensure that the proceeds of the Bond are expended efficiently and economically, as intended by the Audit Statute. **ANY RESIDENT** of the County, or any other person wherever residing who has a right to object, may become a party to these proceedings. Members of the public wishing to attend the hearing are advised to review the Court's procedures adopted for COVID-19 safety.

PUBLIC NOTICE #119977
2/24,3/3

NOTICE

PETITION OF Rhonda Oliver-Bell, 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 FURTHER: 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

Probate Notices

THE CITY of Mansfield has received loans and grants from the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development for the Sewer Treatment Plant. As a recipient of these funds the City is required to publish the following annual notice: **"THIS INSTITUTION** is an equal opportunity provider and employer"

IF YOU wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.htm1, or any USDA office, or call 866-632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter to us by mail at US Department of Agriculture, Director of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington DC 20250-9410, by fax 202-690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.

PUBLIC NOTICE #119976
2/24

Trade Names

TRADE NAME REGISTRATION AFFIDAVIT
GEORGIA, NEWTON COUNTY

TO WHOM It may Concern: **PLEASE BE** advised that **STEPHANIA LEVETTE BELL**, whose address is390 ST. ANNES PLACE COVINGTON, GA 30016 the owner(s) of the certain business now being carried on at in the following trade name, to-wit: A STEP ABOVE HEALTHCARE SERVICES LLC that the nature of said business is: . HEALTHCARE SERVICES **THIS STATEMENT** is made in conformity with O.C.G.A. §10-1-490 et seq. requiring the filing of such statement with the Clerk of Superior Court of this county.
THIS THE 11th day of February 2021

PUBLIC NOTICE #119975
2/24-3/3

ROBBERY:

Continued from A1

Caison — at gunpoint in the parking lot. Employees of the fast-food chain videoed the arrest, which sparked controversy after said employees and others could be heard using profanity while being critical of police and accusing law enforcement officers of practicing unnecessary force.

“The video footage recorded by the employees and patrons at Jack’s in Boaz showed exactly what was taking place,” Boaz Police Chief Josh Gaskin told The Reporter. “The only difference in their



Special Photo | The Sand Mountain Reporter
Officers investigate the area in and around Regions Bank in Albertville, Alabama, after it was reportedly robbed by a Covington man.

cell phone video and police department body camera footage would be the angle. Not just the angle at which the video was recorded, but the way the employees and patrons tried to narrate what the officers were doing

was wrong. “The suspects were treated the way anyone else is treated when they are suspected of committing a violent felonious crime,” Gas-kin said. “The officers weren’t hurt, the sus-pects weren’t hurt, and

no innocent bystanders were hurt.”

Thursday evening, Jack’s management posted a statement that said the employee’s criticism did not reflect the company’s views as a whole. The chain also said it appreciated the police department’s “swift” and “brave” ac-tions. Billie Jo Waara, chief marketing officer for Jack’s, said Friday the company was ac-tively investigating the employees’ videos.

Many people throughout the com-munity took to social media to “back the blue” and in response

to Jack’s employees’ negative criticism.

Kemp and Jones were both charged with conspiracy to commit a first-degree theft of property and were also held under a \$40,000 bond each.

Caison, 32, of El-lenwood, was charged with tampering with evidence after he attempted to flush mar-ijuana down the toilet once he arrived at the Albertville City Jail. He was held on a \$500 misdemeanor bond. He was not charged for any involvement in the robbery.

DENIED:

Continued from A1

Boys & Girls Club of North Central Georgia and serves 129 students in a temporary building on Brown Bridge Road near Veterans Memori-al Middle and West Newton Elementary schools.

Sanders’ predecessor in the District 3 seat, Nancy Schulz, and the late Judge Horace Johnson Jr. helped organize the Club.

Boys & Girls Club leaders described the organization’s work and pleaded with commissioners not to use the money for a purpose other than a building the Newton club would occupy.

Club board member Carey Foster said the Club was a “pillar of the community” and its nationally-known name would be able to attract youth who are new to the area.

“I don’t think that it would be a great idea to dismantle something that has been built and we’ve got motion with,” he said.

Alfreda Durham said she was a mother of a club member and said the club was “very much needed” because it provided positive direction for young people like her daughter.

“If we don’t have some-thing for them to do, they will find something to do,” Durham said.

Shakila Henderson-Baker,

who is also a Newton County School Board member, asked that commissioners meet with Club board members before moving forward with other plans for the funding.

She said club officials had listening sessions with young county residents “rather than going full forward” to estab-lish the Club. She said they found they wanted programs such as culinary arts and a re-cording studio and the board “wholeheartedly” was work-ing to provide those services.

Sanders had proposed using the money to help begin work on an estimated \$8 million community center in the county-owned park within the Fairview Estates subdivision off Fairview Road.

The county used federal Neighborhood Stabilization Program funds to build the park in 2011 as a way to increase property values in Fairview Estates after fore-closures swept through the neighborhood during the Great Recession of the late 2000s and early 2010s.

Wendy Rodriguez, presi-dent of the Fairview Estates Homeowners Association, said planning for the com-munity center had been done without the community’s knowledge.

She said a community center would “impact the

living spaces of our otherwise quiet neighborhood,” while the center and an expansion of the park would increase the chances that traffic, noise and drugs would proliferate in the area.

Sanders countered that she did not understand why “some of the citizens that came here tonight think (she) was trying to dismantle the Boys & Girls Club.”

“The Boys & Girls Club is a separate entity from the county,” she said.

She said she also formed a focus group of teens in her district who said they want-ed a facility offering such features as a swimming pool and STEM-related programs which the Boys & Girls Club does not offer.

Sanders said her research showed her the Boys & Girls Club had positively influenced people who are now 40 and older but it does not emphasize a number of programs that teens now find interesting and challenging, she said.

“When you’re dealing with generation Y and with gener-ation Z, which is our technol-ogy generation, we have to do more,” she said.

“The (Club’s) programs are antiquated,” she said. “It has nothing to do with not want-ing the Boys & Girls Club in

this community.”

Sanders also said the Club only serves a fraction of the teens in Newton County and would be using a taxpay-er-funded building without the county having input on the Club’s programming, Sanders said.

The national organization also receives funding from numerous major corporations while programs she is advo-cating only have local fund-ing as a source, she said.

District 5 Commissioner Ronnie Cowan said the Club was part of Johnson’s “vi-sion” for the community and he did not want to “do a dis-service” to his legacy. He said he wanted to keep the money reserved for what generally was understood to be a Boys & Girls Club facility.

After Sanders made a motion to use the money for a community center in Fairview Park, District 2 Commis-sioner Demond Mason said he was abstaining because he had been a Club board mem-ber in the past. The board then voted 2-2 and Banes broke the tie by voting to deny Sanders’ motion.

Banes said he was a former Boys & Girls Club member and believed a plan previ-ously discussed during the meeting could lead to funding for Sanders’ project.

ATTORNEY:

Continued from A1

showed she was “in-competent” and cited such incidents as refus-al to move a body from a fatal wreck scene and sloppy treatment in dealing with a dead hotel guest.

Kendall noted state law says the training council can only rec-ommend a coroner be removed from office.

A Superior Court judge is the only official empowered to remove a coroner from office, Kendall said.

“No Superior Court judge is going to do that,” he said.

“You can’t simply remove an elected offi-cial in this state simply by making up a bunch of hearsay allegations like Mr. Kerr did — talking about what a bunch of other people said,” Kendall said.

“This is all for naught and if they had any real scruples they would go ahead and withdraw because it’s going nowhere,” Kend-all said.

He said he believed the charges against her stem from her defeat of a longtime and well-liked office holder in the Nov. 3 General

Election.

“(Kerr’s) problem should be with the electorate, not her,” he said.

Newton County gov-ernment officials de-clined comment based on the case’s status as pending litigation, said spokesman Bryan Fazio.

Bailey-Butts defeated three-term incumbent Tommy Davis for the coroner’s position that is required — among other duties — to investigate suspicious deaths and determine if a medical examin-er must conduct an autopsy.

Kendall said some in Newton County may not believe she was qualified for the posi-tion.

However, Kendall said she was “duly elected, end of story.” “What happened here, it seems to me, is some people are dis-gruntled with the elec-tion results. The real beef should be with the voters,” he said.

Kendall alleged the charges also may be racially motivated because of the general problem some long-

time residents have with a Black female holding an office formerly held by white men.

He noted he repre-sented a Black female mayor of Gordon, Georgia, in 2015 who replaced a white male.

After a group of residents sought to have her removed after about six weeks due to “incompetence,” the Georgia Supreme Court ruled in her favor. She kept the po-sition and Kendall was awarded more than \$80,000 in legal fees, he said.

“(That) is the same thing that’s going to happen over here in Newton County,” he said.

He said it would “be one thing” to say Bailey-Butts was “in-competent after having been on the job awhile and had gone through training and was violat-ing training.”

However, Bai-ley-Butts “hadn’t even had basic training yet” before she went to work as coroner Jan. 1, Kendall said.

Bailey-Butts only recently attended her

first training course after she said an initial training session was postponed because of COVID-19, she told an Atlanta TV news reporter.

Kendall noted state law says a coroner can only be removed from office for a few specific reasons.

The law states the reasons include “inca-pacity or misbehavior in office,” such as con-viction of a crime.

He said he disputed such allegations as the one in which she al-legedly cut the clothes off a suicide victim.

“There were peo-ple on the scene who dispute all of that,” Kendall said.

In addition, he de-nied the assertion she had refused to transport bodies as required in state law.

A dispute between her and some first-re-sponders shown on video was about her removing a body that had been entrapped. She otherwise had transported “numerous bodies,” he said.

Bailey-Butts has told officials she wants the county government to

pay her legal fees after Kerr on Jan. 29 asked the Coroners Training Council to seek an emergency injunction to prevent her from continuing in the elect-ed position “effective immediately.”

If the Council votes to remove her certifi-cation, the coroner can request a hearing to contest the action, the law states.

The law also states the process for remov-ing a coroner mirrors the process for remov-ing a Superior Court clerk.

If the Council also recommends removing her from office, it must inform the governor who must form a com-mittee of coroners to investigate the charges and recommend if she should be suspended for up to 60 days.

The governor then can recommend the District Attorney file a removal petition; and a Superior Court judge would make the ultimate decision to remove the coroner from office following a hearing before a jury.

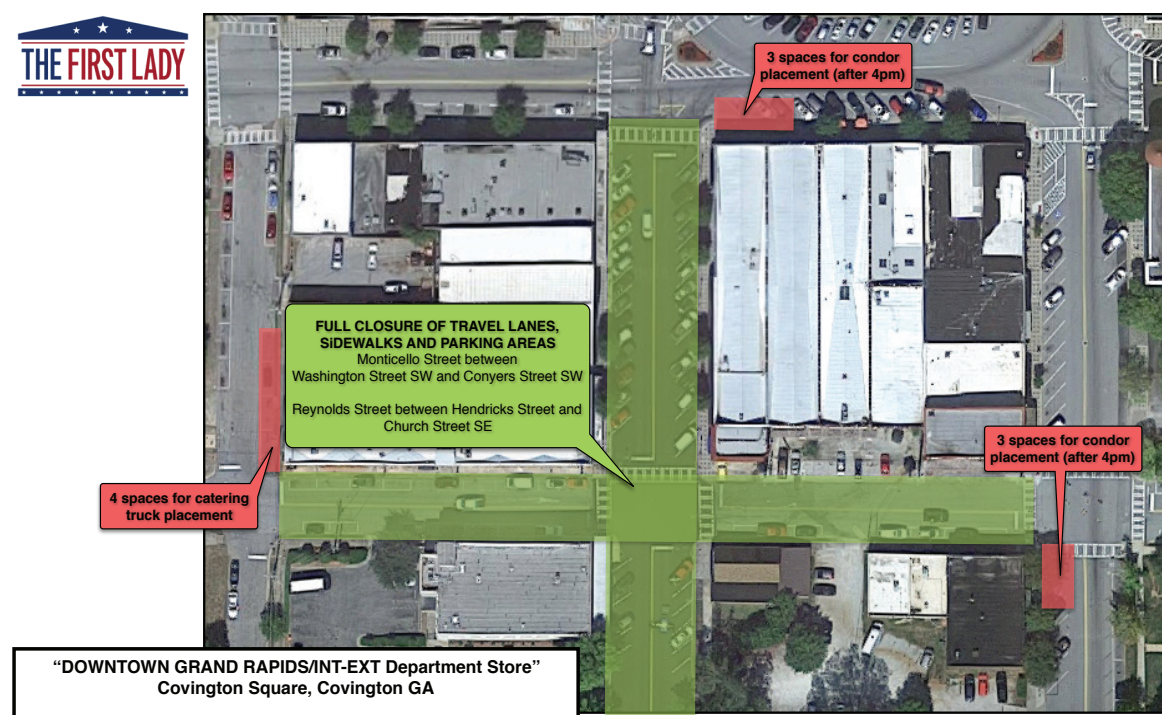
'First Lady' filming to close downtown streets Thursday

By TAYLOR BECK
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COVINGTON, Ga. — Several streets around the downtown area will be closed this week as production teams are filming portions of a new Showtime series.

Downtown Coordinator Nic Matthews confirmed film crews would be in Covington on Thursday to shoot "The First Lady," a new series detailing the lives of former first ladies Michelle Obama, Betty Ford and Eleanor Roosevelt during their time at the White House. He said the project was currently working out of Cinelease Studios - Three Ring.

Based on the set design painted along Monticello Street, Matthews said he believed Ford's character would be the focus of Thursday's filming session, who



Special to The Covington News

Monticello Street, from Conyers to Washington, and Reynolds Street, from Church to Hendricks, will be closed Thursday for filming in downtown Covington.

is being played by Michelle Pfeiffer, according to *The Washington Times*. Ford was the First Lady of the U.S. from 1974 to 1977. Viola Davis, who is also an executive producer of the series, is set to portray Obama. Gillian Anderson

will play Roosevelt. Kristine Froseth and Jayme Lawson were cast to play younger versions of Ford and Obama, respectively.

Aaron Cooley, who created the series and was said to be one of the show's lead writers will also executive produce. Golden Globe winner Susanne Bier is reportedly directing. A release date has not been set.

As result of this week's filming, Matthews said Monticello Street would be closed from Conyers to Washington streets and Reynolds Street would be closed from from Church to Hendricks streets from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Thursday.

Matthews said the shoot would begin after noon and last until the evening. Police officers will be on site to help direct traffic.

Newton resident to lead state's fisheries management work

STAFF REPORTS
news@covnews.com

SOCIAL CIRCLE, Ga. — Newton County resident Scott Robinson has been promoted to lead the fisheries management work of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources' Wildlife Resources Division (WRD).

Robinson, a long-time employee of the division, was promoted from assistant chief to chief of the Fisheries Management Section

Feb. 16, the WRD announced.

As chief, Robinson's responsibilities will include coordinating and managing the state-wide fisheries program, development of the fisheries management budget, and supervision of Georgia's public fishing areas.

Additionally, he will oversee the drafting of fishing regulations statewide.

"Scott will continue to be a great asset to the



Scott Robinson

Wildlife Resources Division," said Ted Will, WRD Division Director.

"His 25-plus years of service has prepared him to lead the Fisheries Management Section and continue the great work they are doing, and I look forward to seeing his accomplishments in this new position."

Robinson is a Certified Fisheries Professional, and past president of the Georgia chapter of the American Fisheries Society. He also worked on state, regional and national fish habitat conservation issues with the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies for nearly a decade.

In addition, he has served as a fisheries biologist for the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, working in a variety of roles in fish hatcheries, fisheries management, habitat conservation, and aquatic education, and most recently as assistant chief of Fisheries where he oversees operations of the state fish hatchery system and aquatic education programs.

Robinson earned a master's degree in

Fisheries and Wildlife Biology from Clemson University.

He is an avid angler and hunter, and resides in Covington.

For more information on fishing in Georgia, visit <https://georgiawildlife.com/fishing/> angler-resources or contact a local Wildlife Resources Division office (<http://georgiawildlife.com/about/contact>).

News proprietor elected to APA Board of Directors

STAFF REPORTS
news@covnews.com

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Patrick Graham has been elected to the board of directors of the Alabama Press Association.

The APA conducted its annual Media Summit and winter meeting this week.

K.A. Turner, senior editor of print publications for the Alabama



Patrick Graham

Media Group, was elected president of the APA, a 150-year-old group that advocates for newspapers in Alabama.

Graham will serve on the board, as he does on the Georgia Press Association. He is the owner of *The Sand Mountain Reporter* in Albertville, *Times-Journal* in Fort Payne and *Jackson County Sentinel* in Scottsboro.

He has been the proprietor of *The Walton Tribune* in Monroe, Georgia, since 2014, and added *The Covington News* in 2017.

Gulf Coast weather may drive gas prices up again

STAFF REPORTS
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Georgia's average gas price on Monday, Feb. 22, had increased at the pump by 18 cents compared to a week earlier.

And though it could rise even higher, it was still well below the national average, according to a report from AAA.

Montrae Waiters, spokeswoman for AAA-The Auto Club Group, said abnormally cold temperatures along the Gulf Coast in the last week contributed to rising gas prices.

"The situation is fluid and it is possible to see an increase in Georgia gas prices this coming week," Waiters said.

Newton County's average for a gallon of regular gas Monday was at about the state average at \$2.53.

Compared to neighboring

counties, Newton's average for regular gas was lower than Rockdale (\$2.55) and Jasper (\$2.57); the same as Henry (\$2.53); and higher than Butts (\$2.48) and Morgan and Walton (\$2.52), according to AAA.

The statewide average price for regular gas was \$2.52 a gallon, which is 11 cents below the national average of \$2.63, AAA reported.

Monday's state average is 18 cents more than a week ago, 27 cents more than last month, and 21 cents more than this time last year.

It now costs motorists \$37.65 to fill a 15-gallon tank with regular gasoline; that is 75 cents more than what motorists paid in January of 2020, when pump prices hit their peak of \$2.46 per gallon.

Georgia's average cost for

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FEBRUARY 24TH @ 11AM EST
11am Registration Link: Register in advance for this meeting:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZErceGgpi0rGdfuvSBdY7vs1NfGeJU2j34M>

RETAIL & COMMUNITY SUMMIT
FEBRUARY 24TH @ 2PM EST
2pm Registration Link: Register in advance for this meeting:
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DEMOND MASON
DISTRICT 2 COMMISSIONER



CHARLES PARKER
THE RETAIL COACH



SERRA P. HALL
NCIDA



DEBBIE HARPER
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Prep Basketball

Tigers' season ends with loss to Rockdale County

By MASON WITTNER
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COVINGTON, Ga. — For the second consecutive season, the Alcovy boys' basketball team's hopes of making the state playoffs rested on a 3-point attempt at the buzzer.

For the second the consecutive season, the shot didn't fall.

The Tigers came up short on their home court against rival Rockdale County, 64-61, in the Region 3-AAAAAA tournament Wednesday night. The defeat marked the end of the road for the club's campaign. They finished 11-12 overall.

"The scary thing is we finished .500 in the regular season last year. We ended up being 12-13 because of the

region playoff game, which we lost by three points," Alcovy head coach Mack Hardwick noted. "We had a 3-point attempt at the buzzer, and the exact same thing happened again [Wednesday.] The exact same thing.

"It's really a nightmare. It's literally the exact same thing as last year."

Alcovy's season appeared to be all but over when Rockdale County pushed its lead out to 64-58 with 20 ticks of the clock remaining. But the Tigers weren't done yet.

A 3-pointer from Bobby Smith quickly cut the deficit in half. Then, desperate to intentionally foul and hope for the best at the free-throw line, Alcovy



Mason Wittner | The Covington News

The Alcovy Tigers were eliminated from postseason contention with a 64-61 loss to Rockdale County in the Region 3-AAAAAA tournament.

was gifted a final shot as an errant Rockdale County pass sailed out of bounds with 2.6 seconds remaining. Timeout was called.

A scheme was crafted in the Tiger huddle to manufacture an open look. The game-tying 3-point attempt was in the air before the final buzzer sounded.

But the shot fell short, sealing Alcovy's fate.

"In all honesty, an open shot, you can't ask for anything better than that," Hardwick said. "I have no complaints either way."

Despite fighting for their lives late in the game, the Tigers seized control early Wednesday. After trading blowing in the opening quarter, they went into the second with a 20-15 lead before stretching it out to 27-17 at the 5:15 mark.

Rockdale County countered with a run of its own late in the first

half, but Alcovy trotted into the locker room with a healthy 36-29 advantage.

The gap closed in the third quarter as a flurry turnovers and fouls kept the Bulldogs alive. But when the quarter drew to a close, the Tigers still found themselves in front — grappling a 49-48 lead — with one period left in regulation.

The first points of the fourth quarter came when Rockdale County junior Johnny Collins stepped in front of a pass at mid-court, intercepted it and raced in for the go-ahead layup. The bucket set a new tone for the Bulldogs, who would go on to lead for the remainder of the night.

Eagles fall to Clarke Central in Region 8-AAAAAA championship

By MASON WITTNER
mwittner@covnews.com

WALNUT GROVE, Ga. — A third-quarter collapse led to Eastside's demise Saturday night as it suffered a 62-41 loss to Clarke Central in the Region 8-AAAAAA championship game at Walnut Grove High School.

Facing a 26-23 deficit at the break, the Eagles came out flat at the start of the third quarter. The Gladiators locked in defensively, limiting their opponent to minimal open looks at the basket. They also bullied their way to a lopsided affair under the rim on both sides of the court, leading to second-, third- and fourth-chance points.

As a result, Clarke Central created separation en route to compiling a 40-26 lead with 2:40 left in the period.

Eastside failed to make up the difference.

When the clubs first met earlier this season, the Gladiators overpowered the Eagles by grinding away for four quarters. First-year Eastside head coach Dorrian Randolph cited his team's lack of mental toughness as being the deciding factor.

Eastside entered the region title game having won nine of its last 10 contests since falling to Clarke Central on Jan. 8, but that run wasn't enough to turn the tables in the rematch.

"We were hoping, with our momentum, to be able to match their physicality. [Saturday] their physicality and their mental toughness, we just couldn't match it," Randolph said.

The Eagles trailed 43-31 at the end of three quarters, but pulled as close as 47-39 with 5:12 left in regulation. Over the final five minutes of the fourth quarter, however, fatigue appeared to set in as Clarke Central pulled away for the 21-point victory.

Despite Saturday's defeat, Eastside's staff remains optimistic about making their first postseason appearance since 2017.

"When I got this job I made certain goals, and making state in the first year was definitely one of those goals. That part felt good, so you know you can hang your hat on that," Randolph said. "But in order for us to go further — which, you know, the next goal is to hopefully go as far as we can, and hopefully bring home a championship — we've got a lot of work to do."

The Eagles will enter the Class AAAAA state playoffs as a No. 2 seed and host No. 3 Decatur in the opening round Wednesday at 6 p.m. In-depth coverage of first-round action can be found on covnews.com and in the weekend edition of *The Covington News*.



File | Mason Wittner | The Covington News

Senior Jaylen Woods (24) and the Eastside Eagles came up short in the quest for their first region title in program history Saturday night as they suffered a 62-41 loss to Clarke Central in the Region 8-AAAAAA championship.

Prep Soccer

Lady Eagles held scoreless by Woodward Academy

By MIKE HARRISON
Correspondent

COVINGTON, Ga. — Friday night at Sharp Stadium, the Eastside Lady Eagles failed to score a goal despite creating multiple opportunities. The result was a 4-0 loss to the Woodward Academy Lady War Eagles (2-0-1).

The defeat was the Lady Eagles first of the 2021 campaign.

Less than three minutes into the match, Eastside lost leading scorer Katie Oakley to injury. Oakley — who along, with Aralyn Everett, was leading the

Lady Eagles in scoring with eight goals apiece in their first four games — would be unable to return. Bailey Love, with five, and Sophia Leal, with three, would fire eight of the Lady Eagles' 10 shots on goal in the match. Eastside would outshoot Woodward 19 to 13 on the night.

Less than 15 minutes into the game, Woodward's Brooke Sard netted the eventual game-winning goal when she one-touched the ball off a free kick from Simi Awujo up and over Eastside goalkeeper Anna Shelton,



Special to The Covington News

Eastside suffered a 4-0 loss to former region rival Woodward Academy at Sharp Stadium on Friday night.

who was charging out to gain control of the ball. The 1-0 lead would last until Awujo scored to stretch the Woodward lead to 2-0 with 9:29 left in the half.

In the second stanza, Woodward's Charlotte Rubenstein chipped in a goal from short range off an Awujo corner kick to make it 3-0 with 31:39 remaining on the clock. Rubenstein

scored the final goal of the game from just outside the 18-yard box off an assist from Hayden Twiss with 20:49 left to play.

In a frantic final 10 minutes, Eastside

forced Woodward's defense to make saves and defensive plays in their box to complete the shutout. Even the Woodward crossbar had to stop a Lady Eagle shot. In the end, the Woodward net-minder made a total of nine saves in the match.

"We played hard [Saturday,] Eastside head coach Joel Singleton said. "We outshot them and controlled possession in our final two-thirds the majority of the match but could not find the back of the net. It was frustrating in many ways."

METRO

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FOOD & ENTERTAINMENT

The Covington News



Metro Creative Services

Sweet potatoes can be prepared in both sweet and savory ways, making them equally at home on the dinner table or for dessert.

Turn beloved side dish into crunchy, savory fries

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

news@covnews.com

Sweet potatoes have been known as a beloved side dish for years.

Despite the popularity of sweet potatoes, some misconceptions about them have prevailed. The terms “sweet potato” and “yam” often are used interchangeably, but they actually are two different plants.

Sweet potatoes, according to the cooking resource Epicurious, are in the morning glory family.

Yams are related to palms and grasses. Yams are native to Africa, Southeast Asia, the Caribbean, and Central

America. Sweet potatoes are grown primarily in the United States, although they were likely brought from Central or South America. One similarity of sweet potatoes and yams are that they are not potatoes at all.

Sweet potatoes range in color from yellow to dark orange. There also are purple varieties. Yams have brown or black, scaly skin. They can produce off-white, purple or red flesh that is more starchy and dry than sweet potatoes. Most North American stores do not sell genuine yams.

Sweet potatoes can be prepared in both sweet and savory ways, making them

equally at home on the dinner table or for dessert. Sweet potato fries are one of the tastier ways to enjoy sweet potatoes. This recipe for “Baked Sweet Potato Fries” courtesy of the North Carolina Sweet Potato Commission can make for the perfect side when serving steak or burgers.

Baked Sweet Potato Fries

Serves 8

Ingredients:
7 medium sweet potatoes
1/3 cup olive oil
1/2 teaspoon salt

Directions:

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Line two baking sheets with foil; spray with nonstick cooking spray. For crispier results, place a metal rack on each baking sheet.

Peel the sweet potatoes, if desired, and cut into 1/4-inch strips.

In a large bowl, combine sweet potatoes, oil and salt; with your hands, toss to coat.

Spread sweet potatoes in a single layer on racks or foil without crowding; set aside remaining sweet potatoes.

Bake until crisp, about 30 minutes, flipping halfway through. Repeat until all the sweet potatoes are baked.

Snack on something healthy

Crush any cravings with guilt-free cauliflower popcorn

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

news@covnews.com

Healthy snacks are a great way to quell hunger pangs without feeling guilty.

The following recipe for “Cauliflower Popcorn” from Bob Blumer’s “Surreal Gourmet Bites” (Chronicle Books) is a sweet-tasting alternative to unhealthy snacks.

Cauliflower Popcorn

Yields 12 bites

Ingredients:
1 head cauliflower
4 tablespoons olive oil
1 tablespoon salt (or, for a salt-free alternative, Mrs. Dash table blend)

Directions:
Preheat oven to 425 degrees.
Cut out and discard cauliflower core and thick stems. Trim remaining cauli-



Metro Creative Services

Healthy snacks like this cauliflower popcorn recipe are a great way to quell hunger pangs without feeling guilty.

flower into florets the size of golf balls. In a large bowl, add cauliflower, olive oil and salt. Toss thoroughly.

Spread cauliflower on a baking sheet (line with parchment paper, if available, for easy cleanup).

Roast for one hour, or until much of the floret has become golden brown. (That’s the caramelization process converting the dormant natural sugars into sweetness. The browner the florets, the sweeter they will taste.) Turn three or four times during roasting.

Use crumpled up aluminum foil or paper towels to create a false bottom in your popcorn container, fill it with cauliflower, and serve immediately.

Note: Raw cauliflower can be precut and refrigerated for up to two days in an airtight bag or a bowl of water. With minimal sacrifice, cauliflower can be cooked earlier in the day and reheated in a 450-degree oven for 10 minutes.



Metro Creative Services

People who love donuts may find that love reaches a new level after they try their hands at this Cookies and Cream Donuts recipe.

Cookies and Cream donuts made to indulge

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

news@covnews.com

Donuts are a guilty pleasure for many people. Though they might not make nutritionists smile, donuts are a beloved indulgence.

People who love donuts may find that love reaches a new level after they try their hands at the following recipe for “Cookies and Cream Donuts” from Heather Saffer’s “Crazy Easy Vegan Desserts” (Sterling Epicure).

Cookies and Cream Donuts

Makes 6 donuts

Ingredients:
1 1/2 teaspoons distilled white vinegar
1 cup gluten-free flour
1/4 cup unsweetened dark cocoa powder
1/2 teaspoon baking soda
Pinch of salt
1/2 cup granulated sugar
1/4 cup unsweetened applesauce
2 teaspoons coconut oil, melted
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
12 vegan crunchy chocolate cookies, crushed
One 12-ounce jar Dollop Gourmet Madagascar Vanilla vegan frosting
Milk

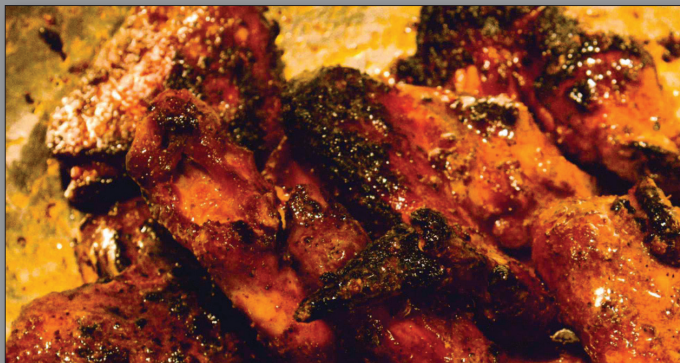
Directions:
Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Spray a donut pan with nonstick cooking spray.

Pour the vinegar into a 1/2 cup measure. Add enough milk to come to the brim. Let sit until slightly thickened, 5 to 10 minutes.

In a small bowl, whisk together the flour, cocoa powder, baking soda, and salt. In a large bowl, mix together the sugar, applesauce, coconut oil, and vanilla. Slowly add the flour mixture and mix until smooth. Add the almond milk mixture and continue mixing for one minute more. Add half of the crushed cookies and mix until just combined.

Scoop the batter into the prepared donut pan, filling three-quarters of the way full. Bake until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean, 10 to 15 minutes. Let cool before frosting.

Microwave the uncovered frosting jar for 5-second intervals, stirring in between, until soft. Gently frost the top of each donut. Sprinkle the remaining crushed cookies over the donuts.



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.

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

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

COVINGTON: 6169 Highway 278
Covington Crossing Shopping Center
CONYERS: 2300 Salem Road
CONYERS: 8530 GA 20
Honey Creek Village Shopping Center
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK! MONDAY-SUNDAY 7am-10pm



Fresh,
Any Size Package
**Ground
Beef**
\$2.75
LB.



USDA Inspected,
Fresh
**Pork
Picnic**
98¢
LB.



USDA Select Beef
**Shoulder
Roast**
\$3.77
LB.



Fresh, Bonus Pack
**Claxton
Drumsticks
or Thighs**
88¢
LB.



USDA Select Beef,
Boneless
**Sirloin
Steak**
\$3.98
LB.



2.44 Ounce, Turkey or
Ham with Cheese
**Armour
Lunchmakers**
84¢
EA.

Farm Fresh Produce



11 Ounce Bag
**Fresh Express
Veggie Lovers or
American
Salad**
\$2.69
BG.



8 Ounce Package
Whole White Mushrooms
\$1.79
EA.



Green Giant Cello Lettuce
\$1.29
EA.



Turnip & Mustard Greens
2/\$1.59
EA.



Green Cabbage
59¢
LB.



Fresh Asparagus
\$1.99
LB.



3 Pound Bag
Red Apples
\$2.99
BG.



Roma Tomatoes
99¢
LB.



Green Bell Peppers
2/\$1.00
EA.

From Our Dairy Case!



7-8 Ounce
**Kraft
Shredded Cheese**
\$2.22



89 Ounce
**Simply Orange
100% Juice**
\$5.35



64 Ounce
Lactaid Milk
\$2.79



1 Pound
**Dutch Farms
Butter**
\$2.79



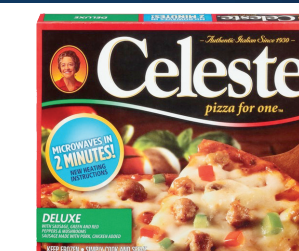
24 Count, Assorted
Eggo Waffles
\$3.91



19-32 Ounce
Ore-Ida Fries
\$2.58



10-14.4 Ounce
**Birds Eye
Steam Fresh Selects**
81¢



5-5.9 Ounce, Assorted
Celeste Pizza
87¢

Food Depot

Watch Your Savings Grow!

OUR COST PLUS 10% ADDED AT REGISTER!

*OUR COST INCLUDES FREIGHT, STOCKING FEES AND ASSOCIATED EXPENSES

OFFERS GOOD FEBRUARY 22ND-FEBRUARY 28TH, 2021

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

Great Quality Brands!



750 ML
**Capriccio
Sangria Wine**
\$5.49



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



1 Liter
Smart Water
\$1.00



24 Ounce, Select Varieties
**Hunt's
Spaghetti Sauce**
88¢



7.75-8 Ounce
**Frito-Lay's
Lay's Chips**
\$2.00



8 Ounce, Spaghetti or
Thin Spaghetti
Mueller's Pasta
45¢



7.5-7.75 Ounce, Assorted
UTZ Chips
\$1.60



17.5-18 Ounce
**Kraft
BBQ Sauce**
87¢



25.3-26.7 Ounce,
Party Size
**Nabisco Oreo
or Chips Ahoy**
\$3.99



20 Ounce
**Hunt's
Ketchup**
92¢



9 Ounce, Assorted
**Zapp's
Chips**
\$1.99



15-16 Ounce,
Assorted
**Bush's
Chili Beans**
96¢



7.56-13.13 Ounce
**Little Debbie
Easter and
Spring
Snack Cakes**
\$1.47

Low Prices — Name Brand Meats



15 Ounce, Bun
Size or Jumbo
**Bar-S
All Meat
Franks**
\$1.83
EA.



16 Ounce,
Hot or Mild
**Sunset
Farms
Roll Sausage**
\$1.98
EA.



2.34 Pound
**Bar-S
Corn Dogs**
\$4.46
EA.



12 Ounce,
Regular or Thick
**Sunnyland
Hotel
Sliced Bacon**
\$2.98
EA.



14 Ounce
**Dandy
Mild
Smoked
Sausage**
\$2.88
EA.



22 Ounce,
Mega Pack
**Carl Buddig
Ham or Turkey**
\$3.75
EA.

Stock Up On Freezer Favorites!

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

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

**Over \$102,000
Raised to Date!**

*Ask Cashier for
Details

		Family Pack Split Chicken Breast 99¢ LB.				Bone-In Sirloin End Cut Pork Chops 99¢ LB.	
	Bone-In Pork Sirloin Roast 99¢ LB.		USDA Select, Family Pack T-Bone Steak \$8.99 LB.		24 Pack, 12 Ounce Cans Coca-Cola Products \$6.99		1 Pound Florida Grown Strawberries 2/\$5.00
	24 Ounce Food Club Ketchup 99¢		CAB Choice Bottom Round Roast \$3.99 LB.		18.5-19 Ounce Progresso Soup 3/\$5.00		10-12 Ounce PictSweet Vegetables 4/\$5.00
	56 Ounce Mayfield Classic Ice Cream 2/\$5.00		Vacuum Pack Baby Back Pork Ribs \$4.99 LB.		2 Pack, Vacuum Pack Spare Ribs \$2.59 LB.		Boneless Whole Pork Loin \$1.99 LB.
	Vacuum Pack St. Louis Style Ribs \$3.99 LB.		12 Ounce, Regular, Thick or Applewood Smithfield Bacon 2/\$8.00		8 Ounce Daisy Sour Cream 5/\$5.00		16 Ounce Land O Lakes Butter 2/\$7.00
	Extra Large Tomatoes \$1.29 LB.		Haas Avocados 69¢ EA.		Family Pack, Boneless Center Cut Pork Chops \$2.79 LB.		Family Pack, Boneless Wafer Thin Pork Chops \$2.99 LB.
	CAB Choice Stew, Diet Lean or Stir Fry \$4.99 LB.		CAB Choice, Family Pack Cubed Steak \$4.99 LB.		CAB Choice, Family Pack Bottom Round Steak \$5.99 LB.		2 Pack Tyson Cornish Hens \$7.99
	27 Ounce Smoky Farms Sausage Patties \$3.99		Boneless Chicken Thighs \$1.99 LB.		16 Ounce Sheboygan Brats or Italian Sausage 2/\$6.00		Regular or Italian Market Made Sausage \$2.99 LB.
	26 Ounce Cooked Perfect Meatballs \$6.99		2 Pound Box Bubba Burgers \$13.99		Sliced Hog Jowls \$2.99 LB.		Pork Neck Bones \$1.19 LB.
	23.5-24 Ounce Prego Spaghetti Sauce 2/\$4.00		4.5-7 Ounce Knorr Rice or Pasta 5/\$5.00		6 Pack, 1/2 Liters, Assorted Pepsi Products 4/\$11.00		2-2.75 Ounce Lipton Soup Mix 4/\$5.00
	7-13 Ounce Nabisco Chips Ahoy 2/\$5.00		6 Pack Kool-Aid Bursts 5/\$5.00		15-15.5 Ounce, Light or Dark Food Club Mexican Chili or Kidney Beans 4/\$3.00		6 Pack, Assorted Mayfield Ice Cream Sandwiches or Bars 2/\$5.00
	9 Ounce, Italian or American Fresh Express Salad Mix 2/\$5.00		Fresh Black or Red Plums \$2.99 LB.		10 Pound Bag Idaho Potatoes 2/\$7.00		Regular or Jalapeno Deli Made Pimento Cheese \$3.99 LB.
	Deli Made Chicken Salad w/Cranberries \$6.99 LB.		Bryan Honey Ham \$4.99 LB.		Meat or Garlic Bryan Bologna \$3.99 LB.		Bryan Beef Bologna \$4.49 LB.

Store Hours: 7 Days 8am-9pm • No Rainchecks

This Ad Good Wednesday, February 24th thru Tuesday, March 2nd, 2021

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

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO CORRECT ANY TYPOGRAPHICAL OR PICTORIAL ERRORS. WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES. NONE SOLD TO DEALERS.

Wed 24	Thur 25	Fri 26	Sat 27	Sun 28	Mon 1	Tues 2
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