Wednesday, May 5, 2021



s for







All three vehicles

were being

evidence in

processed for

the investiga-

tion, the GBI

Additional

charges were

reported.

His Word

As one whom his mother comforteth, so will I comfort you; and ye shall be comforted in Jerusalem.

Isaiah 66:13, KJV

Crime: Newton County

Mansfield man connected to Gilmer County murder

GBI says suspect had victim's car — previously reported stolen

By TOM SPIGOLON tspigolon@covnews.com

GOWAN TO

CARDINALS

Another Newton County product

selected in the NFL Draft.

COVINGTON, Ga. — A Mansfield resident is in the Newton County jail on charges related to the murder of a taxi driver in north Georgia on April 20.

SPORTS:

Calvin Harvard, 28, was being held Monday without bond after his Thursday, April 29, arrest on charges of Tampering with Evidence and Theft by Receiving Stolen Property.

The charges are related to the murder of Rossana Delgado, 37, whose body was found in Gilmer County.

The Bethlehem resident worked part-time for a taxi company and was last seen more than 80 miles from where her body was found.

Investigators said Harvard had Delgado's red Ford Focus, which had been reported stolen, and a white Ford F150 and white Buick Regal that both belonged to one of the five suspects in her murder, according to a GBI spokesperson.



Calvin Harvard

expected against Harvard, and additional arrests are anticipated

in the case, a news release stated.

Harvard, whose last employer was listed as a metals company, had a series of previous arrests dating to 2018, according to jail records.

The GBI discovered the victim after the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office conducted a welfare check at

See CONNECTED, A3

Crime: Covington

High speed pursuit

Local robbery suspects arrested after chase in central Georgia

By TOM SPIGOLON tspigolon@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — An 18-year-old was in the Newton County jail Monday after allegedly helping a Virginia man rob a Covington store and leading state officers on a high speed chase in middle Georgia Saturday.

Jahsheniqe Celia Letang, 18, whose address was listed as Austell, and Da'Von Nigel Cumberbatch, 22, of Fredericksburg, Virginia, were arrested in Houston County after wrecking the SUV they were traveling in as they tried to elude State Patrol officers during a chase on I-75 that reached 125 mph, a spokes-

Covington Police reported being called Saturday, May 1, at about 9:30 a.m. to a report of an armed robbery at the AT&T Store at 11172 Georgia Hwy. 142, said spokesman Capt. Ken Malcom.

The suspects reportedly were wearing face masks and hoodies and were armed with Taser devices. They took a "large number" of phones and left the store walking in the direction of Lochridge Boulevard in the rear of the store, Malcom said.

Georgia State Patrol officers later saw a white Honda SUV — which they had been told may have been involved in the robbery — traveling southbound on I-75 near Perry in Houston County at a high rate of speed, Malcom said.

The State Patrol attempted to stop the vehicle but it fled on I-75 southbound reaching speeds up to 125 mph, Malcom said.

The vehicle wrecked near exit 127 on I-75 south of Perry in Houston County and the two occupants were taken into custody, Malcom said.

Covington Police Detective
Lt. Brent Fuesting recovered 46

See PURSUIT, A3

SINCE 1865

Newton County National Action Network



Special to The Covington News

From left, Tax Commissioner Marcus Jordan, County Commissioner J.C. Henderson, School Board member Anderson Bailey, Sheriff Ezell Brown and School Board member Eddie Johnson were among local elected officials congratulating the Newton County National Action Network (NAN) chapter on its efforts to provide scholarships.

Jordan backs Newton NAN

STAFF REPORTS

news@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — Newton County Tax Commissioner Marcus Jordan recently joined other elected officials in supporting the Newton County National Action Network (NAN) chapter's scholarship program.

Jordan congratulated chapter President Archie Shepherd and the membership for their efforts to provide scholarships to high school and college students for college tuition, fees, books, and supplies.

NAN's local mission is to provide

value to the community by helping vulnerable families and children access the resources and opportunities they need to build a better future, a news release stated.

Nationally, NAN works within the

See JOINS, A3

Education

Bar associations award scholarships to area students

STAFF REPORTS news@covnews.com

Students from Newton, Rockdale and Walton counties have been named recipients of some area bar associations' Horace J. Johnson Jr. Beyond the Bar Scholarship.

The Beyond the Bar Foundation awarded the \$1,000 scholarships.

Recipients from or near Newton County include:

• Chad Helton, who is graduating with honors from Social Circle High School and will be attending Georgia College and State University in the fall.

• Zoe Mayo, a top 10



Chad Helton graduate of Newton High

School, plans on attending

Spelman College.
• Natalia Sanchez, who is Alcovy High School's 2021 Salutatorian and will further her education at the University of Georgia.

Others include Terrell Wright of Walnut Grove High School in Walton



Mayo



Sanchez

County who will continue

his education at Mercer University; Gabrielle Wood, the 2021 Valedictorian of the Rockdale Magnet School for Science and Technology who will attend Howard University; and James Rhee, an honor

graduate of Heritage High

School in Rockdale who

will attend Boston Univer-

The Beyond the Bar Foundation is a collaborative effort between the New Rock Legal Society, Newton County Bar Association, Rockdale County Bar Association and Walton County Bar Association to help students further their education at an accredited college or technical school.

"We had an increased number of stellar applications this year and we were impressed with the level of excellence in the students competing for the

See AWARD, A3

Volume 156, No. 36



Inside

See A2

Piedmont acquires Eastside in Snellville, 3 other HCA hospitals



Wednesday, May 5
High: 78° Low: 53°
• 30% chance of rain.

Weather Forecast



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Piedmont acquires 4 HCA hospitals

By DAVE WILLIAMS Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA - Piedmont Healthcare has signed an agreement to buy hospitals in Snellville, Cartersville and Macon from HCA Healthcare Inc. for about \$950 million, the two companies announced Monday, May 3.

Pending regulatory approval, Piedmont will acquire Eastside Medical Center in Snellville; Cartersville Medical Center in Cartersville; and Coliseum Medical Centers and Coliseum Northside, both in Macon. The companies are targeting July 31 for a closing date.

"This is an exciting opportunity for Piedmont,' said Kevin Brown, president and CEO of Piedmont Healthcare. "HCA Healthcare has instilled a high standard of care into these facilities, and we are proud that they



Special to The Covington News Eastside Medical Center is a 310-bed hospital in Snellville.

have trusted Piedmont to continue this legacy."

The four HCA Healthcare hospitals were not able to fully benefit from a broader HCA presence in their communities, Nashville-based HCA

stated in a news release.

"Given Piedmont Healthcare's history of serving the region's health care needs, the affiliation will better position the hospitals

to continue providing excellent care to their patients," the release stated.

"At the same time, the transaction provides strategic value to HCA Healthcare by increasing financial flexibility in investments in ongoing and future initiatives in core markets."

Eastside Medical Center is a 310-bed two-campus system of care. The North Campus has 229 beds supporting acute care services, including a 46-bed emergency department.

The South Campus offers a 61-bed inpatient psychiatric center, 20-bed inpatient rehabilitation facility, and an 11-bed emergency department.

Coliseum Health System includes two acute care hospitals: Coliseum Medical Centers with 310 beds and Coliseum Northside with 103 beds. In addition, Coliseum operates an ambulatory surgery center in Macon with three operating rooms.

Cartersville Medical Center is a 119-bed acute care hospital that includes a 43-bed emergency department with a level III trauma center.

Piedmont has operated Piedmont Newton Hospital in Covington since 2015.

City of Covington

Tucker firm to replace Frontage Road bridge

STAFF REPORTS

COVINGTON, Ga. — Tucker-based Georgia Bridge and Concrete will reconstruct the 84-year-old bridge and approaches on Frontage Road over the Yellow River by September 2022. Drivers will be detoured along I-20 during

construction, GDOT announced Tuesday. No start date was given.

The existing bridge, built in 1937, is structurally deficient and must be replaced, a GDOT news release stated.

Raising the roadway profile to meet design standards mandated a closure, since an on-site option would impact the I-20 alignment, the river, a pump station and trailer park.

The proposed project will begin approximately 550 feet west of the existing bridge and extends east 550 feet for 0.27 miles, the release stated. As proposed, the 320-foot long by 43.25-foot wide bridge will include two walls along the approaches south of the road to minimize impacts to a pump station and trailer park.

The \$3.065 million I-20 Exit 88 interchange area project requires an interstate detour once underway. Frontage Road is a major east-west route to and from downtown Covington, carrying more than 9,000 vehicles per day.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

 American Red Cross Blood Drive is set for Oxford City Hall, 110 W. Clark St. in Oxford Thursday, May 6, and Aug. 6 from 10:30 a.m. to 3

For more information, visit RedCrossBlood.org or call 800-733-2767.

 Farmers Market opening day is set for May 11 from 4 to 7 p.m. at Denny Dobbs Park at 6252 Hwy. 212 in Covington.

Newton County Parks and Recreations will host the weekly event which will feature fresh fruits and vegetables, baked goods and more every Tuesday from a variety of farms and

For more information, call 770-786-4373 or email jmeert@ co.newton.ga.us.

 Bicentennial Service Day Community Cleanup for Board of Commissioners District 2 is set for May 15 at 9 a.m. at Denny Dobbs Park at 6252 Hwy. 212.

County Commissioner Demond Mason, the Newton County Bicentennial Committee and Keep Newton Beautiful will host the event.

To participate, register by May 7 at keepnewtonbeautiful.

For more information, call 770-784-2015 or email newton-

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 Masquerade Jewelry & Accessories sale hosted by the Piedmont Newton Hospital Auxiliary is set for May 17, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., and May 18, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., in the Physicians Pavilion Auditorium.

The sale is open to the public. Come shop teacher appreciation gifts, graduation gifts, or get started on your holiday shopping. Cash, debit and credit cards will be accepted.

Piedmont Newton Physician's Pavilion Auditorium is at 4181 Hospital Drive NE.

 A blood drive hosted by Piedmont Newton Hospital and the American Red Cross is set for May 17 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Lions Club Clubhouse at 3120 Conyers St. in Covinton.

For more information or to register to donate, please visit www.redcrossblood.org.

 Community Kickball **Event** hosted by Porterdale Police Department is set for May 21 from 5 to 8 p.m. at B.C. Crowell Park.

Young attendees can learn about public safety by seeing police vehicles, fire trucks and EMS ambulances. Hot dogs will be available and live music will be featured.

For more information, call

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770-786-2217. Covington Family YMCA

registration for all sessions of summer day camp is open to the public.

The YMCA at 2140 Newton Drive, Covington, will offer camps. Sign-up space is available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Registration can be completed online or in-person at a Y location.

The Y offers traditional day camps, which include challenging and fun activities featuring weekly themes, arts and crafts, group games, outdoor exploration and indoor learning

Additionally, the Y provides specialty camps focused on sports, art, gymnastics, STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math), teen leadership and swim.

For registration, visit spiritonline.ymcaatlanta.org. For more information, call 770-787-3908 or visit https://www.ymcaatlanta.

 Charlie Elliott Wildlife Center at 543 Elliott Trail in Mansfield is offering a variety of programs for all ages and audiences this spring and summer.

Now open for registration are the Becoming An Outdoors Woman (BOW) program; multiple summer day camps from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day; and

family-oriented public programs. Charlie Elliott Wildlife Center is managed by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources.

For more information and deadlines, visit https://georgiawildlife.com/charlie-elliott-wild-

Submit your events to news@covnews.com or mail to 1166 Usher St., Covington, GA 30014

Education

Public, private schools' students compete in regional, state science fairs



Special to The Covington News

Peachtree Academy students Brandon Burda, Jack Gambino and Maya Hammond recently competed in the 2021 Georgia Association of Private and Parochial Schools (GAPPS) Virtual Region Science Fair. Hammond, a sixth grader, won first place.



Special to The Covington News

From left, Newton County Theme School (NCTS) students Alexander Ehret earned honorable mention and Katheryn Wilber second place for their projects in the recent 2021 Georgia Science and Engineering Fair.

THE NEWS' FIRST RESPONDER OF THE WEEK



Kei'Ana Sims

Sims is a 911 Communications Technician for the Covington-Newton County 911 Center. She has worked at the center since October 2018. She is a Georgia POST certified communications officer and was awarded Rookie of the Year by the local 911 center.



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Newton County Schools

Area students selected for 2021 All-State Band

Alcovy musician first in school history to receive the honor

STAFF REPORTS

news@covnews.com

Alcovy High School's Taylor Stevens and Newton High School's Ja'Briel Anderson recently received statewide honors when they were selected for the 2021 Georgia All State Band.

Stevens, a senior at Alcovy, plays the euphonium and has also served as drum major of the school's marching band. Anderson is a sophomore and plays the tuba for the Newton Sound Factory.

According to Alcovy High School band director Brian Coates, this marks the first time in the school's 14-year history that a student from Alcovy has earned All-State Band accolades.

"Taylor was not only chosen but also ranked as the No. 3 baritone in the state among 11th- and 12th-grade

students," said Coates. "This was an extremely rigorous process including two separate rounds of auditions and only a handful of students were selected for each category."

Newton High School band director Jason Smith praised his student for also earning All-State recognition.

"Ja'Briel is an exceptional musician who works hard to gain the success he enjoys,' said Smith. "He puts in the time to perfect his craft and I'm excited to see his diligence and work ethic is paying off."

Stevens, who has been in band for seven years, since her middle school days at Indian Creek, said she knew from a young age that she wanted to learn to play a musical instrument.

"Since I was little I've al-



Special to The Covington News

From left are 2021 Georgia All State Band honorees Taylor Stevens of Alcovy High School and Ja'Briel Anderson of Newton High School.

ways had a passion for music and I just felt that band was an amazing way to express myself and find out more about myself as I developed over the years," she said.

Anderson joined band in middle school as well. He said his interest was actually sparked in elementary school though.

"When I got to fifth grade music class, we were given recorders to play and that's when I started liking music a lot more," he said. "I knew I

wanted to try out for middle school band at Liberty."

Both said they were extremely excited and honored to learn they had been chosen for All-State Band.

"I was asleep and got an email from my band director stating in all caps, 'Taylor you made All-State," Stevens said. "I just immediately started tearing up because it's something I've just worked so hard for and being that it's my last year, this was my last shot and I finally succeeded in what I pursued for a long time."

Anderson said he was in a Zoom class when he got the

"My band director said one person made it and I was so nervous," he said. "Then he said it was me and I was so excited and so proud of myself."

Although due to COVID-19, there will be no live performances for All-State Band this year, both students said they were very proud to have been selected and each will continue to pursue their musical paths.

Anderson will continue to perform in the Newton Sound Factory while Taylor is headed to the University of Alabama's School of Music.

"Congratulations to both Taylor and Ja'Briel," said Samantha Fuhrey, superintendent of the Newton County School System.

"I am so very proud of both of them for this fantastic accomplishment..."

CONNECTED:

Continued from A1

a residence in Cherry Log and contacted the state agency.

Delgado was reported as a missing person in Barrow County on April 16 after being last seen at a DeKalb County mall the same day.

The mother of two told her husband she was dropping off a passenger and would be home soon. When Delgado did not return home that night, she was reported missing, according to People.

com. According to 11Alive.com, Delgado's husband traced

his wife's last moves through her phone. A bloody face mask was found at one of the locations where she had been.

Five suspects were still at large in the case, and the GBI was seeking the public's assistance in identifying a woman in a photo taken from a video, the release stated.

The suspects wanted in connection with the murder are Megan Alyssa Colone, 30, of Stone Mountain, Juan Ayala-Rodriguez, 35, of Gainesville, Oscar Manuel Garcia, 26, of berto Barbosa-Juarez, 29, of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Austell, and Mario Al-

GBI investigators believe the four suspects plus a fifth suspect, that has yet to be identified, may no longer be in Georgia, the release stated.

Colone may be traveling under the alias, Grace Beda, and is believed to be traveling with her minor children. Authorities nationwide have been alerted about the suspects, the release stated.

PURSUIT:

Continued from A1

iPhones, one iPad, a trash bag the employee stated the assailants took from the store cabinet, boxes with the store's mailing address, and a white hoodie.

Cumberbatch and Letang

were each charged with Armed Robbery in relation to the Saturday incident in Covington. Cumberbatch already was facing an active warrant for his arrest on a traffic violation in Newton

County, Malcom said.

"The two arrests so far are the result of the excellent work by our partners with the Georgia State Patrol and members of our 911 Center, Patrol Team, and C.I.D.,"

Malcom said.

In addition to his Covington charges, Cumberbatch was being held in the Houston County Jail in Perry today without bond on a series of charges apparently related

to fleeing from a law enforcement officer Saturday.

Malcom said the case was still under investigation.

AWARD:

Continued from A1

scholarship," said Newton County Superior Court Judge Cheveda McCamy, the foundation's presi-

The four bar associations formed the foundation in 2019 as a way for local attorneys to give back to youth in Rockdale, Newton and Walton counties. The scholarship was renamed in honor of Judge

Horace J. Johnson Jr. who died in July 2020.

Johnson served as Superior Court judge in the Alcovy Judicial Circuit from 2002 until his death. He was a champion of community service, specifically helping local youth.

'These students have outstanding academics and extracurricular activities," McCamy said. "We had a committee of five veteran lawyers who reviewed the applications and we were blown away by these students' essays and commitment to public service."

To learn more information about the scholarship or receive an application for next year, contact BTBScholarship@gmail.com.

JOINS:

Continued from A1

spirit and tradition of Martin Luther King Jr. to promote a modern civil rights agenda that includes the fight for one standard of justice, decency and equal opportunities for all people regardless of race, religion, ethnicity, citizenship, criminal record, economic status, gender, gender expression or sexuality, according to its website.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY



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OPINIONS

The Covington News

Our View on the Issue



Metro Creative Services

Be sure to make Mother's Day special this year, as we never know what tomorrow may bring.

Make Mother's Day memorable **∠ ∠** When you look

into your mother's eyes, you know that is the purest love you can find on this earth.' These words once

produced by best-selling author and journalist Mitch Albom could not be more true.

There's nothing quite like a mother's love. Inside today's edition of *The Covington*

News, you'll notice there's a few extra pages. Those pages are dedicated to moms across the area as we get ready to celebrate Mother's Day this Sunday.

Mothers are special;

there's no doubt about that. In fact, we'd say they make the world go round. But let us never forget our grandmothers, mothers-inlaw, sisters and other endearing mother figures — women who are regarded as a source of nurture and support.

In 2018, more than \$23 billion was reportedly spent on Mother's Day. A nationwide total of \$4.6 billion was spent on jewelry and

another \$4.4 billion on dinners or brunches.

We're not demanding you go out and spend an arm and a leg to celebrate your special person this weekend, because most mothers don't care for all the fanfare, though much deserved. Sometimes it's the little things that mean most; like a simple phone call, flowers and/or a card that signifies your special bond with

We encourage you to honor the mothers who have passed on. Though difficult, it's often healthy and fun to reminisce all the fond memories made.

As the pandemic has reminded us, tomorrow is never promised, and we'll never know what trials it may bring. So, however you plan to celebrate Mother's Day, be sure to make it memorable.

Our View on the Issue is an opinion of The Covington News editorial board, which includes Publisher Taylor Beck and News Editor Tom Spigolon.

Tom Spigolon news editor

Hard to place value on a mother's sacrifice

s Mother's Day approaches on Sunday, it's difficult to think of all the ways a

mother's sacrifice and contributions helps any

person develop.

Just think of what she has to go through to give life to a child, raise it and make sure it is ready to take on the world in this day and age.

God created the process by which women, not men, give birth.

But he seems to give most moms enough patience to teach their children how to deal with the world at all stages of their lives. I was considering

what a woman must deal with to make sure she delivers a healthy baby. Safe childbirth is a modern medical miracle but it also is not a surefire thing.

By some reasoning only God could explain, some women can have as many children as they want while some find it difficult to give birth to one.

If they get past childbirth, Mom now is responsible for a life.

Mom becomes the

child's caregiver and, as he or she grows, their cook, maid and chauffeur.

Sometimes, Mom is a nurse, too, if we get She's the person

who reads us bedtime stories before we're old enough to read them for ourselves.

Lately, she often served as the teacher's aide — but that's another story altogether.

As her children grow, the best moms become their children's confidant, their guide through the uncertainties of young adulthood — the one who teaches them right from wrong in a highly sexually charged world. She tries to keep her kids on the straight and narrow as they go through school and, maybe, on to college.

Some famous people have told about their mother's value to them.

From a website called thoughtcatalog.com, NBA Hall of Famer Michael Jordan said, "My mother is my root, my foundation. She planted the seed that I base my life on, and that is the belief that the ability to achieve starts in your mind."

Former President Barack Obama said, "My mother was the one constant in my life. When I think about my mom raising me alone when she was 20, and working and paying the bills, and, you know, trying to pursue your own dreams, I think is a feat that is unmatched."

President Donald Trump in an interview with "Fox and Friends," said, "She was so good to me. I couldn't do any wrong, which is a big problem.

"Maybe that's why I ended up the way I ended up. I don't know. I couldn't do any wrong in her eyes."

Microsoft founder and philanthropist Bill Gates on Twitter in 2019 said, "My mom was one of the most generous people I've ever known. If I grew up #WithoutMom, I wouldn't be the man I am today. Join the fight against preventable maternal deaths so that no child grows up without a mother."

Georgia native, country music star and TV cooking show hostess Trisha Yearwood said, "When you're sick, nobody takes care of you like your mom."

The void Mom leaves when she departs this life is not something anyone should have to experience. But, when they do, Mom sometimes leaves while her children are far away, in another state or another continent, and having not seen or spoken with her for years.

Yes, in recent decades children have not left the nest as quickly as they formerly did.

Maybe that's a good thing in some instances, to have someone present to look after Mom if needed as she ages.

My mother has been gone for a number of years now.

Speaking as one who will never see my Mom again: If you haven't seen your mother for awhile because of the pandemic, or talked to her for awhile for any number of personal reasons, put those reasons aside and visit with her before it's no longer possible.

I like this quote from author Rachel Wolchin: "Call your mother. Tell her you love her.

"Remember, you're the only person who knows what her heart sounds like from the inside."

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

David Carroll columnist

Hugs, handshakes, elbows and fist bumps

omeone outside of my family hugged me last week. It was like a sneak attack,

I didn't see it coming. Α lovely lady

in my

work-



place, who works an opposite shift from me, caught me by surprise. We had not seen each other in a year or so because we had both been working limited hours, often

from home. So when I saw her, I walked over to her desk for an in-person greeting, and she sprung to her feet and embraced me. It almost took my breath away, for two reasons. One, she's a serious hugger. She hugs like she means it. And two, of course, is the fear factor. During the past year, my brain has been programmed to avoid human contact, pausing the practice of a lifetime of hugs and handshakes. At what

to decide? Just a few weeks into the pandemic, Dr. Anthony Fauci said that we should end

normal? Is that for me

point do I revert to

handshakes forever. He stated that our long-cherished handto-hand greeting was the world's No. 1 germ spreader. When he said that, many of us had no idea what we were getting into. I read his statement, rolled my eyes, and said, "Yeah, right." The handshake would never go away, not if I had any say so.

Well, maybe he has a point. It takes two to tango, and we now know that hand to hand contact is a bit dicey.

I've shaken a few thousand hands in my day, from the bone crushers to the dead fish. I've exchanged high fives, low fives, and responded to requests to "Gimme some skin!"

Thankfully, I have avoided any major illnesses that could be attributed to handshakes and hugs. I imagine most folks could say the same.

But like everything else we see, say, and do, the world has changed. Who wants me to shake their hand, or go in for a hug? And how will I know who's open for business? It's too awkward to wear a sign around your neck, right?

Even so, if I'm open for a handshake, and you're willing to join in, how do I know you've sanitized within the past few minutes? How can you be sure about me? Must we be like dogs, and sniff each other (I'm talking about hands, folks) before we formalize our

greeting? Some "experts" are already promoting alternatives to handshakes. (I put that word in quotation marks because I've always believed an expert is someone from out of town, which makes us think they are superior in some way. This is why I often make speeches outside my hometown, because people who don't know me think I'm smart.)

Anyway, these outof-town know-it-alls have convinced most of the free world to bump fists or connect elbows in lieu of the feared handshake. Certainly, a case can be made that these are relatively germ-free alternatives, but I wouldn't necessarily call them safe, and they're definitely not graceful.

I have gone in for the fist bump, while my friend has offered an elbow. He or she quickly switches to the fist, at the same time I have countered with an elbow. This is followed by quizzical looks and awkward silence. Not exactly the ideal greet-

I have also encountered those who think the fist bump should be offered with the same power as a Mike Tyson knockout punch. Same with the elbow greeting, which should be more of a graze, and not a collision. A shot to the funny bone is no laughing matter. Plus, now that we've been trained to sneeze into the fold of our arm, I'll bet a few of those sneezy germs have taken up residence at the Elbow Inn.

head-knock. Neither side is sure what to

ing.

As for hugs, it becomes even more complicated. There's the full-bodied, affectionate hug. For a more casual acquaintance, there's the neck-hug. For someone you don't know that well, there's the side-hug. Our "guy"

friends get the brohug. The most embarrassing hug is the

do, so in the midst

of all the clumsiness, while trying to decide between the full-body, the neck-hug, or the side-hug, your head crashes into the other person's noggin, creating a massive headache for both parties. Those are the hugs I do not miss.

Now, some are suggesting a nod, a salute, a "head dip," a bow, or even a little dance. Who knew a simple greeting could be so

complicated?

The next few weeks will tell the tale. I am now fully vaccinated, and yearn to be social again. I have a new book coming out, and will soon be speaking to clubs and churches. Fair warning: unless you're wearing a "CLOSED" sign, I may be coming in for a hug.

David Carroll is a Chattanooga TV news anchor and radio host.

The Covington News

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CLASSIFIEDS & LEGALS

The Covington News

CLASSIFIEDS

Jobs

Help Wanted

DEPENDABLE HELP BLIMPIE Conyers 678-806-5950 CALL

WANTED "POOL Monitors" \$9-\$10 PER hour. The Ellington Community in Covington, Georgia has 6-8 Pool Monitors positions available. Visit www.ellingtoncommunity.com, download an employment application, and email the completed application ellingtonclubhouse345@gmail.

LEGALS

Public Notices

Abandoned Vehicles

ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE PETITION ADVERTISEMENT

YOU ARE hereby notified, accordance with O.C.G.A. Section 40-11-19.1, that petitions were filed in the Magistrate Court of Newton County to foreclose liens against the vehicles listed below for all amounts owed. If a lien is foreclosed, the Court shall order the sale of the vehicle to satisfy the debt. The present location of the vehicles is

125 OLD Hwy 138 Loganville, GA 30052-4814

ANYONE WITH an ownership interest in a vehicle listed herein may file an answer to the petition on or before: 05/26/21

ANSWER FORMS may be found in the Magistrate Court Clerk's office located at: 1132 Usher St Room COVINGTON, GA

FORMS MAY also be obtained online www.georgiamagistratecouncil MAKE VEHICLE

VEHICLE ID #

License# Magistrate Court Case State

PONTIAC 2001 1G2WK52J61F264799 21-1561AV

INFINITI 2005 JNKCV54E85M425921 21-1562AV

2G1115SL0F9248147 21-1563AV

Avalanche 3GNEC12T44G252062

21-1564AV 2003 Expedition

1FMFU18L43LC30691 21-1565AV

HYUNDAI 2006 Santa Fe KM8SC73DX6U035780 21-1566AV

TOYOTA 2001 Camry 4T1BG22K51U787953 21-1567AV

FORD 1FTEX14N7SKA03787

21-1568AV NISSAN 2005

1N4BL11D65C283121

21-1569AV

21-1571AV

DODGE 2011 Avenger

1B3BD4FB4BN620726 21-1570AV

SATURN 2004 5GZCZ53434S890727

CHEVROLET 2011 2G1WC5EM9B1198958 Impala

21-1572AV

FORD Mustang 1ZVFT80N055132811 21-1573AV

PUBLIC NOTICE #200277

Bids

THE CITY of Covington is accepting bids for ten (10) GDOT approved Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFB) as specified in exhibit "A" of the bid packet

SEALED BIDS must be delivered to City Hall, 2194 Emory Street NW. Covington, GA 30014, Attn: Scott Thursday, May 13, 2021.

REQUEST FOR Bids and additional information may be obtained by accessing the request for proposals on the City's website at https:// www.cityofcovington.org/index php?section=business-opportunities

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

PUBLIC NOTICE #200255 4/28-5/5

Debtors Creditors

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND

CREDITORS

IN RE: ESTATE OF JEFF H. HIOTT,

ALL CREDITORS of the estate of JEFF H. HIOTT, JR, late ofNewton County, Georgia, deceased, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to

make immediate payment. THIS 26TH day of April, 2021. STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF

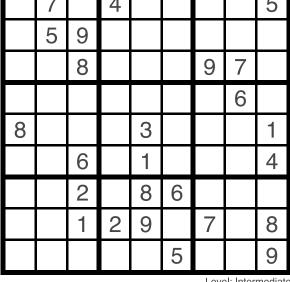
THE ESTATE of Lorene R. Hiott

971 JUNE Drive SW Convers GA

PATRICIA H. Carter, Executor

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!

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

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

CITY OF COVINGTON COVINGTON JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

The City of Covington is currently accepting applications for a Water & Sewer Equipment Operator in the Water & Sewer Maintenance **Department** with a starting hourly rate of \$14.65 to a maximum hourly rate of \$23.50 depending upon qualifications. This position performs a variety of semi-skilled maintenance work, and operates a variety of equipment in the complex construction, specialized operation, repair, maintenance and replacement of City water and sewer systems. Minimal education and experience qualifications include graduation from high school or GED equivalent, experience involving the use and service of medium and heavy equipment, and a valid Driver's License. Applicants must have the ability to obtain their Class A CDL within one year of employment. Qualified applicants may apply on our website by downloading an application packet at cityofcovington.org, or may apply in person at Covington City Hall, 2194 Emory Street, Covington, Georgia 30014. This position will remain open until 4:00 PM on Wednesday, May 12, 2021. The City of Covington is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

PUBLIC NOTICE #200289 5/5,12,19,26

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND

IN RE: ESTATE OF LORENE R.

ALL CREDITORS of the estate of Lorene R. Hiott, late ofNewton County, Georgia, deceased, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to

THIS 26TH day of April, 2021.

STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF **NEWTON** PATRICIA H. Carter, Executor THE ESTATE of Lorene R. Hiott deceased

971 JUNE Drive SW Conyers, GA

PUBLIC NOTICE #200288 5/5,12,19,26

TRADE NAME REGISTRATION **AFFIDAVIT GEORGIA, NEWTON COUNTY**

TO WHOM It may Concern: PLEASE BE advised that MONICA **SON** , whose address is GENTLE SPRING LANEI COVINGTON GA 30016 and the owner(s) of the certain business now being carried on at 4165 CARROLL ST COVINGTON GA 30014 in the following trade name, to-wit: G & P FAMILY FLEA MARKET; and that the nature of said business is: RESELL FURNITURE/ FLEA MARKET 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 28th day of APRIL, 2021.

PUBLIC NOTICE #200290 5/5,12

Divorces

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

ANTHONY E. FRANCIS **PLAINTIFF**

SANDRA J. FRANCIS

DEFENDANT **CIVIL ACTION NUMBER**

2020-CV-1985-3 NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

TO: SANDRA J. FRANCIS **UNKNOWN ADDRESS**

BY ORDER of the court for service by publication dated APRIL 22 2021 you are hereby notified that on SEPT 30, 2020 (date of filing) ANTHONY E. FRANCIS (plaintiff) filed suit against you for Divorce . YOU ARE required to file an answer

in writing within sixty (60) days of the date of the order for publication with the clerk of the Superior Court of Newton County and to serve a copy of the answer upon the plaintiff (if pro se) or upon the plaintiff's attorney (if represented).

WITNESS THE Honorable LAYLA H. ZON, Judge Superior Court of

Newton County.

THIS, THE 28TH day of APRIL 2021. I INDA D. Hays **CLERK OF Superior**

PUBLIC NOTICE #200294 5/5,12,19,26

> IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF **NEWTON COUNTY** STATE OF GERORGIA

JOYANN ROSS

TEJON STEWART DEFENDANT

CIVIL ACTION NUMBER

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION TO: TEJON STEWART

80 AVONLEA DRIVE COVINGTON, GA 30016 BY ORDER of the court for service

by publication dated APRIL 26 2021 you are hereby notified that on 03-18-2021(date of filing) JOYANN ROSS(plaintiff) filed suit against you for Divorce .

YOU ARE required to file an answer in writing within sixty (60) days of the date of the order for publication with the clerk of the Superior Court of Newton County and to serve a copy of the answer upon the plaintiff (if pro se) or upon the plaintiff's attorney (if represented).

WITNESS THE Honorable LAYLA H. **ZON Judge Superior Court of Newton**

THIS, THE 27TH day of APRIL 2021. LINDA D. Havs **CLERK OF Superior**

PUBLIC NOTICE #200296 5/5,12,19,26

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY STATE OF GERORGIA

KRISTA WEATHERS **PLAINTIFF** CHRISTOPHER WEATHERS

DEFENDANT **CIVIL ACTION NUMBER**

2021-CV-883-1

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

TO: CHRISTOPHER WEATHERS 2741 PINE GROVE RD LOGANVILLE, GA

BY ORDER of the court for service by publication dated APRIL 26 2021 you are hereby notified that on APRIL 19, 2021 (date of filing) KRISTA WEATHERS (plaintiff) against you for Divorce YOU ARE required to file an answer

in writing within sixty (60) days of the date of the order for publication with the clerk of the Superior Court of Newton County and to serve a copy of the answer upon the plaintiff (if pro se) or upon the plaintiff's attorney (if

WITNESS THE Honorable JEFFREY L. FOSTER, Judge Superior Court of Newton County.

THIS, THE 26TH day of APRIL 2021. LINDA D. Hays **CLERK OF Superior** PUBLIC NOTICE #200295

5/5,12,19,26 IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF MARCELLA S. DABNEY

NEWTON COUNTY

STATE OF GERORGIA

PLAINTIFF SEAN W. DABNEY SR

DEFENDANT

CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 2021-CV-664-1

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

TO: SEAN W. DABNEY **UNKNOW ADDRESS** BY ORDER of the court for service by

publication dated APRIL 6 2021 you are hereby notified that on MARCH 24 2021 (date of filing) MARCELLA S. DABNEY (plaintiff) filed suit against you for Divorce

YOU ARE required to file an answer in writing within sixty (60) days of the date of the order for publication with the clerk of the Superior Court of Newton County and to serve a copy of the answer upon the plaintiff (if pro se) or upon the plaintiff's attorney (if

WITNESS THE Honorable JEFFERY L. FOSTER, Judge Superior Court of Newton County.

THIS, THE 6th day of MARCH 2021. LINDA D. Hays CLERK OF Superior

PUBLIC NOTICE #200185 4/14.21.28-5/5

Foreclosures

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER STATE OF GEORGIA **COUNTY OF NEWTON**

BECAUSE OF a default under the terms of the Security Deed executed by Robert A Fagan, Jr. to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems Inc., as grantee, as nominee for Pacific Union Financial, LLC dated October 30, 2018, and recorded in Deed Book 3765, Page 565, as last modified in Deed Book 4162. Page 27, Newton County Records, said Security Deed having been last sold, assigned, transferred and conveyed to Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper, securing a Note in the original principal amount of \$220,000.00, the holder thereof pursuant to said Deed and Note thereby secured has declared the entire amount of said indebtedness due and payable and, pursuant to the power of sale contained in said Deed, will on the first Tuesday, June 1, 2021, during the legal hours of sale, before the Courthouse door in said County, sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, the property described in said Deed, ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL

OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOT 231, 9TH DISTRICT, NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA, **BEING LOT 9, THE SOUTH** LINKS AT COVINGTON, PHASE ONE, PER PLAT AT PLAT BOOK 37, PAGES 248-256, NEWTON COUNTY RECORDS, WHICH PLAT IS INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE. THIS PROPERTY IS KNOWN AS 105 S LINKS DRIVE. COVINGTON, GA 30014. Said property is known as 105 S Links Drive, Covington, GA 30014, together with all fixtures and personal property attached to and constituting a part of said property, if any. SAID PROPERTY will be sold

subject to any outstanding ad

valorem taxes (including taxes which

are a lien, whether or not now due and payable), the right of redemption of any taxing authority, any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above.

THE PROCEEDS of said sale will be applied to the payment of said indebtedness and all expenses of said sale as provided in said Deed, and the balance, if any, will be distributed as provided by law. The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not

prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the secured creditor. THE PROPERTY is or may be in the possession of Robert Fagan, a/k/a Robert A Fagan Jr. a/k/a Robert Anthony Fagan, successor in interest

d/b/a Mr. Cooper as Attorney-in-Fact for Robert A Fagan, Jr. FILE NO. 19-073509 LOGS LEGAL GROUP LLP* Attorneys and Counselors at Law 211 Perimeter Center Parkway, N.E., Suite 300 Atlanta, GA 30346

NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC

or tenant(s)

(770) 220-2535/jw https://www.logs.com/
*THE LAW FIRM IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

PUBLIC NOTICE #200226 5/5,12,19,26 NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

UNDER POWER NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA

THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. UNDER AND by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed

given by Angela Clark to Mortgage Electronic Registration systems, Inc., as nominee for IndyMac Bank FSB dated December 31, 2004 and recorded on February 4, 2005 in Deed Book 1841, Page 273, Newton County, Georgia Records, and later assigned to Aspen Properties Group, LLC as Trustee for Aspen G Revocable Trust by Assignment of Security Deed recorded on May 25, 2018 in Deed Book 3705, Page 205, Newton County, Georgia Records, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of One Hundred One Thousand Two Hundred And 00/100 Dollars (\$101,200.00), 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 June 1, 2021

the following described property: ALL THAT TRACT AND PARCEL OF LAND, lying and being in the Land Lot 161 of the 1st District, Newton County, Georgia being more particularly described as follows:

TO FIND the true point of beginning, begin at a one inch open top pipe found where the line common to Land Lots 159 and 161 of the First District intersects the South 60 ft. right-of-way of U.S. Hwy No. 278. thence proceed Southwesterly along the aforementioned 60 ft right-of-way of U.S. Hwy No. 278 for a distance of 428.57 feet to an 3/4" re-bar found, the true point of beginning.

for a distance of 842.46 feet to an iron pin found; THENCE South 84° 57' 33" West for a distance of 117.17 feet to a 3/4" rod found; THENCE South 85° 07' 35" West for a distance of 117.99 feet to an iron pin set; THENCE North 01° 21' 11" West for a distance of 294.87 feet to an iron pin set; THENCE North 34° 53' 07" East for a distance of 558.79 feet to an iron pin set on the southern 60 ft right-of-way of U.S. Highway No. 278; THENCE North 77° 59' 14" East along the Southern 60 ft. right-of-way for U.S. Highway No. 278 for a distance of 180.00 feet to an iron pin found 3/4 inch re-bar found; THENCE North 78° 34' 59" East along the southern 60 ft right-of-way of U.S. Highway No 278 for a distance of 59.83 feet to an iron pin found 3/4 inch re-bar found, the

true point of beginning.

TOGETHER WITH and subject covenants, easements, and

restrictions of record. **SAID PROPERTY** contains 5.00 acre.

TAX ID #: 0124019 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).
YOUR MORTGAGE servicer, FCI

Lender Services, Inc., as servicer for Aspen Properties Group, LLC as Trustee for Aspen G Revocable Trust, can be contacted at 1-800-931-2424 or by writing to P.O. Box 27370, Anaheim Hills, CA 92809, 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 parties in possession of the property are Angela Clark or tenant(s); and said property is more commonly known as 13064 Highway 278 SE, Social

Circle, GA 30025. THE SALE will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the security deed. ASPEN PROPERTIES Group, LLC

as Trustee for Aspen G Revocable Trust as Attorney in Fact for Angela

MCMICHAEL TAYLOR Gray, LLC 3550 ENGINEERING Drive, Suite PEACHTREE CORNERS, GA 30092

404-474-7149 MTG FILE No.: GA2021-00501

PUBLIC NOTICE #200236 5/5,12,19,26

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 Stanley B. Cooper to

Mortgage Electronic Registration Inc., as grantee, as Systems, nominee for SunTrust Mortgage, Inc. D/B/A Sun America Mortgage, dated April 26, 2006, and recorded in Deed Book 2180, Page 8, Newton County, Records, modified by a Loan Modification Agreement recorded June 16, 2015 in Book 3335, Page 273 in the amount of Two Hundred Seventy-Four Thousand Seven Hundred Twelve and 35/100 (\$274,712.35) Newton County, Georgia Records, subsequently modified by a Loan Modification Agreement recorded November 8, 2018 in Book 3769, Page 56 in the amount of Two Hundred Seventy Thousand Four Hundred Thirty-One and 53/100 (\$270,431.53) Newton County, Georgia Records, as last transferred to Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, d/b/a Christiana Trust, not individually but as trustee for Pretium Mortgage Acquisition Trust by assignment recorded on January 20, 2015 in Book 3294 Page 81 in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Newton County, Georgia Records, conveying the afterdescribed property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of One Hundred Seventy-Two Thousand Hundred and 0/100 dollars (\$172,600.00), 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

the following described property: **ALL THAT** TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOT 156, 10TH DISTRICT, NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA, BEING LOT 74, OAKWOOD MANOR SUBDIVISION UNIT I, AS PER PLAT RECORDED AT PLAT BOOK 43, PAGE 154-160, SAID PLAT BEING INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE.

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

THE ENTITY having full authority to negotiate, amend or modify all terms of the loan (although not required by law to do so) is: Selene Finance they can be contacted at (877) 735-3637 for Loss Mitigation Dept, or by writing to 9990 Richmond Avenue, Suite 400 South, Houston, Texas 77042, to discuss possible alternatives to avoid

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 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 Stanley B. Cooper or tenant(s); and said property is more commonly known

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)

Attorney in Fact for Stanley B. Cooper. BROCK & Scott, PLLC 4360 CHAMBLEE Dunwoody Road SUITE 310 ATLANTA, GA 30341 404-789-2661

PUBLIC NOTICE #200259 5/5,12,19,26 NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER

GEORGIA, NEWTON COUNTY

B&S FILE no.: 21-02900

BY VIRTUE of a Power of Sale contained in that certain Security Deed from MONIQUE THOMAS to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for merican Mortgage Exchange, Inc., dated January 20, 2004, recorded January 26, 2004, in Deed Book 1603, Page 601, Newton County, Georgia Records, said Security Deed having been given to secure a Note of even date in the original principal amount of One Hundred Twenty-Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Sixty and 00/100 dollars (\$128,960.00), with interest thereon as provided for therein, said Security Deed having been last sold, assigned and transferred to Athene Annuity and Life Company, there will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash at the Newton County Courthouse, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in June, 2021, all property described in said Security Deed including but not limited to the following described property: **ALL THAT** TRACT OR PARCEL OF

OF NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA BEING LOT 109 OF AVONLEA SUBDIVISION, UNIT TWO, AS PER PLAT RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK

LAND LYING AND BEING IN LAND

LOT 167 OF THE 10TH DISTRICT

See LEGALS, A6

legal hours of sale on June 1, 2021,

intent to collect attorney's fees having

as 40 Oak Terr Dr, Covington, GA 30016. THE SALE will be conducted subject

any right of redemption or other lien not extinguished by foreclosure.

WILMINGTON SAVINGS Fund Society, FSB, d/b/a Christiana Trust, not individually but as trustee for Pretium Mortgage Acquisition Trust as



Special | Newton College and Career Academy

Lt. Gov. Geoff Duncan recently recognized Newton College and Career Academy and Newton County School System for the academy's "hard work and dedication to our associates," with its certification as a Georgia College and Career Academy at the State Capitol, school officials said in a post on Facebook.

may be represented by a lawyer at all

IF YOU want a lawyer, you may

choose to hire your own lawyer. If

IF YOU want a lawver but are not

able to hire a lawyer without undue

MAY ASK for a lawyer to be

appointed to represent you. The Court would inquire into your

financial circumstances and if the

Court finds you to be financially

unable to hire a lawyer, then a lawyer

IF YOU want a lawyer appointed to

represent you, you must let the Court

W. Edgar, Associate Judge of said

will be appointed to represent you.

stages of these proceedings.

you want to hire a lawyer, PLEASE CONTACT your lawyer

financial hardship, you

or the officer of the

immediately.

LEGALS:

NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA, WHICH PLAT IS BY REFERENCE

is more commonly known as 245 Queensland Lane, Covington, GA 30016.

is hereby declared due because of default under the terms of said Security Deed. The indebtedness remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same, all expenses of the sale, including attorneys' fees (notice to collect same having been given) and all other payments provided for under the terms of the Security Deed.

SAID PROPERTY will be sold on an "as-is" basis without any representation, warranty or recourse against the above-named or the undersigned. The sale will also be subject to the following items which may affect the title: any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, whether or not now due and payable); the right of redemption of any taxing authority; matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or by an inspection of the property; all zoning ordinances; assessments; liens; encumbrances; restrictions; covenants, and any other matters of record superior to said Security

Deed TO THE best of the knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the owner and party in possession of the property is MONIQUE THOMAS, ACE HOMES LLC, or tenants(s).

THE SALE will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed. PLEASE NOTE that, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2. you are not entitled by law to an amendment or modification of the terms of your loan. The entity having full authority to negotiate, amend or modify all terms of the loan (although not required by law to do so) is: Select Portfolio Servicing, Inc., Loss Mitigation Dept., 3217 S. Decker Lake Dr., Salt Lake City, UT 84119, Telephone Number: 888-818-6032.

ATHENE ANNUITY AND LIFE COMPANY

AS ATTORNEY in Fact for MONIQUE THOMAS THE BELOW LAW FIRM MAY BE

HELD TO BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR, UNDER FEDERAL LAW. IF SO, ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

ATTORNEY CONTACT: Rubin Lublin, LLC, 3145 Avalon Ridge Place, Suite 100, Peachtree Corners, GA 30071 TELEPHONE NUMBER: (877) 813-

0992 Case No. SPS-09-36501-9 AD RUN Dates 05/02/2021 05/10/2021, 05/17/2021, 05/24/2021

PUBLIC NOTICE #200285 5/5.12.19.26

Juvenile Court

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

IN THE INTEREST OF: SEX: MALE X.F. DOB: 03/25/2009 CASE#: 107-21J-0046 MINOR CHILD Under 18 Years of

SUMMONS

TO: TAMEKA Freeman and John **Does**, parent(s) of said minor child born to **Tameka Freeman** on the

YOU ARE hereby notified that on January 29,2021, a Petition for Private Dependency was filed in this Court requesting that the minor child be placed in the care, custody and control of the Maternal Aunt. The petition alleges dependency based as defined in O.C.G.A. 15-11-2 (22). A Petition for Appointment of Permanent Guardian was filed with this court on January 29, 2021. You are hereby commanded and required to appear before the court on the 3rd day of June, 2021 at 2:00pm, to answer the allegations of the petition

alleging dependency.

Dependency can be obtained from the Clerk of the Newton County Juvenile Court, at the Judge Horace J. Johnson Jr. Judicial Center, 1132 Usher Street, Covington, GA 30014. READ CAREFULLY

A COPY of said Petition for

SEX: MALE A.J.P. DOB: 10/15/2005 21J-0118

Case #107-A CHILD Under 18 Years of Age

APRIL BEAL, Mother

GFWC Service Guild of Covington



Special | GFWC Service Guild of Covingtor

The Covington News

GFWC Service Guild of Covington President Donna Sneed and Day of Service Chair Lynn Garrett met with Ansley Wetherington of Volunteer Services at Ronald McDonald House on April 28 to present a donation for the GFWC Georgia Day Of Service. Guild members donated \$430 worth of fast food gift cards and checks at its April 26 meeting. The gift cards will be given out to the parents of children awaiting surgery or treatment while in residence at the Ronald McDonald House facility.

Continued from A5 39, PAGES 113-115, RECORDS OF Juvenile Court. THE CHILD or other parties involved

INCORPORATED HEREIN AND MADE A PART HEREOF.

SAID LEGAL description being controlling, however the property

THE INDEBTEDNESS secured by said Security Deed has been and

> COURT HANDLING this case know that you want a lawyer immediately. WITNESS THE Honorable Hillary

Court. This the 16th day of April, PUBLIC NOTICE #200213

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

IN THE INTEREST OF: N.J. SEX: Female DOB: 06/15/2010 CASE #107-21J-0090 A CHILD Under 18 Years of Age

SUMMONS AND PROCESS

TO: QUATERRIOUS JEFFERSON. Mother

YOU ARE hereby notified that a Petition (Dependency) was filed in the Juvenile Court of Newton County on March 15, 2021, requesting that the minor child be placed in the care, custody and control of the Georgia Department of Human Services. acting by and through the Newton County Department of Family and Children Services.

YOU ARE hereby commanded, personally or by attorney, to be and appear at the Newton County Juvenile Court, 1132 Usher Street, NW, Covington, Georgia 30014, for a hearing to be held on the 10th day of June, 2021, at 1:00 p.m., then and there to answer why the prayers for relief as set forth in the Department's Petition should not be granted.

COPY of said Petition (Dependency) can be obtained from the Clerk of the Newton County Juvenile Court, at the aforementioned address.

READ CAREFULLY

THIS IS a very serious matter. This Summons requires you to be present at a formal hearing in the Juvenile

THE CHILD or children and other parties involved may be represented by a lawyer at all stages of these proceedings.

IF YOU want a lawyer, you may choose to hire your own lawyer. If you want to hire a lawyer, please contact your lawyer immediately. If you want a lawyer but are not able to hire a lawyer without undue financial hardship, you may ask for a lawyer to be appointed to represent you. The Court would inquire into your financial circumstances and if the Court finds you to be financially unable to hire a lawyer, then a lawyer will be appointed to represent you. Please contact immediately the Newton County Juvenile Court at 770-784-2060 if you wish to request a lawyer to be appointed to represent you. DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE DAY OF COURT TO REQUEST AN ATTORNEY.

WHETHER OR not you decide to hire an attorney, you have the right to attend the hearing of your case, to call witnesses on your behalf, and to question those witnesses brought

WITNESS THE Hon. Candice Branche, Judge of said Court, this 19th day of April, 2021. JANELL GAINES

CLERK. **NEWTON COUNTY** Juvenile Court

PUBLIC NOTICE #200225

4/28-5/5,12,19 IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF **NEWTON COUNTY**

STATE OF GEORGIA IN THE INTEREST OF:

SUMMONS AND PROCESS

Petition (Dependency) was filed in the Juvenile Court of Newton County on March 29, 2021, requesting that the minor child named above be placed in the care, custody and control of the Georgia Department of Human Services, acting by and through the Newton County Department of Family and Children Services. YOU ARE hereby commanded,

personally or by attorney, to be and appear at the Newton County Juvenile Court, 1132 Usher Street, NW, Covington, Georgia 30014, for a hearing to be held on the 3rd day of June, 2021, at 3:00 p.m., then and there to answer why the prayers for relief as set forth in the Department's Petition should not be granted.

COPY of said Petition (Dependency) can be obtained from the Clerk of the Newton County Juvenile Court, at the aforementioned address.

READ CAREFULLY

THIS IS a very serious matter. This Summons requires you to be present at a formal hearing in the Juvenile

THE CHILD or children and other parties involved may be represented by a lawyer at all stages of these proceedings. IF YOU want a lawyer, you may

choose to hire your own lawyer. If

you want to hire a lawyer, please

contact your lawyer immediately. IF YOU want a lawyer but are not able to hire a lawyer without undue financial hardship, you may ask for a lawyer to be appointed to represent you. The Court would inquire into vour financial circumstances and if the Court finds you to be financially unable to hire a lawyer, then a lawyer will be appointed to represent you. Please contact immediately the Newton County Juvenile Court at 770-784-2060 if you wish to request a lawyer to be appointed to represent you. DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE

WHETHER OR not you decide to hire an attorney, you have the right to attend the hearing of your case, to call witnesses on your behalf, and to question those witnesses brought

DAY OF COURT TO REQUEST AN

against you.

WITNESS THE Hon. Candice Branche, Judge of said Court, this 21st day of April, 2021.

JANELL GAINES

CLERK. **NEWTON COUNTY** Juvenile Court

PUBLIC NOTICE #200237 4/28-5/5,12,19

Name Changes

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF NEWTON, STATE OF GEORGIA

WILLOW BROOKE WHISENHUNT A MINOR

ALEXANDRIA D. TURCOTTE PETITIONER

CIVIL ACTION FILE NO. 2021-CV-

NOTICE OF NAME CHANGE PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on the

8th day of April, 2021, ALEXANDRIA D. TURCOTTE filed a Petition in the Superior Court of Newton County, Georgia, seeking to change the name of her minor child from WILLOW BROOKE WIDSENHUNT to WILLOW BROOKE TURCOTIE. Any interested or affected party has the right to appear and file objections. At the expiration ofthIrty (30) days from the filing of the Petition, upon proof of publication, and if no objection is filed, the Court shall proceed to hear and determine RAISED BY said Petition. 8TH day of April 2021 THIS

THE BARKSDALE LAW FIRM P. O. Box 81084 CONYERS, GA 30013 PHONE: (770)760-9383 email: slbatty@bellsouth.net SHARON L. Barksdale Attorney for Petitioner Georgia Bar No. 037981

PUBLIC NOTICE #200227 4/28-5/5,12,19

NEWTON COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF

IN RE the Name Change of

ROMAN PATTERSON

TIFFANY ALLEN PETITIONER.

Child(ren):

STEPHEN MCCULLOUGH RESPONDENT CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 2021-CV-

NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME OF CHILD

TIFFANY ALLEN filed a petition in the Newton County Superior Court on APRIL 2. 2021, to change the name of the following minor child FROM: ROMAN MARK PATTERSON to ROMAN MARK MCCULLOUGH ANY INTERESTED party has the

right to appear in this case and file

objections within the time prescribed in O.C.G.A. §§ 19-12-1(f)(2) and (3). TIFFANY ALLEN

260 HEATON PLACE TRAIL COVINGTON, GA 30016 PUBLIC NOTICE #200186

4/14,21,28-5/5

PETITIONER

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

IN RE: the Name Change of **Antonio Marquis Heard**

ACTION SUCV2021001023

ANTONIO MARQUIS Heard,

NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME OF ADULT

ANTONIO MARQUIS Heard filed a petition in the Newton County Superior Court on April 30, 2021, to change the name of Antonio Marquis Heard to Antonio Marquis Whitlack

ANY INTERESTED party has the right to appear in this case and file objections within the time prescribed in O.C.G.A. §19-12-1(f)(2) and (3). THIS 30TH day of April, 2021.

HARGER W. Hoyt
ATTORNEY FOR Petitioner **STATE BAR** No. 373125

PUBLIC NOTICE #200297

S/HARGER W. Hoyt

5/5.12.19.26

Public Notice

CITY OF COVINGTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING -PLANNING COMMISSION MAY 25, 2021 @ 6PM **RESCHEDULED DATE**

NOTICE IS hereby given, per the City of Covington's Code of Ordinances Chapter 16.12 that the below applications were submitted for consideration by the Covington Planning Commission on following properties: **A. REZONING:** PR21-

0002-REQUEST - Rezone notated parcels from CR (Corridor Residential), & NR2 (Neighborhood Residential -2), and NM (Neighborhood Mixed-Use) TO TCR (Town Center Residential)

for a proposed upscale, multi-family

development:

LOCATION: WASHINGTON St., Walnut St., & 4155 Washington St. **TAX MAP** Parcel Number: C035 0005 018 (CR); C035 0005 020B & C035 0005 022 (NR2) & C035 0005 023 (NM). OWNER: JEANA Hyde APPLICANT: WILLIAM Dashiell

SPECIAL USE PERMIT: PSU21-0006-REQUESTED USE - Auto & Truck Repair Facility:

LOCATION: 9126 A. Industrial Blvd.,

TAX MAP Parcel Number: #C081 012 (M1) OWNER: RONALD Collins Holdings, LLC AUTHORIZED AGENT/

APPLICANT: Gilmar Rodas PRELIMINARY PLAT: PPP21-0002-REQUEST: SUBDIVIDE +/= 1.24 acres for a proposed single-family residential lot, three (3) Townhomes,

and two (2) 10-unit apt/condo buildings as a part of the Clark's Grove North Village development: LOCATION: 4002 Clark St. TAX MAP Parcel Number: C037 0007 008 (NM) OWNER/APPLICANT: **CLARK**

Street North, LLC PRELIMINARY PLAT: PPP21-0003-REQUEST: SUBDIVIDE +/- 43 acres for a proposed 186-lot, single-

TAX MAP Parcel Number: C063

family residential development:

LOCATION: 7901 Hwy 81

007(NR2) OWNER: AAL Hussein APPLICANT: THE Reservoir Group,

004F(NR2)

PRELIMINARY PLAT: PPP21-0005 REQUEST: SUBDIVIDE +/- 12 acres

for a proposed 59-lot, single-family residential development: LOCATION: S. Dearing

TAX MAP Parcel Number: C082

APPLICANT: WILLIAM Dashiell SPECIAL Use: PSU21-0008 -REQUEST: SPECIAL use for an

OWNER: EAST Haven, LLC

Automotive parts and Accessories LOCATION: 6166 Washington St TAX MAP Parcel Number: C040

OWNER: THOMAS Haves **APPLICANT: MICHAEL Tate DUE TO** circumstances necessitated by emergency conditions involving

public safety and preservation of public services, public access to this meeting is limited to teleconference and video access. THE PUBLIC MAY ACCESS THIS MEETING USING THE FOLLOWING LINK: https://zoom.us/j/97628143543; BY CALLING 1-646-558-8656, | Meeting ID: 976 2814 3543

ALL INTERESTED parties are invited to participate. For more information, contact Renee Criswell, at rcriswell@cityofcovington.org, or 770-385-2178.

PUBLIC NOTICE #200300

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT of Transportation Requests Feedback & Comments FOR P.I. No. 0015560 NEWTON COUNTY

IN KEEPING with Governor Brian Kemp's directive to keep state government agencies functioning as Georgia combats the COVID-19 pandemic, Georgia Department of Transportation (Georgia DOT) is moving forward by placing project information for review and feedback into an internet platform to comply with social distancing and avoiding crowds of 10+ people. We appreciate

your participation in this process. GEORGIA DOT has posted information related to the proposed Bridge Replacement on State Route (SR) 81 over Yellow River at http://www.dot.ga.gov/AboutGDOT/ PublicOutreach.

THIS PROJECT proposes to replace the existing bridge on SR 81 over Yellow River in Newton County, Georgia. This project is needed because the existing bridge is deteriorating and does not meet current structural design standards. The existing bridge would be replaced with a new bridge using staged construction. One lane of the existing bridge will be kept in service during construction. Georgia DOT is seeking feedback about the proposed project. THE PURPOSE of this internet

posting is to replace an in-person meeting, while allowing the public to review the proposed project, provide feedback, or write in with questions. AMERICANS WITH Disabilities Act (ADA) Information: To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities contact the District Planning and Programming Liaison, Ellen Wright at (478) 553-3407 or ewright@dot.ga.gov.

COMMENTS WILL be accepted

concerning this project until May 24, WRITTEN STATEMENTS may be submitted to:

MR. ERIC Duff **ENVIRONMENTAL** Administrator Georgia Department of Transportation 600 WEST Peachtree Street, NW -16th Floor Atlanta, Georgia 30308

PUBLIC NOTICE #200258 5/5,19 **PUBLIC NOTICE**

ANNOUNCEMENT OF INTENT TO

DESTROY SPECIAL EDUCATION RECORDS The Special Education Department of Newton County School System will destroy records that have been collected, maintained, and/or used in providing special education services. This activity is in compliance with federal, state and local policy. The destruction of data policy provides that records may be destroyed when they are no longer needed for educational planning WHO WILL BE STUDENTS

AFFECTED destruction This policy only applies to SPECIAL **EDUCATION STUDENTS BORN IN** TO OBTAIN THESE EDUCATIONAL

RECORDS REQUEST FOR RECORDS MUST BE MADE PRIOR TO MAY 21, 2021 CONTACT THE Office of Special Education at: Newton County Public Schools - Board of Education. 2109 Newton Dr. N.E. Covington, GA 30014 or by phone: (770)787-1330, Ext. 1221. Records will be provided only to a former student who is 18 years of age or older or the legal guardian. We will notify the individual by phone when the requested records are prepared.

The records should be picked up

at the Board of Education. Anyone

obtaining records will be required to

produce identification that contains

both picture and signature. **PUBLIC NOTICE #200193**

Public Sales Auctions

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION HILLTOP TOWING INC

8360 NOLLEY DR COVINGTON, GA 30014 TIME: 10:00 AM **DATE: MAY** 6, 2021 CASH ONLY: SOLD AS IS

LOCATION:

VEHICLE:

CHEVROLET 2006 SILVERADO 1500-WRECKED VIN: 2GCEC13Z961358160

PUBLIC NOTICE #200254

PUBLIC AUCTION: Sellars Wrecker Services, In accordance with the OCGA (40-11-2) the following vehicle will be sold to the highest bidder at public auction that will be held on MAY 22, 2021. Sealed bids will be accepted from 10:00

am to 2:00 pm at Sellars Wrecker Services, 295 Hwy 162, Covington Ga. 30016. 2008 BMW 328I WBAWB335X8P135502

5FNYF28456B042677 1989 FORD RANGER 1FTCR14A1KPA36091 2001 SUZUKI GSX R600 JS1GN7BA712106685

2006 HONDA PILOT

2000 FORD MUSTANG GT 1FAFP42X3YF157723 2017 SCOOTER XPLORER LEHTCB158HR000113 **2020 MOPED**

L9NTCBAE5L1011652

PUBLIC NOTICE #200290 5/5,12

Trade Names

NOTICE IS given that articles of incorporation that will incorporate B4 & After ETC. Co. 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 60 Chandler Trace, Covington, GA, 30016 and its initial registered agent at such address is Michelle L

PUBLIC NOTICE #200283

NOTICE IS given that articles of incorporation that will incorporated Half-Time Promises have been delivered to the Secretary of State for filing in accordance with the Georgia Business Corporation Code. The initial registered office of the corporation is located at 300 Bridges Way, Covington, GA, 30016, and its initial registered agent at such address is Neibert David.

PUBLIC NOTICE #200284 TRADE NAME

REGISTRATION **AFFIDAVIT** GEORGIA, NEWTON COUNTY

TO WHOM It may Concern: PLEASE BE advised that CAMILYA

ROBERTSON, whose address is 25 SAGE BRUSH TRAIL COVINGTON. GA 30014 is the owner(s) of the certain business now being carried on at 25 SAGEBRUSH TRAIL COVINGTON GA 30014 in the following trade name, to-wit:
OUTLOOK NOTARY SERVICES and that the nature of said business is: NOTARY SIGNING. 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 23rd day of APRIL, 2021.

PUBLIC NOTICE #200256 4/28-5/5

THIS SUMMONS requires you to be present at a formal hearing in the YOU ARE hereby notified that a Wednesday, May 5, 2021

BUSINESS & FINANCE

The Covington News

Facebook Community Action Grants

Liberty Middle School's Facebook grant to fund students' Chromebooks

Officials say grant helps fight battle against lack of student access to technology

STAFF REPORTS

Liberty Middle School has received a \$31,000 Facebook Community Action Grant that will allow the school to purchase Chromebooks and

storage carts for students.

Facebook's Newton Data Center announced that the Facebook Community Action Grants program was created to address needs in Newton, Walton, Jasper and Morgan counties by putting the power of technology to use for community benefit, connecting people online or off and improving STEM education.

"With this grant, Liberty Middle School teachers will be able to provide students with deliberate access to digital learning in reading and content areas," said Tiffany Merriweather, NCSS grants coordinator.

"Funds provided by Facebook will be beneficial in helping the school meet its goal to increase student achievement."

Keisa Vincent, principal of



Special to The Covington News

From left are Liberty Middle School Assistant Principal Malcolm Brown, Principal Keisa Vincent and Assistant Principal Kimberlee Sorrell.

Liberty Middle School, said, "We truly appreciate Facebook for this wonderful opportunity to provide Chromebooks for our students."

"We know that not all of

our students have access to technology in their homes so this grant provides a way to combat that issue.

"We definitely want to thank Facebook for their

support of our school. They have proven to be a fantastic partner in education, and we are lucky to have them in the Newton County community." COVID-19

Resources available to families for virus deaths

> **STAFF REPORTS** news@covnews.com

U.S. Rep. Hank Johnson announced recently that FEMA was accepting applications for funeral assistance for Georgians who lost loved ones to COVID-19.

Johnson helped pass the funeral assistance program as part of the American Rescue Plan.

"While no amount of money can heal the loss of a loved one, this grant program can help ease the financial strain on Georgians who've suffered so much from COVID-19," Johnson said in a statement.

Georgians who paid for funeral expenses after Jan. 20, 2020, for an individual whose death may have been caused by COVID-19 can apply for up to \$9,000 of assistance per funeral through FEMA's dedicated call center at 844-684-6333.

Georgia Power shares how to 'spring' into energy savings

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS news@covnews.com

Georgia Power is reminding customers to spring into energy savings by focusing on energy efficiency throughout the house.

Spring is also a great time to evaluate your Georgia Power rate plan.

Finding an option that better fits your budget and lifestyle can offer savings and more control of your bill ahead of hot weather.

Spring cleaning and other tips from Georgia Power:

• Focus on the Fridge: Proper cleaning and maintenance of the refrigerator, such as carefully dusting the dirt from refrigerator coils and removing excess food or bulky bags to allow air to circulate, can reduce energy consumption.

• Watch the Windows: Cleaning windows or dusting blinds? Be sure to leave curtains and blinds open to take advantage of natural light during the day when cooler weather allows.

• Feel the flow; free your filters: Clean or change air conditioning filters each month, or pleated filters every three months. A dirty filter can make your equipment work harder, resulting in higher bills. Make sure furniture, curtains, rugs and other items do not block vents and return air registers.

• Fire up the Grill: Reduce the temperature inside your home by using an outdoor grill or smoker instead of indoor ovens and stoves. • Tune-up the A/C:

Have your air condi-

tioner professionally serviced now to ensure it's running efficiently before summer arrives. When doing yard work, trim plants around the A/C units so they can receive proper air flow.

• Think Thermostats: Set manual thermostats to 78 degrees in the summer for peak efficiency and make the most of programmable and smart thermostats, which help decrease energy use based on your lifestyle.

Tips, Tools & Resources

Whether customers own a home or rent, tailored tips are available at www.GeorgiaPower. com/Save, which also includes access to a free online energy checkup and a variety of rebates and incentives for both homes and businesses.

Flexible rate options to fit customers' **budgets and lifestyles**

Georgia Power reminds customers that as the seasons change, now is a great time to review your current rate plan and ensure that you are on the best rate to fit your budget and lifestyle. Ensuring that you are on the most economical rate plan for your use is one of the most effective ways to keep your energy costs low. Customers can explore details of these Georgia Power rate plans at Georgia-Power.com/Pricing:

• FlatBill® – This plan offers a 12-month fixed contract price that does not fluctuate when your power usage does eliminating surprises and preventing higher bills during peak seasonal use in winter and

• PrePay – This rate option allows you to pay as you go and add funds as needed. This plan requires no deposit, credit check or reconnection fees.

 Pay by Day® Georgia Power's newest rate plan, this innovative option locks in a fixed daily price for electricity over an entire year. This prepaid service plan gives customers the ability to deposit funds into their Georgia Power account with a fixed amount deducted daily, no matter the amount of energy

• Smart Usage – This plan can provide savings by implementing small changes in how and when you use electricity. By using major appliances such as clothes dryers, ovens and dishwashers at different times, you could reduce your monthly energy bill.

• Plug-In Electric Vehicle (PEV) – A great option for electric vehicle (EV) drivers who can charge their EVs during nighttime hours and take advantage of lower-priced energy.

 Nights & Weekends – If you can shift when you use electricity during the summer months to the evening, the Nights & Weekends rate is for you. By changing when you wash dishes, do laundry or cool your home, savings add up annually.

 Residential Services Georgia Power's basic rate plan is available to all residential customers. This plan has a monthly base charge and a rate that changes based on your monthly usage and the time of

Georgia Power is the largest electric subsidiary of Southern Company. Georgia Power has approximately 2.6

million customers in all but four of Georgia's 159 counties.



ARE YOU A NEW BUSINESS WONDERING WHAT YOUR NEXT STEPS ARE? ARE YOU AN ESTABLISHED BUSINESS LOOKING TO GET MORE INVOLVED AND MAKE NEW CONNECTIONS?

JOIN THE CHAMBER!

We are hosting a Chamber 101 event on May 20 @ 12:00 **FREE** for new and prospective members to learn more about the chamber of Commerce.

> To RSVP please email dharper@newtonchamber.com

Wednesday, May 5, 2021

SPORTS

The Covington News

NFL Draft Coverage

Gowan, former Ram drafted by Cardinals



UCF Athletics

Tay Gowan (23) was selected by the Arizona Cardinals with the 223rd overall pick in the 2021 NFL Draft on Saturday. The former Ram spent the 2019 season with UCF after transferring from Butler Community College.

By MASON WITTNER mwittner@covnews.com

The Newton County pipeline to the NFL kept running over the weekend.

Tay Gowan, a former standout defensive back for the Newton Rams, was drafted by the Arizona Cardinals with the 223rd overall pick in the sixth round of the 2021 NFL Draft on Saturday.

He became the 46th player in the history of UCF's football program to be drafted, and the fourth Golden Knight to be selected over the weekend

He was also the second player to be taken who spent his prep career in Covington, joining former Eastside Eagle and Georgia Bulldog Eric Stokes Jr. Stokes heard his

name called late Thursday night when he was taken by the Green Bay Packers late in the first round.

Gowan opted out of the 2020 season due to the COVID-19 pandemic but spent his redshirt junior season in 2019 playing with the Golden Knights after transferring in from Butler Community College.

He blossomed in his first season in Orlando. Listed at 6-foot-1, 186 pounds, he recorded 31 tackles, two interceptions and one tackle for loss while recovering one fumble and breaking up eight passes.

According to his social media, Gowan plans to wear No. 32 for the Cardinals next season.

BEST OF NEWTON

HOMETOWN REALTY

Darlene Smallwood [Broker/Owner] • Kenneth Smallwood [Owner/Agent]

Bobby Sigman (Associate Broker) • Travis Moore (Associate Broker) Pat Swords-Smith (Associate Broker)

Donna Carithers • Bonnie Cowan • Sherry East • Teresa Casteel • Vicky Mason

2135 Pace Street • Covington, GA 30014

(Morgan Plaza)

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We still have the Hometown Value you

are looking for in a Real Estate Agent.

Whether you are selling or buying.

Prep Baseball State Playoffs



Mason Wittner | The Covington News

Coming off a first-round sweep of Taylor County, No. 3 seed Social Circle will go back on the road this week to square off against top-seeded ACE Charter in the second round of the Class A-Public state playoffs.

Redskins roll to Sweet 16

By MASON WITTNER

SOCIAL CIRCLE, Ga. — How sweet it is to be playing in the second round.

No. 3 seed Social Circle advanced to the Sweet 16 with a firstround sweep of No. 2 seed Taylor County on Thursday. Now, second-year head coach Kevin Dawkins and his crew must take on the role of underdog once again this week as they travel to Macon for a best-of-three series with top-seeded ACE

Charter.

The Redskins (17-14, 12-6 Region 8) will try to slow down a Gryphons (28-4, 11-1 Region 7) offense that has averaged more than 10 runs per game this spring. They'll do so by throwing arms Jason Ball and Ty Lemaster, the duo who clamped down on Taylor Coun-

"We were very fortunate on Thursday only having to throw Jason and Ty," Dawkins said. "We didn't throw anybody or waste any other pitching. And even with those two guys, they stayed below the pitch limit because they were very effective with their pitches, were able to fill up the zone." Dawkins has adopted

a phrase from a recent Freddie Freeman documentary and relayed it to his team over the past several weeks: "You didn't come this far just to come this far.'

"Using that Freddie Freeman quote, it seems to be fitting for these guys and for this season," Dawkins said. "I tell them you can't worry about who's on the other side of the field; that's our job as coaches. As players, we just need you to go out and execute, play your game of baseball. Do the little things right and you'll be rewarded for it."

The series was schedueld to start Tuesday, but inclement weather threatened to delay it.

For continued playoff coverage, visit CovNews.com

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Special to The Covington News Peachtree Academy's Alexa Anderson inked her NLI to play golf at Georgia Military College on Thursday.

Anderson signs with GMC

By MASON WITTNER

COVINGTON, Ga. — Alexa Anderson made history Thursday afternoon.

The Peachtree Academy senior became the first student-athlete in program history to commit to playing golf at the next level when she signed her National Letter of Intent to further her academic and athletic career at Georgia Military College.

"I am so proud of Al-

exa's hard work and dedication to her golf game,' head golf coach Ken Van Ness said. "She has improved so much over her career here at Peachtree. I know she will do well at

GMC." Anderson has been enrolled at Peachtree for 14 years. During that time, she's excelled on the golf course, as well as competing on the school's swim, cross country, and cheerleading teams.



Riverside Healthcare Career Fair

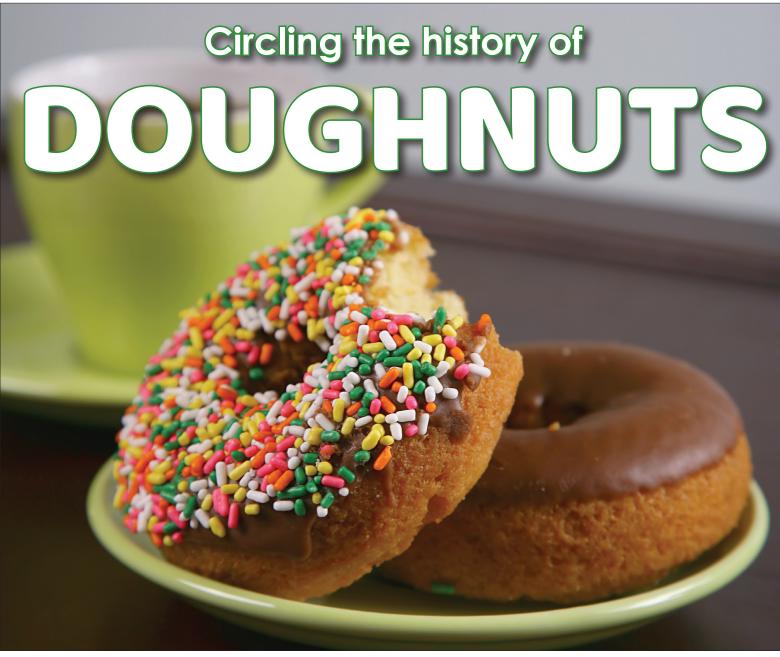
Friday, May 7th - Saturday, May 8th 10:00am - 2:00pm 5100 West St NW, Covington, Ga 30014 We are hiring for LPN's and CNA's with a \$3,000.00 sign on bonus.

Call Wendy Banks at 770-787-0211, or apply on online at our website at www.riversidehc.com

B1 Wednesday, May 1-2, 2021

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The Covington News



Metro Creative Services

A glazed doughnut with morning coffee before or on the way to work is a morning ritual for many people.

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

news@covnews.com

Doughnuts are beloved breakfast staples. A glazed doughnut to go with morning coffee on the way to work is a morning ritual for many

Despite their popularity, many people do not know much about how doughnuts came to be.

Oily cakes precede doughnuts

The origin of doughnuts is widely debated. Desserts made from fried dough can be found in various countries and cultures. However, historians largely believe that the Americanized doughnut arrived thanks to Dutch immigrants. According to Smithsonian magazine, when Dutch settlers came to New York, they brought along olykoeks, translated to "oily cakes." Records show the Dutch were making these creations as early as the mid-nineteenth century. These earliest doughnuts

were balls of cake fried in pork fat until they were golden brown. Since the center of these doughnuts did not cook as fast as the outside, many also were stuffed with fillings that did not need to be cooked.

Literally minded name

In a similar fashion, Elizabeth Gregory, a New England ship captain's mother, used her son's spice cargo along with lemon rind to fashion her own fried dough. Gregory made these pastries so that her son, Hanson, and his crew could store them on long voyages, and eat something that would ward off scurvy and colds. Gregory stuffed walnuts or hazelnuts in the centers of the dough. She came to call the pastries "doughnuts." However, others attribute the name to the original olykoeks, which were sometimes shaped into knots and called "dough knots."

Seaworthy improvements While the doughnuts certainly were acceptable, Captain Gregory came up with a way to improve his mother's concoction. Rather than stuff the doughnut to make up for the uncooked center, he

The earliest doughnuts were balls of cake fried in pork fat until they were golden brown.

punched a hole in the middle of the dough ball before it was fried. The hole increased the surface area and exposure to the hot oil, ensuring the entire doughnut cooked evenly. Other stories about the doughnut hole attributed the modification to the fact that Captain Gregory could then hang the doughnut on the ship's steering wheel so

he could use both hands to

Doughnuts get automated

Prior to 1920, doughnuts were made entirely by hand. Adolph Levitt, a Russian refugee and baker, began selling doughnuts from his bakery in New York City's theater district. To keep up with the crowds, Levitt invented a gadget that could make the fried rings faster. A circle of dough shaped like a ring dropped into a vat of boiling oil, circulated, was flipped over, and emerged from the oil on a moving ramp. Many modern doughnut companies still make their doughnuts like this.

Modernization and mass production brought a shortening of the name "doughnut." Various doughnut companies use "donut" for the cakes. Whether you call them dough knots, doughnuts or donuts, the treats are delectable.

journal Nature, archaeologist Peter Bogucki was excavating a Stone Age

site in the fertile plains of central Poland in the 1970s when he came across various artifacts.

Dairy's big

benefits

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS news@covnews.com Did you know that humans are the only adult animal species that continues to consume "milk" through

dairy products?

be numerous.

While most animals wean off of their mother's milk after infancy, humans across the globe have been consuming products produced by cow, sheep or goat milk for thousands of years. And the benefits can

Although dairy doubters are quick to mention that it is not "natural" for humans to consume milk products into adulthood and that the body is not designed to digest the sugars and proteins in dairy, others are saying that centuries of farming have led to the evolution of human genes so that dairy products can be included in the diet. According to a study published in 2013 in the

One seemed to be an early pottery strainer used in cheese-making. The pottery was studied, and milk proteins were found on it.

As farming replaced hunting and gathering in many areas of the world, it's surmised that the human body slowly evolved to tolerate milk into adulthood, especially if it was fermented, such as in cheese or yogurt.

Several thousand years later, it's believed that a genetic mutation spread through Europe that gave people the ability to produce lactase — the enzyme necessary to digest the lactose sugar in dairy — and drink milk.

Many people who retain the ability to digest milk can trace their ancestry to Europe, according to a group of scientists brought together to work on a multidisciplinary project called LeCHE (Lactase Persistence in the early Cul-

tural History of Europe). Today we know that dairy is an important source of nutrients at all ages and stages of growth. Southeast United Dairy Industry Association, Inc. says that dairy is a great source of protein, calcium, carbohydrates, phosphorus, potassium, and vitamins A, D, B12, riboflavin, and

The U.S. Department of Agriculture says that the calcium in dairy products is used for building bones and teeth and in maintaining bone mass. Diets with sufficient potassium may help to maintain healthy blood pressure. Additionally, vitamin D functions in the body to maintain ideal levels of calcium and phosphorous so that bones are built and maintained.

The Dietary Guidelines for Americans encourage children and adults to enjoy three servings of lowfat or fat-free milk, cheese or yogurt each day.

Dairy can be a nutritious part of a healthy diet, and history shows it has been for quite some time.

Make sweet treat for mom

Celebrate Mother's Day with delicious soufflé surprise

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

news@covnews.com

Mothers selflessly devote themselves to their children from infancy into adulthood. A mother's love never wanes, and she's always ready and willing to step in and put her children first.

Mother's Day is a great chance for men, women and children to honor the special women in their lives. Delicious homemade treats can show mothers just how much they're appreciated and adored. Try this tasty recipe for "Cold Mango Soufflés Topped with Toasted Coconut" from "The Complete Mexican, South American & Caribbean Cookbook" (Metro Books) by Jane Milton, Jenni Fleetwood and Marina Filippelli.

Cold Mango Soufflés topped with **Toasted Coconut**

Makes 4

Ingredients:

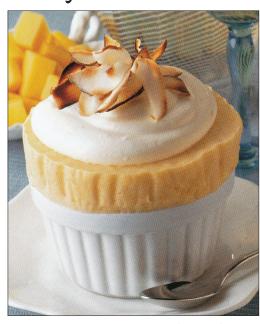
4 small mangoes, peeled, pitted and

2 tablespoons water 1 tablespoon powdered gelatine

2 egg yolks

1/2 cup superfine sugar 1/2 cup milk

1 1/4 cups heavy cream



Metro Creative Services

Delicious homemade treats can show mothers just how much they're appreciated and

Grated rind of one orange Toasted flaked or coarsely shredded coconut, to decorate

Directions:

Place a few pieces of mango in the base of each of four 2/3-cup ramekins. Wrap a creased collar of nonstick parchment paper around the outside of each dish, extending well above the rim. Secure with adhesive tape, then tie tightly with string.

Pour the water into a small heatproof bowl and sprinkle the gelatine over the surface. Leave for 5 minutes or until spongy. Place the bowl in a pan of hot water, stirring occasionally, until the gelatine has dissolved.

Meanwhile, whisk the egg yolks with the superfine sugar and milk in another heatproof bowl. Place the bowl over a pan of simmering water and continue to whisk until the mixture is thick and frothy. Remove from the heat and continue whisking until the mixture cools. Whisk in the liquid gelatine.

Puree the remaining mango pieces in a food processor or blender, then fold the puree into the egg yolk mixture with the orange rind. Set the mixture aside until starting to thicken.

Whip the heavy cream to soft peaks. Reserve 4 tablespoons and fold the rest into the mango mixture. Spoon into the ramekins until the mixture is 1 inch above the rim of each dish. Chill for 3 to 4 hours, or until set.

Carefully remove the paper collars from the soufflés. Spoon a little of the reserved cream on top of each soufflé and decorate with some toasted flaked or coarsely shredded coconut.

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Breast



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Wednesday, May 5, 2021 | C1

Celebrating Mother's Day

What it means to be ...



Special to The Covington News

Newton natives Patrick and Nicki Daniecki have fostered nine children in seven years.

SPACE AND LOVE

Newton foster mom says children can be given up for adoption if "best" for child

By TOM SPIGOLON

Nicki Daniecki says foster

mothers often are asked how they could give up children for adoption after they bonded with them.

"The answer to that is, 'Yes you can," she said.
"It would hurt, and it does

hurt," Daniecki said. "If it was best for him, you could do it ... that's what matters most."

Daniecki and her husband, Patrick, have served as foster parents since 2014.

She is a Covington native and former teacher who has served as chairwoman of an area foster care group.

The Danieckis have hosted nine young children in the seven years they have served as conduits between the Georgia Department of Family and Children Services (DFACS) and

future adopted homes.

DFACS often removes children from their homes and places them in the foster care system to separate them from abuse or neglect resulting from

the parent's criminal activity.
Daniecki and her husband,
Patrick, saw "a lot of need" to
host children who needed "love
and a place to feel safe" before
they decided to become foster
parents.

"We have that space and we have that love and we felt like it was the right time in our life," said Daniecki, who does not have biological children.



Special to The Covington News Nicki Daniecki said her "skill set" led her to only adopt very young children.

However, she said they weren't quite prepared for the practical part of the work, which included such occurrences as receiving children on short notice into their home in the middle of the night.

"It's been so much harder and so much better than we ever imagined," she said.

She said she has only taken in children under 5 years old, which matched her "skill set." However, foster parents often

differ in the ages of children they prefer hosting.

Some may choose teens be-

cause they "resonate" with them better than younger children, she said. Daniecki said the best adop-

tions are with the children's biological parents because of the bond that's already been created. She said some children she has fostered were reunited with

an aunt — which was best for

them because of the family re-

lationship that had already been forged

"We have had reunifications that have been beautiful," she

However, the Danieckis have adopted four of their foster children and are working to adopt a fifth after the children's family conditions meant they would be placed in foster homes, she said.

She said some might wonder if it was a risk to their own families to welcome children they do not know into their homes on an often temporary basis.

However, Daniecki said having them in her home has never been a concern because their parents are the ones responsible for their own actions, not the children.

"These children are innocent," she said. "They're not accountable for any of the mistakes their parents may have made. They've had a lot more character training than others their age."

The young children Daniecki receives often are in "survival mode" — meaning they have grown up looking for their next meal, she said.

They must get beyond that mindset before they can experience what other, more fortunate children may have already received — such as early education.

Daniecki said she is inspired by how such children are able to overcome "things that would crush an adult." "Kids are so resilient," she

said. "They are so gracious about it."

"It's not always pretty and perfect, but they're so loving

and so forgiving to other people,

especially their family," she said.



Special to The Covington News alden, Keli Rebholz. Haralson

Allison Haralson, Kim Walden, Keli Rebholz. Haralson works in the Newton County school system alongside her two daughters as special education teachers.

Coming full circle

Family trio works together in education

By MASON WITTNER

mwittner@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga.

— Allison Haralson was the first to work in the classroom, but the family affair really started with Elsie Blair.

Blair, Haralson's mother, worked in lunchrooms for the Newton County school system for 25 years. While Haralson initially had no plans for working in a school herself, she and her daughters now point to Blair, or "Granny," as being the catalyst for their careers in education.

Twenty-seven years ago, while employed by the Bank of Covington, Haralson visited a local elementary school to read to the children. They immediately captured her affection. By the time she walked back out the front doors, she knew she'd had a change of heart.

"I don't know what happened," Haralson recalls, "but it was like, 'I've got to quit my job and I've got to find a job like this.' And I did, so it just went from there."

Haralson stepped away from the bank and has now been an employee of the Newton County School system for nearly three decades. During that time she's worked in the media center, taught kindergarten and taught special education, which she continues to do now for South Salem Elementary.

The sudden, drastic

The sudden, drastic shift in Haralson's career path was rare. Even rarer still is the fact she now shares the education field — and school district — with her two daughters, both of whom under-

went career path alter-

ations of their own.

Kim Walden went to
Emory University for
sociology. Keli Rebholz studied criminal
justice at Western
Governors University.
Today, however, they
can both be found
instructing special
education classes in

Newton County.
Walden works at
South Salem alongside her mother as
an MOID (Moderate
Intellectual Disability) special education
teacher, while Rebholz
teaches Pre-K special
education at nearby
Flint Hill Elementary.

Sure, not everyone gets the privilege of working with their family members. The trio understand how uncommon it can be. But when they're asked about it, they can't help but point out how fitting it is.

"The school system itself really is a big family," Walden said. "Everyone just kind of moves to different schools within the system, and everybody knows each other. We're all from Covington."

One would likely assume that a family who works together would be close, and more often than not they'd be inclined to be correct. But Haralson, Walden and Rebholz aren't your typical mother/daughters combination.

They share eerily personalities. They also share the same education history, each having gone from Palmer Stone Elementary to Cousins Middle and Newton County High during their preparatory years.

Asked about their

relationship, smiles

See CIRCLE, C3

COVID-19 put a strain on many working parents, especially mothers. Labor statistics show 34,000 Georgia women left the workforce from March 2020 to March 2021.

Metro Creative Services



Pandemic forced many moms out of work

Economist believes female workers may want employers to be more flexible

By TOM SPIGOLON

tspigolon@covnews.com

Georgia mothers saw two forces affecting their willingness to remain employed or return to jobs they may have lost in industries hard-hit by the pan-

The Georgia Department of Labor said the Bureau of Labor Statistics estimated 34,000 Georgia women left the labor force between March 2020 and March

The pandemic-fueled recession since last year disproportionately affected jobs in service industries primarily staffed by women, such as restaurants or hotels, economists have reported.

Meanwhile, more women than men saw the need to stay home with children forced to attend school online or because their daycares

"They've kind of gotten the double whammy," said Teresa Romano, an assistant professor of economics at Emory University's Oxford College.

And as school systems transitioned to virtual learning and daycare centers closed their doors because of fears about the pandemic, a parent had to stay home to care for their children and make sure they attend classes.

"I think part of it is cultural and social norms," Romano said.

They also may have considered other factors, such as econom-

Women are likely than men to quit their jobs to stay home with their children because they are more likely to be in jobs that pay less, Romano said.

Health insurance may be more affordable through the husband's employer because men earn more on average than women, she said.

The Georgia Budget and Policy Institute (GBPI) reported from February 2020 to March 2021, employment for Georgia men had a net growth of 5% but a net decline of 2% for Georgia women.

"These gaps between Georgia women and men in employment data speak to the trend of large exits of women from the workforce during this pandemic," stated an April 20, 2021, GBPI report titled "State of Working Georgia: Pandemic Job Numbers Are Improving, But Inequitably."

CBS News reported in February that nearly 3 million American women had left the labor force since early

It reported that, before the pandemic, women comprised more than half of the country's workers.

"But that number has dropped sharply as many women, particularly mothers of young children, have been furloughed or laid off.

"Many others have had to choose between showing up at frontline jobs or caring for their children who, with daycare centers closed and school underway remotely, would otherwise be left without supervision,"

CBS reported. The Center for American Progress found

that a greater share of women than men made up the 700,000 Americans the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported had left the workforce between November 2019 and November

"It's important to note that most of the decline in labor force participation is among mothers, as the nation experiences the worst recession for women in decades," Rasheed Malik wrote for the CAP.

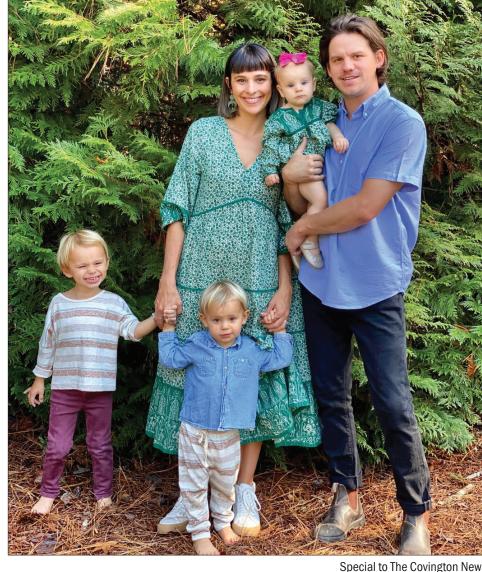
He reported that, "Even mothers who have kept their jobs are paying a price because they are more likely than fathers to reduce their working hours or pass up new opportunities because of child care considerations."

"Between the disproportionate level of home child care responsibilities that women shoulder and the heavy job losses among employment sectors dominated by women, some are now calling this the first 'she-cession," Malik

Romano said the "big question" being asked is if women who have left the labor force will feel "comfortable" going back to work if their jobs return amid easing of social distancing rules and increased vaccinations.

Some workers with children may only want to return if employers are flexible with such requirements as work hours or ability to work remotely, she said.

"Reentry may come down to the appropriate flexibility," Romano said.



Sasha Stone, owner of City Pharmacy in Covington, stands with her family of five. She says Piedmont Newton Hospital's staff provided her comfort during a difficult time.

Business owner shares delivery experience at **Piedmont Newton**

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

news@covnews.com COVINGTON, Ga. Mother of three

and local restaurant owner Sasha Stone understands the impact of creating a balance between the allure of a big city with the comforts of community. At her family's restaurant, City Pharmacy, Stone and her husband strive to create a place "Where Friends Meet" through a unique setting that honors the history of Covington while highlighting a unique, fresh dining

experience. For Stone, balance is something she works to attain in all aspects of her life, and when her third child, daughter Birdie, was born, Stone experienced the way Piedmont Newton Hospital creates a balanced and personal atmosphere for laboring mothers and new

families. When Stone first married, she and her husband lived close to downtown Atlanta. She became pregnant with

her first baby, Moody, shortly after they had relocated back to Covington to be closer to family.

"I had been living in the city so I went to a hospital in the city to deliver my son. I thought I needed to deliver at a big, city hospital in order to be comfortable and safe," said Stone. "It wasn't a bad experience, but it was definitely not a personalized or unique experience."

As Stone neared her due date, her doctor encouraged her to consider inducing labor. While this was not necessarily the birth plan she had in mind, she admits that she hadn't thought too much about a birth plan so she deferred to her obstetrician.

"About an hour after they induced labor, my heart rate and my baby's heart rate dropped," remembers Stone. "They changed the medication they were giving me and I went on to labor for another seven hours

before my labor stalled. After 10 hours, the doctor came in to talk to me about doing a c-section."

Before moving to a c-section, Stone asked if she could try to deliver naturally. Her doctor agreed to let her try, but the baby's heartrate dropped, again, and she was immediately taken into surgery.

"It moved so fast, within 15 minutes I was in the operating room and they were delivering Moody,' said Stone. "I was so happy that he was safe and healthy, but still a little disappointed that I wasn't able to deliver

him naturally." Six months after her son was born, Stone discovered she was again pregnant. Since it was so soon after delivering Moody, she returned to her physician in Atlanta for pre-natal care. However, through her work at the restaurant, Stone had met

See SHARES, C3

local OB/GYN,



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Ways to commemorate Mother's Day when mom has passed away

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

Losing a loved one is never easy. Whether the loss is recent or not, many people find the void created by a loved one's passing never leaves them. Celebrating holidays or milestones can magnify feelings of loss, and such feelings may surface on Mother's Day among people

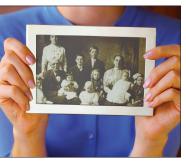
People approach Mother's Day in unique ways when their mother has been laid to rest. Such an experience is extremely personal, and there's really no right or wrong way to mark the occasion. It can be challenging scrolling through other's social media posts about happy brunches and thought-

whose mothers are deceased.

ful gifts. Some, particularly those for whom the wounds may be especially fresh, may opt to avoid the celebration or go through the motions for the benefit of children or spouses. Others may embrace the bonds they had with their mothers by reflecting on their memories.

Those opting to stay connected to their mothers this year can recognize that, although Mom may be gone, they are not motherless. While Mother's Day may be painful for people who have lost their mothers, the following are five ways to make the most of Mother's Day.

1. What would make her happy? Take a heartfelt moment to really think about what made Mom tick and



Metro Creative Services

Looking at family photos and sharing fond memories of one's mother can help focus Mother's Day on positive feelings.

brought joy to her life. Was it pouring over recipes in the kitchen? Did Mom like to trek to the top of a mountain in her hiking shoes? Pay homage to her by walking in her footsteps and you may just feel a deeper connection.

2. Get together with

siblings. If you are lucky enough to have siblings, you can share the day together. This way you can remember the happy times, comfort each other and laugh together. If you don't have siblings, consider a visit with an aunt or uncle or another close relative who may be feeling the loss, too.

3. Relay fond stories to others. Celebrate Mother's Day by doing things to ensure Mom's spirit and personality live on. Bring up fond stories of Mom with your spouse, friends or your own children. Help blur out the sadness of the loss by focusing on happy memories, such as those depicted in family photos.

4. Put mom front and

center. Take out a beautiful photograph of your mother and display it in a prime location in the house. This way you may feel like she is sharing the day with you, and you can think about her fondly each time you see the

5. Enjoy your favorite childhood meal. Whether Mom was a master chef or couldn't boil water, there's bound to be a meal you associate with her. If that special meal is Chinese takeout or a slow-cooked roast, enjoy it on Mother's Day in her

Coping with loss on Mother's Day isn't easy. By focusing on the positive, people who've lost their mothers can enjoy Mother's Day.

CIRCLE:

Continued from C1

immediately lit up on all three faces as they began to speak in unison before subsequently pausing to let each have a turn to answer.

"Oh, we're definitely very close," Walden said first.

"We're more like triplets than a mom and daughters," Haralson added with a laugh. "We are constantly either

texting each other or we are with each other," Rebholz chimed in.

The strength of their bond is palpable. Thanks to this, the three seamlessly share lessons plans and bounce ideas off one another. Haralson will tell Walden what worked or didn't for her classroom, Walden will give

advice to Rebholz about a certain topic that gave her students issues, Rebholz will team up with Haralson for classroom decorations.

The possibilities are plen-

"It's just kind of cool to collaborate," Rebholz said. "Even though we might not be doing the same exact

thing, at some point all of it kind of comes full circle."

Haralson taught in a severe and profound classroom when Walden and Rebholz were younger, and she would bring students home for her girls to help babysit. The early exposure to those with disabilities helped develop an appreciation and understanding that would one day pay off in the classroom.

"I definitely feel like growing up with these kids in our house and normalizing their differences just really made them typical to us," Rebholz said. "It was just easy to go into that role."

SHARES:

Continued from C1

Meridith Farrow, M.D., and they had become

As it got closer to Stone's due date, she and Dr. Farrow discussed Stone's scheduled c-section and her disappointment in not being able to deliver her second son, Hyde, naturally. Dr. Farrow encouraged Stone to talk to her physician about attempting a vaginal birth after cesarean (VBAC), but when she asked her doctor about it, he told her he did not perform that type of delivery.

"I wasn't thrilled that I was having another c-section, but I also knew that there were risks, so I didn't push the issue," said Stone. "But, I do remember wondering why he wouldn't at least take the time to talk to me about my options and what I was thinking about like Dr. Farrow was doing, and I wasn't her patient! It was then that I finally understood what I had felt during Moody's delivery and

now this baby's...

rushed. I felt like the hospital and the doctors were on a schedule and needed to move things along to make room for the next patient. They were very kind and considerate, but there was a lack of warmth due to the rate at which they were moving me

through the process." **Local Comfort** A year and a half later, the Stones decided they wanted to add to their family. Sasha became pregnant, but within a few weeks began to have bleeding that caused her alarm. Although she and Dr. Farrow had a deep friendship, Stone was not her patient, so she called her Atlanta doctor's office. The doctor spoke with her over the phone and diagnosed her as having a chemical pregnancy, sometimes called an early miscarriage, which is a pregnancy where a fertilized egg does not fully implant in the

uterus. "Although I wasn't very far along in the pregnancy, it made

us sad that I had miscarried," remembers Stone. "But, with two boys under the age of four at home, I knew how blessed I was and that the sadness would pass."

A week later, Stone's bleeding had not subsided and was continuing to worsen. She was out of town when she began to experience terrible abdominal cramps that left her unable to walk. She was finally able to reach an oncall physician with her Atlanta doctor's office who told her to go to the closest emergency room.

Scared and in tremendous pain, she called her friend, Dr. Farrow. After speaking with Stone and the ER physician, Dr. Farrow ordered Stone to be transferred and admitted to Piedmont Newton Hospital.

Once at Piedmont Newton, Dr. Farrow quickly discovered that Stone had an ectopic pregnancy that had ruptured and that she needed emergency

surgery. Prior to going into surgery, Dr. Farrow spoke with Stone about the risks and possible outcomes. Knowing that Stone and her husband wanted more children, Dr. Farrow said she would do everything she could to save the ovary but that she couldn't make promises.

"Even though I was in a situation that was serious enough to require emergency surgery, Dr. Farrow and other members of the staff took the time to talk to me, answer my questions, and make sure that I was comfortable with the plan of care," said Stone. "They displayed so much compassion and care for me and my husband."

Stone's surgery was successful and Dr. Farrow was able to save her ovary. She recovered well and, a short time later, was able to get pregnant again. This time, there was no doubt in her mind who would be taking care of her and her baby, Dr.

Farrow and the team at Piedmont Newton.

The pregnancy progressed smoothly and Stone scheduled her c-section, but a week before she was scheduled to deliver, she began having contractions. When she got to Piedmont Newton, she told the nurses about her scheduled c-section, but she was admitted to a regular labor and delivery room until she could be examined by Dr. Farrow.

Confirming that Stone was in active labor, Dr. Farrow asked if Stone wanted to attempt to deliver via VBAC. She knew that Stone had wanted to have her other children naturally, and wanted to give her the opportunity to do so safely. They agreed that Stone would try to deliver naturally, but that Dr. Farrow would halt everything and move her to the OR if there were any issues.

Fifteen minutes later, Birdie Stone, the Stone's third child and only daughter, was

"I was overcome with emotion," said Stone. "Our daughter was perfect and beautiful and there were no complications. Once I had time to reflect on things, I was just so grateful that Dr. Farrow approached my pregnancy and delivery with an open mind and really took the time to understand what was

important to me." Piedmont Newton's Labor and Delivery services provide the balance of high-quality clinical care with the comforts of local service.

"You think you have to go into Atlanta to have a good experience, but, in fact, by doing so you are missing out on having the best, most personal experience," said Stone. "There is no better care than local care and having everything you need right next door. The doctors and staff at Piedmont Newton want for you what is important to you. They want to make you feel like family."

Happy Mother's Day





















Honoring our staff's mothers

"A mother is she who can take the place of all others but whose place no one else can take.

- Cardinal Meymillod

Gift ideas for Mom



Metro Creative Services

There are plenty of creative ways to celebrate mothers and mother figures this year.

Don't be afraid to get creative for Mom

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

news@covnews.com

On Sunday, May 9, millions of people will celebrate the special women in their lives, particularly the mothers, grandmothers and stepmothers who often tirelessly care for those

Created by Anna
Jarvis in the early 20th
century and designated

they love.

an official United States holiday in 1914, Mother's Day is a special day in many families. Apart from birthdays, primary female caregivers may not always get the recognition they deserve, nor be entitled to a day to kick back

deserve, nor be entitled to a day to kick back and relax and let others take the helm. Mother's Day entitles them to something special.

Even though the way

Even though the way people have been living has changed during the COVID-19 pandemic, Mother's Day may be the first holiday on the calendar when the world can finally regain some sense of normal-cy. But caution should still prevail during Mother's Day celebrations. Thankfully, there are plenty of creative

ways to celebrate mothers and mother figures this year.

• Dine truly "al fresco." Outdoor dining has become commonplace, and even before it was a safety measure, enjoying a meal on a sunsoaked patio or overlooking a body of water was popular. If you're worried about limited restaurant space or crowds, plan a picnic at a scenic location, such as a botanical garden or county park. Include Mom's favorite foods and enjoy the fresh air and delicious foods together.

 Create a photo slideshow. Digital photos have eclipsed prints in many people's hearts. But too often digital photos never get seen after they're initially taken. That can change when you compile a slideshow of favorite photos from childhood and even present-day photos that Mom is sure to appreciate. Use sentimental music or Mom's favorite songs as the soundtrack, and include some inspirational quotations or personal voiceovers. This is one

gift that can be shared in person or over group meeting apps.

• Get involved together. An especially meaningful way to honor a mother who is always giving her time and love is to become involved in a difference-making organization. Joint volunteerism is a great way to spend more time together working toward a worthy goal.

• Enjoy her hobbies and interests. Devote a day or more to trying Mom's interests and hobbies, whether they include hitting the links, knitting, singing in the church choir, or digging in her garden.

• Send an edible gift.

If you can't be there to celebrate with Mom in person, have a special meal delivered to her door. Then enjoy the same foods with her via Google Meet, Facetime or Zoom. Don't forget a tasty cocktail so you can toast the special woman in your life.

Mother's Day celebrations can be unique, heartfelt and customized based on family needs.

Expecting Moms

Items to pack in your hospital bag

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

Each year, close to 4 million babies are born in the United States. Of those four million, approximately 700 are born at Piedmont Newton Hospital meaning our women's services team has a lot of experience in providing comfort to growing families. Another way moms-to-be can be comfortable during their labor and delivery admission is by having a hospital bag packed with items needed and wanted during a hospital stay.

"Thirty-six weeks is a great time to get your bag ready," says Beth Timberlake, director of Women's Services for Piedmont Newton Hospital. "Take the time to pack it yourself as your spouse or partner may not know where everything is and you don't want to be throwing things in a bag when labor starts."

• Pajamas. It is nice to have your own comfortable clothing once you can change out of the hospital gown. "If you plan on breastfeeding, bring nursing pajamas or nursing tops," advises Timberlake.

Items for Mom:

• Flip-flops. Great to have for showering in

your hospital room.

• Socks Bring you

• Socks. Bring your own soft pair of nonslip socks for walking the halls.

• Lip balm. Before delivery, mothers in labor are not allowed to consume any food or beverages, so your lips are always chapped.

• Phone and charger. Make sure your phone is fully charged and you have your phone charger with you so you can call your loved ones and friends to announce baby's arrival and take photos.

• Camera. If you have a professional camera that you prefer over your cell phone camera, make sure to pack it so you can document baby's arrival and hospital stay.

• Crossword puzzles, books to read, and music. Expectant moms can be in labor for several hours. "It is great to have things to pass the time and music can be relaxing when it comes time to deliver," says Timberlake.
• Pillows. Bring your

own to be more comfortable, especially if you have a particular pillow you love.

• Personal underwear

and toiletry items. The hospital provides mesh underwear, so bring your own if you want something else. Also, any makeup and personal items you would like.

Items for Baby:

• Clothes. Bring a couple outfits for the baby. "Many parents like to have a special outfit for the baby to wear when they are discharged home," explains Timberlake.

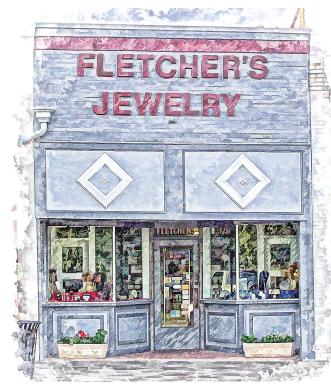
• Receiving blankets. Newborns love to be swaddled and having your own blankets can add a personal touch. The blankets can also be included in the photos.

• Car Seat. Make sure your car seat is installed and inspected before baby's arrival. Piedmont Newton has certified child passenger safety instructors who meet with parents to teach them how to properly install and use car seats. They also offer car seat inspections for other car seats or booster seats the family may use.

"It is all about having the things around you that bring you the most comfort," said Timberlake.

For more tips for preparing for baby's arrival, visit piedmont. org/maternity-services/piedmont-newton.

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