#### His Word

That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt

- Romans 10:9, KJV

# Newton jobless rate drops in August

By TOM SPIGOLON

Newton County's employment numbers reported in August provided mixed results compared to the previous

The county saw a big drop in its unemployment rate while the number of county residents filing initial claims for unemployment insurance in August was half of the number seen in July, according to the Georgia Department of Labor.

But the unemployment rate drop apparently was due to fewer residents being in the labor force rather than more finding work in August, the numbers showed.

Newton County's jobless rate fell from 8.8% in July to 6.6% in August, according to a labor department monthly report released Sept. 24.

Georgia's statewide rate in August was 5.6% — the seventh lowest unemployment rate in the nation. Nationally, the jobless rate was 8.4% in August, the labor department reported.

Newton Countians filing initial unemployment claims fell almost 50%, from 4,980 in July to 2,497 in August.

The number of unemployed Newton residents fell significantly, from 4,518 in July to 3,308 in August.

But the number of those with jobs also fell by 236 — from 46,847 to 46,611 — while 1,400 fewer county residents were in the labor force, the

See JOBLESS, A2

# 2017 murder conviction upheld

## Then-16-year-old shot, killed Newton County restaurant manager

By TOM SPIGOLON tspigolon@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. -Aformer Covington resident will continue to spend life in prison without parole after the state Supreme Court upheld his conviction for the shooting murder of a man who gave him a ride home in 2016.

The state Supreme Court announced Monday, Sept.

28, it upheld the conviction of Antavian Mintonio Love on charges of shooting and killing restaurant manager Enrique Trejo

in June 2016 when Love was 16 years old.



**Mintonio Love** 

Justices wrote they were not convinced by Love's assertions he was unlawfully denied a chance to contact his mother or an attorney; the evidence did not support a sentence of life in prison without parole; and that evolving standards did not support such a sentence for a juvenile, according to an opinion released by the Georgia Supreme Court.

Love is being held in Smith State Prison in Tattnall County, according to Georgia Department of Corrections records.

A Newton County Superior Court judge sentenced him to life in prison without the possibility of parole in July 2017 for the murder of Trejo.

See UPHELD, A2

# Marking history

County takes initial steps to place Gaither's at Myrtle Creek Farm on National Registry

By TOM SPIGOLON tspigolon@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — An effort to place a historic cemetery on a national registry could lead to bigger things for the county-owned facility on which it is located, a historian

Newton County is considering applying for grants and working with the nonprofit Preserve Black Atlanta on an effort to place a slave cemetery at the county-owned Gaither's at Myrtle Creek Farm on the National Register of Historic Cemeteries.

County commissioners recently approved a resolution to allow Chairman Marcello Banes to work with the nonprofit on beginning the process of placing the site on the National Register.

The slave cemetery has remained "untouched and undisturbed for more than 150 years," according to the county government website.

Banes told county commissioners Sept. 15 the cemetery site is covered with vegetation and fallen

"That cemetery needs some attention," he said.

Atlanta historian Karcheik Sims-Alvarado, who operates Preserve Black Atlanta, told

See HISTORY, A3



xr | The Covington News

Newton County is considering applying for grants and working with the nonprofit Preserve Black Atlanta on an effort to place a slave cemetery at the county-owned Gaither's at Myrtle **Creek Farm on the National Register of Historic Cemeteries.** 

# Sanders organizes community projects before public service role begins

By TOM SPIGOLON tspigolon@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — Out of three Newton County commissioners racing toward election Nov. 3 only one is not hearing the sound of footsteps behind

Alana Sanders is busy working on civic projects and learning what she can about county government as she awaits filling the District 3 seat on the Newton County Board of Commissioners Jan. 1. Sanders is a business and

marketing professional whose varied career has included work as a business professor for colleges like Liberty and Kaplan universities; as a singer and fitness instructor; and as an online radio host.

In her first run for office, Sanders defeated three-term



Mason Wittner | The Covington News **Then-candidate Alana Sanders** speaks to attendees of a rally on the **Covington Square in early June.** 

incumbent Nancy Schulz in the June 9 Democratic primary election for the board seat representing a strip of north and western Newton County bordering Rockdale County.

She is unopposed in the Nov.

3 general election while two sitting commissioners face

opposition. Sanders has attended some

county commission meetings and attended some special events like groundbreakings for an addition to the sheriff's office after county officials invited her because of her status as an incoming commissioner, she said.

The county commission has taken some potentially impactful votes since her election such as approval of the 2021 county budget and removal of the Confederate statue from the Covington Square.

However, she said she did not want to comment on those issues because she did not receive the information commissioners

See SANDERS, A3

## Registration open for Georgia Piedmont's regional, virtual job fair

STAFF REPORTS

COVINGTON, Ga. Registration for the upcoming Georgia Piedmont Regional + Virtual Job Fair on Oct. 9 can be done online for the opportunity to meet with a range of employers.

Available in a completely virtual and online platform, the fair is scheduled from noon to 4 p.m.

The event is free for jobseekers with the goal of connecting them with local employers in the fields of manufacturing, film, entertainment, public safety, local government, bio-pharma, high-technology and distribution, according to information from Georgia Piedmont Technical College.

District 10 U.S. Rep. Jody Hice is joining with Georgia Piedmont and the Newton County Industrial Development Authority, the Covington-Newton County Chamber of Commerce and the Development Authority of Walton County to host the event.

Candidates seeking full-time and part-time jobs and internships from Newton and

See FAIR, A3

# Volume 155, No. 42

Redskins public announcer celebrates 25 years in the booth

Life on the mic

See A7



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### **Obituaries**

Herman William Shannon Covington

See A2

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#### **Herman William** Shannon

Herman William Shannon, of Covington, passed away Sept. 26, 2020, at the age of 85.

With respect and honor, he proudly served in the United States National Guard for four years. Mr. Shannon had big love in his heart love of family, church, and people, and it was his authentic and genuine interest in others that endeared him to all. Happiness and true joy for Mr. Shannon came in the form of family get-togethers

and attending worship at Newton Baptist. As a career truck

driver, Mr. Shannon was afforded the opportunity to blend work with his fascination for travel. Over the years, as he logged countless miles driving across the country, he passed through 49 of the 50 states and experienced vast scenery and met people from all walks of life. When at home,

### **BITUARY**

Mr. Shannon was a mechanical genius and enjoyed any chance to fix and repair cars. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Debbie Lynn Mundy; grandson, Daniel Mundy, II; parents, Burgess W. and Nellie (Looney) Shannon; sisters, Shirley Poulnot, Barbara Henry; and brother, Theron Shannon.

Mr. Shannon leaves behind cherished memories that time will not erase...those who will remember him with great affection are his former wife, Margaret

Cole Shannon; children, Carl Keith Shannon, Susan Shannon Ottalini and husband, Bryan, Michael Shannon; grandchildren, Christopher Kevin Shannon, Sarah Marie Mundy, Cole Elliott Shannon; great-grandson, Tyler Dixion Shannon; sisters, Rachel Biggers, Charlotte White, Janice Wheeler, Vickie Gagne; several nieces and nephews; as well as son-in-law, Daniel Mundy and present wife, Donna. A funeral service

for Mr. Shannon will

be held Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2020, 2 p.m., at Newton Baptist Church, 720 Jack Neely Road, in Covington, with Pastor Tony Howeth, Pastor Chris Allen, and Pastor Daniel Mundy officiating. Interment will follow in Lawnwood Memorial Park in Covington. Friends may visit with the family Tuesday, Sept. 29, from 5-8 p.m., at the Chapel of Caldwell & Cowan, 1215 Access Road, in Covington.

CDC guidelines recommend social distancing (6 feet apart) and wearing of masks while in public. Caldwell & Cowan Funeral Home requests that you observe these recommendations while in our funeral home attending visitations and/ or services. In addition, gatherings are limited to 50 persons or less in our facility at one time. Please honor these restrictions for the safety of the family, yourself, and our staff.

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### **UPHELD:**

Continued from A1

Then-District Attorney Layla Zon said it was the harshest sentence under the law for a juvenile offender.

Georgia Supreme Court justices wrote in their opinion that Love is "in the narrow class of juvenile murderers for whom a life without parole sentence is proportional" under the Eighth Amendment which prohibits cruel and unusual punishment.

"We conclude that the record evidence the trial court carefully laid out in great detail supports its determination that Love was irreparably corrupt," the justices

Trejo had worked for 25 years at El Charro Mexican Restaurant in Covington before being approached by then-16-year-old Love and two other boys at a Shell gas station at Ga. Hwy. 36 and Covington Bypass.

According to a summary of events in the Court's opinion, a juvenile occupant of the vehicle testified Love had asked if they wanted to walk with him to eat at McDonald's.

The boy testified Love had approached Trejo at the gas station to ask him to give Love and two juveniles a ride home. While traveling,

Love asked Trejo to stop so he could locate a lost phone and, when Love got out of the vehicle, he pulled a pistol out of his pocket and shot Trejo multiple

He then dumped the victim's body in a ditch on Lower River Road before stealing his SUV and leading officers on a high-speed chase into Brown Bridge Crossing subdivision before reaching a dead end.

Four occupants then fled on foot through a wooded area and Covington Police officers caught two of them, including Love.

A jury found Love guilty in April 2017 and Judge Samuel Ozburn sentenced Love to life without the possibility of parole in July 2017 on a charge of malice murder.

Love was denied a new trial in September 2019 and appealed to the state Supreme

The Supreme Court opinion stated that Love does not dispute the evidence used to convict him in the case.

However, he argued that officers did not promptly give notice to his mother that he was being taken into custody as required by state

The justices said they

disagreed with Love's assertions he was not given a chance to contact his mother or an attorney; was not aware of the charges on which he was being detained "and the investigators" method of questioning led him to believe they were trying to help him."

They stated that a deputy and an investigator advised him of his right to confer with a parent or guardian during the investigation.

An interview was recorded and showed that Love stated that he understood and "initialed next to each right before signing the waiver-of-rights form."

"He did not ask for his mother to be present, nor did he invoke his rights to remain silent or to have an attorney," the opinion

"At the conclusion of the interview. Love asked the officers not to tell his mother. When officers responded that they had to tell her, Love responded, 'Damn, she's going to be so disappointed, man."

It also stated Love asserted "the trial court erred in sentencing him to serve life in prison without the possibility of parole because

the evidence did not support a finding that Love was irreparably corrupt."

"We are not persuaded," they wrote.

It said Love had lied to administrators during his time at school, laughed at Trejo's accent before killing him, threatened to kill the juveniles who witnessed the murder, refused to obey guards commands to stop fighting another inmate while incarcerated, and

"Thus, the trial court concluded that Love had shown a consistent disrespect for authority that rehabilitation was not a realistic expectation; that Love's crimes reflect that he is permanently incorrigible and irreparably corrupt; and that as a result, Love is in the narrow class of juvenile murderers for whom a life without parole sentence is proportional under the Eighth

Amendment." Love also argued the "evolving standards of decency" in the U.S. and internationally "weigh against imposing such a sentence" of life without parole against a juvenile.

However, the justices said such policy matters should be left to the General Assembly rather than a court.

### **JOBLESS:**

Continued from A1

department stated.

The labor force — the total of those either employed or actively seeking work — decreased from 51,365 in July to 49,919 in

Surrounding counties' August rates ranged from Rockdale at 7.0% and Henry at 6.9%, to Jasper at 4.2% and Walton and Morgan at 4.5% each.

Labor department officials said the unemployment rate dropped for all metropolitan service areas, regions, and counties

in Georgia in August.

Georgia's August rate was higher than only six states — Nebraska, Utah, Idaho, South Dakota, Vermont, and North Dakota — which had a combined labor force of 4.7 million, less than Georgia's total of 4.9 million, a news release stated.

"As we continue to rebound from the economic devastation of COVID-19, we have seen our unemployment rate plummet the past several months on the statewide level and across Georgia

in all of our cities and communities," said Commissioner of

Labor Mark Butler. In Georgia, from March 21 through Sept. 12, the sectors with the most regular initial claims processed included Accommodation and Food Services, 896,606, Health Care and Social Assistance, 434,738, Retail Trade, 398,924, Administrative and Support Services, 317,504, and Manufacturing, 289,430.

# Kiwanis Korner

The Young Children: Priority One (YCPO) is an ongoing service program of Kiwanis International that celebrates its 30th anniversary this October. YCPO was developed to focus on the needs of children ages zero to 5 years old. YCPO focuses on maternal and child health, child care and development, parent education and support, and/or safety and pediatric trauma, and each local club chooses which causes to support and services to perform. The Kiwanis Club of

Covington works with YCPO



throughout the community and participating in the annual Kiwanis Reads Across Georgia. Studies show that if a student

does not read on grade-level by the third grade, they are at a high risk to fail to graduate from high school. By reading to children and providing them books to read, Kiwanis hopes to encourage children to read and foster a love of reading that will lead to their future success. If you would like to learn more about how the Kiwanis Club of Covington serves the community, the club meets each Thursday at 12:30 p.m. for socially distanced fellowship at Covington First United Methodist Church.

News

### HISTORY:

Continued from A1

commissioners she first saw the cemetery site around 2013 after former Chairman Keith Ellis told her about it.

Sims-Alvarado, who also is a history professor at Morehouse College, said sites like this one can help "heal a community" and educate a community about some parts of its racial history.

"This one is very special because I understand its impact," she

Rocks now serve as grave markers for the estimated 150 people buried in the cemetery. However, because of vegetation overtaking the site in recent years, it needs care, she said.

"I hope you understand what you have," she said.

Sims-Alvarado said grant money is available for preservation of African-American cemeteries that would

allow the county to do extensive work to preserve the Gaither's slave cemetery.

The grants would be used for such items as geophysical surveys to determine how many bodies are there.

She said her role would be principal investigator, which is required in applying for grants for historic structures.

However, she also said Preserve Black Atlanta could help the county increase interest in the 256-acre Gaither facility as a historic site for African Americans.

District 1 Commissioner Stan Edwards, who represents the area that includes Gaither's, said he had a "transformative experience" from visiting the burial ground.

"I'm willing to work with you in any way I can to do what you think is best down there to preserve that place," he said.

Sims-Alvarado also said her nonprofit could apply for grants for the cemetery and to "expand the interpretation of the Gaither Planta-

Those grants include National Park Service funding for historic sites in underrepresented communities, which could provide at least \$15,000.

It also could apply for National Park Service funding for African-American historic sites of \$500,000 annually.

In response to a question from Commissioner Ronnie Cowan, Banes said the resolution to work with the nonprofit just covered the cemetery and did not include the entire Gaither's facility.

"We just want to be able to get started,' Banes said.

Commissioner Demond Mason said he believed "education changes the trajectory' of a nation and liked the idea of moving forward with efforts to increase Gaither's historic value.

The county government has owned the Gaither House and its 256-acre site since 1996 after buying it as part of a larger tract for construction of Bear Creek Reservoir, which the county later abandoned.

The county has leased the facility for such events as weddings and as a movie set in recent years.

It includes the main house built by William Gaither Sr. in 1855, a log smokehouse as well as the Gaither Family Cemetery and the slave cemetery dating to the 1800s, according to information from the county government.

# Community Calendar

### FRIDAY, OCT. 2

• The Arts Association in Newton County will host its annual "Pink Out" drive-in concert at 7 p.m. featuring Wren and the Wravens at Legion Field in Covington. The band plays an eclectic blend of retro soul, pop and R&B. Tickets are \$5 per vehicle and went on sale Sept. 28. The best decorated vehicle with the "Pink Out" theme will win a special prize. Pink is the color that is commonly used to observe October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Sponsors of the concert are Covington Women's Health, Piedmont Newton Women's Health Center and Atlanta Cancer Care. Legion Field is at 3173 Mill St. NE in Covington. For more information, visit newtoncountyarts.org.

### Saturday, Oct. 24

• Covington Christian Church on the Round, located at 141 Highway 142 in Covington, will host its Fall Festival from 5 to 9 p.m. Enjoy the season in backyard family style! Everyone is invited to attend for an evening of hay rides, photo stations, food trucks and a bonfire. Break out your best recipes, because there will be an Apple Pie Contest, complete with blue ribbon and a gift card to Applebee's for the winner! Come enjoy s'mores and guitars around the fire. then finish the festivities with a small fireworks display. Admission is free. Visit covingtonchristian.org to learn more.

### Now through Oct. 30

New Beginnings art show is an art exhibit of original art by members of Southern Heartland Art Guild. The public is invited to view this new show at Southern Heartland Visual Art Center and Gallery, Monday through Saturday.

### **O**NGOING

- The food pantry at the Covington First United Methodist Church is in dire need of more volunteers now that students and teachers are back in school and unavailable to help with this ongoing and much-needed project. If available to help, email Megan Hulgan at foodpantry@ covingtonfirst.org to sign up.
- Everyone is invited to join Covington Christian Church on the Round on Sunday mornings at 11 a.m. for worship. The church is located at 141 Highway 142 in Covington.
- Paint Party at Southern Heartland Visual Art Center has resumed! Hosted by professional gallery artists, this weekly get-together for those in our community interested in painting with others is free and open to the public each Friday from 10-2. Both classrooms will be utilized to insure participants have enough space to social distance from other participants.

Submit your upcoming event to The Covington News' community calendar via email to news@covnews.com.

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### **SANDERS:**

Continued from A1

did before taking their

"To effectively comment on those items mentioned, I would have to be privy to all details that the commissioners receive directly from the (county) attorney or any parties involved to comment," Sanders said.

"I believe in dealing with the facts and concrete evidence along with being involved in their current executive board meeting (before) discussing why decisions were made," she

Sanders has worked in recent months on such community projects as a series of food and school supply donations to residents facing economic hardships due in part to the

COVID-19 pandemic. She recently organized a giveaway of free office equipment donated by major national retailers like IKEA.

Sanders said she tried to meet as many people as she could during her campaign for office

early this year. "As a resident in District 3 for over 13 years and listening to the concerns of my neighbors there are many items the residents would like to see changed and improved in the community," she said.

"I also mentioned



Special to The Covington News

District 3 Commissioner-Elect Alana Sanders helps Newton County Sheriff's Office representatives deliver more than 400 gallons of milk to PruittHealth-Covington, Covington Square Apartments and the Covington Housing Authority Aug. 7.

these items during my campaign, in the candidates forum, and on all my social media

networks." Residents told her they wanted more recreational facilities for both elderly and young people in the diverse district — which runs from the Walton County line at its north end to Brown Bridge Road at its south end.

"The nearest park is 20 minutes or more away from the area. In some areas of the district it is farther,' Sanders said.

She said she also wanted to work to attract businesses to the area "that cater to the needs of the communi-

ty."
"Many of the resi-

dents shop in neighboring cities outside of the county because they provide the resources," Sanders said.

Newton County's public library system only includes three branches but their media offerings have become much more valuable as almost all students began the school year learning

online from teachers. Sanders said residents told her during her campaign they wanted a library that included updated technology and is closer to the

area." District 3's nearest public library is the Porter Memorial Branch Library miles south of the district on Ga. Hwy. 212.

"Almost similar to the park issue the library is not being utilized by our district as much because of the distance. We need a hub in our area," she said.

The job of county commissioner "is very similar to many roles I have held over the years as a leader" in her private life with the only difference being "the issues being dis-

cussed." "If you look at the makeup of the board every one comes from many walks of life before stepping into the position as a commissioner," she said.

"The most important aspect is that your community believed in you enough to vote you in as their representative."

# **FAIR:**

Continued from A1

Walton counties and throughout metropolitan Atlanta are invited.

Each organization chooses their own chat times during the totally virtual event, according to information from the college.

According to organizers, employers scheduled to attend recently included A Kid's World, Atlanta Regional Commission-Work-Source Atlanta Regional, Emory University, Express Employment Professionals, Hitachi

Automotive Systems

of America, Human Technologies Inc., Kelly Services, Nisshinbo Automotive Manufacturing Inc., Schneider, Takeda Pharmaceutical, Verescence North America Inc., and Wagner Staffing.

To register, visit careereco.com/events/ GeorgiaPiedmont.

For more information, email Kelly Pollard at gometrocorporatecollege@gptc.edu or visitcareereco.com/events/ GeorgiaPiedmont.

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- NW in downtown Covington Email: news@covnews.com

**OPINIONS** 

The Covington News

David Carroll columnist

# Trick or treat?



Metro Creative Services

One might think the year from hell would be a perfect fit for Halloween, but the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says trick-or-treating is a bad idea.

# Parents need to figure it out so kids can be kids

The year from hell would seem to be a perfect fit for Halloween, but many

people are asking: Can we trickor-treat safely this

year? Parents wonder if the

candy you're handing over is safe. Those of us who hand out the candy aren't thrilled about little munchkins entering our air space. The Centers for

Disease Control has just flat-out said Halloween is a bad idea this year: "Don't do it!" Unless of course, the CDC changes its mind, which it has been known to do.

As for me, I'd like to find a safe way to make it happen. I mean, look at what kids have already missed out on this year. Youth summer sports: wiped out. Public swimming pools: closed. School play time is by necessity, physically distanced. My goodness, if my fellow fourth grade boys hadn't wallowed around on the play-

ground imitating our favorite wrestlers, all that excess energy would have spilled over into the classroom, and nobody wanted that.

Yes, you're only young once, and I'd hate to see Halloween added to the list of fun events of which our children have been robbed. My dear Atlanta Braves won the National League East division title last week. and it was sad to see the players, some barely adults themselves, restricted to "air" highfives. A couple of guys were caught on camera exchanging a hug with the look on their faces saying, "Are we gonna get fined for

I know, I know. COVID-19 isn't finished yet, not by a long shot. Halloween can't be the same this year. The Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade is "virtual." What's a parade without people? I guess that's why many local Christmas parades have also been called off. There will be no crowd. shoulder-to-shoulder at Times Square on New Year's Eve. And who knows what 2021

has up its sleeve? So we must find a way to do Halloween safely. Grown-ups need to figure it out, so our kids can be kids. This mess isn't their fault. They just want to dress up and eat candy. Full disclosure: I don't want to dress up, but I do enjoy the leftover candy.

In fact, I'm better at the adult side of Halloween than I was as a kid. While others can boast of creative Halloween costumes, my best one was Walter Cronkite. I wish I was joking. Yes, amid the super-heroes, the firemen, and the pirates, I was the most trusted man in America. Imagine a 9-year-old kid knocking on your door, dressed in a suit and tie, with a wispy little drawn-on mustache. The neighbors seemed to be more spooked by "mini-Walter" than the

ghosts and goblins. I wasn't even good at the mischief. The other kids told me to "soap up the windows" of people who weren't home. Sure enough, I did. But I soon felt guilty about it. I went back later

that night to clean up the mess. Talk about a bad investment. I got no candy, and those folks got a freshly scrubbed, sparkling clean window. This would not bode well for my future business plans. But I did eventually go into TV news, so perhaps my early Cronkite imitation paid off. As Walter himself would say, "That's the way it is."

> Now back to Halloween 2020. Several of my friends have offered suggestions on how to make it work. For instance, use a round tube (gift wrap tube, or PVC pipe) to

slide the candy down directly into the kids bags. You could even decorate the tube.

Others are suggesting individually packaged goodie bags, just placed in a big bucket on the porch, so there's no human hands involved in the exchange. It's like the honor system. But is there honor among pre-schoolers faced with a bucket of candy? Not in my neighborhood.

Of course, masks are recommended for the candy-giving adults (preferably the medical masks, not the Dr. Fauci masks now in stores), along with gloves. Some communities and churches are encouraging "trunk or treat" events, where the candy can be carefully monitored, along with healthy distancing practices.

My friend D. L. Ables may have the perfect quote to sum it all up: "Department store bathrooms are open, but their dressing rooms are not. You can go out to eat with family members, but they are not allowed to go to your doctor appointment. You may have one visitor at the hospital, but your husband can't accompany you to your ultrasound. You must put your money in a cup at the drive through, but the cashier then touches the same money, along with your bag of food as he hands it back. This world is weird right now. I'm

confused." Me too, D.L. And you can add to that, 'Bewitched, bothered, and bewildered."

David Carroll, a Chattanooga news anchor, is the author of "Volunteer Bama Dawg," available on his website, ChattanoogaRadioTV.com.You may contact him at radiotv2020@

Tom Spigolon news editor

# Porterdale tackling its smelly problems head on

dmittedly, the city of Porterdale has had its problems this summer.

Its elected leaders have dealt with a financial

crisis they say blindsided them. Upset residents cried at public meetings and some public works employees resigned en

cial ship. The part-time city council appealed to an organization accustomed to dealing with such challenges — the Georgia Municipal Association — after a former interim city manager

masse — both because

took to right the finan-

of actions its leaders

resigned. The result was the hiring of another city administrator who has begun the thankless but necessary task of tackling the city's problems.

Interim City Manager Frank Etheridge has shown he fits right in to a city where it is common for top administrators to deal directly with residents' complaints.

Business owners and residents alike tell stories about the Porterdale police chief personally answering calls for help. A top administrator in recent months collected residents' garbage personally after recent staff resignations.

Time will tell if Etheridge's efforts — such as contracting out the city's residential roadside garbage pickup service will help the city financially.

However, he recently took care of a smelly emergency no one wants to face — much less a senior citizen with a health condition that she said limits her movement outside her home.

And Etheridge did it even though it was questionable whether it was the city's responsibility.

A Maple Court resident's introduction to the problem last week was a gurgling sound coming

from her bathroom. Raw sewage was coming from the shower drain in her 17-year-old home and she called the city for help. Workers responded within 20 minutes with a piece of machinery called a jetter, which is commonly used to clear a sewer line.

But her home's sewer line apparently was not built to building code standards when the home was constructed — a piece of information not typically discussed as part of the sales process.

The part of the sewer line used to access blockages — the cleanout — was not properly installed either at the property line or near the house, Etheridge said.

Part of the line ap-

peared to have been sealed with duct tape, and it included two 90-degree turns within a foot of each other, Etheridge said in a note to Porterdale City Council members.

The jetter got stuck in the line. The city called in the Newton County Water and Sewerage Authority for assistance, while the county fire department provided 300 gallons of water for the machine.

But it wouldn't come loose and Etheridge took on the job of personally telling the homeowner the bad news: it would take some time to remove it and she didn't have sewer service.

Also, because the problem was in the line on her property, she was responsible for the repairs. It was not city policy to pay for something that was not the city's responsibility, nor was it going to pay for her to stay elsewhere while she waited for a plumber, he told her.

She was not happy, to say the least.

But Etheridge determined the city would take care of the problem because the equipment the city used helped exacerbate it. The line was not properly installed but the city fixed the problem anyway rather than dumping it in the homeowner's lap.

The jetter had gone under the foundation and required removal of a toilet inside the house to get it unstuck, said the longtime government administrator.

"As it is because of where the jetter line got stuck the city is paying for all the repairs and we did not damage her home," he said. "I understand from my folks when they left early this afternoon is that she was satisfied with the work they performed."

The homeowner later confirmed to me she was satisfied with the cleanup they did, as well as the price tag.

With all the problems this small city has experienced lately, it's nice to see city officials still are trying to give personal service, provide practical solutions when they can, and deal with a customer face to face even when it's unpleasant to do so.

Not everything the city's leadership will do to deal with its ongoing problems will make everyone happy.

But I'm glad to see they still believe in personal service even as a financial crisis, COVID-19 and everything else making 2020 a year to forget swirls around them.

news editor of The Covington News. His email is tspigolon@covnews. com.

Tom Spigolon is the

# The Covington News **Newton Newspapers Inc.**

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# CLASSIFIEDS & LEGALS

– The Covington News

### CLASSIFIEDS

Real Estate

**Homes For Sale** 

CUSTOM BRICK Cape Cod, 1 ACRE cul-de-sac lot, POSSIBLE 5 BR spaces, 3-1/2 BAS,, SUNROOM. WRAP-AROUND PORCH YOUTH EM & MS, WALNUT GROVE HS.\$375,000. Tricia Hinton 404-285-2658, Realty East 770-466-1018.

### LEGALS

#### Public Notices

Bids

CITY OF MANSFIELD ADVERTISEMENT FOR SEALED BID OF CITY OWNED PROPERTY

THE CITY of Mansfield is seeking

bids for approximately 0.60 acres of city owned property located at 3089 Main St and shown on Parcel #'s Tract 1: M002-034A, Tract 2: M002-034D, Tract 3: M002-034B on the tax maps of Newton County, Georgia. The legal descriptions are as follows:

ALL THAT tract or parcel of land lying and being in Land Lot 211 of the 19th District of Newton County, City of Mansfield, Georgia, being Tract 1 and Tract 3 as shown on survey for James M. Sims, by John F. Brewer & Associates, certified by John F. Brewer, III., Georgia Registered Land Surveyor Number 2905, dated March 24, 2017 at 12:36PM, recorded in Plat Book 51, Page 137, Newton County, Georgia Records, which plat is incorporated herein and made a part of hereof by reference.

#### AND

ALL THAT tract or parcel of land lying and being in Land Lot 211 of the 19th District of Newton County, City of Mansfield, Georgia, being Tract 2 as shown on survey for James M. Sims, by John F. Brewer & Associates, certified by John F. Brewer, Ill., Georgia Registered Land Surveyor Number 2905, dated March 24, 2017 at 12:36PM, recorded in Plat Book 51, Page 137, Newton County, Georgia Records, which plat is incorporated herein and made a part of hereof by

**THE MINIMUM** bid price is \$300,000 (Three hundred thousand dollars), and the City Council reserves the right to reject any-and-all bids per OCGA 36-9-3, proposals are also invited.

BID BLANKS and other written materials connected with the proposed sale may be obtained at the Mansfield City Hall, 3146 Hwy 11 S, Mansfield, GA 30055.

TERMS OF Sale: 1) Closing must occur within 45 days of bid award, at the Mansfield City Hall or at such other place as the parties mutually agree upon; 2) Purchase price to be paid all cash at closing; 3) Purchaser to bear all costs of closing; 4) City will convey the property by quitclaim deed and in "as is" condition; with no contingencies, but subject to existing restrictions; 5) Possession of the property shall be granted to purchaser at closing.

SEALED BIDS may be mailed to the City of Mansfield, Post Office Box 35, Mansfield GA 30055; or may be hand delivered to Mansfield City Hall, 3146 Hwy 11 S, Mansfield GA 30055 between the hours of 8AM – 4PM.

BIDS SHOULD be sealed and clearly marked on outside of envelope: "SEALED BID FOR CITY OWNED PROPERTY"

BIDS ARE to be received no later than 2PM on Monday, October 12, 2020, and will be opened on Monday, October 12, 2020 at 3PM in Mansfield City Hall. The City reserves the right to reject all bids.

GW DAVIS Jr, Mayor

PUBLIC NOTICE #117340 9/30

# Corporations NOTICE IS hearby given that articles

of incorporation that will incorporate Legacylife Movement, Inc. have been delivered to the Secretary of State in accordance with Georgia for Profit Corporation Code. The initial registered office of the corporation is located at 92 Usher Lane, Covington Ga. 30016 and it's initial registered agent at such address is LaTanya

Folds

PUBLIC NOTICE#117350 9/30,10/7

#### Convictions

SECOND/SUBSEQUENT DUI CONVICTION



ADDRESS: 136 MOORES LANE,OXFORD, GA 30054 DATE OF ARREST: MARCH 24, 2018 DATE OF OFFENSE: MARCH 24, 2018

DATE OF OFFENSE: MARCH 24, 2018 TIME OF OFFENSE: 11:22 AM PLACE OF OFFENSE: HWY 142 / HWY 278

DISPOSITION: PLEA
OF GUILTY- DEFENDANT IS
SENTENCED TO A TOTAL OF 7
YEARS W/ THE FIRST 2 YEARS TO
BE SERVED IN CONFINEMENT
AND THE REMAINDER TO BE
SERVED ON PROBATION \$2,000.00 IN TOTAL FINES PLUS
ALL APPLICABLE FEES AND
SURCHARGES - DEFENDANT
SHALL PERFORM 40 HOURS OF
COMMUNITY SERVICE & SHALL
ATTEND AND COMPLETE A DUI
RISK REDUCTION COURSE

SENTENCE DATE: AUGUST 4, 2020 NAME OF COURT:

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY,GEORGIA

PUBLIC NOTICE #117346 9/30

SECOND/SUBSEQUENT DUI CONVICTION



NAME: CLEVAN AGUILAR
ADDRESS:
9132 WESTVIEW
DR..COVINGTON,GA 30014

DATE OF ARREST: AUGUST 31, 2019 DATE OF OFFENSE: AUGUST 31,2019 TIME OF OFFENSE: 3:15AM PLACE OF OFFENSE:

3:15AM
PLACE OF OFFENSE:
BROWN BRIDGE RD /CROWELL
RD

DISPOSITION: PLEA OF GUILTY - DEFENDANT IS SENTENCED TO A TOTAL OF36 MONTHS W/ THE FIRST 15 DAYS IN THE NEWTON COUNTY JAIL AND THE REMAINDER TO BE PROBATION SERVED ON \$1,450.00 IN TOTAL FINES PLUS ALL APPLICABLE FEES AND **SURCHARGES** DEFENDANT SHALL PERFORM 40 HOURS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE & SHALL ATIEND AND COMPLETE A DUI RISK REDUCTION COURSE

SENTENCE DATE: AUGUST 4, 2020 NAME OF COURT: SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY,GEORGIA

PUBLIC NOTICE #117347

SECOND/SUBSEQUENT DUI



NAME: JAMES PATRICK HURLEY ADDRESS: 1408 EMORY ST. OXFORD, GA 30054 DATE OF ARREST: MAY 11 2020 DATE OF OFFENSE: APRIL 10, 2020 TIME OF OFFENSE: N/A PLACE OF OFFENSE: HWY 81 AND CROWELL RD

DISPOSITION:
PLEA OF GUILTY— DEFENDANT

YEARS TO BE SERVED IN CONFINEMENT AND THE REMAINDER TO BE SERVED ON PROBATION \$1000.00 IN TOTAL FINES PLUS ALL APPLICABLE FEES AND SURCHARGES - DEFENDANT S H A L L PERFORM 40 H O URS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE & SHALL ENROLL IN AND SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE A

SENTENCED TO A TOTAL

OF 3 YEARS PLUS 48 MONTHS

MONTHS WITH THE FIRST 3

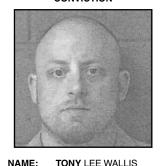
DUI RISK REDUCTION COURSE.

SENTENCE DATE:
AUGUST 121 2020

NAME OF COURT: SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY1 GEORGIA

PUBLIC NOTICE #117345 9/30

SECOND/SUBSEQUENT FAMILY
VIOLENCE
CONVICTION



NAME: TONY LEE WALLIS
ADDRESS: 10721
MAGNOLIA HEIGHTS CIR.,
COVINGTON, GA 30014
DATE OF ARREST:
OCTOBER 11, 2019
DATE OF OFFENSE: OCTOBER

11, 2019
TIME OF OFFENSE: 12:39 PM
PLACE OF OFFENSE: MAGNOLIA

HEIGHTS CIRCLE

DISPOSITION: P L E A
OF GUILTY— DEFENDANT IS
SENTENCED TO A TOTAL OF 20
YEARS WITH THE FIRST 3 YEARS
TO BE SERVED IN CONFINEMENT
AND THE REMAINDER TO BE
SERVED ON PROBATION \$3,000.00

IN TOTAL FINES PLUS ALL APPLICABLE FEES AND DEFENDANT SURCHARGES REMAIN PERMANENT RESTRAINING AND SHALL ORDER HAVE NO CONTACT WITH VICTIM & WILL PARTICIPATE IN A FAMILY VIOLENCE INTERVENTION **PROGRAM** 

SENTENCE DATE: AUGUST 12, 2020 NAME OF COURT: SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA

PUBLIC NOTICE #117348 9/30

### Divorces

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

INGRID BRIDGES
PLAINTIFF,

ERIC BRIDGES
DEFENDANT.

CIVIL ACTION No.: 2020-C

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

TO: ERIC BRIDGES 434 SUMMBERHILL CIR STOCKBRIDGE, GA

BY ORDER of the court for service by publication dated SEPTEMBER 11, 2020 you are hereby notified that on 9/1/20 (date of filing) INGRID BRIDGES (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 JOHN M. OTT, Judge Superior Court of Newton County.

of

represented).

THIS, THE 14th day SEPTEMBER, 2020. LINDA D. Hays CLERK OF Superior Court

PUBLIC NOTICE #117313 9/23,30,10/7,14

The Covington News

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# POSITION AVAILABLE: GROUNDSKEEPER

The City of Oxford is accepting applications for the position of Groundskeeper. This position is responsible for operating mowing equipment to maintain grounds of parks, trails, and city properties, and maintaining trees and plantings. Minimum qualifications include experience with equipment such as lawn mowers, debris blowers, and weed eaters. Other requirements are listed in the job description available from the City Clerk. A background investigation including criminal history check will be conducted on all applicants. Applications will be accepted through Monday, October 26th, 2020 at Oxford City Hall, 110 W. Clark St., Oxford, Georgia 30054. The City of Oxford is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

KEMOY MCDONALD PLAINTIFF,

KIMMOYA R. MCDONALD DEFENDANT.

CIVIL ACTION No.: 2020-CV-1709-4

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

TO: KIMMOYA R. MCDONALD 100 DEARING WOODS CT COVINGTON, GA 30014

BY ORDER of the court for service by publication dated SEPTEMBER 14, 2020 you are hereby notified that on 8/27/20 (date of filing) KEMOY MCDONALD (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 (if represented).

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

THIS, THE 14th day of SEPTEMBER, 2020.
LINDA D. Hays
CLERK OF Superior Court

PUBLIC NOTICE #117312 9/23,30,10/7,14

#### Public Hearings

NOTICE IS hereby given that at 6:30 p.m. on September 21, 2020 at 2116 Stallings Street, Covington, Georgia the Mayor and Council of the City of Covington, Georgia, shall provide for a hearing on the passage of an ordinance entitled:

"AN ORDINANCE OF THE

CITY OF COVINGTON, GEORGIA, TO AMEND THE COVINGTON MUNICIPAL CODE, ENACTED AND ADOPTED ON THE 16TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2001, AS AMENDED BY PREVIOUS AMENDMENTS, TO ALTER CERTAIN PROVISION OF TITLE 13 OF THE SAID CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING SECTION 13.24.020 (GENERAL SEWER USE REQUIREMENTS) OF CHAPTER 13.24 (INDUSTRÍAL WASTE CONTROL) THEREOF, TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES." A COPY of said proposed ordinance

is posted on the bulletin board at the City Hall, 2194 Emory Street, Covington, Georgia. THIS 22ND day of September, 2020.

THE CITY OF COVINGTON AUDRA M. Gutierrez CITY CLERK

PUBLIC NOTICE #117343 9/30

NOTICE IS hereby given that at 6:30 p.m. on September 21, 2020 at 2194 Emory Street, Covington, Georgia the Mayor and Council of the City of Covington, Georgia, shall provide for a hearing on the passage of an ordinance entitled:

"AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF COVINGTON, GEORGIA, TO AMEND THE COVINGTON MUNICIPAL CODE, ENACTED AND ADOPTED ON THE 16TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2001, AS AMENDED BY PREVIOUS AMENDMENTS, TO ALTER CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF TITLE 2 OF THE SAID CODE OF ORDINANCES BY AMENDING SECTION 2.60.040 (CEMETERY REGULATIONS) OF CHAPTER 2.60 (CEMETERIES) THEREOF AS, TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

A COPY of said proposed ordinance

is posted on the bulletin board at the City Hall, 2194 Emory Street, Covington, Georgia. THIS 22ND day of September, 2020.

THE CITY OF COVINGTON
AUDRA M. Gutierrez

PUBLIC NOTICE #117342 9/30

#### **Public Notice**

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that on October 5, 2020, at 9:30 a.m. at the Newton County Judicial Center, 1132 Usher Street, 2nd FL, Covington, Georgia 30014, the presiding Judge of the Superior Court of Newton County will hear the case of STATE OF GEORGIA vs. NEWTON COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY and EDG - CTC, LLC, Civil Action File

No. 2020-CV-1891-1 in the Superior Court of Newton County, the same being a proceeding to confirm and validate a Taxable Revenue Bond (EDG - CTC, LLC Project), Series 2020 (the "Bond"), in a maximum principal amount of \$56,500,000, to be issued by the Newton County Industrial Development Authority (the "Issuer") pursuant to the terms of a resolution adopted by the Issuer, in order to promote and expand the public good and welfare and industry and trade within Newton County (the "County"). The Bond is to be issued for the purpose of acquiring a capital project consisting of approximately 24.02 acres of land in the County, located at Alcovy Road and Georgia Highway 142 in the City of Covington, Georgia, together with one or more buildings, structures and improvements to be constructed thereon, and related building fixtures, building equipment and other personal property to be installed thereat (collectively, "Project"), which See LEGALS, A6

Jee Lluals, A

UNITED STATES

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### POSITION AVAILABLE: ADMINISTRATIVE CLERK

The City of Oxford is accepting applications for the position of Administrative Clerk. This position shares responsibility in customer service for receiving and processing utility bill payments and performing clerical and administrative duties in support of needs and demands. Minimum qualifications include ability to read, write and perform basic mathematical calculations and at least one year of previous experience in a similar position. Other requirements are listed in the job description available at www.oxfordgeorgia.org. A background investigation including criminal history check will be conducted on all applicants. Applications will be accepted through Monday, October 26th, 2020 at Oxford City Hall, 110 W. Clark St., Oxford, Georgia 30054. The City of Oxford is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

# **PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR**

Jasper County is accepting applications for a Public Works Director. The Public Works Director is responsible for planning, organizing, and directing the overall administration of the Jasper County Public Works Department. Maintains oversight over all facets of public works, including the construction of county roads, bridges, and drainage systems; as well as vehicle maintenance, and grounds maintenance. Directs and evaluates the work of public works supervisors in the daily operations of the department. Hires new employees for the department, and disciplines employees as needed. Prepares departmental budget for County Manager approval; administers public works budget and approves purchases; monitors expenditures. Communicates with directors and employees from other departments, and contractors, as necessary. Keeps abreast of all local, state and federal regulations pertaining to public works and the development of the county. Reports directly to the County Manager. For a full job description and application, please visit our website at www.jaspercountyga.org or come by the Human Resource Department on the ground floor in the Courthouse.

# HEALTH & FITNESS

# What men need to know about prostate cancer

**SPECIAL TO THE NEWS** 

COVINGTON, Ga. — The American Cancer Society states that one out of every seven men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer during his lifetime. Prostate cancer is dangerous because there is often no way to detect it in the early stages; however, surviving prostate cancer is greatly increased when diagnosed early.

"September is national Prostate Cancer Awareness Month and we encourage men to speak with their doctors about the risks and screening options," said Matthew Mote, D.O., a primary care physician with Piedmont Physicians Covington Family Medicine. "Men need to know that while prostate cancer is common, if detected early, it can be curable."

Prostate cancer has many risk factors that men can't control, such as age, family history, and race and ethnicity. Among the risk factors that can be controlled however are maintaining a healthy weight, eating plenty of fruits and vegetables, and staying physically

active. "If you are a man over the age of 50, or if you have a family history of prostate

Dr. Matthew Mote

cancer, now is the time to visit your doctor and assess your risk. If you are an African American man, you should start having those conversations in your mid-40s," Mote said. "Don't be afraid to ask questions. Get the facts about prostate cancer and screening options that are right for you."

Screening for the disease can help with early detection, but men should also know the signs of a potential issue. Typical symptoms

of prostate cancer include difficulty stopping or starting urination, painful urination, frequent urination at night, blood in the urine and difficulty in getting an erection.

Men should speak with a primary care physician about prevention options if they are concerned about their risk of developing prostate cancer, as well as making healthy lifestyle choices.

Visit piedmont.org to learn more.

# **Virtual Vampire Run** kicks off Thursday

Covington fundraiser event supports Leukemia & Lymphoma Society

By TAYLOR BECK tbeck@covnews.com

It's been nearly two years since Covington native Scotty Scoggins lost his father, Mac, to lung cancer and more than six years since his mother, Dee, died of

"I think about them all the time," Scoggins

leukemia.

Since 2018, Scoggins has been working to educate others and help raise money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society by running in the Walt Disney World Marathon Weekend via Team in Training. Team in Training is an an organization dedicated to raising money to find a cure for cancer through endurance sports, he said.

Inspired by his parents, Scoggins has raised nearly \$20,000 over the last two years, but he wants that number to continue growing.

This year, Scoggins has committed to hosting a virtual Vampire Run from Oct. 1 through Nov. 30. All net proceeds from the race will go toward the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, he said.

Prospective racers can register for the virtual run at runsignup. com/Race/GA/Mystic-FallsCovington/VirtualVampireRun and help Scoggins "take a bite out of blood cancers."

Instructions are as follows:

1. Register for either the \$40 level and get a



Special to The Covington News

Scotty Scoggins, of Covington, is hosting a virtual Vampire Run from Oct. 1 through Nov. 30 in honor of his parents Mac and Dee Scoggins, pictured, who both died of cancer.

bib and medal, or the

\$30 level for a bib only. 2. Bibs and medals

will be mailed around Oct. 31. 3. Walk or run a 5K

(3.1 miles) between

the date the runner

registered and Nov. 30. Runners should post their 5K results on the website.

Runners are encouraged to dress like a vampire, vampire hunter or vampire victim,

Scoggins said.

In the future, Scoggins said he hopes to do both a virtual and in-person race in Covington.

You have cancer.' No individual should have to hear these three awful words," Scoggins said. "Let's do what we can (regardless of how small) to make these words go away forever!"

# Piedmont performs its first procedure as part of CLASP IID trial involving transcatheter mitral valve repair system

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

ATLANTA — Piedmont Healthcare announced that it performed its first transcatheter mitral valve repair (TMVR) procedure on Aug. 13 as part of the CLASP IID pivotal trial at Piedmont Atlanta Hospital by structural interventional cardiologists Pradeep Yadav, M.D. and Vivek Rajagopal, M.D. and cardiac surgeon Vinod Thourani, M.D. The CLASP IID trial will evaluate the Pascal TMVR system, which is produced by Edwards Lifesciences for patients with degenerative mitral valve regurgitation.

Mitral Regurgitation (MR) is a condition that occurs when leaflets of the mitral valve in the heart do not close properly and blood flows backwards, making it difficult for the heart to move blood through the body efficiently. Estimates are that MR affects five in every 10,000 people.

For patients suffering from MR, the increased pressure

in the heart, according to the American Heart Association, can increase pressure in the veins leading from the lungs to the heart (pulmonary veins). If regurgitation is severe, increased pressure may result in congestion, or fluid build-up, in the lungs resulting in a serious and

debilitating condition. Dr. Yadav is the Principal **Investigator at Piedmont** Atlanta for the study.

"We are excited to make this innovative therapy available for our patients and

continue to be a leader in research that advances minimally invasive options for the care of valvular disease," Dr. Yadav said. "It is Piedmont's goal through investments made in the Marcus Tower, the Marcus Heart Valve Center and the Samsky Invasive Cardiovascular Services Center to remain positioned at the cutting edge of clinical research involving the heart."

Transcatheter mitral valve repair can treat the heart valve without open heart sur-

gery. The procedure is done through a small incision in the leg, allowing the doctor to insert a small device through the vein up to the heart. The trial is designed for patients with symptomatic moderate to severe mitral regurgitation who may not be ideal candidates for mitral valve surgery and may be eligible for transcatheter mitral valve repair.

The trial is estimated to enroll 1,275 participants and its primary completion date is set for Dec. 31, 2023.

### **LEGALS:**

PROJECT IS to be

by the Issuer to EDG

leased

LLC, a Georgia limited liability company (the "Company"), for use as a commercial multi-family housing development. In such proceeding, the Court will also (a) hear and determine the validity of instruments relating to and providing security for the Bond, and (b) hear and determine such other questions of law and fact pertaining to the right of the Issuer to issue the Bond and to provide the security therefor. The Bond shall be a special and limited obligation of the Issuer, payable from funds provided by the Company or its successors, shall not be payable from taxes or other public funds, and NO PERFORMANCE AUDIT OR PERFORMANCE REVIEW SHALL BE CONDUCTED WITH RESPECT TO SUCH BOND ISSUE. Any citizen of the State of Georgia residing in Newton County, or any other person wherever residing who has a right to object, may intervene and become a party to these

LINDA D. Hays CLERK. SUPERIOR Court.

Newton County, Georgia PUBLIC NOTICE #117316

9/23,30

THE CITY of Covington is holding refund monies for the following individuals. Please contact Eve Reynolds in the Accounting Department at 770-385-2026 for information on how to claim these

**IESHA CLARK CARLOTTA BURROUGHS** KIM DAVIS A CHILD'S Advocacy Center KATHY BISHOP KENT B. Linville **LUCIUS SHY** JUDY CAID JEAN BUCHANAN JENNIFER FULFORD MODERN NAILS K & P Properties KWONKE P. Siva JON ROBERT Skalku JOSEPH CHRISTIAN CROBAR UBLIC Safety Supply, **WILLIAM SMITH** LUIS E. Trejo

PUBLIC NOTICE #117344

M.A.F.C.A.

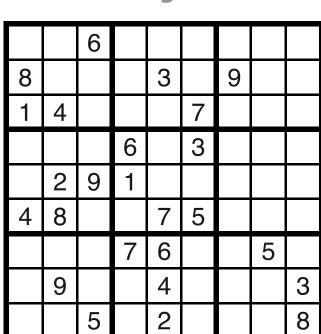
**Public Sales Auctions** 

NOTICE OF Public Sale of Personal Property Georgia Self Storage Act (210-215) Extra

Storage Rental Spaces is hereby given that the under-signed self storage units will be sold at a public sale by competitive bidding, in their entirety to the highest bidder, on or after October 9, 2020 to satisfy the lien of the Lessor, Extra Storage Terrell Management LLC, for rental and other charges. The auction will be held at 11471 Brown Bridge Road Covington, GA 30016 and will begin on October 9, 2020 at 10:00 AM for the following units: Michael Kirkley - Judy Kirkley unit 614, Michael Kyler unit 609, Evia Kaigler unit 80, Titianna Thurman unit 100, Joannes Williams unit 27, Leo Jones unit 90, Pam Starr unit 508. The contents consist of general household goods, furniture, boxes, and miscellaneous items The terms of the sale will be cash only and must be paid for at the time of sale. All goods are sold as is. Extra Storage Rental Spaces reserves the right to withdraw any or all units, partial or entire, from the sale at any time. All contents the property within 48 hours or sooner of auction completion.

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117310** 9/23,30

# Fun by the Numbers



Level: Intermediate

### 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:

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

# **SPORTS**

The Covington News

Mason Wittner sports editor

# Welcome to postseason baseball

t's the most wonderful time of the

High school fall sports are in full swing. There's a nip in the air as we delve deeper into the autumn



climate. The Atlanta Falcons are continuing their annual tradition of blowing double-digit leads in the fourth quarter.

It's almost starting to feel like a normal year again, isn't it?

This week, the proverbial cherry will be placed right on top of the delicious dessert that is the fall.

Postseason baseball.

That's right, folks. The calendar flips to October this week, which means it's time for the MLB playoffs to commence.

And yet it seems like we were only just getting started, doesn't it? As if we're still roughly, oh, 102 games away from deciding who should make it into the postseason and who should be relegated to the couch to watch the drama unfold like the rest

Ah, yes. That's right. I guess this year hasn't been completely normal

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 MLB regular season was trimmed down from a 162-game marathon to a 60-game sprint. In addition, the playoff field was expanded from 10 teams to 16 teams.

Fans were critical of the changes. The media expressed doubt that a season could be completed. Questions continuously popped up as MLB — along with the rest of the world — found itself handling the

coronavirus on a day-by-day basis. And you know what? It's been incredible.

I once considered myself to be a baseball purist. I thought the best part about the game was that it had essentially remained unchanged throughout its long history. But I've since seen the error of my ways and come to accept that sports, like anything else, have two choices in this modern world: adapt or die.

So, I'll admit that I've enjoyed investing in the daily drama of a shortened season where the importance of each game is heightened. I'll admit that I've enjoyed seven-inning doubleheaders and wacky extra-inning rules that place runners on bases to open up the frame.

And I'll admit that the notion of starting a postseason with 16 teams - more than half of the 30 clubs in MLB — made no sense to me at first. But now I can't wait to see what kind of drama is awaiting us.

Sure, it helps that I have a dog in the fight. I've lived in Georgia for 23 of my 24 years on this earth, so it's in my blood to root for the Atlanta Braves. But the two people who brought me into this world — and subsequently raised me — both grew up just outside of Chicago. So I'd be kidding myself — and quite possibly disowned — if I didn't acknowledge that I'm partial to the Cubs as well.

But deep down, I'm still just a kid

who loves a game.

Will I root for the Braves to beat the Cincinati Reds in the National League Wild Card round? You bet. Would I like to see the Cubs get past the Miami Marlins in their firstround matchup? Of course.

But even if both teams fall short, I know I'm going to still enjoy every second of this postseason. Because everyone has a favorite season. For most it's fall, spring, summer or

For me, it's baseball. Play ball.

Mason Wittner is the sports editor of The Covington News. He may be reached at mwittner@covnews.com



Taylor Beck | The Covington News

Social Circle honored its long-time public announcer Scott Neely before Friday night's game against Putnam County. He recently celebrated 25 years of working in the booth - 23 of those spent calling the action down on the field.

# Life on the mic

## Redskins public announcer celebrates 25 years in the booth

By STEPHEN MILLIGAN

SOCIAL CIRCLE, Ga. — For a quarter century, Scott Neely has been in the booth at Social Circle High School football games.

For 23 of those years, it's been his mellow tones coming through the microphone to call the action down on the field under the Friday night

"I just love football," Neely said. "I enjoy being part of the community, part of the school."

On Friday night, Neely's long commitment to SCHS Redskins football was honored before kickoff as the team's long-time public announcer was recognized before the crowd for his long commitment to the local pigskin squad.

"I'm very humbled by it," Neely said.

Neely said he first volunteered to help with the weekend game action just to be closer to the game.

"I love high school and college football," Neely said. "We've been attending (University of) Georgia games for 40-something years. So



Taylor Beck | The Covington News

Social Circle's long-time public announcer Scott Neely points to the pressbox, calling it "the best seat in the house."

I thought I could do my part for Social Circle."

Two years into helping out in the press box, the microphone was thrust into his hands and he's never looked back, calling the games through good seasons and bad and all the games in between.

The hardest part, Neely said, was not keeping track of the action, for which he has help from spotters and scoreboard operators, but making sure he gives every student on the

field their proper due.

"I strive to pronounce every player's name correctly," Neely said.

It's not all hard work for the hard-working PA, though.

"For three hours a night, five to six times a year, I have the best seat in the house to watch football," Neely

Neely said he's been able to keep going with help from many others, including support from the school and football program, his team in the press box and family.

"I have to thank my wife and my girls for giving me up on Friday nights every fall," Neely said. "And I have to thank the Good Lord for giving me the health and voice to keep doing this."

Overall, Neely said he was pleased and abashed to be honored Friday night and said he hoped to keep doing for it some time to come, as long as he can keep up with the action

— and all those hard-to-pronounce names.

"It's not a bad gig at all," Neely

Prep Softball Roundup

# Lady Rams knock off rival Eastside

By MASON WITTNER

COVINGTON, Ga. — The tides appear to be turning in Newton County.

It was a historic afternoon for the Newton High School softball team on Saturday as the Lady Rams plastered county rival Eastside, 6-1, to continue their impressive run in 2020. It was Newton's first win over the Lady Eagles since August 2018, and just their second victory against Eastside in their last nine meetings dating back to 2014.

The win put an end to a short losing skid for the Lady Rams, which saw the club drop three straight narrow decisions. In spite of their recent struggles, they entered this week at 12-6 overall and 4-3 against Region 4-AAAAAAA opponents. Eastside, meanwhile, dropped to 8-8 on the year and 4-4 in Region 8-AAAAA.

Eastside wasted no time attacking at the dish on Saturday. Leading off the



Mason Wittner | The Covington News

Newton put on a historic performance Saturday when it took down Eastside, 6-1, for just its second win over its county rival since 2014. The Lady Rams improved to 12-6 on the year with the victory.

first inning, junior Natalie Ray swung at the first pitch she saw and roped a ball into center field for a triple. Ray later came around to score on a sacrifice fly from junior Lauren Burnett, giving the Lady Eagles a 1-0 advantage.

But the Lady Rams had

an answer.

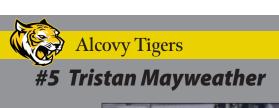
Newton applied pressure in the home half of the opening frame with three straight singles off the bats of junior Hayden Pearson and seniors Aulora Edwards and Ty'Liyah Hardeman. Pearson later scored on senior Kaitlyn

Neely's sacrifice fly to tie the game.

Standing in the box with a 1-1 count in the third inning, Newton sophomore Kyla Stroud smacked a leadoff home run to center field to put her club

See RAMS, A8

### PLAYERS OF THE WEEK



Mayweather ran for 103 yards and a touchdown in the Tigers' dramatic game against county rival **Eastside on Friday** night. He set the tone early and often with bruising runs.







Fain drilled a 36-yard field goal as time expired to lift the Eagles over county rival Alcovy. He finished the night with two made field goals.





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### Social Circle Redskins #16 Kam Durden

One week after scoring a couple of late touchdowns against Walnut Grove, Durden put up a valiant effort in the Redskins' loss to Putnam County on Friday night.





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The Rams were off last week but will be back in action Friday, Oct. 2, as they travel to McEachern.





# Panthers drop third straight

By MICHAEL PITTS

**Sports** 

Correspondent

COVINGTON, GA -Peachtree Academy's woes continued Friday as the Panthers fell to the Pinecrest Academy Paladins on Homecoming Night,

The Paladins opened the game with a 57-yard touchdown run by Alex Jeffords, who was seriously injured on the play and had to be carted off the field and left the stadium via ambulance.

Peachtree Academy fumbled on the ensuing possession, and the Paladins would strike immediately, making it 12-0 with 7:30 left in the first quarter.

Pinecrest Academy scoring early and often has been a theme this season, as they beat their previous two opponents by a combined score of 92. Those two early scores would prove to be the difference-makers as the game went on.

"We are struggling to start a ball game," Panther head coach Jim Eidson said after the game. "We dig ourselves a hole, and we do fairly well digging up, but we have to find a way to dig completely out."

That score would hold through the end of the first quarter, as the Panthers' offensive line struggled against Pinecrest's front

David Osborne ended Peachtree's scoring drought with a field goal at 6:19 remaining in the second quarter, cutting the Paladin lead to nine. However, Pinecrest's David Balthaser would connect with Oscar Lynch on a reverse-pass play and push the lead up to 17 on the next drive.



File | Taylor Beck | The Covington News

Peachtree Academy suffered its third straight loss on Friday night. The Panthers will look to bounce back this week against Covenant Christian Academy.

**Piedmont Academy Shotgun Team** 

Panthers quarterback Dakota Boeckman returned the ensuing kickoff to the Paladin 29 yard-line and proceeded to drive their offense the rest of the way. He capped it off with a 4-yard touchdown with 1:14 left before halftime, making the score 20-9 in favor of the Paladins.

Peachtree crushed the Paladins' attempt to strike before halftime, intercepting Pinecrest quarterback Breckin Barbee with under five seconds remaining.

The third quarter was quiet until Dakota Boeckman connected with Jacob Carter for a 2-yard passing touchdown, shortening the Paladins lead, 20-15.

The Panthers followed that touchdown by recovering a Pinecrest botched snap but were unable to put points on the board as the game entered the fourth quarter.

Pinecrest quarterback Breckin Barbee connected with Oscar

Lynch again, this time for a 30-yard touchdown, pushing the Paladin lead to 26-15 with 6:11 remaining in regulation.

Peachtree Academy did not score for the remainder of the game, falling 26-15.

Coach Eidson still had high praise for his team, even after dropping their third-straight game. "I really think we have a team

that can play with anybody," Eidson said. "We are just very young and have to start making more mature decisions." While anything can happen in

sports, the loss does shrink the chances of Peachtree bringing home a third-straight state championship in 2020.

The Panthers, who fell to 2-3 on the season, will look to end their three-game losing skid this Friday on the road against the Covenant Christian Academy Cougars.

### Prep Volleyball



Mason Wittner | The Covington News

Eastside senior Hailee Bell (2) and the Lady Eagles continued their recent slide Monday night as they dropped a 3-1 match to Apalachee on their home court. Despite the loss, interim head coach Ashley Carnes stated that "the girls played better than they have in the last three to four weeks." For the full recap, please visit CovNews.com.

### RAMS:

Continued from A7

in front. They never looked back. The Lady Rams, who

would go on to finish the day with 13 hits, ambushing Eastside for four runs in the fourth inning. Edwards and Hardeman recorded back-to-back run-scoring singles to give them cushion to work with. Neely later finished the job by driving in Neely on an RBI single, making it 6-1.

Pearson (2-for-3),

Edwards (3-for-3), Hardeman (2-for-4), Stroud (2-for-3) each produced multi-hit games. Pearson also did an admirable job in the circle to keep the Lady Eagles at bay, allowing just one earned run while striking out five over seven innings of work. Newton was back

on its home diamond

against Parkview. The

things back up this

Lake Oconee Academy.

Lady Rams were on

bleheader is slated to begin at 4:30 p.m., with the nightcap to follow immediately. Alcovy earns a split

1 of Thursday's dou-

Special to The Covington News

### The Lady Tigers

moved to 2-11 on the season by splitting a doubleheader with Grovetown on Thursday. They were on the road Tuesday for a doubleheader with Rockdale

(2-for-4) and Neely

Tuesday evening as it resumes its region slate the road Sept. 8. Game

the hunt for revenge after dropping an 8-0 decision to the Lady Panthers on Sept. 10. Check out www. CovNews.com for results from that game.

Eastside will pick Thursday when it hosts region rival Loganville for a doubleheader. The Lady Eagles previously dropped a 1-0 loss to the Lady Red Devils on

Piedmont Academy hosted the second shotgun team

shoot of the season Sept. 19 at Old Hudson Plantation. Piedmont had 23 JV and Varsity shooters travel to Sparta

to compete in Sporting Clays (100 targets) and Skeet (50

targets). Top three shooters for the Varsity were Dylan

Thompson (133), Drew Maddox (131), and Rhett Harris

(120). For JV, the top three shooters were Emory Hilliard

and Ethan Keck (tied at 110), and Davis Downs (106).

Piedmont Academy finished tied for second place with

Wednesday, September 30, 2020

# FOOD & ENTERTAINMENT



Wren and The Wravens is an Atlanta-based band comprised of Abby Wren on vocals; Tiffany Cherry White on vocals, keys and synth bass; Rob Lane on vocals and guitar; and Julian Scott Bryan on vocals and percussion.

# Pink Out concert Friday

# Tickets now available for Wren and The Wravens at Legion Field

By TAYLOR BECK

Tickets are on sale now for Friday night's Pink Out drive-in concert at Legion Field, featuring Wren and The Wravens.

Entertainment begins at 7

p.m. at Legion Field, located at 3173 Mill Street in Covington. Tickets are \$5 per vehicle and can be purchased at Newton County Arts.org.

The concert is presented by the Arts Association of Newton County in collaboration

with Discover Covington and the city of Covington. Sponsors include Piedmont Healthcare (Newton), Covington Women's Health Specialists, Atlanta Cancer Care and DroneJunkees.

Event organizers encour-

age all concertgoers to decorate their vehicles with pink for breast cancer awareness.

Wren and The Wravens' music is described as " an eclectic blend of retro soul, pop and R&B" according to the Atlanta-based band's

website, wrenandthewravens.com. Band members include Abby Wren (vocals), Tiffany Cherry White (vocals, keys, synth bass), Rob Lane (vocals, guitar), and Julian Scott Bryan (vocals, percussion).

What's cooking?

# Fudgy cupcakes are gooey masterpiece



Mississippi Mud Cake is a luscious combination of sweet chocolate, crunchy pecans and gooey marshmallows atop a rich chocolate cake.

Metro Creative Services

### **SPECIAL TO THE NEWS**

Baking homemade treats is a great way to spend time with family in the kitchen. It's easy to craft creative and decadent desserts throughout the year, and controlling portion sizes and using the right ingredients can make these dishes a little less diet-un-

friendly. Mississippi Mud Cake is a luscious combination of sweet chocolate, crunchy pecans and gooey marshmallows atop a rich chocolate cake. It's a variation on Mississippi Mud Pie, which uses many of the same ingredients but is served in pie form. This version of "Mississippi Mud Baby Cakes" from "Cooking Light: Fresh Food Superfast" (Oxmoor House) by The Cooking Light Editors doesn't skimp on taste, but makes dessert more accessible to those sticking to healthier eating plans.

> Mississippi Mud **Baby Cakes**

Ingredients: Cooking spray

age fat-free brownie mix 1 6-ounce carton French vanilla low-fat

1 13.7-ounce pack-

yogurt 3 tablespoons finely chopped pecans

3/4 cup miniature marshmallows

24 chocolate kiss candies

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Place 24 paper miniature muffin cup liners in miniature muffin cups; coat with cooking spray.

Prepare brownie mix according to the package directions, using French vanilla yogurt. Spoon batter evenly into prepared muffin cups. Sprinkle evenly with pecans.

Bake at 350 F for 19 minutes. Remove cakes from oven. Place 3 marshmallows on top of each baby cake; place 1 chocolate kiss in center of marshmallows. Bake an additional 1 minute. Gently swirl melted chocolate kiss to "frost" each cake and hold marshmallows in place. Cool in pans on wire racks 10 minutes; remove from pans. Cool completely on wire racks.



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