

Inside: RECORD TURNOUT

Eastside's annual soccer camp draws more than 100 participants

See SPORTS, A8



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His Word

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Acts 1:8, KJV

Weekend shootings leave 4 injured

Separate incidents took place in west Newton, Jamestown neighborhood

By TOM SPIGOLON
tspigolon@covnews.com
COVINGTON, Ga. — Sheriff's office detectives were working to piece together what led to shootings in two

parts of Newton County that left four people wounded last weekend. Two Covington men and a Forsyth resident were found with gunshot wounds Saturday

night in the Jamestown neighborhood in south central Newton. A Covington man on Friday night also was taken to an Atlanta hospital to be treated for multiple gunshot wounds suffered in west Newton County, the sheriff's office

reported. In the Saturday incident, a Newton County sheriff's deputy reportedly found the victims with gunshot wounds to the chest, leg and head after the shooting involving a handgun and rifle at a residence on Third Avenue in

Covington Saturday, June 26. The victims were identified as Travorris Shy, 40, and Marquez Wyatt, 27, both of Covington, and Quenta Brown, 25, of Forsyth. A suspect was identified but not named in the report. The suspect's

vehicle was towed from the scene as evidence, the report stated. The deputy reported coming upon the scene of the shooting at about 9 p.m. after responding to a report of a discharged gun on

See INJURED, A3

Independence Day Celebration

'COME ON, COME EARLY'



Taylor Beck | The Covington News

Station 10 Fireworks in Newton County owners say they have a limited supply of fireworks this year and have already sold out a few items, so they encourage customers to "come on," and "come early" for the best selection.

Nationwide shortage leaves local fireworks store with limited supply, owners say

By TAYLOR BECK
tbeck@covnews.com
COVINGTON, Ga. — If planning to launch fireworks while hosting a soiree come Fourth of July, a local fireworks store owner has a message: "Come on," and "come early." In recent weeks, several national media outlets have confirmed fireworks have become the latest victim of a supply shortage. One of the nation's largest retailers, Phantom Fireworks, reportedly stated people would need to go early in order to have a good selection to choose from. Tammy Nolan, part-owner of Station 10 Fireworks in Newton County, said the shortage is real and agreed that any residents

wanting to shoot their own shows needed to act fast. "We're already out of a few things," Nolan told The Covington News on Friday, "but we've still got a real good selection and probably will up until the last minute. So, people need to come on and get their fireworks early if they want a good selection." What's to blame for the current shortage? None other than COVID. Last year, Nolan said, sales boomed as result of the pandemic causing local shows to be

Many local July 4 celebrations returning this year
See A5

canceled. "I guess everyone got tired of being cooped up at home from COVID," she said. Nolan said her family even had fireworks delivered on July 4, and they still sold out. "It was a mad house in here," she said. "In the meantime, everyone else was selling out, too. We were one of the last places in the whole region that had stuff. I mean, we had people coming from Lake Oconee and all over." Nolan said the store had ordered and received all it could for this year and believes their supply could sell out as quickly as it came in, even as more local shows return.

See EARLY, A5

SOS believes state will win DOJ suit against election laws

Federal suit won't affect fall elections, Raffensperger says

By TOM SPIGOLON
tspigolon@covnews.com
Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger said he did not believe municipal elections in Newton County or elsewhere in the state this year would be affected by the federal lawsuit filed to block Georgia's new voting law Friday.



Brad Raffensperger

"The municipal elections will happen in the fall and I think this will be addressed (before then)," Raffensperger said in a phone interview. "The courts understand that time is of the essence." The U.S. Justice Department sued Georgia Friday, June 25, over passage of the election reform law, Senate Bill 202, that the General Assembly and Gov. Brian Kemp approved in March. The complaint asks a court to prohibit Georgia from enforcing the new law. Justice officials filed

the lawsuit against Raffensperger, the State Election Board and the state of Georgia because of parts of the bill it says violates the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965. Department officials claim it intentionally discriminates against Black voters, the Capitol Beat News Service reported. Among Senate Bill 202's mandates are requiring IDs rather than using a signature-match verification process for absentee ballots; restrictions on the location of ballot drop boxes; and prohibiting non-poll workers from handing out food and drinks within 150 feet of voters standing in line, the news service reported. Critics have accused Republicans of passing the law in an effort to reverse the high voter turnout last November some credited for President Joe Biden's victory. Raffensperger did not say if he was surprised by the lawsuit. "We have no control over what the federal

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Up Next
Vernon Jones speaks to local Republican club
Coming this weekend

Weather Forecast

Wednesday, June 30
High: 89° Low: 69°
• 20% chance of rain

Thursday, July 1
High: 89° Low: 69°
• 50% chance of rain

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The Covington News

ENTERTAINMENT

Extra

Coming July 14!

Rotary Club of Covington



Mason Wittner | The Covington News

District Rotary Gov. Tina Fischlin gets a pie in the face from Rotary Club of Covington's Doug Bolton. The Covington club has played an instrumental role in getting 2.5 million meals delivered so far across the area as part of the Feed10Million campaign. The local club has been responsible for providing more than 400,000 meals alone.

Mansfield man arrested in GBI probe

By TOM SPIGOLON

tspigolon@covnews.com

A Mansfield resident tied to a months-long GBI investigation into alleged thefts of Griffin city government equipment and vehicles was arrested Thursday.

Jason Eugene Abercrombie, 42, turned himself in to the Spalding County jail Thursday, the Griffin Daily News newspaper reported.

Abercrombie was wanted by the GBI on a warrant it issued alleging one count of felony theft by taking, a release stated.

However, Abercrombie apparently already had been released by Friday because he was not on an online list of active inmates in the Spalding jail.

At the conclusion of an eight-month GBI investigation, the agency determined that Abercrombie and three others committed felony theft by taking in reference to a 2007 International roll-off truck, a 2002 Polaris UTV, a 2005 Polaris Ranger, a 2006 Peterbilt 320

garbage truck, a Caterpillar skid steer, a 2004 Ford Super Duty truck, and a Grasshopper 322D lawnmower.

The investigation is ongoing and will be turned over to the Griffin Judicial Circuit District Attorney's Office for prosecution, the release stated.

The GBI already has arrested Gary Phillip Francis, 62, of Griffin, on five counts of felony theft by taking, and Stevie Raymond Williams, 65, of Griffin, on two counts of felony theft by taking.

A warrant also has been issued for Terry Eugene Lewis, 57, of Griffin, on one count of felony theft by taking.

The Griffin Police Department on Sept. 30, 2020, asked the GBI Region 2 Field Office to assist in investigating allegations of the theft of city of Griffin property by city employees after an internal audit was conducted by the city of Griffin Central Services Department revealing several large items of equipment

and vehicles were missing, a GBI news release stated.

Further investigation revealed that after the retirement of then-Central Services Director Phil Francis in September 2020, city officials performed a routine audit of the department's heavy equipment.

The audit resulted in several pieces of large equipment being unaccounted for in departmental records.

The results of the audit were then given to the Griffin Police Department (GPD) for further investigation. During its initial investigation, GPD quickly discovered that the matter spanned multiple jurisdictions outside of the city limits of Griffin.

Given this information, Griffin Police Chief Mike Yates and then City Manager Kenny Smith asked that the GBI assume the investigation, the release stated.

The GBI is asking anyone with information about the investigation to contact the Region 2 Field Office at 706-565-7888.

OBITUARIES

Annie Ruth BrownLester Lackey & Sons
Funeral Home

Annie Ruth Brown was born on March 20, 1964, in Covington, Georgia to the late Mandie Brown and Walter Lee Johnson.

Annie started working at an early age at Warner Shire for many years. She left the company and started at the Newton County

Schools System. After leaving The School system she was employed with Mamie's Kitchen as the Top Cook.

She departed this earthly life on May 31, 2021 and is preceded in death by three sisters and five brothers.

Annie was fun loving with a beautiful smile with a heart full of gold. She was always willing to help any and

everyone she met. She never met a stranger. Annie had a passion to cook. She genuinely enjoyed partying and dancing. She was a determined and strong willing person, even when her health began to decline. She was a fighter and she fought until the very end.

She leaves to cherish her memories, two daughters, Mrs. Key-

wander (Todd) Duncan and Ms. Mandertha (Dantoine) White; six grandchildren, Shanetria White, Zar'iyah Hawk, Za'meriyah White, Tamerria White, Ja'riyah Jenkins and Jerrod Jenkins, Jr.; two brothers, Mr. Larry (Diana) Brown and Rev. Walter Brown; a special friend, Mr. Charles Clemons, Sr. a special devoted niece, Ms.

Shalinda Tye; two close friends, Ms. Sylvia and Ms. Tye and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends.

The family of Annie Ruth Brown would like to share our sincere appreciation to all those who participated, loved, and supported us in such times as these. We would also like to give a special thanks to Abbey Hospice for

such wonderful care.

Service Information:

Tuesday, June 8, 2021, 1:00 P.M.
Flat Shoals Cemetery
Highway 162
Covington, Georgia 30014

Rev. Larry Brown Jr., Eulogist

Assisted by others.

Lizzie Ruth ThomasLester Lackey & Sons
Funeral Home

Lizzie Ruth Thomas received her call from God on June 16, 2021, with her family by her side at Piedmont Newton Hospital. She is preceded in death by her brother, John Wesley Richards and her grandson, Taurus Andrews.

Lizzie Ruth Thomas best known as "Liz"

was born on February 29, 1940, in Rosehill of Covington, GA to William Andrews and Lillie Ruth Thomas. She attended Rosehill School and began her adult life working at the Porterdales Mill for many years and later worked at Mobil Chemical, where she retired. After her retirement, "Liz" went on to be a caregiver working for the Visiting Nurses

Association.

Her personal interest included her family, cooking, going to church, being socially informed and being a caregiver. She devoted much of her time and energy attending church and cooking for her family and her church family. Her smile brightened rooms as well as people's lives. She cherished having children over, any day

of the week.

Lizzie Ruth leaves to cherish her memories; her daughters, Rose Marie Thomas, Conyers, GA, Debra Simmons and Melissa Moreland, Covington, GA; her sons, Stanley Thomas, Michael Thomas and Jeremiah Bigby; all of Covington, GA and their spouses and significant others. She also leaves to cherish a

sister, Patricia Russell, Covington, GA and a host of grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousin and friends. Liz spent her latest years in the company of her family and friends. Lizzie Ruth will be lovingly remembered and missed.

The family of Ms. Lizzie Ruth Thomas would like to share our sincere appreciation to all those who par-

ticipated, loved, and supported us in such times as these.

Wednesday, June 23, 2021, Noon
Lawnwood Memorial Park

1111 Access Road
Covington, Georgia 30014

Pastor DEXter Mitchell, Eulogist

Assisted by others.

Clayton LightfootLester Lackey & Sons
Funeral Home

Clayton Lightfoot received his early education from Social Circle

Public School Systems and graduated in 1980 from Social Circle High School.

Clayton will be remembered for his many

acts of love shown to his family, (especially his mom) whom he loved dearly) along with his affectionate smile and kind loving heart, and his love for country rides will resonate with us forever.

Clayton began his career with the Newton County School System in 2001, as a Custodian and throughout his tenure with NHS, he formed and shared a special bond with the students, faculty, staff and Alumni of fond

memories that will live on in us forever.

He is preceded in death by his father, J.C. Smith; brother, Rodney Mathis and his aunt, Betty Hardege.

He is survived by his mother, Mrs. Gracie Lightfoot Mathis; sisters, Mrs. Vanessa (John) Floyd and Ms. Melinda Lightfoot; nephews, Mr. Shea Lightfoot and Mr. Jordan Lightfoot; niece, Ms. Precious Lightfoot; great nephew, Jordan Lightfoot, Jr.; aunts,

Mrs. Clara (Charles) Lackey and Ms. Donna Lightfoot; uncle, Mr. Glenn (Annette) Lightfoot; special cousins, Mr. Cedric Gibbs, Mrs. Lisa Lightfoot-Thomas and Mr. Adrian Gibbs.

Our hearts are bowed in sorrow over the swift passing of our beloved Clayton (Dooley) Lightfoot, yet you have been steadfast in your efforts to remind us of God's perfect plan. We are grateful for every blessing and every act of compassion through

visits, food, phone calls, prayers, especially Mr. Clay's NHS family. You will always hold a special place in our families' hearts.

Service Information:
Wednesday, June 2, 2021; 1:00 P.M.

Lakeview Memorial Cemetery
325 Hickory Dr.
Social Circle, GA 30025

Minister Michael Chapple, Eulogist



10205 Industrial Blvd.
Suite D
Covington, GA
770-787-8400



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THE NEWS' FIRST RESPONDER OF THE WEEK

**The H.E.A.T. Unit**

NCSO's Highway Enforcement of Aggressive Traffic (H.E.A.T.) Unit educates the public on the laws related to impaired and aggressive driving, in addition to enforcing those laws. H.E.A.T. Unit deputies have been provided with materials to educate Georgia residents about state laws that regulate aggressive and impaired driving.



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Know someone who deserves this honor? Send your nominations for First Responder of the Week to us at news@covnews.com.

INJURED:

Continued from A1

Third Avenue in the neighborhood near Big Woods Road.

"Prior to my arrival, dispatch advised there were multiple calls reporting gunshots in the area and someone advised that someone had been shot," the deputy reported.

"Upon my arrival, there were multiple vehicles leaving the area and I started asking everyone I came in contact with if they knew of anyone that was injured."

The deputy reported he parked his patrol vehicle and started walking on foot "and several subjects advised me that someone had been shot further up the street on Third Avenue."

"I then ran down the street and made contact with a male subject that had a gunshot wound to the side of his head. I

advised dispatch of the injuries and later found that another male had a gunshot wound to the chest and another male had a gunshot wound to his leg," the deputy reported.

He said other deputies arrived on the scene and rendered aid to the victims until EMS arrived. Detectives were called to the scene, the deputy reported.

No other injuries were reported. Numerous vehicles were struck by gunfire during the incident, the report stated.

In the Friday incident, sheriff's detectives were investigating after two Covington men said their brother was hit by gunfire from a passing vehicle as he drove a vehicle in west Newton County.

Sayvon Greer, 24, of Fairview Lane,

was transported to an Atlanta hospital Friday night from Piedmont Rockdale Hospital where his brothers told a deputy they had taken him after he was wounded by gunshots from a passing vehicle on Crestfield Circle at about 8 p.m.

A Newton County sheriff's deputy reported responding to Piedmont Rockdale Hospital in Conyers in reference to a "penetrating trauma" that occurred in Newton County.

"Dispatch advised that there was a male in the emergency room being treated for multiple gunshot wounds and that it had occurred somewhere in Newton County," the deputy reported. "Prior to this call we received a call about a discharged gun in the area of Crestfield

Circle."

The Newton deputy said he arrived to find Rockdale County sheriff's units waiting with a silver, 2016 Ford Fusion.

"The vehicle had bullet holes on the driver side and was identified as the vehicle that the gunshot victim had arrived in," a report stated.

"A security guard escorted me through the lobby and into the emergency room where I made contact with the two other occupants of the vehicle."

He reported he asked them to fill out witness statement forms and attempted to speak to the victim, who was unable to provide any information before he was transported to an Atlanta hospital.

The victim's brothers, James Greer, 27, and

Zareon Greer, 20, told the deputy they were traveling on Crestfield Circle to a store Friday about 8 p.m. "when a bright red car went around them and began firing a firearm towards their car."

They told the deputy the victim was driving and was shot multiple times. The brothers then moved the victim from the driver's seat to

the backseat and transported him to Rockdale Hospital.

"They were not able to provide a detailed description of the suspect or the suspect's vehicle," the report stated.

The victim's vehicle also was taken to the Newton County Law Enforcement Center for processing.

LAWS:

Continued from A1

government does or doesn't do," he said in a phone interview Friday.

"So, we'll just deal with what the facts are and we intend to fully state the facts."

"(Senate Bill 202 is) constitutional and it's good policy, so we feel we'll win at the end of the day," he said. "We've fought the federal government before and we'll do that again."

Raffensperger said potential 2022 Democratic nominee for governor Stacey Abrams "has been working overtime through her propaganda machine" to discredit the new law.

He noted the estimates some have given about the amount of revenue private businesses and the state lost from Major League Baseball moving this

season's All-Star Game from Atlanta to Denver, Colorado, in response to the legislation.

"She's already cost Georgia \$100 million by her disinformation and misinformation campaign about what the bill did or didn't do and we lost the All-Star Game," he said.

The complaint alleges that much of Senate Bill 202 was adopted "with the purpose of denying or abridging the right to vote on account of race."

It states that "the cumulative and discriminatory effect of these laws — particularly on Black voters — was known to lawmakers and that lawmakers adopted the law despite this."

The lawsuit challenges a part of the law that bans government entities from distribut-

ing unsolicited absentee ballot applications; the imposition of "costly and onerous fines on civic organizations, churches and advocacy groups that distribute follow-up absentee ballot applications"; shortening of the deadline to request absentee ballots to 11 days before Election Day, and other provisions.

Acting U.S. Attorney Kurt R. Erskine of the Northern District of Georgia said, "One of the fundamental rights of our democracy is the right to vote."

"That right should be protected for every citizen of our district, regardless of race," Erskine said. "The United States Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Georgia is committed to protecting the rights of all Americans to vote."

Attorney General Merrick Garland in a news release said, "The right of all eligible citizens to vote is the central pillar of our democracy, the right from which all other rights ultimately flow."

"This lawsuit is the first step of many we are taking to ensure that all eligible voters can cast a vote; that all lawful votes are counted; and that every voter has access to accurate information."



Special Photo

District 113 State Rep. Sharon Henderson, D-Covington, presented her Outstanding Georgia Citizen Award to Pastor Kenneth L. Williams of Early Hope Baptist Church and wife Marilyn Williams recently for their work in the community. The Church at 1129 Rocky Plains Road in Covington teaches families to improve their personal financial status by implemented a program called "Slay and Save" to help improve credit scores and establish financial portfolios. Mrs. Williams implemented a program for kids called "My Grades Matter" that highlights Honor Roll and Dean's List students.



Accepting Applications

Starting July 5, 2021, at 12:00 am, Covington Housing Authority will be accepting pre-applications for 0,1,2,3, 4, and 5 bedroom units until further notice.

You must apply online. No hand-delivered hard copies, faxed, emailed, or mailed applications will be accepted. To apply, please go to www.covha.com and select apply for housing. Each family may only submit one pre-application, duplicates will not be accepted. Please note that we may suspend accepting applications at any time.

Applicant must be at least 18 years of age at the time of submission of the pre-application.

Selected applicants will be placed on the waiting list by date and time the application is received, weighed by order of preferences.

Request for reasonable accommodation: Applicants requiring special accommodation may contact COVHA by phone (770)786-7739 or you may email ejones@covha.com.

This is an Equal Housing Opportunity open to all persons, regardless of race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin.

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www.covha.com



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REPORT OF HIGHWAY 278 COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT OF PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE

In compliance with O.C.G.A. §48-5, the Highway 278 Community Improvement District ("CID") reports that at its meeting on July 8, 2021, beginning at 12:00 Noon at the Center for Preservation and Planning, 2104 Washington Street, S.W., Covington, Georgia 30014, the CID Board of Directors will vote upon a proposal to levy an ad valorem taxation rate of 5 mills, and will set its millage rate for the lawful purposes of the District for the current calendar year. Set forth below are the assessed taxable values of the properties subject to taxes for the current year and immediately preceding 4 calendar years, the total dollar amount of ad valorem taxes proposed to be levied for the current year and levied in the immediately preceding 4 calendar years, as well as the percentage and total dollar increases or decreases with respect to the immediately preceding calendar year. All property levied upon is real property. Because this CID was created 4 years ago, there are only 4 preceding years of CID assessed taxable values, taxes, and changes to report. The millage rate each year has been 5 mills.

	<u>Assessed Value</u>	<u>Taxes Levied</u>	<u>% Change</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>
2017	\$30,687,216	\$153,436	100%	\$153,436
2018	\$31,503,440	\$157,517	3%	\$4,081
2019	\$32,884,424	\$164,422	4%	\$6,905
2020	\$36,413,184	\$182,066	11%	\$17,644
2021	\$37,481,314	\$187,406	3%	\$5,340
Proposed				

J. Lynn Rainey – State Bar No. 592350

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Tom Spigolon news editor

Politics and music just don't mix

Just as many people are turned off by athletes using their visibility to make political statements, the same goes for musicians for some people.



A tradition of speaking out through pop music may have been needed at one time.

Artists like Billie Holliday ("Strange Fruit") in 1939, about lynchings of Black people during the era; and Sam Cooke ("A Change is Gonna Come") in 1964 during an era of social unrest, made statements during a period when real change was needed.

That tradition spread to numerous Black and white artists in the midst of the increasingly unpopular Vietnam War, with younger rock and R&B artists opposing the conflict in statements that often also criticized the U.S. in general; and some older, more traditional artists in country music supporting the war effort.

After a lull, politics began seeping back into popular culture in earnest in the early 1990s. A political chasm began opening with the retirement of more tempered leaders like Ronald Reagan and the ascendance of more confrontational politicians like Newt Gingrich and rise of political talk radio in the early 1990s.

The chasm has only grown wider since then and now, it seems, and continues to



Musician Ted Nugent performs at a campaign rally for Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump in Grand Rapids, Michigan, on Nov. 7, 2016.

Associated Press

seep into popular culture as stars' political views come to define them more than their work.

We see former child actors like Scott Baio, Ricky Schroder and Alyssa Milano make themselves known only as political activists to a new generation.

Milano routinely tours the country speaking on left-wing causes, while Schroder recently has filmed himself shrieking at Costco employees about his desire not to wear a mask — which also has become its own political

statement.

I was reminded of all this when I recently saw that former country music star Lee Greenwood was booked to perform over the Fourth of July holiday in a casino in Coeur D'alene, Idaho, and at Brigham Young University in Utah — two rigidly conservative Republican areas of the country.

At one time in the 1980s, Greenwood's songs were all over country radio. These days, he's booked because he's viewed as a Republican artist whose biggest hit —

though he likely doesn't see it this way — is a political statement.

Yes, he's signed on the July 4 holiday to perform in St. Louis, Missouri, which is not exactly a bastion of conservatism. But people come to see him nowadays basically for one song that — whether he likes it or not — is considered a Republican rallying cry.

Rock music legend Ted Nugent is no longer known for his work on guitar with his groundbreaking 1960s Detroit band The Amboy

Dukes or his solo albums from the 1970s and 1980s. He's known nowadays for his outspoken views on gun owners' rights and other conservative causes.

Nugent blames his political stances — which he's never hidden, by the way — for his exclusion from the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

An artist becomes eligible for the Hall of Fame 25 years after their first album is released. If it's indeed the "Rock and Roll" Hall of Fame, Nugent belongs there before artists like Jay Z, who is not exactly known as a "rock" artist but was inducted this year.

The Hall of Fame also has excluded visibly left-wing political band Rage Against the Machine, whose statements have come under fire as anti-law enforcement in the past.

The Hall needs to look at the artist's work and not his or her politics, I believe.

But, I also don't think politics and music of any genre mix well in this era of total outrage at almost anything a political leader of either party says.

I am not saying artists shouldn't be able to express their rights to free speech, just like anyone else in sports or other areas of the culture.

It would just be nice to return to the lull in political posturing we saw before.

Tom Spigolon is news editor of The News. Reach him at tspigolon@covnews.com.

David Carroll columnist

Motorcycle Safety: Let's make a deal

The electronic signs are on interstate highways across the nation: "Watch for motorcycles."



Look twice, save a life."

Just after seeing that sign last week, a motorcycle came out of nowhere, passing on my right side at more than 100 mph, and then speeding off, weaving from lane to lane. I thought to myself, "I'll probably read this guy's name on the news tonight." A few hours later, I delivered the news about a fatal motorcycle crash. Was it that guy? Maybe, or maybe not. This happens with alarming frequency.

Now about that sign: I really do look for motorcycles. But if you're zooming up behind me at 100 mph or more, I may not see you. If you're on my bumper, and I have to brake suddenly, nothing good will come from it.

I love motorcycles. I wish I still had one. In my teens and twenties, I had a Honda 350, capable of going about 60-70 mph comfort-

ably, or 75-80 on the freeway if needed. When I got married, my wife had no interest in riding, so I sold it. It had been a great hobby for me, and I still miss the wind, the freedom, and the gas mileage.

I can't understand why motorcycles (or any vehicle) that can accelerate to 160 mph are legal on our highways. The so-called "crotch-rockets" are the ones involved in most of the motorcycle fatalities, according to police officers who work the accidents. They told me about a crash victim who bet a friend that he could make the round trip from Chattanooga to Atlanta in two hours. That would involve an average speed of 120. He made it down to Atlanta on I-75, turned around and headed north. He didn't make it back home.

They tell me about the riders with no helmets. The ones who lose their lives due to a combination of speed, reckless driving and impairment (drugs, booze or both). Those wearing T-shirts, shorts and flip-flops, with no protection from what they can run into at high speeds.

The cops tell me

there are two kinds of riders. The majority of riders are responsible. You don't notice them because they observe the speed limit and obey the laws. They're just going to school or work, saving some cash in the process.

Then there are the thrill-seekers. No amount of overhead signs, public service campaigns or cautious motorists can save them. "There's nothing we can do about them," an officer told me. "You can't get their tag numbers, they're too small. We can't chase them, because a high-speed pursuit would be even more dangerous. Besides, we can't go that fast, we're basically driving taxi cabs with blue lights. The only way we catch them is when they kill themselves. We just hope they don't take anyone else down."

He continued, "Some people want you to believe that car and truck drivers are responsible for most motorcycle fatalities, because they don't look for bikes when they're entering the highway or even changing lanes. That does happen, but I can tell you that most bike fatalities are caused by

the riders themselves. They think they're indestructible, but from what I've had to clean up on the highway, I can tell you they're not," he said. "They don't have air bags, seat belts, or a few hundred pounds of sheet metal protecting them. Often it's them vs. an 18-wheeler, and they'll lose that battle every time."

Another officer who specializes in reconstructing accidents placed some of the blame on YouTube. "We've had some guys who either try to copy the stunts they see, or are trying to put themselves on the Internet," he said. "There are some bike groups who try to out-do each other, and then act surprised when one of their members loses his life. And these are not kids. They are old enough to know better."

Let me repeat, the majority of motorcyclists are responsible, good drivers. I know this. I also know that some car and truck drivers are irresponsible, fast and reckless. Their weapons of choice are larger and more dangerous to

others, although they have more protection for themselves.

So yes, as the highway sign says, I want to look twice for my motorcycle friends. I had some close calls myself back in the day. When I'm entering the roadway, I'm not just checking to see if a car is coming, I'm looking for motorcycles too. I hope everyone does that. But when I see those signs telling me

to look for motorcycles, I want to tell my biker friends, "Let's make a deal. I'll look twice for you, and if you're riding at a speed at which I can see you coming, I will see you." I really don't want to read your name on the news tonight.

David Carroll is a Chattanooga TV news anchor and radio host, and is online at ChattanoogaRadioTV.com.

The Covington News

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File | The Covington News
A Newton County resident speaks during a June 8 public hearing on the budget.

Newton BOC sets new public hearing dates on revised 2022 budget

By TOM SPIGOLON
tspigolon@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — The Newton County Board of Commissioners has scheduled two new public hearings on its 2022 budget after voting to delay action to revise it from an earlier version.

Public hearings are set for July 20 at 6 p.m.; and Aug. 3 at 6 p.m. — both of which will precede 7 p.m. regular meetings of the Board of Commissioners the same nights, the county government announced today.

The Board voted to delay action on the proposed \$78.1 million General Fund budget June 15 after County Manager Lloyd Kerr asked commissioners to allow him to submit a new plan.

The new plan was to include enough cuts to offset the money needed to give all employees a step increase in the county’s salary grade system that will average 3.5% to 4.5% in pay increases.

The step increase for

EARLY:
Continued from A1

“We had several neighborhoods pool money together and hold their own shows last year,” she said. “Hopefully they enjoyed it so much they’ll want to do that again.

“Either way, we’re anticipating another good year.”

Nolan said the most popular product was the canister shells, which is the largest commercial firework that can be purchased legally.

FROM SHOW BUSINESS TO SALES

The Nolans got into fireworks sales as result of shooting commercial fireworks for Atlanta Pyrotechnics for “years and years.” They traveled all across Central America — including Guatemala, San Salvador, Honduras and others.

Nolan’s husband, Jody, also worked as a Newton County firefighter for many years before transferring to the county Emergency Management Agency. As part of the fire service, he and others helped put on the annual show in Covington for several years.

As time went on, the

all 694 employees on the salary plan will cost \$1.1 million to \$1.4 million, officials have said.

Kerr said the increases are needed to keep the county competitive for employees in a tight labor market because it regularly competes with the private sector and neighboring governments for a number of positions.

Commissioners have indicated they wanted a final budget plan that will allow them to reduce the property tax rate and give tax relief to property owners facing much higher assessments based on rising prices in the real estate market.

The Board will only meet once in July for a regular meeting rather than twice during the month as is normally done. It will not meet on July 6 but will meet July 20.

All meetings are scheduled for the Newton County Historic Courthouse at 1124 Clark St. in Covington.

Nolans decided the traveling wasn’t for them, so they got out of the show business. In 2014 the family opened a store at Newton County’s decommissioned Station No. 10.

“There was no storefront,” Nolan said of the store’s early beginnings. “We had tables and big fans in here to keep people from having a heat stroke.”

As time went on, the Nolans worked to upgrade the building, where once they could only hold a few hundred pounds of fireworks at a time, now they can have 1,000 pounds of fireworks.

Station 10 Fireworks is one of the few locally owned and operated fireworks stores in the area. Unlike the pop-up vendors that usually set up for a few weeks each year at various locations, the Nolans sell fireworks year-round; however the store isn’t open all year.

Their main location is at 11240 Georgia Hwy. 36 in Covington. They also have two other stores — at 1025 Georgia Hwy. 142 in Covington, and 3163 Georgia Hwy. 81 N in Oxford.

Several area Fourth of July events slated for weekend

By TOM SPIGOLON
tspigolon@covnews.com

Porterdale and Covington will host Independence Day fireworks shows this weekend along with shows in neighboring Rockdale, Henry, Morgan and Walton counties.

Covington will host the Friends of Covington Fireworks Show Sunday, July 4, at 9 p.m. in downtown Covington.

Those planning to watch the show are encouraged to be in place by 8:15 p.m. For more information, visit <https://www.facebook.com/FOCFfund> and www.cityofcovington.org.

Porterdale is set to host a Saturday, July 3, fireworks show in the city’s historic downtown area after canceling it last year due to COVID-19.

City officials will begin the event around dusk and only feature a fireworks show of about 15 minutes over the historic downtown area, said Police Chief Jason Cripps.

No specific designated parking areas and no street closings are planned, he said.

“As long as they park in a legal manner, they’ll be fine,” Cripps said.

He said parking was on a first-come, first served basis. Attendees can park on the side of the streets leading into downtown. The railroad depot near the Yellow River also is a good spot but the river-

side park does not offer a clear view, Cripps said.

Some other Independence Day events in counties neighboring Newton County will include:

SATURDAY, JULY 3

- Conyers will celebrate Independence Day in Olde Town Conyers on Saturday, July 3, with “Red, White and Boom!”
- Food trucks, children’s activities, multiple stages of live music, and a beer garden will begin at 6 p.m., followed by fireworks at approximately 9:45 p.m.
- Carpooling and a free shuttle service will be available to transport guests from two locations off of Parker Road at the Rockdale County Government Annex at 1400 Parker Road and Rockdale Career Academy at 1064 Culpepper Drive.
- Two stages of entertainment are scheduled to begin at 6 p.m. on the Bank Street Stage. The Fly Betty Band will play a variety of popular songs at 7 p.m. leading up to the fireworks.
- The Kids Zone in the lower tier of the city’s Main Street Parking Lot will feature a variety of bounce houses, a spider jump, face painting, and a video game trailer. There is a fee for most of the children’s activities.
- In the event of severe inclement weather on July 3, only the fireworks portion of the Red, White and Boom

event will take place on July 10 at 9:30 p.m.

For more information, visit <https://www.conyersga.com/visitors/events/red-white-and-boom>.

- Madison will host a fireworks display Saturday, July 3, at dusk following pre-fireworks children’s events at 6 p.m. at Bill Wood Park at 1000 Heritage Park Circle.
- Prime fireworks viewing can be done at Bill Wood Park, Morgan County High School, Morgan County Middle School, Morgan County Elementary School and Morgan County Primary School.
- The Madison Morgan Cultural Center will host a free concert of traditional patriotic music by the Classic City Band of Athens at 7 p.m. Call the Center at 706-342-4743 for more information.
- For more information, visit www.visitmadisonga.com.

SUNDAY, JULY 4

- “Star-Spangled Snellville” is set for Sunday, July 4, from 4 to 10 p.m. on the Snellville Towne Green.
- Two live bands, Metro Jazz Club from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., and Contagious from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., will precede a fireworks show.
- A kids zone for an all-day admission cost of \$10 and great festival foods will be available.
- The Towne Green is at 2342 Oak Road in Snellville. For more information, visit <https://>

experiencesnellville.com/stat-events/.

- Monroe will host a fireworks show Sunday, July 4, at 8:45 p.m. at the Athens Tech Monroe Stadium.
- There will be no official program or vendors but the football stadium and field will be open for viewing, according to information from the city. Parking is available along Edwards Street around the field, the Athens Tech campus parking, and in the lot located across the street at 126 Blaine St.
- For more information, visit <https://www.monroedowntown.com/downtown/page/4th-july-fireworks>.
- Community FreedomFest is set for Sunday, July 4, from 5:30 to 10 p.m. at Community Bible Church at 2001 Jodeco Road in Stockbridge.
- Concert performances, food, prize giveaways, a hot dog eating contest, concessions, vendors, bounce houses, attractions, games and a fireworks show are scheduled for the event. Admission to Freedom Fest is free but bounce houses, attractions, food and concessions available at a minimal cost.
- For more information, visit <https://go.evvnt.com/803621-0?pid=4509>.

Social Circle and Loganville hosted their Independence Day celebrations Saturday, June 26.

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& more?

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our new

TV guide

COMING July 14

The Covington News

CLASSIFIEDS & LEGALS

The Covington News

CLASSIFIEDS

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Business Services

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Jobs

Help Wanted

KIDS R Great is hiring FOR A cook position. PLEASE APPLY in person. 2235 DIXIE Rd. COVINGTON GA. 30014 7 7 0 - 7 8 6 - 8 5 8 5

Real Estate

Wanted to Rent

HOUSE FOR rent or lease wanted 3 BEDROOMS, 2 baths MAXIMUM PAYMENT 1,500 or negotiable. Needed by end of July or sooner.

JOHN CHILDERS 513-460-0096

LEGALS

Public Notices

Abandoned Vehicles

TO ALL persons claiming an interest in 1970- 13" 6" - ALUMINUM - SEA KING

RICHARD BIANCO APPLY TO SCDNR for title on watercraft/outboard motor. If you have any claim to the watercraft/outboard motor, contact SCDNR at (803) 734-3699. Upon thirty days after the date of the last advertisement if no claim of interest is made and the watercraft/outboard motor has not been reported stolen, SCDNR shall issue clear title. **CASE NO. 20201231950807**

PUBLIC NOTICE #200516
6/30-7/4,7

Alcoholic Beverage

NOTICE – APPLICATION ALCOHOL LICENSE

NOTICE IS hereby given that an application has been made to the Mayor and Council of the City of Covington to obtain a license to sell alcoholic beverages for off-premises consumption only for:

4120 WASHINGTON Street, SW
DBA PURE Food Mart
4120 WASHINGTON Street

APPLICANT: KARIMA Rizwan Jiwani

THE APPLICATION will be heard on July 6th, 2021 at 6:30 PM at City of Covington Council Room, 2116 Stallings Street, NW, Covington, GA. This notice is published pursuant to the provisions of Section 5.12.080(C), Covington Municipal Code.

PUBLIC NOTICE #200517
6/30

Citations

THE PETITION of **WALTER S. HINTON, JR** widow of **JEAN T. HINTON** deceased, for Twelve

Month's Support for having been duly filed, all interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections must be in writing and filed with this Court on or before July 12, 2021, at ten o'clock a.m.

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

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

PUBLIC NOTICE #200390
6/9,16,23,30

Corporations

CERTIFICATE OF ORGANIZATION

I, BRAD Raffensperger, the Secretary of State and the Corporation Commissioner of the State of Georgia, hereby certify under the seal of my office that **NYA.THE NAIL Girl LLC. A DOMESTIC Limited Liability Company HAS BEEN** duly organized under the laws of the State of Georgia on 06/01/2021 by the filing of articles of organization in the Office of the Secretary of State and by the paying of fees as provided by Title 14 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated.

WITNESS MY hand and official seal in the City of Atlanta **AND THE** State of Georgia on 06/15/2021.

PUBLIC NOTICE #200515
6/30-7/7

Debtors Creditors

ALL CREDITORS of the estate of **JOHN MICHAEL OLEXA**, 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 Administrator:
SUSAN ELAINE OLEXA
SANDRA LEE EVANS

ADMINISTRATOR'S ADDRESS:
SUSAN ELAINE OLEXA
SANDRA LEE EVANS
C/O SHANNON D. Sneed Attorney at Law P.O.Box 1245
COVINGTON, GA 30015

THIS 8TH day of June, 2021.

PUBLIC NOTICE #200460
6/16,23,30-7/7

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

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

THIS 14111 day of June, 2021.

EDWIN LEWIS Hull Executor of the Estate of Helen Freeman Hull
C/O MICHELLE Chaudhuri, Esq. Talley & Associates, P.C.
1892 GA Hwy 138, SE
CONYERS, GA 30013
770-483-1431

PUBLIC NOTICE #200459
6/16,23,30-7/7

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND

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!

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

Level: Intermediate

CREDITORS

ALL CREDITORS ofthe Estate of **Robin Curry Fitzgerald, late of** Newton County, deceased, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said Estate are required to make immediate payment.

THIS 4TH day of June, 2021.

ESTATE of Robin Curry Fitzgerald
DAWN CURRY Mueller, Administrator with Will Annexed
C/ O Yost Law, LLC Post Office Box 1598
LAWRENCEVILLE, GEORGIA
30046

PUBLIC NOTICE #200429
6/9,16,23,30

Foreclosures

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE UNDER POWER NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA

UNDER AND by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by **Howard Abbott, Jr.** to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for Homeowners Loan Corp., dated February 9, 2005, and recorded in Deed Book 1848, Page 520, Newton County, Georgia Records, as last transferred to U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for Residential Asset Securities Corporation, Home Equity Mortgage Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-KS11 by assignment recorded on February 1, 2021 in Book 4136 Page 519 in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Newton County, Georgia Records, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of Thirty-Seven Thousand Four Hundred and 0/100 dollars (\$37,400.00), with interest thereon as set forth therein, there will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the courthouse door of Newton County, Georgia, within the legal hours of sale on July 6, 2021, the following described property:

THE LEND referred to in this Commitment is described as follows: **ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN ROCKY PLAINS DISTRICT OF NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA, BEING**

KNOWN AS LOTS 27 AND 28 OF RIVERSIDE PARK SUBDIVISION, ACCORDING TO A PLAT OF SAME PREPARED BY ROBERT M. BUHLER, REGISTERED LAND SURVEYOR, DATED FEBRUARY 22, 1966, REVISED MAY 27, 1966 AND RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 4, PAGE 56, NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA RECORDS WHICH PLAT IS INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE AND MADE A PART HEREOF FOR A MORE PARTICULAR AND COMPLETE DESCRIPTION.
TAX NO - 0033A 24B
MOBILE/MANUFACTURED HOME DESCRIPTION: MOBILE HOME YR 1983 MODEL NAME PARKWOOD MANUF NAME: FAIRLANE SERIAL# MHMACCA A 119-1
BORROWER DECLARES THAT THE ABOVE DESCRIBED MOBILE HOME WILL REMAIN PERMANENTLY AFFIXED TO THE PROPERTY AND WILL BE TREATED AS A FIXTURE. BORROWER ALSO DECLARES THAT THE WHEELS, AXLES AND HITCHES HAVE BEEN REMOVED AND THAT THE MOBILE HOME IS CONNECTED TO THE UTILITIES. BORROWER AND LENDER INTEND THAT THE MOBILE HOME LOSE ITS NATURE AS PERSONAL PROPERTY AND BECOME REAL PROPERTY. IN ADDITION, BORROWER DECLARES THAT THE MOBILE HOME HAS BEEN ASSESSED AS REAL PROPERTY FOR TAXES. LENDER WILL RESERVE AN IN THE MOBILE HOME BOTH UNDER THE REAL PROPERTY LAWS AND THE LAWS RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES AND PERSONAL PROPERTY.

THE DEBT secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of default, failure to pay the indebtedness as and when due and in the manner provided in the Note and Security Deed. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, as provided in Security Deed and by law, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given). **THE ENTITY** having full authority to negotiate, amend or modify all terms of the loan (although not required by law to do so) is: PHH Mortgage Corporation they can be

contacted at 1-800-750-2518 for Loss Mitigation Dept, or by writing to One Mortgage Way, Mount Laurel, New Jersey 08054, to discuss possible alternatives to avoid foreclosure.

SAID PROPERTY will be sold subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above.

TO THE best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party in possession of the property is Howard Abbott, Jr. or tenant(s); and said property is more commonly known as **189 Helen Rd, Covington, GA 30016.** **THE SALE** will be conducted subject to (1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code (2) final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the security deed and (3) any right of redemption or other lien not extinguished by foreclosure. **U.S. BANK** National Association, as Trustee for Residential Asset Securities Corporation, Home Equity Mortgage Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-KS11 as Attorney in Fact for Howard Abbott, Jr.,

BROCK & Scott, PLLC
4360 CHAMBLEE Dunwoody Road
SUITE 310
ATLANTA, GA 30341
404-789-2661
B&S FILE no.: 21-02186

PUBLIC NOTICE #200345
6/9,16,23,30

Name Changes

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE the name change of **CHRISTINE ANN MESSERE**
PETITIONER

CIVIL ACTION File # 2021-CV-1310-1

NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE

NAME OF ADULT

CHRISTINE ANN MESSERE filed a petition in the Newton County Superior Court on JUNE 4 2021 to change the name from **CHRISTINE ANN MESSERE** to **CHRISTINE ANN FRICKER** Any interested party has the right to appear in this case and file objections within 30 days after the Petition was filed
DATE: 06/04/21

CHRISTINE MESSERE
130 CYPRESS DRIVE
COVINGTON, GA 30016

PUBLIC NOTICE #200453
6/16,23,30-7/7

Public Hearings

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF COVINGTON, GEORGIA NEWTON COUNTY

NOTICE IS hereby given that the Covington City Council will hold a public hearing on a modification of the City of Covington's urban redevelopment plan during the Covington City Council's regularly scheduled meeting commencing at 6:30 p.m. on July 6, 2021 in the Council Chambers located at 2116 Stallings Street NW, Covington, Georgia 30014. The modifications include updates required by law and are intended to incentivize redevelopment within the urban redevelopment area, including development of affordable housing and would establish Opportunity Zones within the urban redevelopment area

PUBLIC NOTICE #200512
6/30

Trade Names

TRADE NAME REGISTRATION AFFIDAVIT

GEORGIA, NEWTON COUNTY

TO WHOM It may Concern: **PLEASE BE** advised that **KARMO ENTERPRISE** whose address is 9325 SCARLETT DRIVE, COVINGTON GA 30014and the owner(s) of the certain business now being carried on at 9325 SCARLETT DRIVE COVINGTON GA 30014 in the following trade name, to-wit: KARMO ENTERPRISE that the nature of said business is: SCORPIO CLEANING AND PRESSURE WASHING 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 15TH** day of JUNE , 2021.

PUBLIC NOTICE #200477
6/23,30

TRADE NAME REGISTRATION AFFIDAVIT

GEORGIA, NEWTON COUNTY

TO WHOM It may Concern: **PLEASE BE** advised that **RENE WALLACE** whose address is 55 STONE COMMONS WAY COVINGTON, GA 30016 and the owner(s) of the certain business now being carried on at55 STONE COMMONS WAY COVINGTON GA 30016 in the following trade name, to-wit: LAURENAUX LABEL that the nature of said business is: APPEREL ECOMMERCE 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 24TH** day of JUNE , 2021.

PUBLIC NOTICE #200514
6/30-7/7

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The Covington News

BUSINESS

The Covington News

Covington physician ranked among top metro Atlanta doctors

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

news@covnews.com

A physician who practices at the Covington location of Alliance Spine and Pain Centers — the largest interventional pain management company in the Southeast — ranks among metro Atlanta’s Top Doctors in Atlanta magazine’s July issue.

Dr. David Rosenfeld appears in the pain medicine category.

Rosenfeld has been awarded the Top Doctors recognition in previous years.

Atlanta magazine uses a database of top doctors compiled by Castle Connolly Medical Ltd., an established healthcare research

company based in New York, to assist in its annual effort.

Doctors are nominated for consideration through both a nationwide survey and a peer nomination process.

Castle Connolly’s physician-led team of researchers then select the Top Doctors through a rigorous screening process that includes an evaluation of educational and professional experience.

Rosenfeld practices at



David Rosenfeld

the Atlanta and Covington locations. He has more than 25 years of expertise and innovation in pain management and is recognized as a pioneer in Georgia for interventional pain procedures.

He received his medical degree from the University of Wisconsin.

Rosenfeld is fellowship trained, and board certified in both anesthesiology and pain medicine. He has published several studies on pain medicine and anesthesiology.

Rosenfeld belongs to the following associations: American Society of Anesthesiologists; American Academy

of Pain Medicine; and American Society of Interventional Pain Physicians. Since 2010, Dr. Rosenfeld has been recognized annually as a Top Doctor.

Stephen Rosenbaum, CEO of Alliance Spine and Pain Centers, says this recognition reflects the practice’s dedication to its overall mission.

“Every member of the Alliance medical staff is committed to providing relief to those in pain,” says Rosenbaum. “They are not only thought leaders in their field, but they enhance the quality of life for patients every day.”

Appointments can be

made by calling 770-929-9033. Learn more at SpinePains.com.

With innovative interventional pain management and judicious use of pain medicines, Alliance Spine and Pain Centers physicians are bringing new hope and real relief to people in pain.

To learn more or to schedule an appointment, visit SpinePains.com or call 770-929-9033.

Castle Connolly Medical Ltd., was acquired by Everyday Health Group (EHG), one of the world’s most prominent digital healthcare companies, in late 2018. EHG, a recognized leader in

patient and provider education, attracts an engaged audience of more than 53 million health consumers and more than 780,000 U.S. practicing physicians and clinicians to its premier health and wellness websites.

EHG combines social listening data and analytics expertise to deliver highly personalized healthcare consumer content and effective patient engagement solutions. EHG’s vision is to drive better clinical and health outcomes through decision-making informed by highly relevant data and analytics.



Metro Creative Service

The House Working Group on the Rising Costs of Construction Materials is slated to meet July 8.

Legislators studying rising construction costs to meet in July

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

news@covnews.com

ATLANTA — The House Working Group on the Rising Costs of Construction Materials will hold a meeting on Thursday, July 8, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Coverdell Legislative Office Building in Atlanta.

The working group, chaired by State Rep. Marcus Wiedower, R-Watkinsville, will study the increasing costs associated with construction across the state, as well as recommend legislative solutions that may alleviate future building costs.

It is authorized for the entirety of the 2021-2022 legislative term.

During the meeting, members of this working group will discuss recent site visits to several forestry industry businesses in the Savannah

area.

This meeting will also include presentations of the different facets of Georgia’s construction industry, such as building materials, career trades, logistics and hauling.

Members include Wiedower and Reps. Timothy Barr, Spencer Frye, Beth Camp, Ginny Ehrhart, Marvin Lim, Derek Malloy, Steven Meeks, Brian Prince, Jason Ridley, Will Wade, Dale Washburn, Noel Williams, Jr., Jon Burns and James Beverly.

The meeting is set for the Coverdell Legislative Office Building at 18 Capitol Square SW, room 606, Atlanta.

To watch a live stream of this meeting, visit <https://www.house.ga.gov/Committees/en-US/RisingCost-ofConstructionMaterials.aspx>.

Organizers preparing for Regional Job Fair

By TOM SPIGOLON

tspigolon@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — Organizers gathered recently to prepare for the first in-person Regional Job Fair in two years at Georgia Piedmont Technical College.

Representatives of business and educational communities in two counties gathered Friday to discuss the 2021 Regional Job Fair scheduled for July 22 at GPTC’s Newton campus conference center on Bob Williams Parkway in Covington.

The event is set to feature at least 60 local employers from Newton and Walton counties in the fields of manufacturing, logistics, film, entertainment, public safety, local government, bio-pharma, high technology, distribution and education.

Irvin Clark, vice president of economic development for GPTC, said many employers are showing a “high demand” for workers amid the rebounding economy and shortage of potential employees.

GPTC President Tavaraz Holston agreed.

“If I’m a job-seeker, there’s never been a better time than now,” Holston said.

Georgia Piedmont is working with Newton County Industrial Development Authority, Newton County Chamber of Commerce and the Development Authority of Walton County to present the event.

Companies ranging from Walmart’s distribution center

to Bridgestone Golf, Hitachi and more will participate, organizers said.

The annual job fair routinely drew hundreds of job-seekers to the Covington technical college campus in its first three years. About 100 employers participated in the 2019 job fair.

However, organizers converted the 2020 fair to an all-virtual event in response to health concerns around the COVID-19 pandemic and still drew more than 40 employers from throughout the region.

Serra Hall of the Newton County Industrial Development Authority said the event’s “brand” is now well-known throughout the region.

“This is the right place to get a career,” she said.

She said the IDA is ready to collaborate with the college for the fair again.

“We’re looking forward to it,” she said.

The event also will include on-site application and resume assistance.

Pre-job fair workshops on updating resumes, hard to employ workers, job fair preparation, transferable skills and more will be provided by Workforce Northeast Georgia July 13 and 14.

Registration deadline is July 12 for the workshops and can be done online at <https://bit.ly/3qkgqol>.

Clark said the workshops will help job seekers learn about the “soft skills” they may need to successfully

interview, such as communication, teamwork and work ethic.

It also will help those who may not be ready to employment learn what they need to do to prepare, he said.

Goodwill of North Georgia will provide free suit jackets to those needing them for interviews, organizers said.

Dessa Clark, workforce development director for the Walton development authority, said the jackets proved popular in the past and allowed those receiving them to learn about what else they needed to provide potential employers.

“They received a blazer and a pep talk,” Clark said.

Newton County Chamber President Debra Harper said the business advocacy organization will also provide listings of job opportunities with small businesses throughout the county.

Jana Wiggins, executive director of marketing and communication, said the job fair also allows the college to showcase the wide variety of skills job-seekers could receive at GPTC — which operates campuses in Covington, Clarkston, Decatur and a planned campus in Conyers.

The 2021 Regional Job Fair is scheduled for July 22 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the college’s Newton campus Building D located off City Pond Road at 8100 Bob Williams Parkway in Covington.

For more information, visit gptc.edu/regional-job-fair/.

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SPORTS

The Covington News

College Athletics

Pay-for-play era coming to Peach State

By DAVE WILLIAMS
Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA — The landscape of college sports in Georgia is about to change forever. Legislation taking effect July 1 will let student-athletes at Georgia colleges, universities and technical colleges receive compensation for their name, image and likeness (NIL). Supporters steered the concept of paying college athletes through the General Assembly this year at the same time legislatures in other states were passing similar measures, Congress was looking at the issue and the U.S. Supreme Court was taking up related cases. “What we’re hoping it will do is put Georgia colleges and universities and the men and women who play for them in a position that when a more comprehensive process is put in place ... Georgia athletes will be able to take advantage of that,” said state Rep. Chuck Martin, R-Alpharetta, the bill’s chief sponsor. Pressure to compensate college athletes beyond scholarships covering tuition, room and board has increased in recent years as major college sports — particularly football and basketball — have become huge moneymakers for the schools as well as TV networks. “No one could have

imagined this would be a multi-billion-dollar business with everyone making millions but the athletes,” said Rep. Billy Mitchell, D-Stone Mountain, who introduced a similar bill into the Georgia House of Representatives. “It’s such an inequitable system.” The urge to cut college athletes in on the profits also is being driven by instances of athletes running afoul of the NCAA for making a few bucks under the table. “We’ve had draconian penalties on athletes selling jerseys,” Mitchell said. Under House Bill 617, college athletes in Georgia will be required to take five hours of a financial literacy and life skills workshop to ready them for the added burdens of receiving compensation for their sports performances. The colleges have been busy in recent weeks putting those programs in place. In April, the NIL advisory and education firm Altius Sports Partners announced a partnership with the University of Georgia to educate UGA’s student-athletes on adjusting to the new reality. “Education will be critical to prepare our student-athletes to thrive in a new paradigm,” said Will Lawler, UGA’s deputy athletic director for legal and regulatory affairs.

Prep Soccer



Special to The Covington News
Eastside High School set a new record for attendance at its annual soccer camp last week when it welcomed in 117 campers for the three-day event. With its boys' and girls' varsity players helping run it, as well as members of the East Atlanta Football Club, the camp went off without a hitch.

Eagles host record-setting camp

By MASON WITTNER
mwittner@covnews.com
COVINGTON, Ga. — Eastside welcomed in a record-setting number of attendees for its annual soccer camp last week. The Eagles hosted a grand total of 117 campers for the three-day event. It was the highest attendance since the camp’s inception — by nearly 50 kids. But with all hands on deck from Eastside’s boys’ and girls’ soccer team, as well as assistance from the East Atlanta Football Club, a local semi-professional organization, it was smooth sailing all week long. “It was a fantastic

event,” Eastside boys’ soccer coach Champ Young said. “Between the number of kids that showed up, our boys and girls who helped with the camp, and then the East Atlanta FC guys coming in, it was a perfect storm. It was just fantastic across the board.” Young recalled the camp’s humble beginnings in his first few years at the helm, when just six kids signed up. Seeing the growth the program has undergone during his time has been astounding, he said. “That was definitely the biggest group we’ve had. I think the closest

before that was 70, so yeah,” he said with a chuckle, “we definitely crushed that one.” There was a buzz around the area in the days and weeks leading up to the event. Young and his staff put out feelers and gauged that they’d likely get around 100 kids to sign up, surpassing totals of recent years. In response, he implored all the players in Eastside’s soccer program to do anything they could to help with preparation, coaching and cleanup. His kids answered the call. “Ah, man. Our players did fantastic!” Young said. “I just

pushed real hard for our boys and girls, both teams, to be there as much as possible so that way we had the numbers to cover it all. They showed out. They were awesome.” Young noted that the importance of youth camps is to keep the sport alive and well. Soccer players of all degrees of experience were on display over three days, from novice learners to varsity studs to semiprofessional footballers. “It was really cool to see all the levels being represented in one spot,” Young said. “We were really just a central hub for it all.”

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FOOD

The Covington News

Broaden your burger horizons



Metro Creative Service

Independence Day on the horizon, you might already be planning your holiday party menu. Delicious burgers are often a given.

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

news@covnews.com

Summertime is a great time to fire up the grill and toss burgers on top to sizzle to flame-licked perfection. With Independence Day on the horizon, you might already be planning your holiday party menu. Delicious burgers are often a given.

While beef, pork and bison tend to be the burger bases of choice, raw tuna is another “meat” that is both sturdy and fatty enough to stand up to burger formation and grilling without the addition of binders and starches. “Miso Tuna Burgers” from “Mastering the Grill” (Chronicle Books) by Andrew Schloss and

David Joachim can be a perfect first foray into tuna burgers for grill-masters who want to try something different this summer.

Miso Tuna Burgers

Makes 4 servings

Ingredients:
1 1/2 pounds tuna steak, hand-chopped into small chunks
1 tablespoon miso paste
1/2 teaspoon prepared wasabi
1 teaspoon soy sauce
4 scallions, roots trimmed, cut into 1/2-inch pieces
Oil for coating the grill grate
1 tablespoon mild-flavored oil, such as canola
4 hamburger buns,

split (or sliced crusty bread)

Directions:
Heat the grill as directed.

Chop the tuna finely enough so that when you press some between your fingers it clings to itself, but not so finely that it becomes mushy.

Remove the fish to a bowl and mix in the miso, wasabi, soy sauce, and scallions until well blended; do not overmix. Using a light touch, form into 4 patties no more than 1 inch thick. Refrigerate the burgers until the grill is ready.

Brush the grill grate and coat it with oil. Coat the burgers with the 1 tablespoon oil, put

them on the grill, cover and cook for 6 minutes, flipping halfway through, for medium-rare; do not cover the grill after flipping. Add a minute per side for medium-done.

To toast the buns, put them cut-sides down directly over the fire for the last minute of cooking.

If serving the burgers directly from the grill, place them on the buns. If the burgers will sit, even for a few minutes, keep the buns and burgers separate until just before eating.

Chef’s tip: Garnish with pickled ginger or daikon, wasabi mayonnaise, or a drizzle of teriyaki sauce.



Metro Creative Service

The supermarket freezer case or a local ice cream shop may offer plenty of ice cream options, but ice cream also can be prepared at home with some patience and quality ingredients.

Beat the heat with homemade ice cream

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

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Ice cream is an indulgence few people can resist. With a vast array of flavors to tempt any palate, ice cream is popular year-round, but particularly so when the mercury rises. Few desserts can cap a hot day better than a few scoops of thick and frosty ice cream.

The supermarket freezer case or a local ice cream shop may offer plenty of ice cream options, but ice cream also can be prepared at home with some patience and quality ingredients.

This recipe for “Meyer Lemon-Buttermilk Ice Cream” marries the chill of ice cream with summer citrus. A Meyer lemon is a hybrid of a lemon and a mandarin orange, offering a unique balance of citrus flavor. Enjoy this recipe, courtesy of “Chocolate Obsession: Confections and Treats to Create and Savor” (Stewart, Tabori & Chang) by Michael Recchiuti & Fran Gage.

Meyer Lemon-Buttermilk Ice Cream

Makes 1 quart

Ingredients:
3/4 cup (6 ounces) heavy whipping cream
2/3 cup granulated cane sugar, divided into halves
2 Meyer lemons, (1 zested and both juiced to equal 3 tablespoons fresh lemon juice)
1/2 Tahitian vanilla bean, split horizontally
1/3 cup whole milk
6 extra-large egg yolks
1 1/4 cups (10 ounces) buttermilk, chilled
Directions:
Stir the cream and 1/3 cup of the sugar together in a small

saucepan. Finely grate the zest from the lemon into the pan. (The lemon can then be juiced as part of the 3 tablespoons fresh lemon juice.) Scrape the vanilla seeds from the bean into the pan and then add the bean. Bring the cream to a boil over medium heat. Turn off the heat, cover the top of the pan with plastic wrap, and let cool to room temperature. Transfer to a bowl, cover, and refrigerate overnight.

The next day, strain the cream through a fine-mesh sieve and return to the saucepan. Add the milk. Bring to a simmer over medium heat.

While the cream mixture is heating, combine the egg yolks and the remaining 1/3 cup sugar in the bowl of a stand mixer fitted with the whip attachment. Beat on medium-high speed until the mixture is pale and thick and forms a ribbon when the whip is lifted from the bowl, 3 to 5 minutes. Switch the mixer to low speed. Slowly pour the hot cream mixture into the bowl and beat just until combined. Do not beat to a froth.

Return the mixture to the saucepan and cook over medium heat, stirring constantly, until the custard coats a spoon and registers 160 degrees on an instant-read thermometer, about 5 minutes.

Pour through the fine-mesh sieve into a bowl. Cover the bowl and refrigerate the custard overnight.

The next day, add the buttermilk and lemon juice to the custard and stir to mix. Churn the custard in an ice-cream maker according to the manufacturer’s instructions.

Food allergies: a guide to dairy alternatives

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

news@covnews.com

Food allergies affect millions of people around the world. The group FARE (Food Allergy Research & Education) says researchers estimate 32 million Americans have food allergies. Among those allergies, milk is a leading source of food-related irritation.

People with milk or dairy allergies experience symptoms because their immune systems react as though these foods and beverages are dangerous invaders, according to the American College of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology. Symptoms of dairy allergies can include upset stomach, vomiting, bloody stools, hives, and general feelings of malaise. Dairy allergies also can cause anaphylaxis, a severe, life-threatening reaction. As delicious as dairy products can be, people with dairy aller-

gies have to avoid milk, cheese and yogurt, among other foods. Fortunately for allergy sufferers, a variety of foods and beverages can be easily substituted for dairy products.

• **Traditional milk:** Non-dairy alternatives for milk abound. Soy milk was one of the first alternatives to cow milk, and now rice, almond, coconut, oat, and hemp seed milks also are available.

• **Yogurt:** Dairy-based yogurts come in a variety of flavors. So, too, do dairy alternatives. Many alternatives are made from the same ingredients as milk alternatives. So these yogurts may be soy- or coconut-based.

• **Ice cream:** Silky, creamy ice cream is a treat on a hot day. For people with dairy allergies, soy- and coconut-based ice creams can serve as an alternative to traditional ice cream.

• **Cheese:** Cheeses can be

hard, grated, spreadable, and soft. Substituting for cheese in a non-dairy diet can be challenging. Nutritional yeast can make foods more flavorful and can be sprinkled on like parmesan cheese. Sliced smoked tofu can mimic mozzarella or provolone on cracker platters. Cubed tofu may have the texture of cottage cheese or ricotta. Cheesy sauces often use a combination of ground nuts, spices and nutritional yeast to create that tangy appeal.

• **Butter:** Many non-dairy butters are made from vegetable oils or coconut. They often lend fat and flavor to dishes. Margarine and other butter alternatives are readily available in the dairy aisle.

Many people must avoid dairy due to allergies or other health-related reasons. Fortunately, many stores are stocked with items that can replace dairy.

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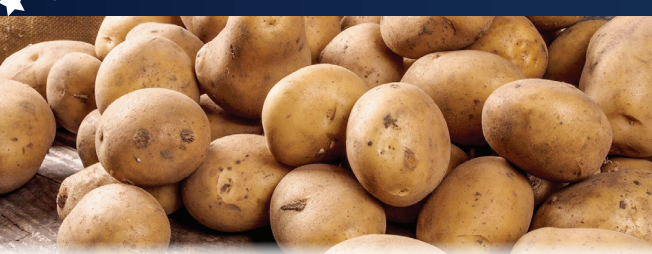


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