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AUTO SPA OPENS

Read about a new car wash to recently open in Covington; plus, labor stats show more Newton residents are getting back to work

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and stay informed on local issues at CovNews.com

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MILLER TO LEAD EAGLES WRESTLING

New head coach excited for program's potential

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His Word

He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

Isaiah 40:29, KJV

COVID-19: A Global Public Health Crisis

Kemp orders no masks required in schools

By TOM SPIGOLON
tspigolon@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — Masks will no longer be required but “recommended” when on Newton County school campuses or at district-sponsored events.

County school officials said they are following the governor’s recent order and no longer requiring masks to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Officials announced in a statement Sunday, May 30, that, “In light of Gov. Brian Kemp’s Friday afternoon (May 28) executive order regarding masks in public schools, the school system will no longer mandate the wearing



Brian Kemp

of masks ...”

However, the school district is now “recommending” rather than mandating the use of masks at its 24 schools and events.

“Additionally, all students and staff eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccination are encouraged to do so over the summer break to be ready for the start of school on Aug. 2, 2021.”

Kemp signed an executive

order Friday prohibiting schools from requiring students or employees to wear masks.

“As hospitalizations, cases, deaths, and percent positive tests all continue to decline — and with vaccinations on the rise — Georgians deserve to fully return to normal,” Kemp said.

“With safe and effective vaccines widely available and the public well-aware

of all COVID-19 mitigation measures, mandates from state and local governments are no longer needed.”

The Newton County schools statement said that since the start of the 2020-2021 school year in August 2020 the district “has required students, staff, parents and visitors to wear masks to help prevent the

See MASKS, A3

Memorial Day: Honoring the Fallen

TRIBUTE TO TROOPS

Covington American Legion Post honors county’s war heroes

By TAYLOR BECK
tbeck@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — More than 100 people gathered on the Square to take part in a Memorial Day ceremony Monday morning, May 31, held by American Legion Post 32 to honor Newton County’s fallen soldiers.

Post 32 Commander Don Floyd, who is also a Covington city councilman, led the ceremony. He spoke about the importance of expressing military appreciation and shared notable facts tied the national holiday.

“We should always remember that the decisions leading to war are those of the policy makers and not the veterans themselves,” Floyd reminded the crowd.

“Sometimes the mission is clear-cut,” he continued. “In WWII, millions were liberated and truly evil regimes were toppled, but the price can still be unbelievably painful.

“And that’s why we’re here today ... to honor the sacrifices made by the 1 million heroes who died while defending this country since the American revolution, and the sad sacrifices painfully shared by the Gold Star families and the close friends of these heroes,” Floyd said. “Most of us will not truly understand the depths of their despair unless we have experienced it. But we can always offer our support. We can wear the poppies, we can place flags [...] at their graves, we can donate to the charities that provide for that

See CEREMONY, A3



Taylor Beck | The Covington News

Members of American Legion Post 32 in Covington honor their fallen comrades with a wreath presentation and the playing of taps during a Memorial Day ceremony Monday, May 31, on the Square.



Taylor Beck | The Covington News

More than 100 spectators were on hand for the ceremony Monday. They collectively sang the national anthem to begin the event.



Taylor Beck | The Covington News

Members of American Legion Post 32 in Covington read the names of Newton County soldiers who died in battle.

Newton County Schools



File | The Covington News

Last year's graduation ceremonies were postponed to August due to the pandemic.

Graduation ceremonies set for this week

STAFF REPORTS
news@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — Graduation is finally here, said seniors across Newton County.

Starting June 3, Newton County Schools will hold commencement ceremonies for Newton, Eastside and Alcovy high schools.

The commencement ceremony for Newton High School’s seniors will be held June 3, 2021, at 8 p.m. at Sharp Stadium with June 4 at 8 a.m. as the contingency date, in the event of inclement weather.

Eastside High School’s seniors will graduate June 4, 2021, at 8 p.m. at Sharp Stadium with June 5 at 8 a.m. as the contingency date.

Alcovy High School will hold a commencement ceremony for its seniors June 5, 2021, at 8 p.m. at Sharp Stadium with June 6 at 8 p.m. as the contingency date.

Seating will be limited as graduates are reportedly allotted only four tickets for family.



Inside

Learn how to get more out of your grill

See FOOD, B1

Weather Forecast



Wednesday, June 2
High: 83° Low: 65°
• Partly sunny.



Thursday, June 3
High: 86° Low: 65°
• 50% chance of rain.

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Couple celebrates 68 years of marriage

Donald and Alice Bussey Curran are celebrating 68 years of marriage on Wednesday, June 2, 2021.

Donald and Alice met at Grant Park in Atlanta on Easter Sunday, 1953. Donald, originally from West Virginia and stationed at Atlanta Army Depot, was out with a friend at the park and Alice a resident of Atlanta was attending an Easter picnic also with a friend. Donald asked Alice's friend for Alice's number and the rest is history.

The two of them eloped to Dallas, Georgia, less than two

months after meeting. When you know, you know. Donald spent two years in Germany with the Army and upon his return they made their home in Atlanta. They moved to Newton County in 1972. They are now residents at The Retreat at Conyers.

Donald eventually secured a position in the paint department of General Motors where he worked for over 30 years. Alice spent time as a homemaker and utilized her cooking skills working for Bonanza.

They have one son,



Donald and Alice Bussey Curran are celebrating 68 years of marriage today, Wednesday, June 2.

Special to The Covington News

Kenneth Curran, who lives in Oxford. They have two granddaughters and three great-grandchildren.

Donald and Alice are a living example of true love and a testament to putting their faith in Christ first and then in

each other. Their family and friends will be celebrating their anniversary and their birthdays at

a picnic lunch at Hard Labor Creek on June 12, 2021.

Special to The News

Stone Mountain

Major changes coming to park's Confederate attraction

By DAVE WILLIAMS
Capitol Beat News Service

STONE MOUNTAIN – The state board that oversees Stone Mountain Park voted May 24 to tone down its Confederate imagery but stay in keeping with a state law prohibiting the removal of historic monuments from public property.

The Stone Mountain Memorial Association's Board of Directors passed four resolutions to give the giant carving of three Confederate leaders on the side of the mountain historic context with a museum exhibit to be located at the park's Memorial Hall.

The resolutions also call for relocating the Confederate flags that line the park's main walk-up trail to the base of the mountain, designing a new logo for the park and seeking national historic site designation for a covered bridge at the park designed and built by a Black contractor from Athens.

"By law, Stone Mountain Park is a Confederate memorial," Bill Stephens, the association's CEO and a former state senator, said following Monday's votes. "But there were things we could do to tell a complete story that's acceptable



Wikimedia Commons

Stone Mountain Park officials have opted to begin downplaying Confederate symbols and relocate flags. They will also design a new park logo.

to the 3 million Georgians who come here every year."

The Stone Mountain carving was sculpted during the last century over a period of decades, a time that saw the rebirth of the Ku Klux Klan at a 1915 gathering atop the mountain and the 1954 U.S. Supreme Court order desegregating schools.

The project was con-

ceived during the Jim Crow era, when Confederate monuments sprang up across the South glorifying the "Lost Cause" of the Civil War as an honorable struggle for Southern independence rather than a fight to preserve slavery.

That interpretation of the war later fell into disfavor, particularly during the Civil Rights era and – more recently – during the protests against police brutality that spread across the nation last year following the murder of George Floyd, a Black man from Minneapolis, by a white police officer.

With Confederate statues toppling across the South, critics of

Stone Mountain's depictions of Confederate President Jefferson Davis and Generals Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson have called for the carving to be removed.

Representatives of the Stone Mountain Action Coalition and other groups showed up at Monday's meeting with signs carrying messages including "Don't Celebrate Treason" and "Tell the Truth: Remove the Carvings."

Dennis Collard, a member of the Stone Mountain Action Coalition, said Stone Mountain Park is the wrong place to honor the Confederacy.

"This is not a battlefield. This is not a cemetery," he said.

"People come here for recreation. ... It is time to stop pretending this place is about Civil War heritage."

But Grady Vickery, a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, said Stone Mountain is an appropriate place to remember the war dead.

"This carving is a monument," he said. "This carving is to stand for 80,000-and-some unknown soldiers who put it all on the line to go fight. ... That monument is for all of those who never came home."

Rev. Abraham Mosley, who took the reins recently as the association's first Black chairman, said there was no way the board could

please everybody, given such polarized views on the park's purpose.

"We want to tell the whole story, the good, the bad and the ugly," he said. "History isn't good and pleasant to all of us. But it's history."

The proposed museum exhibit provided for in one of the resolutions approved on Monday will be developed by a seven-member advisory committee, to include members of the board as well as community leaders.

The board is due to adopt a design for a new logo by July 1.

A resolution calling for the Washington W. King Bridge at the park to be designated a national historic site sets a goal of Sept. 1.



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THE NEWS' FIRST RESPONDER OF THE WEEK



Amanda Cummings

Cummings is currently a night shift supervisor at Covington-Newton 911 and has been employed since 2003. She enjoys serving area residents. She says the job can be stressful but mostly rewarding in that she helps people during their darkest time.

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State Politics



Special to The Covington News

Pictured second from left is Georgia Sen. Butch Miller with his family. Miller now intends to run for lieutenant governor in 2022.

Miller enters 2022 race for Lt. Governor

By **DAVE WILLIAMS**
Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA — Republicans are starting to step into the vacuum left when GOP Lt. Gov. Geoff Duncan announced last week he would not seek a second term.

Georgia Senate Pro Tempore Butch Miller, R-Gainesville, entered the race for lieutenant governor Tuesday. Miller, a car dealer, was elected to the Senate in 2010 and chosen president pro tempore by his legislative colleagues in 2018.

“As a state senator, I’ve worked with visionary conservative leaders to make our state the No. 1 state for business and a safe haven for the conservative, traditional values that made our state and nation great,” Miller said.

“I’m running for lieutenant governor to defend our conservative accomplishments, to enrich Georgians with jobs-friendly policies, to defend our constitutional rights, and to protect and promote the sanctity of life and opportunity.”

Miller noted in declaring his candidacy that he stepped up to preside over the Senate back in March during the floor debate that led to the passage of a controversial Repub-

lican-backed election bill Democrats criticized as voter suppression.

Republican backers defended the measure as a way to restore trust in Georgia’s electoral process.

Duncan, who normally presides as Senate president, stepped away from the rostrum during the debate, signaling his opposition to a provision doing away with no-excuse absentee voting that was later removed from the bill.

Duncan said last week he’s leaving statewide office at the end of next year to focus on creating a political organization called “GOP 2.0” aimed at “healing and rebuilding” the national Republican Party amid the fallout from former President Donald Trump’s continued claims of voter fraud in the 2020 elections.

Several Democrats have emerged to run for the second-highest position in state government, including state Reps. Erick Allen of Smyrna and Derrick Jackson of Tyrone.

The only other Republican candidate in the race for lieutenant governor thus far is GOP activist Jeanne Seaver of Savannah.

MASKS:

Continued from A1

transmission of the COVID-19 virus.”

“The health and safety of Newton County School System students and staff remain our No. 1 priority, and we thank everyone for following the district’s mask mandate over the past school year.

“By working together, we no doubt helped reduce the spread of

COVID-19 in our schools.”

Confirmed cases in Newton County had dropped from 11 on April 22 to six on May 21, according to the Georgia Department of Public Health.

Confirmed cases to date total 7,626 through May 21 in Newton County. The 14-day confirmed case rate was

77 per 100,000 from May 8 to 21 — which is at the state average for the same time period, according to GDPH.

The governor’s latest order will only affect Newton students and staff for the four final days of the 2020-2021 school year, which ends Friday, June 4.

It also will affect

CEREMONY:

Continued from A1

family, and we can look at their surviving brothers and sisters in arms and say, ‘Thank you for your service.’”

His wife, Marcia Floyd, who is president of Auxiliary Unit 32, then spoke briefly

about the history of the memorial poppy.

The memorial poppy was created by Walton County native Moina Belle Michael. She remains known as the “Poppy Lady” today.

After members of

American Legion Post 32 read the names of Newton County’s fallen soldiers, a wreath was presented and taps were played to commemorate the memory of all military members.

Newton County

Commissioners bypass objections, approve home daycare, retail center

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

COVINGTON, Ga. — Neighbors’ objections failed to sway Newton County planning commissioners from approving two projects that departed from current zoning restrictions recently.

The planning commission voted May 25 to give final approval to a daycare facility to operate inside an area zoned residential near Porterdale.

Planning commissioners also recommended the Newton County Board of Commissioners approve a rezoning for a multi-use commercial project at Salem and Smith Store roads despite neighbors’ predictions of increased traffic congestion on Salem Road and their property values decreasing.

Chess’ Mia James was able to gain final approval for an administrative use permit from the planning commission to operate a daycare center in her home on a site zoned R2 (Single-Family Residential) because she said she planned to serve a maximum of six children.

A request for more than six children would have required James to receive a conditional use permit that required Board of Commissioners approval, according to information from the county Department of Development Services.

James said she planned to operate a Christian-based daycare facility at the end of a cul-de-sac at 13 Manor Oak Drive.

She said she recently received a degree in Early Childhood Education and wanted to create a program to prepare children up to age 5 for kindergarten.

James said she planned to operate from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and use her home as a daycare

for only a year while she looked for a different location.

She said she planned to communicate with parents in a method to prevent vehicles lining up for child dropoffs.

Supporters of James’ plan also told planning commissioners she showed she was a “leader” in starting a business.

However, nearby resident Betty Tanquary said she could not recall anyone operating a daycare in the neighborhood in her 25 years of living there.

She also complained that a daycare would hinder traffic flow on Manor Oak Drive because it would add more vehicles to those already parking on the street.

Another resident said he and his wife had lived on Manor Oak Drive for six years. He said they were in their 70s and chose their home because it was on a cul-de-sac.

His home also is adjacent to the daycare site which he said lacks “even the short term parking that a day care business would need to operate.”

He also said covenants restrict houses within the subdivision to residential use only.

However, county attorney Paul Frickey said covenants on subdivisions are civil matters and do not affect actions of the planning commission.

Zoning administrator Tracy Hernandez said James had met all requirements for an administrative use permit.

She said James agreed to install a minimum four-foot fence around any play area as required by state law.

James also would be required to pass a fire inspection, and secure a state daycare license and a county business license.

Planning commis-

sioner Vivian Richardson motioned for approval and the vote was unanimous.

Neighboring residents in west Newton also were unable to convince planning commissioners to deny Conyers-based CSCL Holdings LLC’s request for a rezoning for construction of offices and a fast-food restaurant on a 6.6-acre site on Salem Road at Smith Store Road.

Residents of the nearby Westminster subdivision said the rezoning would lead to development that would further congest the two-lane Salem Road and decrease their property values.

Nancy Penn, a longtime resident of Smith Store Road, said she wanted commissioners to deny the rezoning to prevent further commercial development of the area that she admitted was in the county’s future land use plans for the area.

“We want our residential area,” Penn said. “We want it to stay that way.”

The request for a change from its current residential zoning to CH (Highway Commercial) is consistent with the intent of the county’s Comprehensive Plan and with the Future Land Use Map, planning staff members said.

Commissioner Ronnie Glover said GDOT plans call for widening of Salem Road, which

is Georgia Hwy. 162, around the time developers were completing their multi-use project.

Planning commissioners then voted to recommend the Board of Commissioners give final approval to the rezoning at the Board’s June 15 meeting.

The planning commission also voted to approve:

- Rezoning request from M2 (Heavy Industrial) to RMF (Multi-Family Residential) to develop a 226-unit townhome development on 35 acres at City Pond Road and Georgia Hwy. 142.

The applicant is Jim Chapman Communities of Atlanta. Chapman told commissioners he planned an upscale community called Studio Village with rents in the \$1,650 range.

- A preliminary plat for a 52-lot residential subdivision called Covington Creek on 20.47 acres at 3539, 3480, 3489 and 3549 Fairview Road.

Chris Harrell is the applicant and developer of the site, which is already zoned R3 (Single Family Residential).

A related applicant, Summit Engineering Consulting, previously had sought a rezoning to Multi-Family for townhomes on the same site but the planning commission recommended denial amid heavy neighborhood opposition.

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NOTICE OF INTENTION TO CONSIDER AN INCREASE IN THE SALARIES OF THE MAYOR, MAYOR PRO-TEMPORE AND COUNCIL MEMBERS OF THE CITY OF SOCIAL CIRCLE

Notice is given that the Mayor and City Council of Social Circle, Georgia, will consider adopting an ordinance to increase the salaries paid to the Mayor, Mayor Pro-Tem and Members of the City Council, during the regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council to be held at 6:30 p.m. on June 15, 2021 at the Middle School Activity Center at 154 Alcova Drive. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 36-35-4, the proposed ordinance, if passed, would not go into effect until after the date of the taking of office of those elected at the next regular municipal election which is held immediately following the date on which the action to increase the compensation was taken.

David Carroll columnist

Oh well, at least they showed up

I was in line at an all-too familiar spot, a fast food place, and some customers began grumbling. “The service sure is slow around here,” one said at a volume level that carried beyond the counter.



Apparently at the end of her rope, a tired employee scurrying to fill the orders turned around, looked the customer right in the eye, and replied, “At least we showed up for work.”

I felt like cheering, but knowing the mood of America all too well, I figured it was best to keep quiet. These days, you never know when someone will “go off,” cause a scene, and create a YouTube video moment.

This little episode illustrates several points at once. Let’s start with rudeness. The past year has tried everyone’s patience. Life-saving masks became a political hot button. I have my space, you have yours, let’s keep it that way. Wait, I have to get my temperature checked before I can enter? Who says? Don’t tell me about working together to help us all get back to normal, what about my freedom!

I am a big supporter of character education,



Metro Creative Service

A little episode that took place at an all-too familiar fast food place illustrated several struggles facing the food service industry, as well as other businesses dealing with staff shortages.

which has been taught in most schools during the past quarter century. I’m starting to wonder, though. Did anyone really pay attention? If so, why do I see rude behavior, impatience, and intolerance on a daily basis? Plus, roadside litter seems to be at an all-time high. Road rage is the new national pastime. And we continue to treat those who try to serve us as if they are second-class citizens.

To quote my fast-food friend, yes, at least they showed up for work. A restaurant assistant manager sat down with me recently, weary and depressed. “They offered me my own store to manage,

and I could really use the money, but I said no,” she said. “I have kids, and I need to spend time with them. All of us, especially the manager are putting in 12 hour days, with almost no days off. We have opened late, closed early, and cut back all we can because no one wants to work. Our service isn’t what it used to be, and the customers take it out on us, even though we are just trying to keep the place open.”

In recent weeks, state and federal officials have taken steps to make it less attractive to just stay home and draw a check. Eventually, normalcy will return, and people who

are able to work will need to get back on the clock. But until then, we must lower our expectations, and be kind to those who are trying to serve us. It isn’t their fault that we are having to wait a few minutes longer for our onion rings. Without them, we would have to eat fruits and vegetables at home. Imagine that.

Of course, rude people have been around, well, since the beginning of people. Perhaps we notice it more today because it is often on a larger stage. More than a hundred years ago, my grandfather, then a young man, was chased up a tree by the brothers of the young lady he was courting. They kept

him up there for a while because that’s what bullies do. Eventually they let him come down, and he later married her. I suppose he gets the last laugh because I get to tell that story today. But if that sort of thing happened today, there would be cellphone video, and it would be on the internet so the whole world could laugh at his plight.

It’s no wonder that rudeness is widely practiced and mirrored today. From the White House, to Congress, to our state and local officials, the behavior of the people who represent us is not exactly role model material.

Just think: when we came home from

school a generation or two ago, we saw Sheriff Andy Taylor, Hoss Cartwright, and Batman in all sorts of predicaments. Each had the power to bully others, with their badge, their size, or their super-powers. Instead, they showed us how to solve problems with wit, kindness, and knowledge.

Since then, we’ve been over-exposed to the confrontational talk shows, the “anything for ratings and clicks” reality shows, and the cable news blowhards who poison the national mood on a nightly basis.

Maybe why among the reasons my profession, the news business, is such an easy target. Quite often, someone will call and ask me, “Why isn’t (that negative incident that fits my agenda) in California on the news? No one is reporting that!” I usually respond, Well, it must have been on the news. Otherwise, you wouldn’t know about it.” Then they just get madder at me, and hang up, unhappy with my service. Oh well, at least I showed up.

David Carroll is a Chattanooga TV news anchor and radio host, and is online at ChattanoogaRadioTV.com. You may contact him at RadioTV2020@yahoo.com, or at 900 Whitehall Road, Chattanooga, TN 37405.

Dick Yarbrough columnist

Cows have legitimate beef with climate change crowd

OK, enough is enough and I have had enough. I have had to endure watching lawless thugs firebomb buildings and claiming we need to defund the police.



And another bunch of lawless thugs calling themselves “patriots” while inciting a riot in the United States Capitol. And don’t forget a bunch of kids doing their best Taliban imitation by tearing down statues they don’t like, proving that those who don’t know history are destined to repeat it.

In all of the above cases, I consider the source and none of them are worth the time and effort I have just expended talking about them. But now, things in this world have gotten a bit too up-close-and-personal.

I read recently that a number of restaurants will no longer have meat on their menus. Not only that, but schools and universities are beginning to pro-

mote “climate-friendly” meals – code words for “don’t eat meat.” Don’t eat meat? Are you kidding me?

Where’s the beef? The politically-correct crowd says it’s the cows’ fault. When they eat grass and feed (the cows, not the politically-correct crowd), their digestive systems ferment the contents. That fermentation turns into methane. Methane is a greenhouse gas, said to be 25 times more powerful than carbon dioxide. Cows burp the methane out. (You have to admit it beats the alternative.) The do-gooders say all that burping contributes to global warming. Don’t eat meat and – voila! – no more burping cattle.

If cows could talk as well as they can burp, they would probably ask that if they are responsible for global warming, why did most of Texas freeze over earlier this year? A lot of cattle happen to live and burp there. Also, burping is considered a sign of appreciation in China and India, where there are a lot more people than cattle. You don’t see the Birkenstock crowd criticizing

them. Those are excellent points. Cows can make a lot of sense.

In fact, I would trust a cow before I would Bill Gates. It seems the little dweeb had been busy encouraging everybody around the world to give up eating beef. I have a feeling this issue may not be at the top of Bill’s to-do list at the moment. News media have reported he had an affair with a Microsoft employee and also was alleged to have been hanging around with convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein. Now, wife Melinda Gates is giving him the boot. Cows must be laughing their heads off and hoping he is eating crow and burping a lot.

It isn’t enough that our bovine friends are being blamed for melting all the icebergs in Antarctica, they are also accused of being bad for our health, as well. A recent poll showed 58% of people surveyed think we would be healthier if we ate more fruits and vegetables and less meat. I must have been out when they called.

Another study claims vegetarians live almost

eight years longer than meat eaters. If that means eight years of more broccoli and tofu burgers and fewer sides of barbecued ribs, beam me up now, Scotty.

By the way, a vegan diet generally lacks Vitamin B12, an important vitamin for proper brain function. Left ignored, it can lead to delusions, such as thinking pine nuts taste better than a medium rare filet smothered in peppercorn sauce. I need to do a bit more study on the subject but I think a lack of B12 can also cause one to firebomb buildings, tear down statues and/or put on buffalo heads and go desecrate the U.S. Capitol.

While futurists claim that global meat sales will decline by a third over the next two decades, U.S. consumption of beef is actually up and has been going up since 2015. Last year, we consumed almost 56 pounds of red meat per person.

Modestly, I have tried to do my part, thanks to Carla who runs the Yarbrough household and all that

is within it. Let it be known that Carla could sauté a tin can and make you want to come back for seconds.

We are great team. She cooks it, I eat it. I don’t foresee the day anytime soon when Carla will be feeding me organic Brazil nuts with avocado vinaigrette dressing. Instead, she sees to it that I get my regular daily allowance of Vitamin

B12, zinc, selenium, iron, niacin and all that other stuff a growing boy needs. Where’s the beef? On my backyard grill, of course. Burp!

Dick Yarbrough is an award-winning columnist. Reach him at dick@dickyarbrough.com or at P.O. Box 725373, Atlanta, Georgia 31139.

The Covington News

Newton Newspapers Inc.

OWNER

Patrick Graham
pgraham@covnews.com

PUBLISHER and EDITOR

Taylor Beck
tbeck@covnews.com

NEWS EDITOR

Tom Spigolon
tspigolon@covnews.com

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR

Cynthia Warren
cbwarren@covnews.com

SPORTS EDITOR

Mason Wittner
mwittner@covnews.com

CIRCULATION DIRECTOR

Amanda Ellington
aellington@covnews.com

LEGALS CLERK

Alicia Goolsby
agoolsby@covnews.com

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

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Fairview Elementary gets \$5,000 Laura Bush Foundation Grant

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS
news@covnews.com

Fairview Elementary School was one of 205 schools from 43 states across the country to receive a \$5,000 grant through the Laura Bush Foundation for America’s Libraries. The Laura Bush Foundation for America’s Libraries awarded more than \$1 million in library grants this year. Fairview Elementary School media specialist Jennifer Cole will utilize the funds to purchase books with themes and characters that reflect diverse student populations.

Inspired by the Laura Bush Foundation, H-E-B surprised 15 Texas-based Laura Bush Foundation for America’s Libraries grant recipients with an additional gift totaling \$100,000. Scholastic Books also provided the 34 teachers and educators in the virtual audience with money to purchase books for their schools and students.

The grant recipients’ library collections are outdated, averaging approximately 20 years old. Many of the libraries will use the funds

to update their collection, offer more dual language titles, and provide books focused on diversity and inclusivity.

“There are many students who don’t have books at home, so having access to a library at school is essential,” Mrs. Bush said. “With the grants, school libraries across the nation can restock and update their collections providing opportunities for students for years to come.”

“Ms. Cole represents Fairview with enthusiasm and extra effort in

all the things she does,” said LaMoyne Brunson, principal of Fairview Elementary School. “Writing this grant is the latest example! With the funds from this grant, we have a very nice opportunity to grow our collection with new titles. I’m really glad we have such a love of reading within our students. They’ll be excited to find even more new books in the media center this fall!”

Mrs. Bush also revealed her 2021 summer reading list, which includes recommendations for young

readers through middle schoolers. Selections highlight books focused on diversity, inclusion and kindness; and the list features a title by the late Beverly Cleary.

“The summer reading list is a great resource for parents and caregivers,” Mrs. Bush said. “As libraries open back up all over our country, I hope children will take the list to their local library and borrow each of the featured titles. It is so important that all kids keep reading over summer break.”

The Laura Bush

Foundation for America’s Libraries supports school libraries with the greatest needs with the goal of encouraging all students to develop a love of reading and learning. Since its inception in 2002, it has awarded more than \$16 million to more than 2,800 schools across the country.

The Laura Bush Foundation is managed as a restricted fund at the George W. Bush Presidential Center in Dallas, Texas. More information can be found at bushcenter.org.

Covington mom finds relief for rare condition at Piedmont Newton

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS
news@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — The majority of pregnant women will visit their OB/GYN practice on a regular basis prior to delivering their baby but will visit the hospital where they plan to have their baby maybe only once or twice prior to delivery. However, for moms-to-be suffering from hyperemesis gravidarum (HG), a rare condition during pregnancy characterized by severe nausea, vomiting, weight loss, and electrolyte imbalance, visits to the hospital to receive treatment to address the debilitating symptoms can be frequent. At Piedmont Newton Hospital, women suffering from HG are admitted to the Labor & Delivery unit in the Women’s Services department to receive intravenous (IV) fluids and medications to prevent dehydration and provide relief from excessive vomiting.

Kamilah Smith was admitted to Piedmont Newton Hospital 10 times for HG treatment prior to delivering



Special to The Covington News

Kamilah Smith is pictured with her family as they prepare to watch the Kansas City Chiefs in Super Bowl LV.

her son, Jayse.

“I would get to the hospital and the nurses already had my medication ready,” remembers Smith. “They knew me and it was so comforting to know that they were there to take care of me when I was so sick.”

When Jayse was delivered by c-section at 37 weeks gestation, Smith felt like she was surrounded

by people she had known forever.

“You get to know your nurse and other care providers because they work multiple shifts and you build a connection with them. They each treated me like I was their friend or family member,” said Smith. “I could tell they genuinely wanted the best for me and my baby.”

During one of Smith’s visits to Piedmont Newton she saw the physician who had been the anesthesiologist in the operating room when she had delivered her daughter a couple of years earlier. She stopped him and reintroduced herself. She asked if he would again be in the operating room when she delivered her son. He told her he would not be in the OB department that day, but that she was in good hands with his colleagues.

Having previously worked for a busy Atlanta-based OB/GYN practice, Smith understood that anesthesiologists are incredibly busy managing multiple patients across the hospital, so imagine her surprise

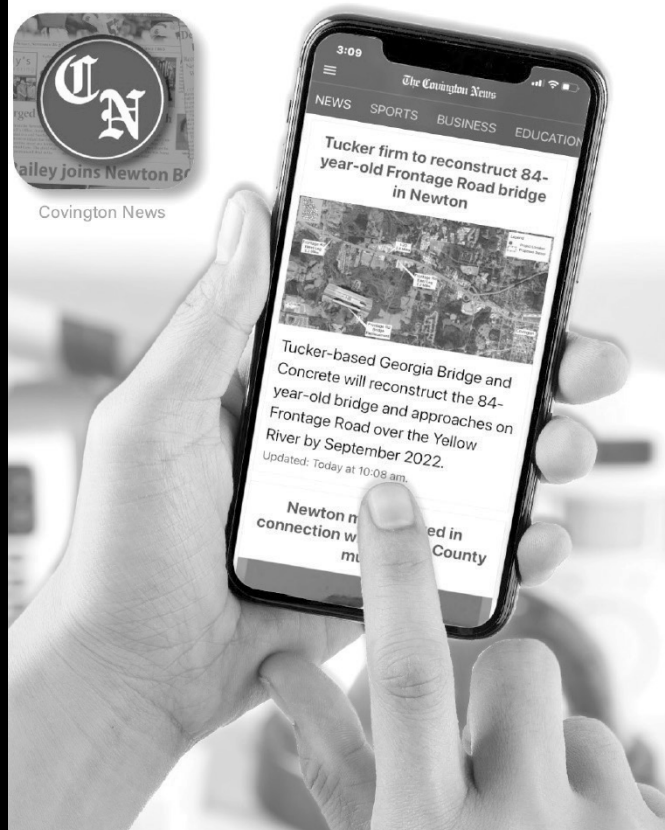
when she was admitted for delivery and the anesthesiologist stopped by her room simply to wish her well and offer support.

“He made a point of stopping by my room to say hello even though he was not working in the OB unit,” said Smith. “It was those personalized moments that made having my son such a beautiful experience even after having been so sick during my pregnancy.”

Moms-to-be in Covington and surrounding communities suffering from hyperemesis gravidarum can receive the same compassionate, patient-centered care close to home at Piedmont Newton Hospital – a relief when you’re too sick to even think about driving into Atlanta, much less get behind the wheel of your car for the long drive to an Atlanta-based hospital.

To learn more about Piedmont Newton’s maternity services, visit piedmont.org/maternity-services/piedmont-newton.

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The Covington News

CLASSIFIEDS & LEGALS

The Covington News

LEGALS

Public Notices

Corporations

NOTICE OF INCORPORATION

NOTICE IS given that articles of incorporation which incorporate **FRIENDS OF TROOP 222, INC.** have been delivered to the Secretary of State for filing in accordance with the Georgia Nonprofit Corporation Code. The initial registered office of the corporation is located at 1118 Conyers Street, SW, Covington, Georgia 30014 and its initial registered agent at such address is Frank B. Turner, Jr.

PUBLIC NOTICE #200377
5/26-6/2

Debtors Creditors

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF NEWTON

RE LINDA JEANNETTE SHIRLEY, deceased
ESTATE#2021-P-214

ALL CREDITORS of the estate of **LINDA JEANNETTE SHIRLEY,** deceased, late of Newton County, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to the law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to me.

SUSAN SHIRLEY Willingham
EXECUTOR OF the Estate of LINDA JEANNETTE SHIRLEY, deceased
C/O BAKER & Summy, PC
6340 SUGARLOAF Parkway, Suite 200
DULUTH, GA 30097
TELEPHONE 404-566-4535
FAX 404-566-4536

PUBLIC NOTICE #200329
5/12,19,26-6/2

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **WAYNE ANDREW SHELNUTT** deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law.
THIS THE 16th day of March , 2021.

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

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

Divorces

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

MANUEL GALVAN,
PETITIONER.
V.
RUTH AMANDA DANIEL.

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!

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

Level: Intermediate

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

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

Respondent.

CIVIL ACTION File No.
2020-CV-2426-4

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

TO: RUTH AMANDA DANIEL

BY ORDER for service by publication dated the 29th day April of 2021, you are hereby notified that on the 1st day of December 2020, the above styled Complaint for Divorce was filed. You are required to file with the Clerk of the Newton County Superior Court, and serve upon the Petitioner's Attorney, whose address is 3775 Venture Drive, Suite C-202, Duluth, Georgia **30096**, **AN** answer in writing within sixty (60) days of the date of the order for Publication.

WITNESS, THE Honorable Cheveda D. McCamy, Judge of Newton Superior Court.

THIS DAY of 29th
April 2021.

PUBLIC NOTICE #200328
5/12,19,26-6/2

Foreclosures

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE OF RIGHT TO REDEEM PROPERTY

TAKE NOTICE that: **THE RIGHT** to redeem the following described property, to wit: **10 SHADOWBROOK Court, Covington GA 30016** according to the present system of numbering properties in Newton County Georgia, having Tax Parcel ID # 0032B 00000 022 000 and being further described as follows: **ALL AND** only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel 0032B

00000 022 000, lying and being in Land Lot 37, 8th District, Newton County, Georgia, and being shown as Lot 42, Shadowbrook Estates, Unit One, on a plat of survey of same recorded in Plat Book 38, Pages 56-59, public records of Newton County Georgia, which plat is by reference thereto incorporated herein and made a part hereof for a more particular and complete description. **WILL EXPIRE** and be forever foreclosed and barred on and after the day of June 21, 2021, or thirty days after legal service of this notice, whichever is later.

THE TAX deed to which this notice relates is dated the 4th day of December, 2012, and is recorded in the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Newton County, Georgia, in Deed Book 3088 Page 50.

THE PROPERTY may be redeemed at any time before the day of June 21, 2021, or thirty days after legal service of this notice, whichever is later, by payment of the redemption price as fixed and provided by law to the undersigned at the following address: Fletcher Law Firm LLC, 2993 Sandy Plains Rd, Ste 225B Marietta GA 30066 Please be governed accordingly. **SINCERELY,** **HERROL** and Associates, LLC As grantee of Herrol P. Lewis by Warranty Deed recorded in Deed Book 3346 Page 112, Newton County Georgia records **C/O JAMES R. Fletcher II, Esq. (FILE: 2697.0001)**

PUBLIC NOTICE #200327
5/12,19,26-6/2

Name Changes

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF

NEWTONSTATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY

IN RE the Name Change of: **LILLIAN JOANN Case,**
PETITIONER.

CIVIL ACTION Case Number
SUCV2021001025

NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME OF ADULT

LILLIAN JOANN Case filed a petition in the Newton County Superior Court on April 30, 2021, to change the name from: **LILLIAN JOANN CASE** to **JOANN H. CASE** **ANY INTERESTED** party has the right to appear in this case and file objections within 30 days after the Petition was filed.

4/30/2021

EUGENE M. Benton
BENTON & Benton, LLC
218 ALCOVY Street
MONROE, GA 30655
BAR NO. 053425

PUBLIC NOTICE #200330
5/12,19,26-6/2

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE the name change of **DANIEL EDWARD NONE**
PETITIONER

CIVIL ACTION File # 2021-CV-1083-2

NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME OF ADULT

DANIEL EDWARD NONE filed a petition in the Newton County Superior Court on MAY 6 2021 to change the name from **DANIEL EDWARD NONE**

to **IRIKETEKANA DANIEL EDWARD ANACE.** Any interested party has the right to appear in this case and file objections within 30 days after the Petition was filed
DATE: 3-22-21

DANIEL E. NONE
330 RIVER RIDGE
SOCIAL CIRCLE, GA 30025

PUBLIC NOTICE #200347
5/19,26-6/2,9

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE the name change of **JUSTICE JOHNSON AKPAN**
PETITIONER

CIVIL ACTION File # 2021-CV-1076-5

NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME OF ADULT

JUSTICE JOHNSON AKPAN filed a petition in the Newton County Superior Court on MAY 7 2021 to change the name from **JUSTICE JOHNSON AKPAN** to **JUSTICE JOHNSON JOHNSON** . Any interested party has the right to appear in this case and file objections within 30 days after the Petition was filed
DATE: 05/07/21

JUSTICE JOHNSON AKPAN
25 TEMPLETON WAY
COVINGTON, GA 30016

PUBLIC NOTICE #200348
5/19,23-6/2,9

Public Notice

NOTICE OF LOCATION AND DESIGN APPROVAL
P. I. 0013860
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: May 14, 2021

THE PROPOSED project is to construct a roundabout at the intersection of SR 162 at SR 212. The project begins on SR 162 at MP 4.62 and ends at MP 4.32. The total length of the project is approximately 0.303 mile. The project is located in Newton County approximately 10 miles south of Covington and is located in Land District 8 Land Lots 94 and 99.

EACH LEG of the roundabout will have raised medians (splitter islands) and curb and gutter. The proposed lane widths are 12 ft on SR 162 and SR 212. The project will also include crosswalks and ADA ramps on each approach for ADA compliance. Traffic will be maintained on the existing roadway along with temporary widening where required during construction activities. **DRAWINGS OR** maps or plats of the proposed project, as approved, are on file and are available for public inspection at the Georgia Department

of Transportation: **ROBERT ROWLAND,** Area Engineer **DISTRICT 2, Area 5** **RROWLAND@DOT.GA.GOV**
1570 BETHANY Road
MADISON, GA 30650
(706) 343-5837
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 W. Nesbitt**
OFFICE OF Program Delivery
ATTN: KEVIN Savaliya
KSAVALIYA@DOT.GA.GOV
600 WEST Peachtree St NW
ATLANTA, GA 30308
(470) 231-7490

ANY WRITTEN request or communication in reference to this project or notice **SHOULD** include the Project and P. I. Number as noted at the top of this notice.

PUBLIC NOTICE #200364
5/26,-6/2,9,16

NOTICE TO PUBLIC:

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that on the 14th day of June, 2021, at 9:30 A.M., at the Newton County Courthouse in Covington, Georgia, the Judge of the Superior Court of Newton County, Georgia will hear the case of the STATE OF GEORGIA, Plaintiff, v. NEWTON COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY and COVINGTON MEDIA HOLDINGS, LLC, Defendants, Civil Action File No. 2021-CV-1250-1, in the Superior Court of Newton County, Georgia, the same being a proceeding to confirm and validate the Newton County Industrial Development Authority Taxable Revenue Bond (Covington Media Holdings, LLC Project), Series 2021, in the principal amount of \$136,700,000 (the "Bond"). The Bond shall be issued for the purpose of financing or refinancing the acquisition and construction of a movie studio, including sound stages, exterior filming facilities, video production facilities, and vendor/support facilities (the "Project") and the costs of issuing the Bond. The Project will be leased by the Issuer to Covington Media Holdings, LLC (the "Company") pursuant to a Lease Agreement. In said proceeding, the Court will also pass upon the validity of (a) a Guaranty Agreement guaranteeing the payment of the principal of and interest on the Bond and (b) an Amended and Restated Project Agreement providing for, among other things, the valuation of the Company's leasehold interest for ad valorem tax purposes.

PURSUANT TO O.C.G.A. Section 36-82 100, the Issuer hereby notifies all interested parties that no independent performance audit or performance review will be conducted with respect to the bond issue.

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

THIS 27TH day of May 2021.
LINDA D. Hays

PUBLIC NOTICE #200406
6/2,9

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The Covington News

BUSINESS

The Covington News

Tidal Wave Auto Spa opens in Covington

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS
news@covnews.com

Tidal Wave Auto Spa is open for business in Covington, located at 4283 Salem Road next to Publix.

As a welcome to the community, customers were treated to a complimentary car wash for its grand opening.

Tidal Wave Auto Spa has been washing cars since 2004 and the newest Covington location brings the company total to 64 locations across 11 states.

The home office is headquartered in Thomaston, which staffs and supports all Tidal Wave operations.

Tidal Wave Auto Spa was ranked No. 6 in the 2020 Top 50 List of Conveyor Carwashes published annually by Professional Carwashing & Detailing magazine. Tidal Wave is also



Local officials recently gathered for a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate Tidal Wave Auto Spa opening a new location in Covington off Salem Road.

listed as one of America's Fastest Growing Private Companies on Inc. 5000's 2020 list.

The Covington location features Tidal

Wave's signature aesthetic appeal, the newest technology in the industry and delivers an exceptional customer experience. Tidal Wave

offers customers an Unlimited Wash Club Plan and members can visit as often as they like for an affordable monthly rate. Tidal Wave Auto

Spa is home to the Ceramic Sea Gloss wash, a hydrophobic water repellency gloss that uses ceramic technology and works as a pro-

tectant leaving your car with an improved and longer lasting shine. In addition, Tidal Wave has received numerous civic awards for the bright and beautiful appearance of its wash across all locations.

Giving back to the communities they call home is a core value for Tidal Wave Auto Spa. On the 3rd Friday of September, each location will donate 100% of all proceeds from all sales made that day to a charity or non-profit group, in the local area with a special emphasis on those that serve children and adults with special needs. Tidal Wave also offers fundraising opportunities for local schools, churches, civic groups, sports teams and more.

More county residents getting back to work

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

COVINGTON, Ga. — More Newton residents found jobs and fewer filed for unemployment benefits in April as the county continued to recover from the economic effects of the pandemic.

The county's April 2021 jobless rate was 4.1%, which was a 0.4% decrease from March.

April's rate also was more than 8% below the April 2020 rate when the full economic effect of the COVID-19 pandemic was first being felt in Metro Atlanta.

It marked the fourth consecutive monthly unemployment rate decrease in Newton County, the labor department's statistics show.

Debbie Harper, president of the Covington-Newton County Chamber of Commerce, welcomed the Georgia Department of Labor report.

"We are excited and encouraged to see those numbers continuing to fall," she said.

State Labor Commissioner Mark Butler said Thursday that almost

every area of the state saw positive over-the-month measures in every key indicator in April.

"We had another strong month in April," Butler said. "We saw the unemployment rate decrease in almost every MSA, along with an over the month and over the year decrease in initial claims for every MSA."

The county's unemployment rate was below the national rate of 5.7% but exceeded the Metro Atlanta (3.9%) and statewide (3.8%) rates in April.

About 248 more Newton Countians found work in April, increasing the number of residents working from 50,453 in March to 50,701 in April.

Also, 36 additional residents entered the workforce — which is the total of all working or actively looking for work — to increase it to 52,874.

Newton's jobless rate was below its neighbor-



Debbie Harper

ing counties closer to Atlanta but exceeded neighboring counties farther away from the city.

It was lower than Rockdale's 4.5%; at the same level as Henry (4.1%); and well above Jasper (2.9%), Walton (3.0%), Morgan (3.1%), and Butts (3.5%).

In addition, Newton County residents filed fewer initial claims for unemployment benefits in April compared to March.

Initial claims for unemployment benefits decreased 3.5% from 1,304 in March to 1,259 in April, the labor department reported.

Still, initial claims dropped at a higher rate than Newton in Metro Atlanta (3.5%) and statewide (7.0%) in April compared to March.

In the 29-county Metro Atlanta area, the unemployment rate decreased by 0.2% in April, reaching 3.9%. A year ago, the rate was 12.6%.

The national jobless rate for April was 5.7%.

Many workers nationwide reportedly had delayed applying for jobs as they received additional benefits designed to cover

the economic impact of the pandemic.

Harper said some Newton County-area employment agencies have gotten creative with hosting job fairs seeking to fill numerous job vacancies opened by the loosening of restrictions.

"We have seen virtual job fairs, drive-through job fairs and even a job fair cookout," she said.

She said as CDC guidelines have eased in regards to the pandemic, the chamber has worked with the Newton County Industrial Development Authority to host small, in-person job fairs for local companies.

Newton County Schools Work Based Learning program recently hosted its first Summer Hire job fair "in hopes to not only get the students job experience, but to get some immediate relief to small businesses that were starting to have to close due to lack of employees," Harper said.

Georgia Piedmont Technical College is hosting a regional, in-person Job Fair at the Newton Campus on July 22, she said.



Bridgestone Golf

Bridgestone Golf in Covington is looking to hire more employees.

Bridgestone Golf to hold another hiring event

STAFF REPORTS
news@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — Several companies across Newton County are still looking to fill job vacancies, including Bridgestone Golf.

The golf ball manufacturer recently announced it would be hosting another hiring event Friday, June 11, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 15320 Industrial Blvd. in Covington.

Prospects may apply for available positions at bebridgestone.com and submit their resumes prior to the hiring event by either emailing hr@bridgestonegolf.com or dropping a copy off at their office between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

To learn more about Bridgestone Golf, visit bridgestonegolf.com.



THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR MEMBERS WHO CAME OUT TO OUR MEMBERSHIP APPRECIATION EVENT LAST WEEK! THANK YOU TO BOARD MEMBERS LANIER SIMS, DAVID KENT, AND JAY BAILEY FOR HELPING OUT!

WE ♥ OUR MEMBERS



SPORTS

The Covington News

Prep Wrestling

Miller named Eastside head coach

By MASON WITTNER
mwittner@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — The Eastside wrestling program has undergone a changing of the guard.

Eastside Athletic Director Phil Davidson recently issued a release stating that Earl Larimer had stepped down as head wrestling coach. In response, the school promoted Sam Miller, one of Larimer’s assistants, to head coach.

This fall will mark Miller’s fifth year at Eastside. He worked on Larimer’s staff as an assistant the past four years and oversaw a period in which the Eagles made three state dual tournament berths and had a plethora of success both individually and as a team.

Miller expressed his excitement to step into the role and take the reins of the program.

“I think one of the biggest reasons I’m



Sam Miller

excited is we’ve got a good, solid young core of wrestlers coming back,” he said. “Prayerfully, by the grace of God, COVID cases are going down and more people are getting vaccinated. That’s a hurdle we had last year that, as far as I can see right now, we won’t have to deal with.”

Miller isn’t looking to reinvent the wheel.

A graduate of Alcovy High School, he’s familiar with the tradition Eastside’s wrestling program has established since its inception. As the new man in charge, he’s now looking to simply carry on the legacy of those who’ve come before him.

When asked how he plans to build off Eastside’s success of recent years, Miller referenced a quote from Isaac Newton, which states: “If I have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants.”

He hopes to instill a similar mindset in his kids going forward.

“This was a special four-year cohort for me personally because these guys were freshmen when I came in and I got to see them

kind of grow through these four years,” he noted. “But, that being said, they only got as far as they did because of those who came before.”

“I’m originally from Covington. When I was at Alcovy, Eastside had — and still does have — a very good, talented program. The goal, and part of my vision, is to continue that tradition of excellence in the program and build on it.”

In addition to his familiarity with Eastside’s program, Miller has built up a rapport with his wrestlers over four seasons. He hopes that existing relationship will ease the transition as the Eagles prepare for the 2021-22 season.

“I’m kind of a take-it-day-by-day sort of guy, so it’s just about getting to the next step,” he said. “Right now, the next step is working over the summer and the offseason developing our wrestlers, developing the incoming freshmen and kind of seeing what the team will look like in the season. So that’s where we’re at now.”

Prep Athletics



Mason Wittner | The Covington News

Back row (Left-to-right): Jordan Beam, Mason Poole, Cade Mitchell, Kyle Rutberg, Austin O’Brien, Lamarcus “Ty” McDougald. Front row (L-R): Anna Shelton, Caroline Culbertson, Dayton Green, Sambo Button. Not pictured: Sincere Johnson, Aralyn Everitt, Kevin Napier, Taylor Adams, Hunter Fuqua, Cameron Fleming.

Eagles host multi-sport signing day

By MASON WITTNER
mwittner@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — Eastside recently held a Signing Day ceremony to recognize its student-athletes across all sports who’ve committed to competing at the next level.

While not all were able to attend, a total of 16 Eagles across eight

sports were honored throughout the event.

Eastside boys’ soccer coach Champ Young, football coach Jay Cawthon and recently-departed baseball coach Brandon Crumbley worked together to orchestrate the event.

According to Young, the festivities were meant to “celebrate our

school as a whole.”

“We have eight different sports that are here, with kids going across the country. Not even just the Southeast; just going all over the place,” Young said. “This celebrates the great community that we have that feeds our school.”

Eastside Athletic

Director Phil Davidson commended the group of signees for their hard work and dedication to their craft.

“This is a great group,” Davidson said. “It’s been a big year.”

He added that he felt the event was a success, and believes it could become an annual tradition.

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FOOD

The Covington News

Grilling options abound

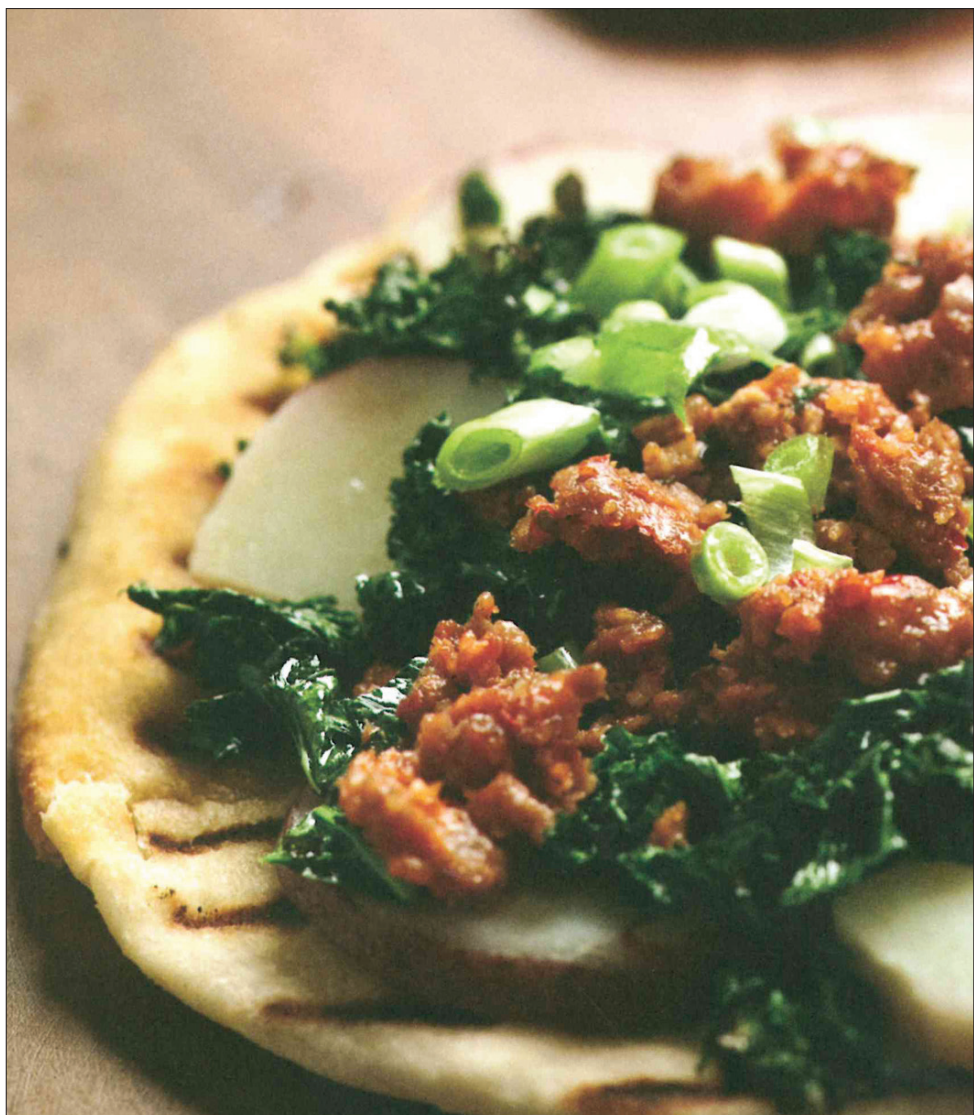
Put down the burgers, hotdogs; try cooking pizza over open flame

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS
news@covnews.com

Though hot dogs and hamburgers might garner most of the grilling glory, just about any food can be cooked over an open flame. Even homemade pizza, such as the following recipe for “Kale, Potato and Chorizo Pizza” from Karen Adler and Judith Fertig’s “The Gardener & The Grill” (Running Press), can make for a unique entree at your next backyard barbecue.

Kale, Potato and Chorizo Pizza
Serves 4

Ingredients:
1 recipe Stir-Together Flatbread and Pizza Dough (see below) or 1 pound frozen pizza or bread dough, thawed
All-purpose flour, for sprinkling
8 kale leaves
Olive oil, for brushing and drizzling
8 ounces cooked and crumbled chorizo, Portuguese or other spicy sausage
4 new potatoes, cooked and sliced thinly



Metro Creative Service

For this grilled pizza recipe, try making your own dough all you need is flour, yeast, honey, olive oil, salt and water. It may take time to prepare but it adds great flavor.

1/2 cup chopped green onion (about 6 green onions, white and light green parts)
Coarse black pepper

Directions:
Divide the dough into four equal parts and press or roll each piece into an 8-inch circle.

Sprinkle flour on two large baking sheets and place two rounds of dough on each sheet. Prepare a hot fire on one side of your grill for indirect cooking. Oil a perforated grill rack and place over direct heat. Brush the kale with

olive oil. Grill leaves for 1 minute on each side, or until slightly charred and softened. Quickly trim off the bottom of the stalk and strip the leaves from the stems. Finely chop the leaves and set aside. To grill directly on the grill grate, brush one side of each pizza with olive oil and place, oiled side down, on the direct heat side. Grill for 1 to 2 minutes, or until you see the dough starting to bubble. Brush the top side with olive oil and flip each pizza, using tongs, onto a baking sheet. Quickly brush with more olive oil, then spoon on a fourth of the sliced potato and grilled kale. Sprinkle with sausage and green onion. Drizzle with olive oil and season with pepper. Using a grill spatula, place each pizza on the indirect side of the fire. Cover and grill for 4 or 5 minutes until the kale has slightly wilted and the topping is hot. Serve hot.

Stir-Together Flatbread and Pizza Dough
Makes 1 pound dough for 4 individual pizzas or flatbreads

Ingredients:
2 cups all-purpose flour
1 1/4 teaspoons salt
2 teaspoons instant or bread-machine yeast
1 cup lukewarm water
1 teaspoon honey
1 tablespoon olive oil

Directions:
In a medium bowl, stir the flour, salt and yeast together. Combine the water, honey and olive oil and stir into the flour mixture. Cover the bowl with plastic wrap and let sit at room temperature until doubled in bulk, about 1 hour. Cover and refrigerate for up to three days. Roll out at room temperature.



Metro Creative Service

This Italian flatbread is packed with sweet flavor from sugar and grapes. Most flatbreads can only be found in bakeries, but home cooks could make it themselves by following this recipe.

Flatbread boasts sweet flavor

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS
news@covnews.com

In Italy, the word “schiacciata” means “flattened.” A puffy flatbread made with grapes and sugar, “Sticky Grape Schiacciata (Schiacciat con l’uva)” is typically only available in bakeries. But home cooks can replicate the bread available in the their local Italian bakeries by adhering to this recipe, courtesy of Maxine Clark’s “Pizza, Calzone & Focaccia” (Ryland, Peters & Small).

Sticky Grape Schiacciata (Schiacciat con l’uva)
Serves 6

Ingredients/Equipment:
1 cake compressed yeast, 1 packet active dry yeast or 1 packet quick-rising yeast
A pinch of sugar
1 cup warm water
4 1/4 cups Italian “00” flour or cake flour
2 egg yolks
2 tablespoons olive oil
1/2 teaspoon sea salt
1 tablespoons butter, softened
1/2 cup brown sugar, plus extra to sprinkle
Finely grated peel of 1 unwaxed lemon
3/4 cup walnuts, chopped
8 ounces black grapes, seeded (Sangiovese wine grapes, if possible)
2 cups heavy cream or mascarpone
3 tablespoons confectioners’ sugar
6 tablespoons Vin Santo
1 jelly roll pan, 9 x 13 inches, oiled

Directions:
If you are using compressed yeast, mix it with the sugar in a medium bowl, then beat in the warm water. Leave for 10

minutes until frothy. For other yeasts, follow the manufacturer’s instructions. Sift the flour into a large bowl and make a well in the center. Pour in the yeast mixture, egg yolks, olive oil, and salt. Mix until the dough comes together. Tip out onto a lightly floured work surface. Wash and dry your hands. Knead the dough for 10 minutes until smooth and elastic. It should be quite soft, but if it’s too soft to handle, add more flour. Place in an oiled bowl, cover with plastic wrap or a damp kitchen towel, and let rise until doubled in size — about 1 hour. To make the walnut butter, cream the butter and sugar together, then stir in the lemon peel and walnuts. Keep at room temperature. Uncover the dough, punch out the air, then shape into a ball. Roll or pull the dough into a rectangle to line the prepared jelly roll pan. Spread the walnut butter over the schiacciata crust, add the grapes, and sprinkle with brown sugar. Cover with plastic wrap or a damp kitchen towel and let rise for 1 hour until puffy and doubled in size. Preheat the oven to 400 F. Uncover the dough and bake for 15 minutes. Turn the oven down to 350 F and bake for 20 minutes more or until risen and golden. Let cool slightly before turning out. To make the Vin Santo cream, beat the cream, confectioners’ sugar and Vin Santo together in a bowl until the mixture forms soft peaks. Cut the focaccia into wedges and serve with the Vin Santo cream.

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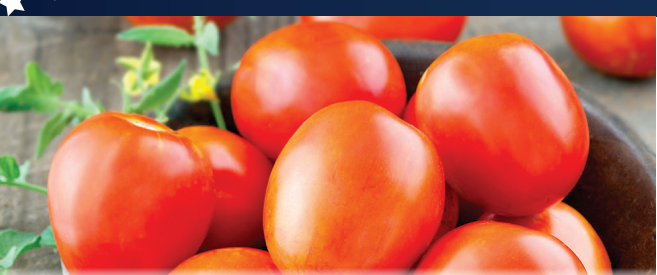


USDA Inspected,
Fresh, 7-9 Chops Per
Package
**Quarterloin
Pork Chops**
\$2.48
LB.



USDA Select Beef,
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LB.

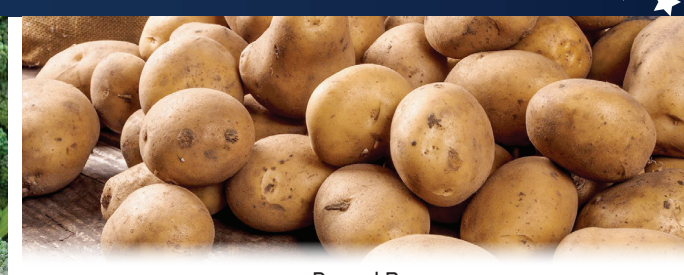
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Roma Tomatoes
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\$2.89
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EA.



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\$2.79
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Slicing Tomatoes
\$1.29
LB.



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16 Ounce
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Chunk Cheese**
\$3.13



45 Ounce
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\$2.87



59 Ounce
Tropicana Twister
88¢



59 Ounce
Lipton Pure Leaf Tea
\$1.38



48 Ounce
**Mayfield Select
Ice Cream**
\$2.75



6 Count
Sack O' Corn
\$1.53



11.5-16 Ounce
**Cole's Garlic Toast/
Garlic Bread**
\$1.73



15-26 Ounce
**Farm Rich
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16 Ounce, Assorted
Body Armour
\$1.00



6 Roll
**Brawny
Paper Towels**
\$6.23



9.5-10 Ounce
**Frito-Lay's
Doritos**
\$2.58



20 Ounce
Hunt's Ketchup
86¢



4.5-4.625 Ounce, Assorted
**Golden Flake
Chips**
99¢



32 Ounce, Select Varieties
Gatorade
78¢



6.25 Ounce
**Good Health
Veggie Straws**
2/\$4.00



14-16 Ounce
**Kraft Salad
Dressing**
\$1.78



12 Pound
**Kingsford
Match Light**
\$8.28



18-19.5 Ounce,
Family Size
**Nabisco
Chips Ahoy**
\$3.00



12 Roll
**Angel Soft
Bath Tissue**
\$5.45

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**Gwaltney
Red Meat
Franks**
98¢
EA.



12 Ounce
**Gwaltney
Sliced
Bacon**
\$1.98
EA.



16 Ounce,
Hot or Mild
**Carolina
Pride
Sausage**
79¢
EA.



16 Ounce,
Regular or Thick
**Sugardale
Sliced Meat
Bologna**
\$1.34
EA.



24 Ounce
**Georgia
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Red Hot**
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1 Pound, 21/30 Count, IQF
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\$5.99



Vacuum Pack, Boneless
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Pork Loin**
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CAB Choice, Boneless
**Sirloin
Tip Roast**
\$4.99 LB.



4 Pound
**Dixie Crystals
Sugar**
2/\$4.00



48 Ounce
**Crisco
Vegetable or
Canola Oil**
2/\$5.00



6 Pack, 1/2 Liters, Assorted
**Coca-Cola
Products**
4/\$10.00



White, Bi-Color or Yellow
**Georgia
Corn**
5/\$2.00



**Tomatoes
On The
Vine**
99¢ LB.



**Georgia
Peaches**
\$1.29 LB.



Family Pack, Boneless
**Center Cut
Pork Chops**
\$2.49 LB.



1 Pound
**Sunnyland
Hot Dogs**
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Hamburger or
Hot Dog Buns**
2/\$5.00



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Onions**
2/\$1.00



8.25 Ounce
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Little Bites**
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**Hanover
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\$2.99 LB.



Family Pack, Boneless
**Cubed
Pork Chops**
\$2.99 LB.



Boneless
**Pork
Roast**
\$1.99 LB.



USDA Select,
Family Pack, Boneless
**New York
Strip Steak**
\$12.99 LB.



CAB Choice, Family Pack
**New York
Strip Steak**
\$13.99 LB.



Family Pack, Boneless
**Country
Style
Ribs**
\$2.49 LB.



Boneless
**Pork
Stir Fry**
\$2.99 LB.



CAB Choice, Family Pack
**Cube
Steak**
\$5.99 LB.



CAB Choice
**Stew,
Diet Lean or
Stir Fry Beef**
\$5.99 LB.



Vacuum Pack
**Baby Back
Ribs**
\$5.99 LB.



16-21 Ounce
**Foster Farms
Chicken Wings
& Tenders**
\$5.99



**Danjou,
Bosc or
Bartlett
Pears**
\$1.49 LB.



Pint
Blueberries
2/\$5.00



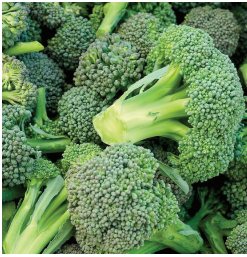
Asparagus
\$2.99 LB.



**Yellow or
Zucchini
Squash**
\$1.29 LB.



**Green
Cabbage**
59¢ LB.



Fresh
**Broccoli
Crowns**
\$1.49 LB.



Romaine, Green or Red
**Leaf
Lettuce**
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2 Pound
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Cheese**
\$5.99



10 Ounce
**Food Club
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Pie Shells**
\$1.69



10.75-12.3 Ounce
**Eggo
Waffles**
2/\$5.00



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**Margaret
Holmes
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Excludes Decaf
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