

The Covington News

SATURDAY-SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5-6, 2020



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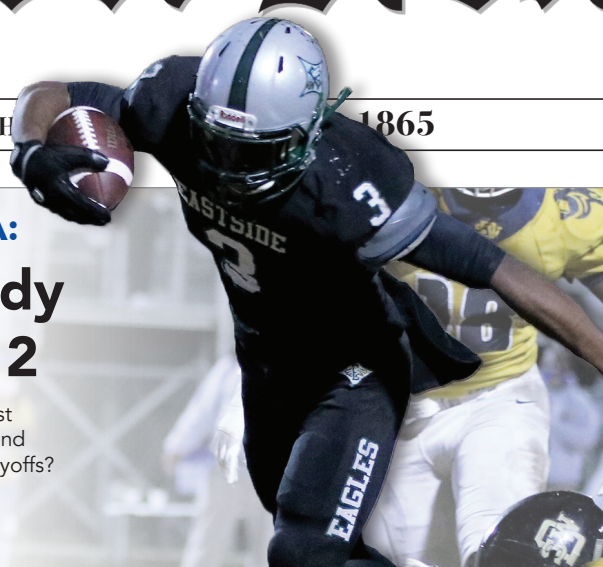
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local issues at
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SPORTS EXTRA:

Eagles ready for Round 2

How did Eastside fare against
New Manchester in the second
round of the GHSA state playoffs?

See B1



His Word

For where your
treasure is, there
will your heart
be also.

Matthew
6:21, KJV



File | The Covington News

Newton's bicentennial celebration will kick off Saturday,
Dec. 5, at the Historic Courthouse from 1-4 p.m.

Newton County kicks off yearlong 200th birthday celebration Saturday

STAFF REPORTS
news@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — The public is invited to kick off a year of celebration of Newton County's 200th birthday in front of the Historic Courthouse on the Covington Square Saturday, Dec. 5, from 1 to 4 p.m.

The celebrations begin with an opportunity

to safely gather with the Newton County Board of Commissioners and share the planned activities throughout 2021.

The Historic Courthouse will be the location for the Newton County parade float, giveaways marking 200 years of Newton

See BIRTHDAY, A3



Metro Creative Services

Since its inception in 1947, Toys for Tots has distributed
584 million toys and supported 265 million children.

Henderson sponsoring Toys for Tots gift giveaway in Covington

Representative-elect encourages registering
children now to participate in Dec. 12 event

By TAYLOR BECK
tbeck@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — District 113 state representative-elect Sharon Henderson, D-Covington, announced Friday she would be hosting a Toys for Tots giveaway Saturday, Dec. 12, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Henderson said the while many families continue hurting during the COVID-19 pandemic, struggling to keep food on the table, they likely won't have the resources to purchase a toy for their children.

"Children may not understand why there are just a few toys (or) possibly no toys under

the Christmas tree this year," she said. "We are in a year full of hardships and setbacks, and many are hurting."

Families can register their children to be considered for the Toys of Tots giveaway at <https://fs4.formsite.com/PGXIJW/g1b2ndovpe/index.html>. Once children are registered, parents will be contacted prior to Dec. 12 and given an appointment time and the address to the event. Henderson said the giveaway would be held at an undisclosed location in Covington.

Toys for Tots is a program that first began

See TOYS, A3

Community honors longtime commissioner before last meeting

By TOM SPIGOLON
tspigolon@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — The community formally said goodbye to Nancy Schulz Tuesday, Dec. 1, before she took her seat for her last scheduled Newton County Board of

Commissioners session before she left office.

Business and political leaders and her former and current commission colleagues honored Schulz for her work during a reception before the meeting.

Schulz lost a re-election bid to a fourth term in her District 3 seat to Alana Sanders in the June Democratic primary and is to leave office Dec. 31.

Speakers praised her for closely monitoring county fiscal matters and helping champion zoning changes that helped increase property values in her rapidly

developing northwestern Newton County district.

Sheriff Ezell Brown recalled he worked hard to convince voters to elect Schulz to her first term in 2008.

He said he knew he had to be prepared for "a Nancy Schulz

See SCHULZ, A9

Newton elections director resigns

Officials praise Mantle for efficiency, leadership

By TOM SPIGOLON
tspigolon@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — Newton County's former elections director drew praises from county leaders after the announcement of her resignation last week.

Angela Mantle, who served as director of the Newton County Board of Elections and Registration since 2015, is leaving Friday, Dec. 4, after leading the office through one of the more turbulent election cycles in the state's recent history.

The Newton County Board of Elections already has named assistant director Angela White-Davis as Mantle's successor, said board chairman Phil Johnson. She will oversee the upcoming U.S. Senate runoff election.

Johnson said the board reluctantly accepted Mantle's resignation letter.

"She certainly has the support

of the board," Johnson said. "We were sad to see her leave."

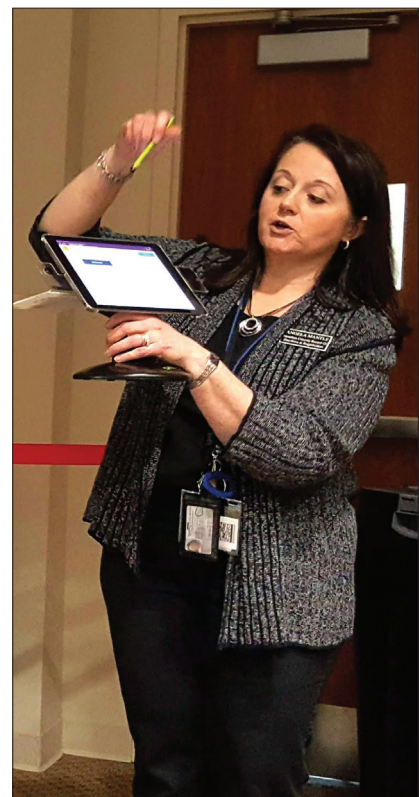
Johnson said Mantle is leaving the job voluntarily to pursue a job opportunity that allows her to remain with the county government.

County Manager Lloyd Kerr said Mantle is moving to a position in the Newton County Department of Human Resources.

"We just want to thank her for all of her service and, particularly, these last couple of elections that we've had that have required quite a bit of extra effort and a lot of overtime at night and weekends," Kerr told county commissioners Tuesday, Dec. 1.

Johnson praised her organizational skills and her ability to lead her staff and keep it focused on doing an accurate and complete vote count despite the

See RESIGNS, A9



Special to The Covington News
County elections director Angela Mantle explains the workings of a component of the new Dominion voting system earlier this year.

Volume 155, No. 61



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Inside

Newton hoops splits with Archer in home opener

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Obituary

Herbert Davenport
Oxford

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SINCE 1865

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Covington man faces murder charges months after wife found dead

Recently transported from Gwinnett jail after separate murder charge in Lawrenceville

By TOM SPIGOLON
tspigolon@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — A Covington man is scheduled to face murder charges in Newton County Superior Court Dec. 10 more than nine months after police found women he had relationships with in two separate counties had been killed.

Arrief McKenzie, 50, is facing charges of malice murder, felony murder, burglary, home invasion and others in Newton County related to the March 3 death of his estranged wife, Niki McKenzie, at a residence on Keyton Drive

in Covington. He recently was transported from Gwinnett County jail to the Newton County jail and is scheduled for arraignment on the charges before Newton County Superior Court Judge Cheveda McCamy Dec. 10.

Active warrants naming Arrief McKenzie as a suspect had been filed in Newton County since the March 3 incident after deputies found Niki McKenzie, 51, dead in the garage of the Keyton Drive home, according to a Newton County Sheriff's Office press

release. Two hours later, a Dunwoody Police officer took McKenzie into custody after ordering the suspect to pull his vehicle to the side of I-285 in north DeKalb County.

McKenzie had been traveling westbound near Ashford Dunwoody Road at 8:47 a.m. when the officer saw the suspect's vehicle fail to maintain its



Arrief McKenzie

lane and nearly side-swipe another vehicle. The officer then checked McKenzie's records and found an arrest warrant on a homicide charge from Newton County.

However, he was taken to the Gwinnett County jail and Gwinnett officers arrested him on a murder charge after police found 36-year-old Jillian Myles-Walters dead earlier that morning at her home in unincorporated Lawrenceville. Myles-Walters and the suspect reportedly had been in a prior relationship.

Police in both Newton and Gwinnett counties were not transporting suspects from their jails through much of this year because of the threat of infection from COVID-19. As a result, the suspect had remained in the Gwinnett jail without bond, said District Attorney Randy McGinley.

In October, the courts allowed grand juries in Georgia to convene again and a Newton County grand jury indicted him on the charges, McGinley said.

OBITUARY

Herbert Davenport
Mr. Herbert Davenport, age 91, of Oxford passed away Monday, November 30, 2020. He was born in Walton County on November 29, 1929 to John and Lula Ray Davenport who have preceded him in death. Mr. Davenport grew up in Covington and served proudly in the United States Army, achieving the rank of Sergeant, during the Korean War. Mr. Davenport worked as a contractor for many years and was a great trim man. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather, and friend. Mr. Davenport enjoyed working around his home, he was a Georgia Football fan, and loved to travel to the mountains where he would often stop along the way for boiled peanuts and apples. He was a member of Macedonia Baptist Church and attended Lovejoy United Methodist Church.

Mr. Davenport is survived by his wife of 68 years Mary Jean Davenport, his son and daughter-in-law Terry and Rosemary Davenport of Oxford, granddaughter Stacy Milon and future grandson-in-law Lonnie Cooper of Atlanta, grandson Ryan Davenport of Covington, great grandsons Ryder Milon of Atlanta, Noah Milon of Miami, Florida, and Jaden Davenport of Covington. He is also survived by his sisters and brother-in-law Rosa Lee Byrd of Oxford and Shirley and Frank Harwood of Covington along with several nieces, nephews, other family and close friends.

Funeral services for Mr. Davenport will be held at 2 o'clock Thursday, December 3, 2020 at the Chapel of J.C. Harwell and Son Funeral Home with Reverend Rick Gravitt and Reverend Gil Gainer officiating. Interment will follow at Macedonia Baptist Church Cemetery. The family will receive friends at the funeral home from 12:00pm until 2:00pm on Thursday prior to the service. J.C. Harwell and Son Funeral Home, TE Davis Funeral Services, 2157 East Street, SE, Covington, GA 30014.

Due to the COVID 19/Coronavirus Pandemic all Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) requirements will be followed. There is a limit of 50 people at any large gathering, social distancing must be recognized, the use of mask is encouraged, and most importantly if you feel sick or have any symptoms of COVID 19 you will not be allowed to attend the service. Please be respectful of the family during this difficult time and follow the requirements of the CDC.

Judge sets bond for 'jealous' husband, 81, accused of shooting 80-year-old wife

By TOM SPIGOLON
tspigolon@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — A Newton County judge has granted bond to an 81-year-old man accused of shooting and wounding his wife in October after saying he believed she was cheating on him.

Superior Court Judge Eugene Benton set a \$20,000 bond for Godfrey Simpson after Simpson's granddaughter testified she would be able to monitor his movements because he had trouble walking and relied on others for transportation.

Simpson is charged with one count each of Aggravated Assault and Possession Of Firearm or Knife During Commission of or Attempt to Commit Certain Felonies.

He was arrested Oct. 24 and spent 41 days in the Newton County Jail before his release on bond after the hearing.

Assistant District Attorney Alex Stone told Benton during a bond hearing Tuesday, Dec.

1, that Newton County deputies were called to Simpson's home at a Conyers address in October.

They found Godfrey's wife Joan, 80, with a gunshot wound to her stomach and Godfrey with a handgun within his reach.

Stone said Simpson reportedly had accused his wife of 58 years of cheating on her.

However, since his arrest he had been contacting his wife and told her the shooting he allegedly did had been accidental — to which Mrs. Simpson had agreed in writing, Stone said.

Mr. Simpson's attorney, David Lamalva, said he was not asking Benton to allow the suspect — who is retired and suffers from chronic arthritis — to return to his home to live with his wife again.

Simpson, who did not speak during the hearing, listened to the hearing remotely.

Lamalva said Joan Simpson — whose condition after the

shooting was not disclosed — had moved since the incident from the Fieldstone Farms subdivision home she had shared with her husband for 20 years.

She now lived with her daughter and granddaughter in Lithonia, he said.

Benton said he wondered why the suspect's wife would be OK with his release on bond.

"If somebody shot me in the stomach, I wouldn't want them out," Benton said.

Mrs. Simpson said during testimony her husband "sometimes talks bad."

"I guess he's jealous but I don't want nobody else," Mrs. Simpson said.

Natasha Simpson said she was willing to put up her Lithonia home as collateral to guarantee his return to court to face the charges.

Benton set a \$20,000 bond for Simpson's release with a number of conditions, including a requirement for wearing

an ankle monitor, and not having access to firearms or alcoholic beverages where he lived.

In other court action last week, Superior Court Judge Layla Zon denied a bond request from accused murderer Alex Khalil Smith.

Smith, 27, of Monticello is charged with the murder of Cassandra Arnold, 32, of Conyers, whom a Monticello newspaper reported was his girlfriend.

Newton County sheriff's deputies found Arnold with multiple gunshot wounds at a Covington residence July 8. She was transported to an area hospital where she later died.

Smith is charged with one count each of Malice Murder and Felony Murder, and one count each of Aggravated Assault and Possession of a Firearm during Commission of a Felony.

Covington council voices concern with disrespect of local law enforcement

By TAYLOR BECK
tbeck@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — Since the COVID-19 pandemic began, local law enforcement have faced several challenges, and at the Covington Police Department those challenges have led to low morale.

During a recent meeting, Covington Police Chief Stacey Cotton told the mayor and council that things had been getting better

thanks to work of both the department and the council.

Cotton said he'd been conducting one-on-one interviews with employees throughout his department and addressed several topics with his staff — from the hiring and training process within the department to the budgeting process at the hands of the city council.

"One thing, as an example we came across, is taking a look at field training program where we train new officers when we bring them in," Cotton said. "So we put together a group and they've been working on that."

Cotton said his department had also been working toward instituting a diversity training program to

help better educate officers on the different races, genders and cultures represented across Covington and Newton County.

"Maybe do some fun things to help us learn a little bit about the people we serve here in the community," Cotton said during the Nov. 16 meeting.

Cotton said the department has struggled in trying to figure out the "new normal" that came with COVID-19, but it's made a lot of progress in recent months.

"We've kind of figured out that we've had to work through the COVID anyway, so we just got to keep on working through the COVID," he said. "We've got to find the new normal right now until there's a vaccine out there."

But despite the progress being made within the department, members of the council have witnessed why keeping the morale up among officers has been difficult.

When the virus first hit Newton County in April, the Newton County Sheriff's Office and the Covington, Oxford and Porterdales police departments agreed to limit arrests in an effort to slow the spread of COVID-19 and keep the virus out of the county's jail.

26th Annual
Candlelight
Service

This year, our Candlelight Service is virtual.
We hope you will join us from the safety and comfort of home.
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See CONCERN, A8

Newton County to host holiday events throughout December

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

COVINGTON, Ga. — Two parades are among holiday events on tap this weekend and in coming weeks in Newton County.

Some public events scheduled Saturday through this month in Newton County include:

LIONS CLUB 'REVERSE' PARADE

Just as 2020 has been a different kind of year, the Covington Lions Club's annual Christmas parade scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 5, will differ greatly from previous years' events.

Instead of a morning parade featuring around 100 entries, this year's event will be a nighttime event and feature about 35 entries, such as high school bands and floats.

And instead of a parade that passes by audience members, organizers are inviting them to stay in their vehicles and drive by a parade that stands still.

The event along Newton Drive is scheduled from 6 to 7:30 p.m., said organizer and club member Missy Braden.

The Lions Club has hosted the parade since 2005 but set it up differently this year in response to safety concerns around the COVID-19 pandemic, Braden said.

All three county high school marching bands will join floats, performing groups, Jeep enthusiasts, Santa Claus and more, Braden said.

Organizers are asking those groups building floats to light them up in some way. The audience will only see the floats' right sides.

Parade participants will set up on a quarter-mile stretch of Newton Drive between Mill Street and Anderson Avenue — along the side adjacent to the YMCA and Legion Field.

Those interested in seeing it from their vehicles will be directed to drive west on Newton Drive, Braden said.

PORTERDALE'S NEIGHBORHOOD PARADE

Rather than city residents traveling from their homes to see this year's Porterdales Christmas Parade, organizers are planning



Special | Covington Lions Club

The Covington Lions Club Christmas Parade will look different this weekend compared to previous years when more than 100 entries were typically featured.

an event that brings the event directly to the residents.

The annual parade is set for Dec. 12 at 7 p.m.

Instead of the regular route along Main Street, parade participants will move through city neighborhoods "where residents can safely view the parade from their front porches," according to the city website.

It is set to step off at the Old Mill parking lot and work its way along parts of Ivy, Hemlock, Main, Poplar, Elm and Crowell roads and Austin Terrace before returning to its starting place, according to a parade route the city provided.

Only lighted floats and entries on wheels will be featured. Cars, trucks, golf carts and ATV units can participate but entries featuring participants on foot are not planned, said Downtown Development Director Josephine Kelly.

Parade applications are due Dec. 9 and can be obtained by emailing info@cityofporterdales.com.

For more information, visit cityofporterdales.com or call 770-786-2217, ext. 3250.

'CHRISTMAS FOR KIDS'

Abiding Grace Lutheran Church will host "Christmas for Kids" Dec. 12 from 10 a.m. to noon at the church at 5500 Hwy.

212 in Covington.

"Join us to celebrate the greatest gift ever given in Jesus. Christmas for Kids is a great event of music, crafts, games, the Christmas story, food, fun and so much more for your kids."

The event is free but space is limited so organizers ask that participants register at c4k.abidinggrace.com or by calling 770-385-7691.

'TUBA CHRISTMAS'

The tradition of "Tuba Christmas" in Porterdales will continue this year "thanks to creative plans for social distancing for both performers and the audience," according to city officials.

The annual Tuba Christmas performance is scheduled for Dec. 13 at 3 p.m. Tuba players can register beginning at 1 p.m. in front of the Porterdales Memorial Gymnasium facility. Rehearsal will take place from 2 to 3 p.m. "then the merriment and fun will start," according to organizers.

Alan Fowler, director of Eastside Pride and the Newton Community Band, will lead the festivities, organizers said.

The public is asked to bring their folding chairs and masks. For more information, visit cityofporterdales.com or call 770-786-2217, ext. 3250.

BIRTHDAY:

Continued from A1

County and information on how to participate in the upcoming festivities.

The Newton County Bicentennial Committee, appointed by Chairman Marcello Banes, has been diligently working on ways to commemorate this milestone since early

this year.

Next year, 2021, will bring opportunities to celebrate together, honor the past 200 years of Newton County, reflect on a legacy and leave a new one.

On Dec. 24, 1821, the Georgia Legislature created Newton County out of Henry, Jasper

and Walton counties.

Since then Newton County has grown to include six municipalities, seen the railroad system transform its agricultural economy, witnessed the creation of a major interstate bringing residents a short drive to nearby cities and airports and

embraced a diversity of people and cultures from all over the world.

For more information on Newton County's 200th birthday visit <https://www.co.newton.ga.us/504/Newton-County-200>.

TOYS:

Continued from A1

in 1947 at the hands of Maj. Bill Hendricks, a Marine Corps reserve, according to ToysforTots.org. When his wife, Diane, asked him to deliver a few of her handcrafted dolls to an agency that supports children in need, Hendricks said he couldn't find one. That's when his wife inspired him to just "start one."

Hendricks and the Marines in his reserve unit in Los Angeles, California, collected and distributed 5,000 toys in 1947. Because of its success, all Marine Reserve Sites were directed to implement a Toys for Tots campaign

in 1948, which transformed it into a national community action program.

Hendricks' civilian job was director of public relations at Warner Brothers Studios, according to the nonprofit's website. He was friends with many celebrities who he asked to help support the program. As a personal friend and as a favor to Hendricks, Walt Disney designed the first Marine Toys for Tots poster, which included a miniature three-car train that was subsequently adopted as the Toys for Tots logo.

The Marine Toys for Tots Foundation, an IRS recognized 501 (c) (3) nonprofit charity, was established in 1991.

Since its inception 73 years ago, the program has distributed 584 million toys and supported 265 million children.

Today, the program distributes an average of 18 million toys to 7 million annually less fortunate children.

Anyone can donate or volunteer their time to the program. To learn more, log on to ToysforTots.org.

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Community Calendar

SATURDAY, DEC. 5

- Lion's Club "Reverse" parade begins at 6 p.m. Floats will be lined up along Newton Drive in front of the YMCA where spectators can drive or walk through the area. Three high school marching bands will also perform.

MONDAY, DEC. 7

- Last day to register to vote in the Senate runoff, slated for Tuesday, Jan. 5. Visit registertovote.sos.ga.gov to be registered.

THURSDAY, DEC. 10

- The Newton County Democratic Committee will hold its Bi-Annual Executive Committee/Officer Elections via Zoom at 7 p.m. Interested parties should visit rebrand.ly/NewtonDemsVOTE for specific details on how to register to vote and for details on how to register to be a candidate.

SATURDAY, DEC. 12

- Abiding Grace Lutheran Church will host Christmas for Kids from 10 a.m. to noon at the church, located on 5500 Hwy. 212 in Covington. Admission is free but space is limited. Register at c4k.abidinggrace.com or call 770-385-7691.

- Santa on the Square, from 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- The Porterdales Christmas Parade begins at 7 p.m. and will move through city neighborhoods "where residents can safely view the parade from their front porches," according to the city's website. A map of the parade route can be found at CovNews.com.

SUNDAY, DEC. 13

- Tuba Christmas in Porterdales begins at 3 p.m. in front of the Porterdales Memorial Gymnasium facility. Tuba player registration begins at 1 p.m.; rehearsal runs from 2-3 p.m. Public is asked to bring folding chairs and wear masks.

SATURDAY, DEC. 19

- Santa on the Square, from 5-8 p.m.

FRIDAY, DEC. 25

- Christmas Day! *The Covington News*, like other area businesses and government offices, will close Dec. 24-25 to allow its staff to observe the holiday.

ONGOING

- 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.

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- Mail: Editor: The Covington News, P.O. Box 1249, Covington, GA 30015
- In person: Stop by 1166 Usher St. NW in downtown Covington
- Email: news@covnews.com

OPINIONS

The Covington News

Taylor Beck editor and publisher

Election change-up a slow pitch indeed

It isn't news that the current voting process nationwide is under fire.

After the Nov. 3 General Election, it's all we've talked about.

In the wake of alleged fraud accusations, some people are clamoring to do away with early voting and absentee/mail-in voting and revert back to in-person, Election Day voting only.

From different corners of the country, I've read about rumblings for the voting process to take place all online but, if we're being serious, that will never happen. If you think the amount of fraud claims are bad now, online would be worse.

I'm not sure how I feel about reverting back to the traditional way of voting. I think allowing early voting and absentee/mail-in voting are great options to allow everyone an equal opportunity to vote and cut down wait times, but I think it increases the opportunity for illegal ballots to be cast. However, doing away with those won't fix all of the wrongdoing in our elections either. There's likely been some type of voter fraud or illegal activity happening in every election since our nation's inception.

While our state's legislators are calling for a special session to address voting issues, major election procedural changes — outside of potentially adding a photo ID component to absentee voting —



File | The Covington News

Before I came to Newton County, I had never experienced early voting, much less the long lines.

are highly unlikely.

As the Senate runoffs approach and the news of Newton County expanding its list of early voting locations, I can't help but draw comparisons between my new home in Georgia and my former home in Alabama.

I've been here about six months now, but the concept of early voting still seems surreal. In Alabama, unless you cast an absentee ballot by mail, you don't vote early. You vote on Election Day and that's that.

Early voting is something I imagine Alabama introducing in the future. It would be useful in larger cities, but it won't be needed where I grew up.

I'll never forget times as a child when my mom would go by to vote on our way to school. Our polling location was at the Mt. Hebron Volunteer Fire Department, and still is today. We'd roll up and park, and I'd have to sit in the car while she voted. There was hardly ever a wait. In fact, I doubt

many more than 200 people have ever turned out to vote in that area.

I'll never forget when I cast my first ballot in the 2012 elections. As my mother did, I went to vote early in the morning before my classes began at Snead State Community College.

I had expectations for voting. I thought it was supposed to be something you take so seriously that nobody would be talking. It would be as if you were taking the SAT and needed to score a 1200 or else the opposing party would win it all.

When I walked in, I expected to see these big voting machines like the ones I had seen on the news, but I saw none. Instead there were maybe half a dozen round tables with three chairs around each one and several pens scattered on top — kind of gross in hindsight. Thanks, COVID.

There were also no dividers for privacy or anything of the sort. The poll workers asked for my

license, made me write my signature by my name printed in what looked like a teacher's roll book and then gave me a paper ballot to fill out. They told me to go have a seat, fill out the ballot and then give it to the poll worker standing beside the ballot counter.

When I sat down, I immediately recognized two or three people that came in after me. That's when voting quickly became a social event.

A family friend sat down next to me with his ballot and we carried on a conversation, all while I was trying to make my presidential pick. To be honest, there was a point where I nearly forgot I was supposed to be voting, not socializing. And when I realized how close he was sitting next to me, I felt like I needed to cover up my ballot, or else it would've been deemed cheating.

After my lovely wife, Kelly, and I moved to the Nixon Chapel area, just a few miles away from Mt. Hebron, the voting process was the exact same. No machines and no wait. Only paper ballots, round tables with a plethora of pens and a little small town conversation.

Yeah. Voting in Alabama for me was quite different from how we vote here in Newton County, and that's OK, as long as everyone is given the opportunity to exercise their right to vote.

Taylor Beck is the editor and publisher of The Covington News. He can be reached at tbeck@covnews.com

Chris Bridges columnist

Kind words can go a long way

Almost everyone is in agreement that 2020 has been a bizarre and extremely stressful year.

It's probably one of the few things we can agree on.

Stress has been at an all-time high for most of us for a variety of reasons. A recent movie starring award-winning actor Russell Crowe entitled "Unhinged" focused on what a buildup of stress can do. The tagline of "He Can Happen To Anyone" shows how many of us have to struggle to keep our emotions in check.

Life overall has been stressful for me in recent years. Some health issues coupled with multiple jobs changes have been issues I have had to deal with. I admit at times I haven't dealt with them well.

I'm fortunate that I have a rock-solid family support system which has helped me deal with 2020 and even previous years. Not are all that fortunate.

Despite the stress-overload, a recent incident at one of my multiple places of employment helped me realize maybe things are not all bad.

At this job management made an area on one of the bulletin boards in the lunchroom so associates could write something they enjoyed about working there. I didn't pay the board much attention at first.

Once it began to fill up, however, I made it a point to read what had been written. Some items focused on job benefits and others focused on their favorite supervisor or manager.

One day while performing my job duties a co-worker asked me if I had seen what was written about me on the board. I told them I had not. "You should look when you get a chance."

The short, simple note quickly jumped out to me. It had not been there the previous time I read the items other co-workers had written.

It read: "Chris Bridges. Kind and Courteous. Reminds me of my late father."

I read those words and then read them again. I scanned them for a third time, maybe just making sure I hadn't missed a punch line somewhere. Someone actually wrote this about me.

While the items written on the board are anonymous, I had to find out who wrote it. That was pretty high praise and one that I was not really sure I deserved, especially comparing me to someone's father.

After asking around no one knew who had written it. On the day before Thanksgiving, however, a young co-worker asked me if I had seen what had been written. I told them I had and how much I appreciated it. Certainly, I would never compare myself to anyone's father, especially a father of a young person who had already passed away.

The co-worker told me I always greeted them in a positive way and didn't act like I was better than her or anyone else. She said my words of "be careful when you leave the store at night" let her know someone cared. "My father told me that all the time," my co-worker said.

Compliments of this nature certainly don't happen all the time but this one seemed to happen just when I really needed to hear a positive message.

It made me think how I had somehow made a positive impact on someone. Most of us are our own worst critics. That is certainly true for myself.

When we are complimented, we tend to shrug it off as not true or as not being worthy. I told myself not to downplay it. It was meant as a compliment and I needed to accept it.

In the stress-filled year that has been 2020, a few kinds of words can certainly go a long way. On the day before Thanksgiving I was reminded of that in a way that certainly put a smile on my face.

Chris Bridges is a former sports editor for The Covington News. Reach him at pchrisbridges@gmail.com.

Your Letters to the Editor

Reader shares part of letter to Newton Commission chairman

Dear Editor:

As all of us come to the end of the year, facing property tax bills. I would like to share with you part of a letter I have written to The Chairman & Board of Commissioners who decide our property fees. I think many people feel

the way I do.

"Atten: Chairman & Board of Commissioners
"Please find enclosed this letter and a copy of my letter addressed to Dana Darby's office: Tax Commissioner, who, (from what I gather), are the tax collectors, not the

implementer's and deciders.

"I am writing to you as I disagree with your tax bill on my property. The amount I am disputing is for School M&O in the amount of \$1,048.00. Since my husband and I are over 63 and have no children living in Georgia and no children having ever attended Georgia schools, this amount should not be charged, since we get no benefit from services. We have already over-paid, since I have been out of child bearing age for over 15 years & only had one Son who is over 30. Sound familiar?

"President Trump stated, 'If schools do not reopen, the funds should go to the parents to send their children to public or private or charter schools, religious or home schools of their choice.

If schools are closed, the money should follow the student so the parents and family are in control of their own decision, or, the money should go to the parents of the student.' "Which brings in other

factors: No school in session, in buildings, etc.... (Why should I/we pay for something, actually nobody is getting in the full sense? Another argument could be: Why raise our taxes during Covid? Very in-humanitarian action if you ask me. Plus: Our street has no lights or sidewalks...but whatever. We all are suppose to pay a proposed estimate predicted for the future is not logical or helpful to people during a pandemic or any time. Not all of us have sat at the government's knee, making decisions for others, but if I did, I wouldn't impose school taxes and ones like these that take money out of the pockets of the elderly who are on a budget and for that matter people who do not have children. Things need to change."

I hope these words resonate and help others come to the forefront to take a stand on Property taxes with me.

Holly Jameson Oxford

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CLASSIFIEDS & LEGALS

The Covington News

CLASSIFIEDS

Jobs

Help Wanted

ASSISTANT NEEDED for small non-profit. Microsoft Office knowledge required, good with numbers and self-starter. Willing to take on projects to conclusion. Three days per week. Start immediately.

SEND EMAIL with resume to: assist.drr@earthlink.net

PROFESSIONAL CLEANING Service seeking hardworking dependable person to clean commercial buildings 20 to 25 hours per week. \$10.00/hr to start. **MONTICELLO AREA. BACKGROUND/DRUG TEST required. 706-476-0233**

Real Estate

For Rent

DETACHED GARAGE Apartment for rent \$700.00 MONTHLY with \$700.00 deposit **TOTAL ELECTRIC/UTILITIES** included **NO ANIMALS JUST** in time for Christmas. **SANDRA OR Larry 770-624-1019**

LEGALS

Public Notices

Abandoned Vehicles

ABANDONED VEHICLES

PURSUANT TO OCGA Subsection 40-11-2, DANA TAYLOR, through its Agents states that the following vehicles are Abandoned and will be sold at a later date if not picked up as stated, 250 HIGHGATE TRL, COVINGTON, GA 30016.

2007 BUICK TERRAZA VIN# 5GADV23187D188029

PUBLIC NOTICE #117660 12/6,13

Alcoholic Beverage

NOTICE – APPLICATION ALCOHOL LICENSE

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

AR WASHINGTON Management LLC

DBA PURE Mart 4120 WASHINGTON Street

APPLICANT: ADEEL Ratani

THE APPLICATION will be heard on December 7, 2020 at 6:30 PM at City of Covington Council Room, 2116 Stallings Street, NW, Covington, GA. This notice is published pursuant to the provisions of Section 5.12.080(C), Covington Municipal Code.

ATTEST: JENNIFER HISE, PERMITTING AND LICENSE SPECIALIST CITY OF Covington, Georgia

PUBLIC NOTICE #117661 12/6

NOTICE – APPLICATION ALCOHOL LICENSE

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

SHIFA EMORY Management LLC **DBA EMORY Mart 2117 EMORY Street**

APPLICANT: SHIFA Tejani

THE APPLICATION will be heard on December 7, 2020 at 6:30 PM at City of Covington Council Room, 2116 Stallings Street, NW, Covington, GA. This notice is published pursuant to the provisions of Section 5.12.080(C), Covington Municipal Code.

ATTEST: JENNIFER HISE, PERMITTING AND LICENSE SPECIALIST CITY OF Covington, Georgia

PUBLIC NOTICE #117662 12/6

NOTICE – APPLICATION ALCOHOL LICENSE

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

THE KROGER Company DBA KROGER # 214 3139 HWY 278 NE

APPLICANT: JONATHAN Merritt

THE APPLICATION will be heard on December 7, 2020 at 6:30 PM at City of Covington Council Room, 2116 Stallings Street, NW, Covington, GA. This notice is published pursuant to the provisions of Section 5.12.080(C), Covington Municipal Code.

ATTEST: JENNIFER HISE, PERMITTING

Georgia STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS

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STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS FOR THE WEEK OF 12/6/20

WANTED

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HEALTHCARE

SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY BENEFITS. Unable to work? Denied benefits? We Can Help! Strong, recent work history needed. Call to start your application or appeal today! 877-627-2704 [Stephacher Law Offices LLC Principal Office: 224 Adams Ave Scranton PA 18503]

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Denied Social Security Disability? Appeal! If you're 50+ filed for SSD and denied, our attorneys can help you get approved! No money out of pockets! Call 1-855-513-8730.

Portable Oxygen Concentrator may be covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 888-670-0481.

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Call Empire Today to schedule a FREE in-home estimate on Carpeting & Flooring. Call Today! 1-866-971-9196.

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off and 0% financing for those who qualify. PLUS Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-877-735-0477.

MISCELLANEOUS

Need IRS Relief \$10K - \$125K+ Great Fresh Start or Forgiveness Call 1-855-558-2664, Monday – Friday 7AM - 5PM PST.

SERIOUSLY INJURED in an **AUTO ACCIDENT?** Let us fight for you! Our network has recovered millions for clients! Call today for a FREE consultation! 855-399-5797

COMPUTER ISSUES? GEEKS ON SITE provides FREE diagnosis REMOTELY 24/7 SERVICE DURING COVID19. No home visit necessary. \$40 OFF with coupon 864071 Restrictions apply. 877-820-7565

Cash for Cars! We buy all cars! Junk, high-end, totaled—it doesn't matter! Get free towing and same day cash! NEWER MODELS too! 833-882-3437.

Donate your car to charity. Receive the maximum value of write off for your taxes. Running or not! All Conditions accepted. Free pickup. Call for details 866-994-1146.

SsAVE YOUR HOME! Are you behind paying your MORTGAGE? Denied a Loan Modification? Threatened with FORECLOSURE? CALL the homeowners Relief Line Now for Help! 855-596-0109.

PROBLEM CREDIT REPORT? Lexington Law helps work to challenge inaccurate negative items including: Identity theft, collections, late payments, liens, and more from your credit report. Call for a free consultation 877-250-3937

TV/INTERNET

BEST SATELLITE TV with 2 Year Price Guarantee! \$59.99/mo with 190 channels and 3 months free premium movie channels! Free next day installation! Call 855-808-6843.

DISH TV \$59.99 FOR 190 Channels! + 14.95 High Speed Internet. Free Installation, Smart HD DVR Included, Free Voice Remote. Some restrictions apply. Call 1-877-740-8994.

DISH Network \$59.99 For 190 Channels! Add High Speed Internet for ONLY \$19.95/month. Call Today for \$100 Gift Card! Best Value & Technology. FREE Installation. Call 1-866-369-1468 (some restrictions apply)

AT&T INTERNET. Starting at \$40/ month w/12 –mo. Includes 1 TB of data per month. Get more for your High-Speed Internet Thing. Ask us how to bundle and save! Geo & svc restrictions apply. Call us today 1-888-581-6815

AND LICENSE SPECIALIST CITY OF Covington, Georgia

PUBLIC NOTICE #117663 12/6

NOTICE – APPLICATION ALCOHOL LICENSE

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

ELEA J'S Southern Table **6265 HWY 278, NE**

APPLICANT'S NAME: Eleanor Johnson

THE APPLICATION will be heard on December 7, 2020 at 6:30 PM at City of Covington Council Room, 2116 Stallings Street, NW, Covington, GA. This notice is published pursuant to the provisions of Section 5.12.080(C), Covington Municipal Code.

ATTEST: JENNIFER HISE, PERMITTING AND LICENSE SPECIALIST CITY OF Covington, Georgia

PUBLIC NOTICE #117664 12/6

NOTICE IS hereby given that an application has been made to the Newton County Board of Commissioners to obtain a license to sell alcoholic beverages (beer & wine) for off premises consumption by:

CIRCLE K STORE #2745127 DAVID RADER 4175 SALEM ROAD COVINGTON, GA 30016

OCCUPATION TAX/BUSINESS License Contact: TINA WATERS BUSINESS LICENSE Clerk TWATERS@CO.NEWTON.GA.US

PUBLIC NOTICE #117644 12/29,1/6

Bids

ADVERTISEMENT FOR REQUEST OF PROPOSAL SERVER VIRTUALIZATION Upgrades RFP #21-09

SEPARATE SEALED proposals for Server Virtualization Upgrades will be received by Newton County Board of Commissioners electronically until 9:00AM, local time, January 8, 2021. ALL PROPOSALS MUST BE SUBMITTED THROUGH BONFIRE'S ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION PORTAL.

INSURANCE: CONTRACTOR SHALL maintain the following insurance:

A) COMPREHENSIVE General Liability, including blanket contractual, covering bodily injuries with limits of no less than \$1,000,000.00 per occurrence, and property damage with limits of no less than \$1,000,000.00 per occurrence; **B) COMMERCIAL** Automobile Liability, including blanket contractual, covering bodily injuries with limits of no less than \$1,000,000.00 per occurrence, and property damage with limits of no less than \$1,000,000.00 per accident; **C) STATUTORY** Worker's Compensation Insurance, including \$1,000,000.00 employer's liability insurance; **ALL INSURANCE** shall be provided by an insurer(s) acceptable to the County, and shall provide for thirty (30) days prior notice of cancellation to the County. Upon request, Contractor shall deliver to the County a certificate or policy of insurance evidencing Contractors compliance with this paragraph. Contractor shall abide by all terms and conditions of the insurance and shall do nothing to impair or invalidate the coverage.

EACH PROPOSAL will be considered by the OWNER, taking into consideration specific evaluation factors, listed in their order of relative

importance, as set forth in the Request for Proposal.

NEWTON COUNTY reserves the right to reject any or all Proposals, including without limitation, the right to reject any Proposal that the OWNER believes would not be in the best interest of the Project.

DIGITAL COPIES of the PROPOSAL DOCUMENTS may be obtained at the Purchasing office at no charge by visiting www.co.newton.ga.us or contacting Randi Fincher at 678-625-1237 or rfincher@co.newton.ga.us. Hard copies of the PROPOSAL DOCUMENTS may be obtained upon a non-refundable payment of \$25.00 for each set. The County is not obligated to consider the contractor's proposal if they are not on record with the issuing office as having received complete Proposal Documents

NOVEMBER 30, 2020 LLOYD KERR, County Manager NEWTON COUNTY Board of Commissioners

PUBLIC NOTICE #117667 12/6

ADVERTISEMENT FOR REQUEST OF PROPOSAL TRACK PROPELLED Single Shaft Shredder RFP #21-10

SEPARATE SEALED proposals for a Track Propelled Single Shaft Shredder will be received by Newton County Board of Commissioners (acting for the Newton County Solid Waste Management Authority) electronically until 9:00AM, local time, December 16, 2020. ALL PROPOSALS MUST BE SUBMITTED THROUGH BONFIRE'S ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION PORTAL.

INSURANCE: CONTRACTOR SHALL maintain the following insurance:

A) COMPREHENSIVE General Liability, including blanket contractual, covering bodily injuries with limits of no less than \$1,000,000.00 per occurrence, and property damage with limits of no less than \$1,000,000.00 per occurrence; **B) COMMERCIAL** Automobile Liability, including blanket contractual, covering bodily injuries with limits of no less than \$1,000,000.00 per occurrence, and property damage with limits of no less than \$1,000,000.00 per accident; **C) STATUTORY** Worker's Compensation Insurance, including \$1,000,000.00 employer's liability insurance; **ALL INSURANCE** shall be provided by an insurer(s) acceptable to the County, and shall provide for thirty (30) days prior notice of cancellation to the County. Upon request, Contractor shall deliver to the County a certificate or policy of insurance evidencing Contractors compliance with this paragraph. Contractor shall abide by all terms and conditions of the insurance and shall do nothing to impair or invalidate the coverage.

EACH PROPOSAL will be considered by the OWNER, taking into consideration specific evaluation factors, listed in their order of relative importance, as set forth in the Request for Proposal. **NEWTON COUNTY** reserves the right to reject any or all Proposals, including without limitation, the right to reject any Proposal that the OWNER believes would not be in the best interest of the Project.

DIGITAL COPIES of the PROPOSAL DOCUMENTS may be obtained at the Purchasing office at no charge by visiting www.co.newton.ga.us or contacting Randi Fincher at 678-625-1237 or rfincher@co.newton.ga.us. Hard copies of the PROPOSAL DOCUMENTS may be obtained upon a non-refundable payment of \$25.00 for each set. The County is not obligated to consider the contractor's proposal if they are not on record with the issuing office as having received complete Proposal Documents

DECEMBER 1, 2020 KEVIN J. Walter, P.E., Solid Waste Manager NEWTON SOLID Waste

Management Authority

PUBLIC NOTICE #117671 12/6

Citations

CITATION

ADONIS M. HARDEMAN has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the **Estate of CAROLYN JEAN HARDEMAN**, deceased. (The applicant has also applied for waiver of bond and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. §53-12-232). All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said application should not be granted. All objections must be in writing, and filed with this Court on or before JANUARY 4, 2021, next, at ten o'clock, a.m.

MELANIE M. Bell, Judge BY: MARCIA Wynne CLERK, PROBATE Court NEWTON COUNTY, GA

PUBLIC NOTICE #117620 12/6,13,20,27

CITATION

BRIDGET LATONIA MITCHELL has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the **Estate of JEFFERY KEITH MITCHELL**, deceased. (The applicant has also applied for waiver of bond and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. §53-12-232). All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said application should not be granted. All objections must be in writing, and filed with this Court on or before JANUARY 4, 2021, next, at ten o'clock, a.m.

MELANIE M. Bell, Judge BY: MARCIA Wynne CLERK, PROBATE Court NEWTON COUNTY, GA

PUBLIC NOTICE #117619 12/6,13,20,27

CITATION

CATINA M. PARKER has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the **Estate of LEONARD CHARLES PARKER, JR.,** deceased. (The applicant has also applied for waiver of bond and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. §53-12-232). All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said application should not be granted. All objections must be in writing, and filed with this Court on or before JANUARY 4, 2021, next, at ten o'clock, a.m.

MELANIE M. Bell, Judge BY: MARCIA Wynne CLERK, PROBATE Court NEWTON COUNTY, GA

PUBLIC NOTICE #117621 12/6,13,20,27

CITATION

CHERYL B. HILL has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the **Estate of BRANDACE LESLIE**, deceased. (The applicant has also applied for waiver of bond and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. §53-12-232). All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said application should not be granted. All objections must be in writing, and filed with this Court on or before JANUARY 4, 2021, next, at ten o'clock, a.m.

MELANIE M. Bell, Judge BY: MARCIA Wynne CLERK, PROBATE Court NEWTON COUNTY, GA

PUBLIC NOTICE #117678 12/6,13,20,27

CITATION

CRISTI ROBINSON has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the **Estate of TIM LAWSON ROBINSON**, deceased. (The applicant has also applied for waiver of bond and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. §53-12-232). All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said application should

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

HEALTHCARE



ADVIR HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS

Now hiring CNA, PCA, homemakers, full time, part time and PRN positions for areas in Newton, Rockdale and other surrounding counties.

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neaker ASYLUM

COMING SOON

2233 GA Highway 20 | Conyers, GA 30013

info@shopsneakerasylum.com

www.shopsneakerasylum.com

not be granted. All objections must be in writing, and filed with this Court on or before JANUARY 4, 2021, next, at ten o'clock, a.m.

MELANIE M. Bell, Judge BY: MARCIA Wynne CLERK, PROBATE Court NEWTON COUNTY, GA

PUBLIC NOTICE #117616 12/6,13,20,27

CITATION

EDDIE GEORGE MANUEL has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the **Estate of BETTY JEAN BELL MANUEL**, deceased. (The applicant has also applied for waiver of bond and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. §53-12-232). All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said application should not be granted. All objections must be in writing, and filed with this Court on or before JANUARY 4, 2021, next, at ten o'clock, a.m.

MELANIE M. Bell, Judge BY: MARCIA Wynne CLERK, PROBATE Court NEWTON COUNTY, GA

PUBLIC NOTICE #117675 12/6,13,20,27

CITATION

EDDIE GEORGE MANUEL has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the **Estate of EDERICA MANUEL**, deceased. (The applicant has also applied for waiver of bond and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. §53-12-232). All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said application should not be granted. All objections must be in writing, and filed with this Court on or before JANUARY 4, 2021, next, at ten o'clock, a.m.

MELANIE M. Bell, Judge BY: MARCIA Wynne CLERK, PROBATE Court NEWTON COUNTY, GA

PUBLIC NOTICE #117674 12/6,13,20,27

CITATION

ELLA LOUISE MILLS has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the **Estate of WILLIAM DOUGLAS MILLS**, deceased. (The applicant has also applied for waiver of bond and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. §53-12-232). All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said application should not be granted. All objections must be in writing, and filed with this Court on or before JANUARY 4, 2021, next, at ten o'clock, a.m.

MELANIE M. Bell, Judge BY: MARCIA Wynne CLERK, PROBATE Court NEWTON COUNTY, GA

PUBLIC NOTICE #117677 12/6,13,20,27

CITATION

GREGORY THOMAS has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the **Estate of ELOISE MARTIN**,

deceased. (The applicant has also applied for waiver of bond and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. §53-12-232). All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said application should not be granted. All objections must be in writing, and filed with this Court on or before JANUARY 4, 2021, next, at ten o'clock, a.m.

MELANIE M. Bell, Judge BY: MARCIA Wynne CLERK, PROBATE Court NEWTON COUNTY, GA

PUBLIC NOTICE #117617 12/6,13,20,27

CITATION

HARRY WILLIAM HODGES has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the **Estate of RALPH HODGES**, deceased. (The applicant has also applied for waiver of bond and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. §53-12-232). All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said application should not be granted. All objections must be in writing, and filed with this Court on or before JANUARY 4, 2021, next, at ten o'clock, a.m.

MELANIE M. Bell, Judge BY: MARCIA Wynne CLERK, PROBATE Court NEWTON COUNTY, GA

PUBLIC NOTICE #117616 12/6,13,20,27

CITATION

JOEY L. JOHNSON has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the **Estate of HELEN KELLY JOHNSON**, deceased. (The applicant has also applied for waiver of bond and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. §53-12-232). All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said application should not be granted. All objections must be in writing, and filed with this Court on or before JANUARY 4, 2021, next, at ten o'clock, a.m.

MELANIE M. Bell, Judge BY: MARCIA Wynne CLERK, PROBATE Court NEWTON COUNTY, GA

PUBLIC NOTICE #117676 12/6,13,20,27

CITATION

KATIE MELOVITZ has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the **Estate of STACEY LYNN ANDERSON**, deceased. (The applicant has also applied for waiver of bond and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. §53-12-232). All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said application should not be granted. All objections must be in writing, and filed with this Court on or before JANUARY 4, 2021, next, at

See LEGALS, A6

LEGALS:

Continued from A5

TEN O'CLOCK, a.m.

MELANIE M. Bell, Judge
BY: MARCIA Wynne
CLERK, PROBATE Court
NEWTON COUNTY, GA

PUBLIC NOTICE #117623
12/6,13,20,27

CITATION

KEYWANDER A. FLOYD has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the **Estate of HENRY THOMAS JOHNSON**, deceased. (The applicant has also applied for waiver of bond and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. §53-12-232). All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said application should not be granted. All objections must be in writing, and filed with this Court on or before JANUARY 4, 2021, next, at ten o'clock, a.m.

MELANIE M. Bell, Judge
BY: MARCIA Wynne
CLERK, PROBATE Court
NEWTON COUNTY, GA

PUBLIC NOTICE #117680
12/6,13,20,27

CITATION

MARVIN WILSON CLABORN, JR. has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the **Estate of LISA MARIE HERMAN**, deceased. (The applicant has also applied for waiver of bond and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. §53-12-232). All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said application should not be granted. All objections must be in writing, and filed with this Court on or before JANUARY 4, 2021, next, at ten o'clock, a.m.

MELANIE M. Bell, Judge
BY: MARCIA Wynne
CLERK, PROBATE Court
NEWTON COUNTY, GA

PUBLIC NOTICE #117622
12/6,13,20,27

CITATION

MELVA L. MONTGOMERY has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the **Estate of WILLIE MONTGOMERY, JR.**, deceased. (The applicant has also applied for waiver of bond and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. §53-12-232). All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said application should not be granted. All objections must be in writing, and filed with this Court on or before JANUARY 4, 2021, next, at ten o'clock, a.m.

MELANIE M. Bell, Judge
BY: MARCIA Wynne
CLERK, PROBATE Court
NEWTON COUNTY, GA

PUBLIC NOTICE #117679
12/6,13,20,27

CITATION

MERLENE ST. LUCE has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the **Estate of AMAYAH PARRIS**, deceased. (The applicant has also applied for waiver of bond and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. §53-12-232). All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said application should not be granted. All objections must be in writing, and filed with this Court on or before JANUARY 4, 2021, next, at ten o'clock, a.m.

MELANIE M. Bell, Judge
BY: MARCIA Wynne
CLERK, PROBATE Court
NEWTON COUNTY, GA

PUBLIC NOTICE #117625
12/6,13,20,27

CITATION

ROBIN A. BUTZ has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the **Estate of DONALD BRIAN ADAMS, SR.**, deceased. (The applicant has also applied for waiver of bond and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. §53-12-232). All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said application should not be granted. All objections must be in writing, and filed with this Court on or before JANUARY 4, 2021, next, at ten o'clock, a.m.

MELANIE M. Bell, Judge
BY: MARCIA Wynne
CLERK, PROBATE Court
NEWTON COUNTY, GA

PUBLIC NOTICE #117624
12/6,13,20,27

CITATION

THE PETITION of ALAN D. CANNON, widow/widower of TERI DIANE CANNON, deceased, for Twelve Month's Support for having been duly filed, all interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections must be in writing and filed with this Court on or before JANUARY 4, 2021, next at ten o'clock a.m.

MELANIE M. Bell, Judge
BY: MARCIA Wynne, Clerk
PROBATE COURT
NEWTON COUNTY, Georgia

PUBLIC NOTICE #117639
12/6,13,20,27

CITATION

THE PETITION of OBY NWANDU, ON BEHALF OF CHIMABI NWANDU, for Twelve Month's Support, Estate of Augustine Ifenayi Nwandu, deceased, having been duly filed, all interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections must be in writing and filed with this Court on or before JANUARY 4, 2021,

next at ten o'clock a.m.

MELANIE M. Bell, Judge
BY: MARCIA Wynne, Clerk
PROBATE COURT
NEWTON COUNTY, Georgia

PUBLIC NOTICE #117683
12/6,13,20,27

Corporations

A NOTICE of Intent to Dissolve IMJ DRYWALL, INC., a Georgia corporation with registered office at 5618 Highway 212, Covington GA 30016, has been delivered to the Secretary of State by said corporation and filed by him on December 2, 2020, in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Georgia Business Corporation Code.

PERSONS WITH claims against said corporation may present them by sending written notice setting forth the name of the creditor, the amount of the claim, and the basis for the claim to Jeremy A. Moulton, 925 Railroad Street NW, Conyers GA 30012. Except for claims that are contingent at the time of the filing of the notice of intent to dissolve or that arise after the filing of the notice of intent to dissolve, a claim against the corporation not otherwise barred will be barred unless a proceeding to enforce the claim is commenced within two years after the publication of this notice.

PUBLIC NOTICE #117672
12/6,13

Convictions

D.U.I. CONVICTION Publication Information



DATE: DECEMBER 1, 2020

NAME OF Convicted Person: John L. Golden III
CITY/ZIP **CODE/COUNTY:** Covington/30016/Newton
STATE: GEORGIA
DATE OF Arrest: 07/21/2019
TIME OF Arrest: 1:39 A.M.

PLACE OF Arrest
STREET ADDRESS: Cobb Pkwy/ Akers Mill Rd
CITY AND State: Smyrna, Ga

DISPOSITION OF the Case: Plea of guilty – 24 months – 10 days to serve in custody –23 months 20 days to serve on probation -\$600 fine plus all applicable surcharges - \$25 publication Fee – 240 hours community service - \$39 per month Probation Fee

PUBLIC NOTICE #117673
12/6

Debtors Creditors

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

IN THE INTEREST OF:
RANDY LOWELL SIMMONS, DECEASED.

ESTATE NO. 2018-P-472

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

ALL CREDITORS of the estate of **RANDY LOWELL SIMMONS** of Newton County, deceased, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 10th day of November, 2020.
DERWIN BRYAN Davis
973 GREEN Street, SE
CONYERS, GA 30012

PUBLIC NOTICE #117603
11/22,29,12/6,13

NOTICE TO CREDITOR/ DEBTORS

ALL CREDITORS of the Estate of Wayne Elbert Bolton late of Newton County, deceased, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law and all persons indebted to the said estate are required to make payment to:

NAME OF Executor or Administrator:
BARBARA JANE Bolton
EXECUTOR/ADMINISTRATOR'S ADDRESS:
C/O DANIEL S. Digby
ATTORNEY AT Law
LAW OFFICE of Daniel S. Digby, LLC P.O. Box 263
CONYERS, GEORGIA 30012

PUBLIC NOTICE #117611
11/22,29,12/6,13

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

ALL CREDITORS of the Estate of **KARSTEN COTTON**, Late of Newton County, deceased, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said Estate are required to make immediate payment.

THIS 5TH day of November, 2020.
DARNELL MICHAEL Livingston, Executor of the Estate of **KARSTEN COTTON**, Deceased. Shannon M. Pawley, Esq.
ATTORNEY FOR Executor, Darnell Michael Livingston
THE ESTATE and Asset Protection Law Firm
315 W Ponce De Leon Avenue,

Suite 600
DECATUR, GA 30030

PUBLIC NOTICE #117593
11/15,22,29,12/6

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

ALL CREDITORS of the Estate of Susan J. Samuel, late of Newton County, deceased, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.
THIS 24TH day of November, 2020.

BRUCE R. HAWKINS, JR. ATTORNEY FOR CHARLES WILLIAM SAMUEL AND TYLER J. BOROWSKI, EXECUTORS
ESTATE OF SUSAN J. SAMUEL
538 SCENIC Highway
Lawrenceville, GA 30046 (770) 822-5635

PUBLIC NOTICE #117658
12/6,13,20,27

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the **Estate of BETTY HIGHT DEVOE**, deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law. **THIS THE** 10th day of November, 2020.

MICHAEL A. HIGHT
45 WEST KEEL ST
OXFORD, GA 30054

PUBLIC NOTICE #117632
11/22,29,12/6,13

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the **Estate of CHARLES RONALD AVRET**, deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law. **THIS THE** 13th day of November, 2020.

KATHY A. WATTS-AVRET
50 MATTIE COURT
MANSFIELD, GA 30055

PUBLIC NOTICE #117627
11/22,29,12/6,13

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the **Estate of HARVEY JAMES DINGLER**, deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law. **THIS THE** 10th day of November, 2020.

DAVID A. DINGLER
1919 ELKS CLUB ROAD
COIVNGTON, GA 30014

PUBLIC NOTICE #117630
11/22,29,12/6,13

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the **Estate of HENRY SMILEY, JR.**, deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law. **THIS THE** 12th day of November, 2020.

KIMBERLY SMILEY-DENSLEY
P.O. BOX 722
GORDON, GA 31031

PUBLIC NOTICE #117629
11/22,29,12/6,13

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the **Estate of JANET MASSEY DOBBS**, deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law. **THIS THE** 16th day of November, 2020.

JEREMY MICHAEL DOBBS, SR.
115 ASHTON DRIVE
COVINGTON, GA 30016

PUBLIC NOTICE #117634
11/22,29,12/6,13

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the **Estate of JIMMY MONROE DRAKOS**, deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law. **THIS THE** 13th day of November, 2020.

LINDA HAMMOND
295 OLD POST ROAD
MANSFIELD, GA 30055

PUBLIC NOTICE #117626
11/22,29,12/6,13

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the **Estate of MELVIN AUTHER HENRY LESTER**, deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law. **THIS THE** 10th day of November, 2020.

JACQUELINE RAINEY
6205 HEARN ROAD
ELLENWOOD, GA 30294

PUBLIC NOTICE #117631
11/22,29,12/6,13

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND

CLUES ACROSS

- Opposite of west
- ___ Caesar, comedian
- Helps little firms
- A way to censor
- Expresses atomic and molecular weights
- Chalcedony
- Type of sword
- A corporation's first offer to sell stock to the public
- Attired
- A sequence of winding turns
- Pal
- Expresses pleasure
- Amendable
- Clear
- A way to cut off
- Indigenous Thai person
- Pale brownish yellow color
- Aquatic plants genus
- Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
- Merchants
- Fix a chair
- Throws into disorganization
- Famed German composer
- Keyboard key
- Oral polio vaccine developer
- Partner to pain
- Where golfers start
- Jenny __: weight loss program
- Sailing dinghy
- Suffix that forms adjectives
- Speeds at which music is played
- Body part
- Fall back
- Ancient Greek sophist

CLUES DOWN

- One point south of due east
- Wings
- One point south of southeast
- The shirts on our backs
- One who works on the seas
- Select jury
- Small intestines parts
- Plant of the heath family

CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the **Estate of MILDRED ARIE HEARD**, deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law. **THIS THE** 13th day of November, 2020.

SONYA L. POWERS
30 HUNTINGTON ST
COVINGTON, GA 30016

PUBLIC NOTICE #117628
11/22,29,12/6,13

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the **Estate of RAYMOND ELLIS**, deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law. **THIS THE** 30th day of November, 2020.

KEITH ELLIS
257 RAVEN ROAD
MONTICELLO, GA 31064

PUBLIC NOTICE #117681
12/6,13,20,27

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the **Estate of ROBERT SHEPARD, SR.**, deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law. **THIS THE** 1st day of December, 2020.

ROBERT SHEPARD, Jr.
1428 MAIN St, Apt 231
FITCHBURG, MA 01420

PUBLIC NOTICE #117682
12/6,13,20,27

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the **Estate of ZELMA JANYNE CLARY**, deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law. **THIS THE** 12th day of November, 2020.

NANCY GAIL BLALOCK
120 BARBER ROAD
COVINGTON, GA 30016

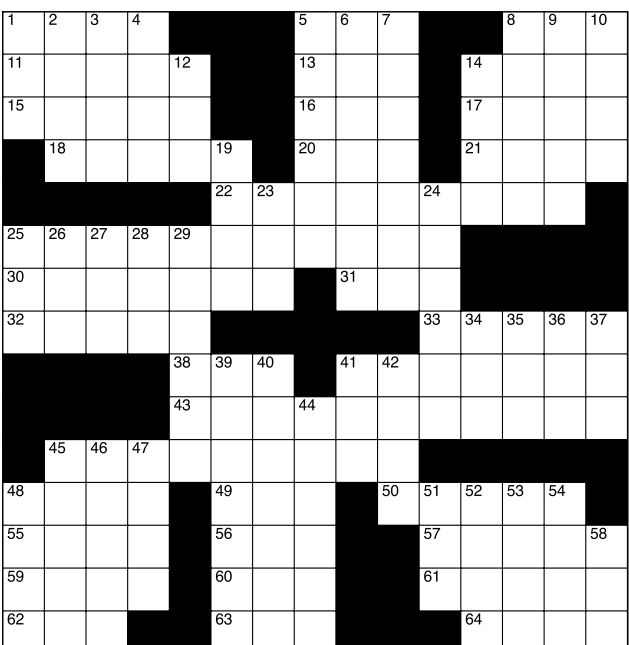
PUBLIC NOTICE #117633
11/22,29,12/6,13

Foreclosures

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE UNDER POWER
NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA

THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

UNDER AND by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in that certain Security Deed dated January 30, 2018, from **Paul Holfeld and Barbara A. Holfeld** to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Finance of America Reverse LLC, recorded on February 7, 2018 in Deed Book 3662 at Page 560 Newton County, Georgia records, having been last sold, assigned, transferred and conveyed to **WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB**, not individually but solely as trustee for **FINANCE OF AMERICA STRUCTURED SECURITIES ACQUISITION TRUST 2018-HB1** by Assignment and said Security Deed having been given to secure a note dated January 30, 2018, in the amount of \$210,000.00, and said Note being in default, the undersigned will sell at public outcry during the legal hours of sale before the door of the courthouse of Newton County, Georgia, on January 5, 2021 the following described real property (hereinafter referred to as the "Property"): **ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOT 91 OF THE 10TH DISTRICT, NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA, BEING LOT 30, MILLCREST SUBDIVISION, UNIT THREE, AS PER PLAT RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 30, PAGE 230- 231, NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA RECORDS, WHICH PLAT IS INCORPORATED HEREIN AND MADE A PART HEREOF BY REFERENCE FOR A MORE PARTICULAR AND COMPLETE DESCRIPTION.** The debt secured by the Security Deed and evidenced by the Note and has been, and is hereby,



- Extrasolar planet
- Creates more of
- Before
- Forms over a cut
- Runs down
- Exercise regimen ___-bo
- Unkeyed
- Principle underlying the universe
- Corpuscle count (abbr.)
- Residue
- Company that rings receipts
- Rugged mountain range
- Commercials
- NY footballer
- They ___
- Soviet Socialist Republic
- Poked holes in the ground
- Pitchers
- Your
- Diana __, singer
- Important document for inventors
- Bangladesh capital

- Fluid that flows in the veins of Greek gods
- Famed daguerreotype photographer
- Where military personnel work
- Play a role
- La ___ Tar Pits, Hollywood
- Unstressed-stressed
- Type of palm tree
- Judo garments

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

U	S	S	R	P	R	A	A	M	U	G	L	L
R	O	U	E	B	A	R	E	R	N	E	E	D
D	A	N	S	S	T	I	R	S	A	L	A	E
U	R	G	E	S	I	S	O	P	R	A	H	E
				T	O	T	T	E	N	H	A	N
T	A	U	R	O	E	A	A	R	M	G	D	
U	G	L	I	E	R	A	U	G	P	A	L	O
N	A	N	A	S	U	S	T	U	I	G	U	R
E	V	A	N	U	N	H	A	L	A	M	O	S
D	E	E	A	N	D	R	B	C	A	N	A	
				T	Y	P	E	F	A	C	E	S
U	D	A	R	R	E	S	C	A	R	E	S	
S	O	R	A	P	R	E	D	M	A	R	A	
E	P	I	C	A	G	A	M	A	I	T	E	M
S	Y	P	H	P	E	L	E	W	A	H	A	B

declared due and payable because of, among other possible events of default, failure to make the payments as required by the terms of the Note. The debt remaining is in default and this sale will be made for the purposes of paying the Security Deed, accrued interest, and all expenses of the sale, including attorneys' fees. Notice of intention to collect attorneys' fees has been given as provided by law. To the best of the undersigned's knowledge, the person(s) in possession of the property are Paul Holfeld and Barbara A. Holfeld. The property, being commonly known as **30 Creekstone Court, Covington, GA, 30016** in Newton County, will be sold as the property of Paul Holfeld and Barbara A. Holfeld, subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien and not yet due and payable), any matters affecting title to the property which would be disclosed by accurate survey and inspection thereof, and all assessments, liens, encumbrances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record to the Security Deed. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 44-14-162.2, the name, address and telephone number of the individual or entity who shall have the full authority to negotiate, amend or modify all terms of the above described mortgage is as follows: Compu-Link Corporation, d/b/a Celink, 2900 Esperanza Crossing, Austin, TX 78758, 512-691-1699. The foregoing notwithstanding, nothing in O.C.G.A. Section 44-14-162.2 shall require the secured creditor to negotiate, amend or modify the terms of the mortgage instrument. The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under U.S. Bankruptcy code and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed. Albertelli Law Attorney for **WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB**, not individually but solely as trustee for **FINANCE OF AMERICA STRUCTURED SECURITIES ACQUISITION TRUST 2018-HB1** as Attorney in Fact for Paul Holfeld and Barbara A. Holfeld 100 Galleria Parkway, Suite 960 Atlanta, GA 30339 Phone: (770) 373-4242 By: Cory Sims For the Firm **THIS FIRM IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.** - 20-011054 A-4727858 12/06/2020, 12/13/2020, 12/20/2020, 12/27/2020

PUBLIC NOTICE #117641
12/6,13,20,27

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
GEORGIA, NEWTON COUNTY

BY VIRTUE of a Power of Sale contained in that certain Security Deed from **JOAN LEJEUNE AKA JOAN N. LEJEUNE** to **MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS INC AS NOMINEE FOR HOMECOMINGS FINANCIAL NETWORK INC**, dated June 28, 2006, recorded July 10, 2006, in Deed Book 2228, Page 236-251 , 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 Thirty-Five Thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$135,000.00), with interest thereon as provided for therein, said Security Deed having been last sold, assigned and transferred to **Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper**, 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 January, 2021, all property described in said Security Deed including but not limited to the following described property:

Covington council appoints 9 to city boards, commissions

Former mayor to chair Redevelopment Authority; former councilwoman to serve on Historic Preservation Commission

By TAYLOR BECK
tbeck@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — After reviewing several resumes during a special-called meeting Monday, Nov. 23, the Covington City Council unanimously filled nine of the current and upcoming vacancies across various boards and commissions.

Prior to the meeting, Mayor Steve Horton had encouraged each council member to inquire of their constituents about serving on the city's boards.

As part of the appointment process, prospective board and committee members were required to submit a resume or bio.

Once the council filtered out candidates that were not residents of Covington, several appointments were

made.

Kimberly C. Carter, former mayor of Covington, was appointed by unanimous decision to the Covington Redevelopment Authority to fill the expired term of Justin Vachon. She was later appointed by current Covington Mayor Steve Horton to chair the board.

Carter served as mayor of Covington from Jan. 1, 2008, to Dec. 31, 2011. She is currently president and CEO of BusinessWorks Solutions, a business consulting group based in Covington. She is also a managing partner of Capes Investing Group, LLLP. Carter earned her bachelor's degree in business administration from Georgia State University in 1982 and later returned to earn a mas-

ter's degree in business administration in 1988.

Horton also appointed Ijeoma Johnson as vice chair and said the Planning and Zoning Manager would serve as the board's secretary/treasurer. Randy Conner was reappointed by unanimous decision to the Redevelopment Authority.

One term for the Redevelopment Authority is limited to three years.

Charika Davis was appointed by unanimous decision to fill the Planning Commission's lone opening to fill the unexpired term of Mark Sullivan that ends July 1, 2023.

Davis currently works as an injury claim specialist for State Farm Insurance. She earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Georgia College and

State University in 2007 and earned a master's degree in business administration in 2013.

Janet Goodman, Eric Threats and Monique Snow were appointed by unanimous decision to the Historic Preservation Commission, each for one three-year term.

Goodman is a former member of the Covington City Council, notably the first woman of color to serve on the council. She worked for Newton County Schools for 31 years and *The Covington News* for 18 years.

Threats is a senior church consultant for Universal Church Directories. He holds master's degrees from Luther Rice College and Seminary and Walden University, and a bachelor's degree

from St. Andrews College. Threats also has a certificate in theology from the Interdenominational Theological Center Morehouse School of Religion.

Snow is a former administrative secretary for the Jersey City Department of Law in New Jersey, according to her resume.

Buddy Adams and Bill Campbell were appointed to the Board of Appeals and Adjustments, each for one three-year term.

Adams is a 1970 graduate of Clemson University where he earned a bachelor's degree in animal science. He is currently sales, design and project manager at Air Conditioning Specialist in Covington. Prior to joining ACS in 1987, Adams was an operations man-

ager of 35,000 acres across five states for Farm Management Inc. in Covington.

Campbell is a senior systems analyst at Takeda Pharmaceuticals. He attended Southern College of Technology and North Georgia Military College in the mid-to-late '80s.

Lakeisha Thurman was appointed to the Tree Conservation Board for one three-year term.

Thurman is a resident of Covington and currently head of Information Technology Risk Strategy and Execution for Sun Trust Bank, now Truist.

After the appointments were made, the council entered into an executive session to discuss "land opportunity."

LEGALS:

Continued from A6

DESCRIPTION.

SAID LEGAL description being controlling, however the property is more commonly known as **25 SHOALS CREEK CHURCH ROAD, MANSFIELD, GA 30055.**

THE INDEBTEDNESS secured by said Security Deed has been and 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 known 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 **JOAN LEJEUNE AKA JOAN N. LEJEUNE, ESTATE AND/OR HEIRS-AT-LAW OF JOAN N. LEJUNE**, 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: **Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper, Loss Mitigation Dept., 8950 Cypress Waters Blvd., Coppell, TX 75091, Telephone Number: 888-480-2432.**

NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC D/B/A MR. COOPER

AS ATTORNEY in Fact for **JOAN LEJEUNE AKA JOAN N. LEJEUNE**

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. NAT-20-01272-1

AD RUN Dates 12/06/2020, 12/13/2020, 12/20/2020, 12/27/2020

LISTELAW.COM/PROPERTY-RESULTING

PUBLIC NOTICE #117529
12/6,13,20,27

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
GEORGIA, NEWTON COUNTY

THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT. 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 **Lorraine Richardson** to First Franklin a Division of Nat. City of Bank of IN, dated October 31, 2005, recorded in Deed Book 2055, Page 91, Newton County, Georgia Records, as last transferred to US Bank National Association, as trustee for the holders of the First Franklin Mortgage Loan Trust Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-FF2 by assignment recorded in Deed Book 4049, Page 222, Newton County, Georgia Records, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of ONE HUNDRED SIXTY-TWO THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED TWENTY AND 0/100 DOLLARS (\$162,320.00), 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, or at such place as may be lawfully designated as an alternative, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in January, 2021, the following described property:

SEE EXHIBIT "A" ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF

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 the Security Deed and by law, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given).

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.

US BANK National Association, as trustee for the holders of the First Franklin Mortgage Loan Trust Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-FF2 is the holder of the Security Deed to the property in accordance with OCGA § 44-14-162.2.

THE ENTITY that has full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the mortgage with the debtor is: Select Portfolio Servicing, 3217 S. Decker Lake Dr., Salt Lake City, UT 84119, 888-818-6032.

TO THE best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party in possession of the property is Lorraine Richardson and Estate of Lorraine Richardson or a tenant or tenants and said property is more commonly known as **120 Glen Echo Drive, Covington, Georgia 30016.**

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.

US BANK National Association, as trustee for the holders of the First Franklin Mortgage Loan Trust Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-FF2

AS ATTORNEY in Fact for **LORRAINE RICHARDSON MCCALLA RAYMER** Leibert Pierce, LLC

1544 OLD Alabama Road ROSWELL, GA 30076

WWW.FORECLOSUREHOTLINE.NET

EXHIBIT "A"

ALL THAT tract or parcel of land lying and being in Land Lot 40 of the 10th District, Newton County, Georgia, being Lot 65, of Glen Echo Subdivision, Phase One, as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 42, Pages 195-198, Newton County, Georgia Records, which recorded plat is incorporated herein by reference and made a part of this description.

MR/CA 1/5/21 OUR FILE no. 5605419 - FT1

PUBLIC NOTICE #117684
12/6,13,20,27,1/3

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER, NEWTON COUNTY

PURSUANT to the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by **Michael O. Jegede** to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for Solutions Lending, LLC, an Indiana Limited Liability Company, its successors and assigns dated 1/5/2009 and recorded in Deed Book 2677 Page 509 Newton County, Georgia records; as last transferred to or acquired by Towd Point Mortgage Trust 2018-2, U.S. Bank National Association, as Indenture Trustee, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of \$146,927.00, with interest at the rate

specified therein, there will be sold by the undersigned at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the Courthouse door of Newton County, Georgia (or such other area as designated by Order of the Superior Court of said county), within the legal hours of sale on January 5, 2021 (being the first Tuesday of said month unless said date falls on a Federal Holiday, in which case being the first Wednesday of said month), the following described property:

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOT 14 OF THE 10TH DISTRICT, NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA, BEING SHOWN AS LOT 54D, THE FALLS, PHASE FOUR, ON A PLAT SURVEY OF SAME RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 33, PAGE 61, PUBLIC RECORDS OF NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA RECORDS, WHICH RECORDED PLAT IS INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE AND MADE A PART OF THIS DESCRIPTION.

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 the Security Deed and by law, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given).

SAID PROPERTY is commonly known as **410 Freeman Drive, Covington, GA 30016** together with all fixtures and personal property attached to and constituting a part of said property, if any. To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party (or parties) in possession of the subject property is (are): Michael O. Jegede or tenant or tenants.

SELECT PORTFOLIO Servicing, Inc. is the entity or individual designated who shall have full authority to negotiate, amend and modify all terms of the mortgage.

SELECT PORTFOLIO Servicing, Inc.

LOAN RESOLUTION Department **3217 SOUTH Decker Lake Drive SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84119 (888) 818-6032**

NOTE, HOWEVER, that such entity or individual is not required by law to negotiate, amend or modify the terms of the loan.

SAID PROPERTY will be sold subject to: (a) any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), (b) unpaid water or sewage bills that constitute a lien against the property whether due and payable or not yet due and payable and which may not be of record, (c) the right of redemption of any taxing authority, (d) any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, and (e) any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above.

THE SALE will be conducted subject to (1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code; and (2) final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 9-13-172.1, which allows for certain procedures regarding the rescission of judicial and non-judicial sales in the State of Georgia, the Deed Under Power and other foreclosure documents may not be provided until final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan as provided immediately above.

TOWD POINT Mortgage Trust 2018-2, U.S. Bank National Association, as Indenture Trustee

AS AGENT and Attorney in Fact for Michael O. Jegede

ALDRIDGE PITE, LLP, 15 Piedmont Center, 3575 Piedmont Road, N.E., Suite 500, Atlanta, Georgia 30305, (404) 994-7637.

1012-13758A

THIS LAW FIRM MAY BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR

THAT PURPOSE. 1012-13758A

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF NEWTON

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER IN DEED TO SECURE DEBT

UNDER AND BY VIRTUE of that Power of Sale contained in a certain Deed to Secure Debt from **QUENTIN JOE SHELTON and DELORES SHELTON** in favor of **MOCK PROPERTIES-I, LLLP** dated August 1, 2017 and recorded at Deed Book 3595, pages 608-613, Public Records, Newton County, Georgia, the undersigned, **MOCK PROPERTIES-I, LLLP**, as Attorney in Fact for **QUENTIN JOE SHELTON and DELORES SHELTON**, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the Courthouse door in Newton County, Georgia, during the legal hours of sale, on the first (1st) Tuesday in January, 2021, namely January 5, 2021, the following described property to-wit:

ALL THAT TRACT or parcel of land lying and being in Land Lot 159 of the 1st Land District of Newton County, Georgia and being Lot No. 1 containing 2.54 acres and Lot No. 2 containing 4.49 acres (7.03 total acres) more or less, in accordance with that Plat of Survey of Willow Wood Farms, Phase I recorded at Plat Book 16, page 245, Public Records of Newton County, Georgia; said plat by reference thereto being incorporated herein and made a part hereof for a more particular description of said property.

SAID PROPERTY being known as **838 Highway 229, Social Circle, Newton County, Georgia** in accordance with the present system of numbering houses in Newton County, Georgia.

THE DEED to Secure Debt herein foreclosed securing a Promissory Note executed August 1, 2017, in the original, principal amount of \$247,500.00. The debt secured by said Deed to Secure Debt being in default by, among other possible events of default, failure to pay said indebtedness as the same fell due, and the debt secured by said Deed to Secure Debt and evidenced by said Note has been and is hereby declared due and payable in full because of said default. This sale will be made for the purpose of paying the remaining principal indebtedness and accrued interest as accelerated. The proceeds thereof will be applied to the payment of said indebtedness and all charges and expenses in connection with said foreclosure in accordance with the terms of said Deed to Secure Debt and the balance, if any, will be applied as provided by law.

SAID PROPERTY will be sold as the property of **QUENTIN JOE SHELTON and DELORES SHELTON**, subject to any outstanding and unpaid real estate taxes (ad valorem taxes) or assessments, street improvements, easements, restrictive covenants, and any and all other assessments appearing of record, if any.

THE SALE will be conducted subject to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code, and also subject to the provisions of O.C.G.A. Section 9-13-172.1 which permits the rescission of judicial and nonjudicial sales in the State of Georgia in limited circumstances.

NOTICE HAS been given in accordance with O.C.G.A. Section 44-14-162.2.

NOTICE WAS also given in accordance with O.C.G.A. Section 13-1-11 of intention to collect attorney's fees.

THE UNDERSIGNED will execute a Deed Under Power of Sale to the Purchaser at sale as attorney-in-fact for **QUENTIN JOE SHELTON and DELORES SHELTON**, as provided in the Deed to Secure Debt herein foreclosed, and Georgia Law.

THE PROPERTY is in the possession of **QUENTIN JOE SHELTON and DELORES SHELTON**, successors or tenants, according to information previously furnished to lender, and to the undersigned's best knowledge and

belief.

THE DEED to Secure Debt herein foreclosed is a purchase money deed to secure debt.

RICKY MOCK is the person who has full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the mortgage with the debtor. His address is 175 Cook Road, Covington, Georgia 30014 and his telephone number is 770-597-4525.

MOCK PROPERTIES-I, LLLP as Attorney-in-Fact for **QUENTIN JOE SHELTON and DELORES SHELTON** BY: **DAVID A. Henderson***

Attorney at Law

6 1 6 9
ADAMS Street, NE
COVINGTON, GEORGIA 30014
(770) 787-2946

***THE LAW FIRM IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. FILE NO.: 17-296(N)**

PUBLIC NOTICE #117655
12/6,13,20,27

Name Changes
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE the Name Change of Child(ren):
QUINDAJAH HARRIS

ANTONIO TYON HARRIS PETITIONER, VS. SHAKEITA C. KEY RESPONDENT. CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 2020-CV-2380-3

NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME OF CHILD(

ANTONIO T. HARRIS filed a petition in the Newton County Superior Court on **NOVEMBER 20, 2020**, to change the name of the following minor child **FROM: QUINDAJAH HARRIS to KAILA HARRIS.** **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).

PUBLIC NOTICE #117669
12/6,13,20,27

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE the Name Change of: **LANEIR SWINSON PETITIONER CIVIL ACTION File Number: 2020-CV-2076-1**

NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME OF ADULT

LANEIR SWINSON filed a petition in the Newton County Superior Court on **October 9, 2020** to change the name from **LANEIR SWINSON to LANIER X. JAGANI.** Any interested party has the right to appear in this case and file objections within 30 days after Petition was filed.

DATED OCTOBER 9, 2020

LANIER SWINSON 170 REGENCY PLACE COVINGTON, GA 30016

NOTICE #117449
12/6,13,20,27

Public Sales Auctions

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

IN ACCORDANCE with the GA Self Service Storage Facilities Act notice is hereby given that the undersigned will be sold at public sale to the highest bidder in order to satisfy lien of the owner. Bidding to take place on lockerfox.com ending Wednesday the 16th day of December, 2020 at 10:00 AM. Said property is Space Shop Self Storage, 6177 Jackson Hwy, Covington, GA, 30014

HURST, CAROLYN L02 Boxes,

Night Stand, Bed Frame, Lamps, Dresser, Mattress, Box Spring.

HURST, CAROLYN K02 TV, Boxes, Washer, Dryer, Entertainment Center, Couch, Home Decor, Night Stand, Radio.

WILSON, RAMEYA D11 Couch, Chairs, Dressers, Mattress.

THE AUCTION will be listed and advertised on lockerfox.com. Space Shop Self Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.

PUBLIC NOTICE #117650
11/29,12/6

Trade Names
STATEMENT OF TRADE NAME REGISTRATION

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF NEWTON

PLEASE BE advised that the following: The Covington Development Authority, a Georgia body corporate and politic, whose address is 2194 Emory Street, NW, Covington, Georgia 30014, operates in the City of Covington, Newton County Georgia using the following trade name to wit: **NOW COVINGTON**; and that the nature of the operations are those activities permitted under the Georgia Development Authorities Law.

THIS STATEMENT is made by Kimberly C. Carter, Chair of the Covington Development Authority.

THIS 17TH day of November 2020.

KIMBERLY C. Carter

PERSONALLY APPEARED before me the undersigned officer Kimberly C. Carter, who says on oath that she is the chairman of the Covington Development Authority, that she is authorized to make this statement and that this statement is true.

SWORN TO and subscribed before me on this 17th day of November, 2020.

ELIZABETH L. Hays
NOTARY PUBLIC

NOTICE IS hereby given that: the Covington Development Authority, whose address is 2194 Emory Street, NW, Covington, Georgia 30014 operates in the City of Covington, Newton County Georgia using the following trade name to wit:

NOW COVINGTON

AND THAT the nature of the operation are those activities permitted under the Georgia Development Authorities Law.

FILED THIS 19th day of November, 2020.
CLERK, SUPERIOR Court of Newton County.

PUBLIC NOTICE #117656
11/29,12/6

TRADE NAME REGISTRATION AFFIDAVIT
GEORGIA, NEWTON COUNTY

TO WHOM It may Concern: Please be advised that **PROFESSIONAL DENTAL ALLIANCE OF GEORGIA, LLC**, whose address is 11 S. MILL ST. STE.200, NEW CASTLE, PA 16101is the owner(s) of the certain business now being carried on at 3162 ELM STREET, COVINGTON, GA 30014 in the following trade name, to-wit: **COVINGTON DENTAL STUDIO**; and that the nature of said business is: **PROFESSIONAL DENTAL SERVICES.** **THIS STATEMENT** is made in conformity with O.C.G.A. §10-1-490 et seq. requiring the filing of such statement with the Clerk of Superior Court of this county. **THIS THE** 1st day of December, 2020.

PUBLIC NOTICE #117670
12/6,13

EMCs hope for favorable ruling on power pole access fees for broadband

By TOM SPIGOLON
tspigolon@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — Covington-based Snapping Shoals is among the electric cooperatives hoping a state regulatory agency does not rule they must charge telecom companies an average of 65% less for power pole usage to expand high-speed internet into rural areas.

The Georgia Public Service Commission, also known as the PSC, is expected to rule Dec. 15 on what rate the cooperatives can charge providers for attaching broadband technology to their poles.

Telecom providers want the rate set at \$7 per pole while the cooperatives say they need a rate of almost \$38 per pole to cover their costs of maintaining the poles.

The state of Georgia defines high-speed internet service as a minimum of 25 megabits per second for downloads and 3 Mbps



Snapping Shoals EMC

Snapping Shoals EMC serves portions of Newton, Rockdale and Henry counties.

for uploads. Any home with no internet service or with internet service below this speed is considered unserved.

According to a state government-produced map released earlier this year, an area of eastern Newton County equal to about one-third of the county's total area is considered unserved.

Snapping Shoals Electric Membership Corp.'s service area includes most of the area defined as unserved by high-speed internet in Newton County.

Shaun Mock, who

will become Snapping Shoals' CEO in January, said the co-op wants its customers served with high-speed internet.

He said it has made numerous offers to telecom providers to lease pole space for extending broadband to the thousands of customers in its service area in rural parts of Newton County considered unserved.

However, the companies have found it to be cost-prohibitive because not enough potential customers would be able to take

the service in sparsely populated areas to justify the cost, Mock said.

Dennis Chastain, CEO of Georgia EMC that represents co-ops statewide, said the co-ops and telecom providers formerly had privately negotiated joint use agreements which set the connection cost at an average of about \$20 per pole.

That price was less than what it was costing the co-ops to install and maintain the poles — which they maintain is \$37.95, Chastain said.

Telecom providers then sought rates of \$7

per pole set by the Federal Communication Commission — which went against the private agreements, Chastain said.

The Georgia General Assembly approved legislation earlier this year that gave the PSC the responsibility for settling the rate dispute — despite the fact the PSC does not regulate electric co-ops in Georgia.

The PSC heard testimony in mid-November from both sides of the issue and was set to give its ruling on the dispute Dec. 15.

Telecom providers have said they plan to make significant broadband investments in Georgia but need the PSC to approve the \$7 rate to do so.

Officials with the nonprofit EMCs have said its customers would have to make up the estimated \$8.3 million revenue loss from charging that price.

They also maintain the \$7 price would not

guarantee telecom companies use the savings to extend broadband service. However, they also have offered telecom providers a price of \$1 per pole in areas defined as unserved areas, Chastain said.

Jason Gumbs, senior vice president for Comcast in a 10-state region that includes Georgia, said building broadband networks in rural areas "is an expensive proposition" in areas where there may be more poles than people.

He told the PSC the company "will have to look at other opportunities in front of us" if the rates in the cooperatives' service areas are not lowered.

Gumbs also said the connection fees and increased electricity usage from broadband availability would provide co-ops extra revenue they could use to forestall rate increases to electric customers.

Dave Williams of Capitol Beat News Service contributed to this report.

CONCERN:

Continued from A2

Officers have done this by only writing citations and taking

warrants for nonviolent offenses that will be addressed once the jail

is fully operational.

Though the agencies' efforts have led to a COVID-free jail, it's also led to a concerning level of disrespect from nonviolent offenders.

Councilwoman Fleeta Baggett recalled a specific incident that occurred a few weeks ago involving a trio of skateboarders.

"(Recently) some officers had to come to town to deal with some

problems we were having with guys on skateboards," she said. "I cannot tell you how appreciative I was of how well they (the officers) held their composure. I have never, in my entire life, seen people be as ugly to anyone as I saw these three be rude to these officers. Everything from going to Facebook Live, to ugly hand gestures, to calling the names, to — it was at noon on a Tuesday. So I cannot imagine what they are facing on a Friday night at midnight. I don't know what else we can do to help y'all.

"I'm still deeply concerned that we don't have the jail, because they all three should have been locked up immediately," she added. "The only thing they did not do to our officers was put their hands on them. That's the only thing they did not do. And when it was all said and done, they got on their skateboards and rode off into the middle of town and there was nothing we could do because we cannot lock people up. I just have never seen a lack of (respect of) authority by anyone ever in my entire life, and it went on and on and on for probably 30 minutes. And all I could think about was the resources that were being wasted when they should've been tossed into the back of a patrol car and taken to jail.

"I really want us to look into what options we have as far as other counties if we can't work within our own county. We've got to do something because evidently the word has gotten out, and I fear for your safety, because I don't want anyone to hesitate and we have something tragic happen ... And when we don't have any recourse as to what to do with them, we're going to see that amp up."

Cotton also remem-

bered the incident and said he had to deal with a similar situation on that same day.

"That was actually Election Day when we were out and about and that occurred," Cotton said. "About nine hours later I was out on the Square to see what happened and I came across some more skateboarders right in front of Lee's Fashions. I told them to get out of there, and as I was walking away from them, I saw two more down the street. I went over and got them a little bit and one of them gave me a little bit of what the officers heard. We called his mother, and he was just as rude to his mother as he was to us. That's what we're dealing with out here in the community. But he was 15, and I couldn't have snatched him up and taken him to jail because he was a juvenile."

He assured Baggett and the council that officers would soon be able to do more than write citations and issue warrants. The chief said he had spoken with Newton County Sheriff Ezell Brown about the situation. He said Sheriff's Office was working to implement a rapid testing process for COVID-19, and if the offender will be put in jail if he or she tests negative.

"He (Brown) asked if we'll pay for our testing," Cotton said, "and I said absolutely. It's about \$30 a test."

Councilman Kenneth Morgan said he was also concerned with the lack of respect being shown toward local law enforcement.

"I want to encourage all of our citizens inside of the city to be respectful," Morgan said. "At points, we give law enforcement officers a hard time, but you've got to realize that everybody's human. Nobody wants to be mistreated.

And the same way we don't want perpetrators to be mistreated, we shouldn't mistreat our law enforcement officers, too. They are human. They have feelings like everybody else and at the end of the day, everybody should be respected.

"So I just want to go on record to let the chief know that I appreciate what he does, what law enforcement in this community do — not only in this community, every community," he continued. "I just want to encourage people that we're all living in some critical times and everybody's trying to stay safe and the last thing that we need to do is to escalate any type of situation that we're faced with.

"From me personally, and as a council person, Stacey, whatever we can do to help you and your officers out, we're willing to do whatever we have to do," Morgan added. "Because at the end of the day, I realize there are organizations out there, but all lives matter to me."

Horton reiterated Morgan's sentiments of appreciation for the Covington police and as well as other first responders.

"For the Public Safety Department ... when trouble hits, they have to go to it, not away from it. And so as everybody has echoed here tonight, I appreciate what we have in Covington, Georgia."

Councilwoman Susie Keck said despite the recent antics of some skateboarders, there were also some "really nice guys" that skateboard as well. She urged the council to revisit the idea of constructing a skate park that was brought up a few years ago. Keck said she knew several young people, including her grandson, who often ride skateboards and scooters.

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Bruce Thon
President, CEO, & Army veteran



SCHULZ:

Continued from A1

question” about his office’s funding requests because she was so meticulous in seeking answers.

“I always prepared for that,” he said.

Serra Hall, vice president of project development for the Newton County Industrial Development Authority, became emotional as she recalled working with someone she said was a leader who could show compassion.

Chairman Marcello Banes laughingly recalled that his wife and mother thought so much of Schulz that they strongly urged him to apologize to her after some harsh words during a meeting.

County Manager

Lloyd Kerr joked that her tendency toward fiscal conservatism ran counter to the traditional image many have of the political party she represented.

“This is a Democrat, right?” he said to laughter.

Kerr said he hoped she would remain involved in public affairs in Newton County. He said her work on a county strategic plan completed in recent years “did a lot” to improve the quality of life in the county.

Former two-term commissioner Lanier Sims said Schulz was able to stay in office long enough to see “the fruits of her labor.”

He said her work to

strengthen zoning laws for new residential developments helped increase the quality of construction and increase home values by an average of 50%.

Commissioner Demond Mason, who succeeded Sims in the District 2 seat, said he knew before every meeting that because of her hard work, “Nancy is always going to know her stuff.”

Other speakers included Covington/Newton County Chamber of Commerce President Debbie Harper and former county chairman Kathy Morgan.

Schulz said she made it a priority to get to know her constituents’ wants and needs soon

after her election in 2008.

She urged her colleagues and community leaders to continue to work to improve the quality of life for Newton County residents.

“Keep that momentum going,” she said.

Tom Spigolon | The Covington News

The Newton County/Covington Chamber of Commerce hosted its annual “pre-legislative” breakfast to hear from the county’s state legislators Thursday. For the first time, all of the county’s delegation were able to attend the event (in-person and virtually). Look to future editions of *The Covington News* to learn what our leaders aim to prioritize in the upcoming legislative session.

Smiles of the Month

These cavity-free kids brought smiles to our faces in November.

Jonathan Andrews

Aubri Digby

Allen Mills

Carter Nail



2104 Newton Drive NE • Covington, GA 30014 • 770-787-2828
www.covingtonfamilydentist.com

RESIGNS:

Continued from A1

“intensity” of the work involved.

He said Mantle’s leadership led to Newton County having far fewer problems than many area counties in fully completing its vote count this year.

Some neighboring counties had uncounted ballots and workers not properly trained, according to the Georgia Secretary of State’s office.

Mantle “has laid the foundation for Newton County’s election operation,” Johnson said.

“Her experience, commitment and leadership have been responsible for the success we have achieved in holding efficient elections,” he said.

“I hate to see her leave but I understand she is ready for new opportunities and to be able to spend more time with her family.

“Fortunately for us she leaves behind a legacy of an organization to carry on the tradition of excellence she built,” Johnson said.

Mantle declined an interview for this story.

However, in her resignation letter she cited a desire for new challenges and experiences, said county spokesman Bryan Fazio.

Kerr said she was seeking to devote more time to her family.

Mantle has worked in the elections department in Newton County for 17 years. She was promoted to succeed a retiring Donna Morrison as elections director in 2015.

The department saw a 35% increase in the number of registered voters in Newton County during Mantle’s tenure.

This year, she oversaw the implementation of the state’s new Dominion Voting Machines system that was first used in the June primary elections.

She and her staff also processed 10 times more absentee ballots than in previous elections amid safety fears from the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

The heavy use of the ballots and the time-consuming processing procedure led to delays in counting votes after the June election.

It also led to some long lines that officials attributed in part to delays in processing in-person voters because of confusion among some about the absentee ballots’ use.

However, Mantle and her staff led the realignment of the process early in the three-week advance voting period in October that cut the wait time significantly for voters, Johnson said.

After the Nov. 3 General Election produced a razor-thin margin between the presidential candidates in Georgia, Mantle oversaw both a hand recount of 54,000 ballots ordered by the Georgia Secretary of State and a machine recount of the same ballots requested by President Donald Trump’s campaign.



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BUSINESS

The Covington News



Associated Press

Initial unemployment claims in Georgia decline as jobless face loss of federal benefits

By **DAVE WILLIAMS**
Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA - First-time unemployment claims in Georgia fell last week even as the state Department of Labor warned recipients that the federal portion of their benefits is about to run out.

Jobless Georgians filed 19,183 initial claims with the labor department last week, down 9,905 from the previous week. The decline occurred after an increase in claims the week before that ran counter to a weeks-long downward trend.

Meanwhile, unemployment benefits distributed through several federal programs created by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act last March are due to expire during the week ending Dec. 26 for claims filed by individual Georgians and on Dec. 30 for employer-filed claims.

“We will continue to process and adjudicate all of the claims we receive, paying all eligible benefits as quickly as possible,” Georgia Commissioner of Labor Mark Butler said Thursday. “Congress will decide if a new program will be implemented or extensions will be put in place.”

Pressure is building on Congress to enact a new economic stimulus package before the holidays to replace the CARES Act, but the

outcome of the current negotiations is far from certain.

The labor department is encouraging claimants of federal unemployment benefits to continue requesting the payments after the programs expire in case Congress either passes new legislation or extends the current programs.

Since last March 21, when the coronavirus pandemic began to hit Georgia’s economy hard, the labor department has paid out more than \$16 billion in unemployment benefits to almost 4.1 million Georgia claimants, more than the last nine years combined.

During the last week alone, the agency paid out \$120 million in state and federal benefits.

The job sector accounting for the largest share of initial unemployment claims last week by far was accommodation and food services with 5,716 claims. The administrative and support services sector was next with 2,059 claims, followed by manufacturing with 1,853.

More than 164,000 job openings are currently listed on Employ-Georgia. The labor department offers online resources for finding career opportunities, building a resume and assisting with other reemployment needs.



Metro Creative Services

The Covington City Council recently adopted an ordinance to give locals an opportunity to operate a food truck, or mobile food vendor, within the city limits that won’t be detrimental to existing establishments.

Covington council adopts food truck ordinance

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

COVINGTON, Ga. — Prior to the recent passage of a mobile food vendor ordinance by the Covington City Council, Community Development Director Trey Sanders said the only person or group of people that could operate a food truck within the city was the city itself.

The Covington City Council adopted a food truck ordinance Nov. 16 after its first reading to allow more people the opportunity to run a food truck while ensuring consumers are also protected.

“This is an attempt to allow people to have a food trucks if they follow the proper process,” Sanders said Nov. 2 after the ordinance’s first reading. “That includes inspection of food truck, obviously.

The ordinance requires mobile food vendors to apply for a license from the city of Covington before being allowed to sell food. And owners can’t just get a license and put their truck wherever they want.

Per the ordinance, no mobile food vendors can operate in the public right-of-way unless part of a city-sponsored event or sanctioned special event. Ice cream trucks are the only

exception.

Mobile food vendors may not operate on public property without the written consent of the property owner.

Mobile food vendors may not be located within 15 feet of any street intersection or pedestrian crosswalk, or 10 feet of any driveway. They cannot be located with 200 feet of a restaurant establishment.

Unless part of a city-issued special event permit, mobile food vendors are permitted on a parcel no more than eight days in any calendar month, and a minimum of two calendar days must transpire between operating on any given parcel.

No two vendors my be parked on the same parcel, unless it’s part of a city-issued special event permit.

Vendors cannot take up more than 10% of parking spaces on a given parcel.

Vending structures cannot be left unattended or stored at any time on the open vending site when vending is not taking place or during restricted hours of operation. (Hours of operation are 7-9 a.m. and/or 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.)

A mobile food vendor that prepares food shall maintain a \$1 million liability insurance policy.

Except for ice cream trucks, mobile food vendors cannot make amplified sounds while on the road or parked.

All mobile food vendors will be subject to comply with all state, federal and local health a safety regulations and requirements.

“There is a set of standards that they must adhere to, and it’s the same SafeServe standards and certifications that restaurants have,” Sanders said. “I assume that a lot of the standards are similar ... there are probably though some additional measures specific to a food truck.”

“They have to get permitted by not only us, but also by the Health Department. They have to show us the health department inspections,” City Attorney Frank Turner Jr. said. “They will be inspected regularly just like restaurants.”

Mayor Steve Horton said the ordinance was similar to an ordinance introduced to the council a few months ago, but the latter ordinance was “quite complicated,” he said.

“This version is shorter, easy to comprehend,” Horton said.

After brief discussion, the council unanimously approved the ordinance.

Pandemic-plagued Georgia economy on track for recovery next year

By **DAVE WILLIAMS**
Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA — The recession prompted by the coronavirus pandemic is likely over in Georgia, but the state remains far short of a full recovery, a University of Georgia economist said Thursday.

Georgia is on track for an economic growth rate of 4% next year, outperforming a national growth forecast of 3.5%, Benjamin Ayers, dean of UGA’s Terry College of Business, said during the university’s annual economic forecast. The event, usually held

at the Georgia World Congress Center in downtown Atlanta, was livestreamed this year.

“Full recovery of the economy will arrive sooner in Georgia than in the United States,” Ayers said. “In Georgia, there’s relatively less economic debris to clean up.”

Ayers said consumer spending and a booming housing market will be key drivers in Georgia’s economic recovery. Logistics, distribution, business services, financial technology, education and health services are expected to return to full employ-

ment most quickly.

Jobs in entertainment and hospitality may see some of the fastest recoveries, but those industries are coming back from a near all-time low, he said.

With entertainment and hospitality ground to a standstill by the pandemic for much of this year, Georgia’s economy is expected to contract by 3.7% by the end of 2020.

However, the strong growth projection for next year means this year’s losses should be recouped by the end of 2021.

UGA’s forecast,

developed by Terry College’s Selig Center for Economic Growth, is based on expectations that an effective COVID-19 vaccine will be widely available by the middle of next year.

As a result, Ayers said, most of the 2021 economic recovery will come during the third and fourth quarters of the year. Until then, Georgia still will be plagued by public anxiety over the virus, slow wage growth and low demand for entertainment services including restaurant dining and movie theaters.

“We are in the second

phase of the recovery currently, which is an extended period of choppy economic growth that will linger until a vaccine is widely available,” he said. “It’s going to be a slog to get back to a period of steady, above-average economic growth.”

Ayers predicted a homebuilding boom next year, driven by low mortgage rates and the desire for larger, nicer homes on the part of current homeowners who have been cooped up for months.

However, commercial construction is not expected to share in

that boom because the market is still absorbing an ample supply of existing retail and office space, he said.

Ayers said another factor buoying Georgia’s growth prospects is the likely culmination of major economic development projects now in the pipeline.

“Nine of the 10 largest projects announced in the first three quarters of 2020 were announced after the COVID-19 shutdown began,” he said. “This success reflects many factors that make Georgia a great state in which to do business.”

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INSIDE:

Georgia –
Vanderbilt
postponed

See Bulldogs
Extra, B3



INSIDE:

Atlanta faces
Brees-less
Saints again

See Falcons
Extra, B4



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2020 FOOTBALL
SCHEDULE

Alcovy Tigers

Class AAAAAA

2-7 (2-1)

North Forsyth – 3-35, L
@ Newton – 0-27, L
@ Duluth – 27-42, L
Eastside – 31-34, L
South Forsyth – 7-39, L
@ Grovetown – 44-14, W
Lakeside, Evans – 35-0, W
@ Evans – 30-40, L
*Brunswick – 6-41, L

Eastside Eagles

Class AAAAAA

10-2 (6-1)

@ Winder-Barrow – 27-14, W
Newton – 7-21, L
@ Alcovy – 34-31, W
@ Johnson – 47-7, W
Apalachee – 35-7, W
Clarke Central – 34-35, L
@ Loganville – 7-3, W
Jackson County – 27-0, W
Walnut Grove – 31-0, W
@ Greenbrier – 44-7, W
*SW DeKalb – 3-0, W
*New Manchester – 37-7, W

Newton Rams

Class AAAAAA

4-6 (2-2)

Alcovy – 27-0, W
@ Eastside – 21-7, W
@ McEachern – 7-8, L
@ Houston County – 7-21, L
Parkview – 7-35, L
Brookwood – 28-16, W
@ Mill Creek – 0-31, L
@ Grayson – 0-37, L
South Gwinnett – 17-10, W
*@ Lowndes – 0-42, L

Social Circle Redskins

Class A-Public

4-7 (2-3)

G.W. Academy – 7-35, L
@ Providence Ch. – 31-28, W
Walnut Grove – 16-42, L
Putnam County – 0-45, L
@ Oglethorpe Co. – 27-12, W
Washington-Wilkes – 0-56, L
@ Lincoln County – 20-36, L
Commerce – 22-48, L
@ Towns Co. – 34-27, W
Greene Co. – 44-7, W
*@ Macon Co. – 21-41, L

* – Denotes playoff
game results



Eastside Eagles 37, New Manchester Jaguars 7

EAGLES ADVANCE

Eastside hammers New Manchester en route to GHSA quarterfinals



Eastside's football team celebrates after crushing the New Manchester Jaguars on the road Friday night by a score of 37-7. With the decisive victory, the Eagles advance to the quarterfinals of the GHSA State Playoffs. The team goes on the road again to face Jones County on Friday, Dec. 12.

By MASON WITTNER

nwittner@covnews.com

DOUGLASVILLE, Ga. — Eastside is heading back to the state quarterfinals for the second time in three years. The second-seeded Eagles dominated all four quarters of a 37-7 thrashing of No. 1 seed New Manchester on the road Friday night. They improved to 10-2 and earned a spot in the third round of the Class AAAAA state playoffs, where they'll travel to face No. 1 Jones County. Their last trip to the quarterfinals came in 2018 as members of Class AAAA, when they rolled into the third round at 12-0. Winning games is always nice, but winning in December carries a little extra weight to it. Eastside head coach Troy Hoff and his staff were thrilled to start the final month of the year off in the win column. "When you get to the point where you're in the Sweet 16, everybody's a good football team," Hoff said. "Hats off to coach [Cedric] Jackson and his staff at New Manchester. They're building a class-act

Saabir Berrian (35) and Montarious Reed (2) team up to tackle a Jaguar ball carrier. Eastside's defense has now allowed just 17 combined points over the Eagles' last six games.

program and the kids are coached up well. For us to come on the road in the Sweet 16 and come out and play that way, I'm really proud of our kids and staff." Hosting No. 3 Southwest DeKalb at Sharp Stadium last week, Eastside was held off the scoreboard until time had expired in regulation. Against New Manchester, however, the Eagles found the end zone on two of their first three drives. Hoff noted the confidence

Mason Wittner | The Covington News

the quick start gave his offensive unit going forward. "We felt like we left a lot on the table last week. It was against a good defense, but there were some self-inflicted things that we cleaned up this week," Hoff said. "Our guys take a lot of pride in running the football and playing physical, and they responded [Friday.]" After winning the opening coin toss and electing to defer to the second half, Eastside's defense forced a turnover on downs on its own 22-yard line. The offense utilized the momentum, driving 78 yards and capping off the drive with a 1-yard rushing touchdown from senior Sincere Johnson. The Eagles' third drive of the night also ended with points — this time coming on sophomore Kenai Grier's 43-yard rushing score up the middle. Grier's touchdown gave the Eagles a 14-0 advantage with 4:55 remaining in the second quarter. Eastside put its foot on the pedal in the second half. The Eagles' opening drive

See ADVANCE, B2

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Thomas Jefferson Academy Jaguars 41, Piedmont Academy Cougars 14

Cougars fall in finals

By CHRIS BRIDGES
Correspondent

MONTICELLO, Ga. — Piedmont Academy's quest for a state championship ended on a cold, windy and rainy night.

The Cougars (6-4 overall) fell to visiting Thomas Jefferson Academy 41-14 in the GISA Class A football state championship. It was the second championship trophy for the Jaguars (9-3) in as many seasons against Piedmont.

Leading 21-7 at halftime, TJA added two third quarter scores to seal the deal. The Jaguars scored on a 10-yard run by fullback Matt McNeely and on a 40-yard return on a fumble recovery by Dawson Sharpe within a span of nine seconds late in the third quarter. John Durden's 4-yard score with 4:08 left gave Thomas Jefferson a 41-7 advantage. The elements didn't play as much of a factor



File | The Covington News
Piedmont quarterback Chris Pittman and the Piedmont Cougars failed to get much offense going Friday night.

as TJA's effective ball control offense and a stingy defense used to contain Piedmont All State quarterback Chris Pittman. The senior had rushed and passed for more 1,000 yards coming into the title game with more than 30 total touchdowns. Pittman passed for a 2-yard score to Ryan Holder with 1:03 left in the contest. Thomas Jefferson scored 21 unanswered points in the first half to take a 21-7 lead into halftime. Piedmont took a 7-0 lead on a 9-yard run

from Pitman on the game's opening drive. Landon Conner added the point after kick. The turning point of the first half came when the Cougars had a chance to widen its lead but eventually missed a 26-yard field goal. Piedmont had first and goal at the 5-yard line but after a penalty could only gain one additional yard. The Jaguars then scored on three consecutive possessions for a two-touchdown lead. TJA scored on a 45-yard run by Dawson Sharpe, a 2-yard run by Matt McNeely and a 20-yard pass from Cam Beasley to Aiden Cobb. Piedmont was penalized five times for 35 yards in the first half while TJA did not have a penalty. The Cougars won the regular season matchup 28-7 between the teams. Piedmont's last football state championship came in 2011.



Mason Wittner | The Covington News
Eastside running back Sincere Johnson (6) carries the football Friday night against New Manchester.

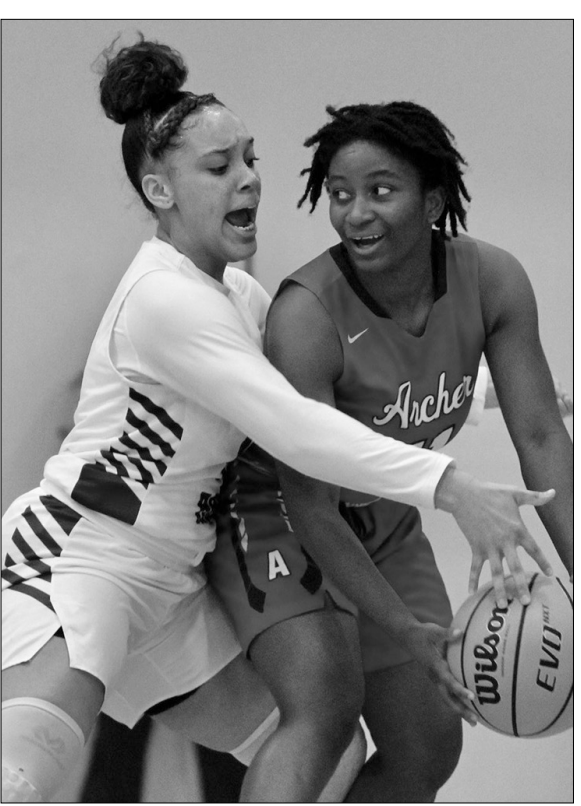
ADVANCE:

Continued from B1

of the third quarter saw them glide down field with ease. Grier took the ball to the house for the second time of the night, scoring from 12 yards out to give his club a 21-0 advantage with 9:27 to go. After a safety tacked two more points onto Eastside's advantage, junior Dallas Johnson burst through a gap in the center of the defense and jetted his way to a 55-yard rushing touchdown. The Eagles went into the fourth quarter holding a commanding 30-0 lead. Dallas Johnson scored the game's final points with 3:50 to go in the fourth quarter, breaking off a 56-yard rushing touchdown to seal the victory. Eastside will travel to Gray, Ga., next week to square off against top-seeded Jones County. The Greyhounds, champions of Region 4, handed No. 2 Griffin a 34-13 loss on Friday to advance to the state quarterfinals.

Prep Hoops

Newton hoops splits with Archer in home opener



Mason Wittner | The Covington News
Archer's Taniya McGowan (right) facilitates the Lady Tigers offense in the second half against the Newton Lady Rams in Tuesday's opener.



Mason Wittner | The Covington News
TJ Clark (23) poured in a team-high 24 points to lead Newton past Archer, 65-47, in the Rams' home opener Tuesday night.

Lady Rams stumble, Rams pull away in second half

By MASON WITTNER
mwittner@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — Newton welcomed a familiar adversary to town Tuesday night for its basketball home opener. The girls' and boys' basketball teams tipped off their respective home slates against Archer, which had resided in their region before the GHSA realignment this past offseason. The programs split the matchups, with Archer earning a victory in the girls' game and Newton collecting a win in the boys' contest.

Archer Lady Tigers 49, Newton Lady Rams 41
The visiting Lady Tigers jumped out to a 9-3 lead midway through the opening quarter. However, Newton came storming back and closed out the period on a 8-0 run to slip into the second quarter clinging to an 11-9 advantage. The teams would trade blows for the remainder of the first half, but Newton once again pulled ahead late. A 3-point jumper with less

than five seconds remaining sent the Lady Rams into locker room leading 25-22. Archer sophomore Taniya McGowan took over the game in the third quarter, scoring six of the Lady Tigers' 15 unanswered points and facilitating the ball to help engineer a 37-25 advantage. Newton made a late push to trim its deficit to single digits, but was ultimately unable to overcome Archer's second-half surge.

Newton Rams 65, Archer Tigers 47
Led by a 24-point performance from junior shooting guard T.J. Clark, the Rams poured it on the Tigers in the second half to run away with a victory. After ending the first quarter knotted up at 16 points apiece, Newton ended the first half holding on to a 27-24 advantage. That's when head coach Charlemagne Gibbons decided it was time to shift his lineup around. "Guys who aren't going to play hard here and play

together, they're going to sit on the bench," Gibbons said. "I don't care who they are. I don't care how great they can be. If you aren't going to be great as a teammate, if you aren't going to be great as a player on the court, you will sit on the bench. "I thought you saw [Tuesday] that we didn't have the right combination early, but we brought some guys off the bench and they played their tails off. I was excited because weren't just leaning on two or three guys; we had more contributions off the bench." The result was a lopsided third quarter in which the Rams outscored Archer 19-3 to break the game wide open. The Tigers pulled as close as 52-42 in the fourth quarter, but Newton clamped down and held on for the 18-point win. The Lady Rams (1-2) and Rams (2-3) returned to their home court Friday when they played host to Rockdale County. For more coverage of the local prep basketball scene, please visit CovNews.com.

Prep Volleyball



Mason Wittner | The Covington News
Peachtree Academy's Emily Earwood (middle) penned her National Letter of Intent on Thursday to play beach volleyball at Mercer University. In doing so, she became the first student-athlete in school history to sign an athletic scholarship with a Division I program.

Panthers' Earwood signs with Mercer

First student-athlete in school history to sign with Division I program

By MASON WITTNER
mwittner@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — Emily Earwood blazed a new trail on Thursday afternoon. The Peachtree Academy senior opted to further her academic and athletic career by signing a National Letter of Intent to play beach volleyball at Mercer University. Set to close out her time in high school as a member of Peachtree Academy's seventh graduating class, Earwood is the first student-athlete in school history to sign with a Division I program. "It means a lot. It means everything, really," Peachtree Academy athletic director Ken Van Ness said of Earwood's signing. "To show that a small school can get a Division I athlete is huge for our athletic program. It shows that kids can come here and do well in academics, but also play at the next level for a Division I school." Van Ness spoke to those in attendance on behalf of Earwood prior to her signing. He lauded her work ethic and athletic prowess, choking back tears as he expressed what she meant to Peachtree Academy's

volleyball program. "Emily's been here since elementary school. Her being a part of our volleyball program and helping take it to the next level was huge," Van Ness said. "We had a good volleyball program earlier on, but once she got to the high school level it really took that next step. She was a big part of that." Earwood was an outside hitter for the Lady Panthers. After coming off the bench for the majority of her freshman and sophomore seasons, she earned a full-time starting role as a junior. She then played a pivotal role in helping lead Peachtree Academy to back-to-back GAPPS Division I-AA state titles in 2019 and 2020 — capping off a three-peat for the club. According to head coach Bobby Mitchell, Earwood's success was a testament to the work she put in on and off the court throughout her prep career. "She didn't play the first two years. These last two years, we couldn't have won state championships without her," Mitchell said. "The kid put in the work. She sacrificed. She failed over and over, but she didn't give up."

BULLDOGS *Extra*

The Covington News

										
@ Arkansas 37-10	vs. Auburn 27-6	vs. Tennessee 44-21	@ Alabama 24-41	@ Kentucky 14-3	Florida 28-44	Missouri (Postponed - TBD)	Mississippi State 31-24	@ South Carolina 45-16	Vanderbilt (Postponed - TBD)	Dec. 19 SEC Championship

Georgia-Vanderbilt postponed due to COVID complications



University of Georgia Athletics
Georgia running back James Cook (4) carries the football during a 45-16 victory over South Carolina at Williams-Brice Stadium in Columbia, South Carolina, on Saturday, Nov. 28.

Commodores' roster fell below league minimum requirement

By CHARLES ODUM
The Associated Press

Vanderbilt's football game at No. 11 Georgia scheduled for Saturday has been postponed because the Commodores' roster fell below minimum requirements.

Georgia announced the postponement was due to the Southeastern Conference's COVID-19 protocols. The game has been rescheduled for Dec. 19.

The Vanderbilt-Georgia game would not be played if the Bulldogs qualify for the SEC championship game, also scheduled for Dec. 19. Georgia is a long shot for the game at best. No. 6 Florida will represent the SEC East in the championship game unless it loses its last two regular-season games against Tennessee and LSU.

With Vanderbilt's

specialists unable to participate at Missouri last week due to the COVID-19 protocols, Sarah Fuller made history as the first woman to play in a Power 5 conference game. Fuller kicked off to open the second half of Missouri's 41-0 win and was expected to be in uniform again for the game at Georgia.

This is the second game Vanderbilt has been forced to postpone due to COVID-19 concerns. The Commodores' game at Missouri scheduled for Oct. 1 was pushed back to Nov. 28 after the SEC also postponed the Vanderbilt-Tennessee game originally set for that day.

Georgia's game at Missouri, scheduled for Nov. 14, also was postponed and has not been rescheduled.



Associated Press | John Bazemore
Georgia Athletic Director Greg McGarity (right) speaks to Kirby Smart after introducing him as Georgia's new head football coach Monday, Dec. 7, 2015, in Athens. McGarity recently announced he would step down and retire from the athletic department's helm effective Jan. 1, 2021.

McGarity steps down as Bulldogs AD

Brooks assumes interim role as search for replacement underway

By PAUL NEWBERRY
The Associated Press

Josh Brooks is getting a shot as Georgia's interim athletic director.

He hopes it will become a permanent job.

The 40-year-old Brooks is set to take over one of the nation's most successful athletic programs on Jan. 1 after the retirement of Greg McGarity, who guided the department for the past decade.

Even though Georgia could seek out a more experienced candidate, Brooks made it clear that he hopes to remove the interim from his title.

"I have always been young in my career as I have advanced," he said, "I am young, but I've had 20 plus years of experience in college athletics. I have seen athletics at every level -- small schools, big schools. I have worked as a student-assistant, grad assistant coach. I have worked in football operations -- that gives me the coaching side of it. I have worked in administration 10-plus years."

Before returning for a second stint at Georgia in 2016, Brooks served as athletic director at Millsaps College, an NCAA Division III school in Jackson, Miss., and deputy athletic director at Louisiana-Monroe.

"I have been able to serve as an AD, and know a small school like Millsaps, some people may say, 'Well, that's not really relevant.'" Brooks said. "In all reality, it's a lot more relevant than you think because you are dealing with stu-



Greg McGarity



Josh Brooks

dent-athletes, parents, coaches, staff. A lot of the issues are the same. I have had a wide range of experience."

Brooks took on an increasing amount of responsibility as McGarity's chief deputy, overseeing facility expansion and construction projects including the \$65 million improvement to the west end of Sanford Stadium. He also headed up game-day operations for the Bulldogs' powerhouse football program.

"Greg has really nurtured me and given me some peeks behind the road to really see what it is like in his shoes," Brooks said. "I feel ready and I feel confident for this responsibility."

Brooks is a Louisiana native who graduated from LSU with a degree in kinesiology and completed his master's degree in sports management at Georgia.

During his first stint in Georgia's athletic department, he served as director of football operations and associate athletic director for internal operations.

In those roles, Brooks was in charge of scheduling future football games as well as overseeing bowl game operations.

In addition, he planned a 2013 Sanford Stadium concert by country star Jason Aldean.

"What I have done in my career has built up more than just what you would look at in a couple months," Brooks said. "I have always tried to show that day in and day out. If this is an audition, then so be it, but I come to work the same way every day. I will treat today or January 1 no different than any day -- show up, treat people the right way, represent the university."

Brooks said he's planning no big changes during his interim tenure, wanting to stay on the path that McGarity set while helping Georgia navigate the financial impact of the coronavirus pandemic.

"The strength of our department is continuity, and now is definitely not the time to be looking at what we can change," Brooks said "We have enough challenges in front of us navigating these times that we are facing right now in light of the pandemic and everything else going on. It's really about keeping the ship on course."

Georgia also promoted Darrice Griffin, currently the deputy director of athletics, to replace Brooks as interim senior deputy director.

"We have a great senior team," Brooks said. "It's really about keeping that continuity and keeping everything moving in the same direction. I would hope to keep providing the steady leadership Greg has and keep us on course."



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FALCONS *Extra*

The Covington News

2020 FALCONS SCHEDULE

9/13	Seattle — 25-38, L
9/20	@ Dallas — 39-40, L
9/27	Chicago — 26-30, L
10/5	@ Green Bay — 16-30, L
10/11	Carolina — 16-23, L
10/18	@ Minnesota — 40-23, W
10/25	Detroit — 22-23, L
10/29	@ Carolina — 25-17, W
11/8	Denver — 34-27, W
11/22	@ New Orleans — 9-24, L
11/29	Las Vegas — 43-6, W
12/6	New Orleans, 1 p.m.
12/13	@ LA Chargers, 4:25 p.m.
12/20	Tampa Bay, 1 p.m.
12/27	@ Kansas City, 1 p.m.
1/3/21	@ Tampa Bay, 1 p.m.

Note: Schedule is subject to change.

Dirty Birds face Brees-less Saints again

By PAUL NEWBERRY
Associated Press

ATLANTA — The New Orleans Saints can’t wait to have Drew Brees taking snaps again.

In the meantime, they’re doing just fine without him.

The Saints (9-2) have won two straight games since Brees went down with a rib injury, stretching their overall winning streak to eight in a row heading into Sunday’s game against the Atlanta Falcons. The Saints can clinch a playoff spot with a win and a loss by the Bears.

Going back to last season, New Orleans is 7-0 when Brees hasn’t been able to suit up.

“Obviously when it’s the quarterback, it draws more attention,” said coach Sean Payton, whose team could clinch its fourth straight playoff appearance with a win if the Bears lose or tie vs. Detroit. “But our job as coaches is teaching the whole roster, from the practice squad to the starters. We’re developing all these players.”

Last year, it was Teddy Bridgewater who filled in so ably when Brees went down. This year, Taysom Hill stepped into the start-



Courtesy of Atlanta Falcons

Atlanta Falcons wide receiver Calvin Ridley receives the ball for a touchdown during a 43-6 victory over the Las Vegas Raiders on Nov. 29.

ing role.

Hill will be facing the Falcons for the second time in three weeks, having guided the Saints to a 24-9 victory in his first career start on Nov. 22.

“You hope to go long periods of times without injuries, especially at that position, but you want to be able to function, still compete, compete to win,” Payton said. “It’s an approach we’ve always taken — not just the coaches here, but the players as well.”

Hill turned in solid numbers against the Falcons two weeks ago, completing 18 of 23 passes for 233 yards without an interception, while rushing for two touchdowns.

He wasn’t asked to

do much in last week’s blowout of the quarterback-less Broncos. Hill was just 9 of 16 passing for 78 yards, with an interception and three sacks.

“I probably played it much closer to the vest because the situation with the Denver offense,” Payton said. “It was two entirely different ballgames, but nonetheless we were able to win them both.”

The Falcons (4-7) are coming off their most complete performance of the season, a 43-6 rout of the Las Vegas Raiders.

Atlanta is 4-2 under interim coach Raheem Morris, who could boost his chances of landing the permanent job with an upset of the

Saints.

New Orleans has won five of the past six meetings in the twice-a-year rivalry.

“This team has absolutely owned us,” Morris said. “We’ve got to change that.”

The Saints have the NFL’s best-ranked defense, holding top-five spots against both the run and the pass.

New Orleans has allowed only one touchdown in its last four games, giving up a total of 28 points.

The Falcons were held to three field goals in their loss at New Orleans.

“Everyone that’s playing these guys is struggling,” said Dirk Koetter, Atlanta’s offensive coordinator. “I’ve never seen a de-

fense ranked in the top 10 in so many categories.”

Falcons quarterback Matt Ryan is tired of seeing Cam Jordan.

The Saints defensive end has sacked Ryan 21 times in his career — an NFL record for most sacks by one player against a single quarterback.

“He’s been a great player for a long time,” Ryan said. “Unfortunately, I’ve gotten to know him a little too well over the years.”

Ryan has been sacked a total of 17 times in his past two games against the Saints, a staggering number the Falcons must reduce to have any chance of an upset.

In particular, the pressure is on right tackle Kaleb McGary to do a better job against Jordan. But everyone must chip in to stop a defense that has 19 sacks in his past five games, including eight against Ryan in the previous meeting.

“We put together a stretch where us as a unit — our secondary, our linebackers and up front, the defensive line — have really elevated our play,” Jordan said. “So, it’s not more of an ‘I’ thing. It’s more of a ‘we’ thing.”

WHEN: Sunday, Dec. 6; 1 p.m. • WHERE: Mercedes-Benz Stadium, Atlanta • WATCH: FOX 5 Atlanta, WAGA-TV • LISTEN: 92.9 FM, The Game

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