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BEST OF
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SPORTS:

Stokes declares
for NFL Draft

Former Eastside football star
opts to forego senior season with
Bulldogs

See A8



Eric
Stokes Jr.

His Word

Charity suffereth long,
and is kind; charity
envieth not; charity
vaunteth not itself, is
not puffed up,

1 Corinthians 13:4,
KJV

Alcovy Judicial Circuit



Tom Spigolon | The Covington News
Superior Court Judge Ken Wynne of Covington is joined by wife Pam and daughters Courtney and Kendall as he is sworn in to a third full term on the Alcovy Judicial Circuit bench by Judge Eugene Benton Wednesday, Dec. 30, at the Walton County Historic Courthouse in Monroe.

Sworn in

Three Superior Court judges take oaths of office

By TOM SPIGOLON
tspigolon@covnews.com

MONROE, Ga. — Three Superior Court judges took their oaths of office Wednesday, Dec. 30, at the Walton County Historic Courthouse before beginning new terms on the Alcovy Judicial Circuit bench.

Chief Judge John Ott and Judge Ken Wynne will continue to preside over Superior Court cases in Newton and Walton counties after voters returned them to their judgeships without opposition June 9.

Jeffrey Foster, a veteran Walton County attorney, earned a first term on the Alcovy Superior Court bench after winning an August runoff election.

The Alcovy Judicial Circuit includes Newton and Walton counties.

See JUDGES, A3

Crime

Man killed in Covington crash

Woman charged with vehicular homicide, DUI

By DAVID CLEMONS
The Walton Tribune

A Covington woman was charged with drunken driving and vehicular homicide after a crash that resulted in a motorcyclist's death Sunday night.

It happened at about 9:20 p.m. Sunday on Access Road, just west of Capes Drive.

Troopers said a 2010 Audi failed to stop before striking the rear of a 2020 Jiangsu Baodiao 9 Lines motorcycle as both were eastbound on Access Road.

The motorcycle driver, 55-year-old Andrew Tyrone Fuller of Covington, was taken to Piedmont Newton

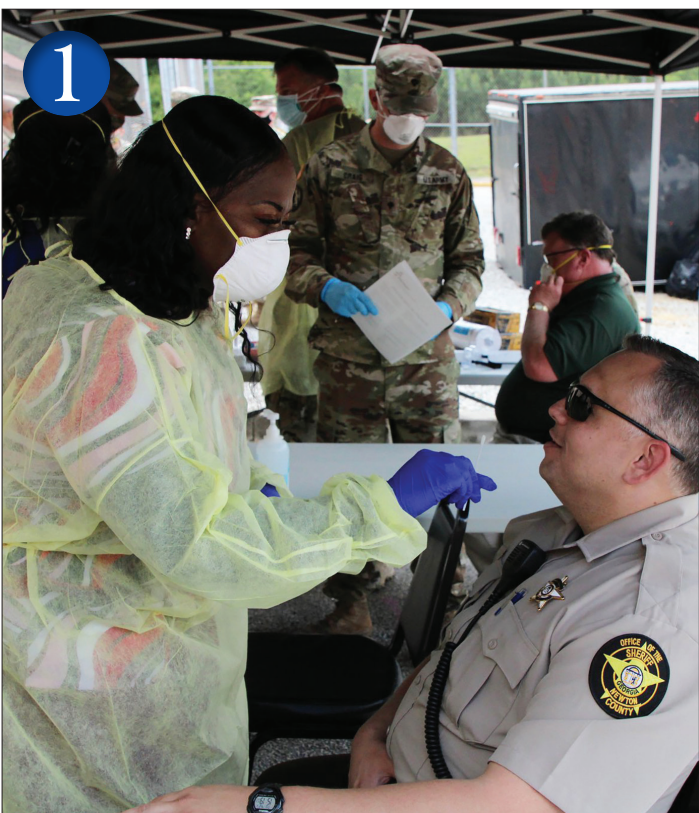
Destiny Lynn Carter

See KILLED, A3

Year in Review

2020 Rewind

The Covington News completes its review of Newton County's top stories and topics from 2020 ranked 1-5. Stories and topics ranked 6-10 were published in the Wednesday, Dec. 30, 2020, edition of The Covington News.



File | The Covington News
Pictured left, the members of the Georgia National Guard assist the Newton County Sheriff's Office in testing more than 200 people for COVID-19 in April. Right, Piedmont Newton Healthcare workers are among the first vaccinated in December.

COVID-19: Global crisis hits home

By TAYLOR BECK
tbeck@covnews.com

Coronavirus. Quarantine. Social distancing.

At the start of 2020, these words were unfamiliar and rarely used, but as we step into 2021, these words have become regularly seen in headlines, articles and everyday use across the world.

The novel coronavirus, more commonly known as COVID-19, is a disease caused by a coronavirus called SARS-CoV-2. Initial reports stated it originated from a market in Wuhan, China, but the more scientists and researchers learn, the more unclear its origin becomes.

What has been made clear is the virus' impact worldwide.

COVID-19 made its arrival to the U.S. in late February, early March. As of Tuesday, Dec. 29, there had been more than 19 million cumulative cases in the U.S. — more than 82 million positive cases and more than 1.7 million deaths recorded around the world.

See CRISIS, A7

2 Newton County goes blue on Election Day

By TOM SPIGOLON
tspigolon@covnews.com

The 2020 election year is when Newton County turned blue with a vengeance.

Newton County's electorate had hinted at the possibility in the past three presidential elections by giving very narrow majorities to Democrats Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton.

But Newton voters also had chosen to keep their county-level offices



Tom Spigolon | The Covington News
A voter places her ballot in a scanner at Washington Street Community Center precinct Nov. 3.

mostly with Republicans with some exceptions, such as sheriff and county chairman, and they voted

in-person on machines. All that changed in 2020 as voters casting their ballots for Democrat

Joe Biden appeared to also vote for anyone with a "D" by their name on the same ballots.

They also trended toward voting absentee by mail as the Secretary of State's office encouraged it as a safety precaution as the COVID-19 pandemic raged in April and May in Georgia.

Still, at least two-thirds of Newton County voters chose to cast their ballots

See BLUE, A7

Year in Review



File | The Covington News
Women stand arm-in-arm against the removal of the Confederate monument located on the Covington Square. Newton County commissioners voted 3-2 on July 14 to remove it.

Should it stay or should it go?

Newton's Confederate monument was center of controversy

By TOM SPIGOLON
tspigolon@covnews.com

The future of a century-old Confederate memorial statue was up in the air at year's end as groups for and against its removal from the Covington Square waited on the Georgia Court of Appeals to take action.

It followed the county governing board's July vote to remove it; two groups asking the courts the same month to halt its removal; a judge's October order that cleared the way for its removal; and appeals of the order to the state court of appeals.

The Newton County Commission and community members had debated the proposed removal of the divisive "To the Confederate Dead of Newton County" statue for years be-



File | The Covington News
Residents gathered frequently on the Covington Square throughout 2020 in support and opposition to the removal of the Confederate statue.

fore its 2020 action.

After some neighboring counties chose to raze similar Civil War memorials, Newton commissioners on July 7 publicly discussed the issue during a meeting and showed that a majority favored the Covington statue's removal.

Attendees of all ages met July 12 at the foot of the statue to raise funds for a legal challenge and discuss their opposi-

tion.

Commissioners voted 3-2 on July 14 to remove it from the county-owned park in the center of downtown Covington where it had stood since 1906.

Opponents met again July 19 and attendees charged that the board would be violating state law by removing the historic memorial.

Their legal challenges came a day before, and a few days after, the commissioners' vote when a local resident and the Georgia chapter of the Sons of Confederate Veterans asked Newton County Superior Court to issue injunctions to halt the removal until hearings could be held.

A Newton County judge conducted a hearing and finally denied the requests in October. Both parties opposing the removal appealed the order and the cases now await action in the Georgia Court of Appeals.

The same judge also ordered county officials not to take action to remove it after rumors flew that the county government did not want to wait on the courts to act. The order forbade any action until all legal challenges were exhausted.

Smiles of the Month

No cavities for these kids!
What a great way to end 2020! Congratulations!

Grayson Davis	Reagan Kessler
Brody Ewing	George Lane
Tinsley Ewing	Samuel Lane
Isa Jackson	Evan Litts
Hayden Johnson	Bella Norris
Gray Jones	Savannah Norris
Gabe Kessler	

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Newton man faces child porn charges

Suspect was GSU Newton campus student government leader

By TOM SPIGOLON
tspigolon@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — A Newton County resident facing charges of uploading child pornography had been a student government leader at Georgia State University's Newton campus and a candidate for Student Government Association president for its Atlanta campus before his early December arrest.

The Georgia Bureau of Investigation charged Carlos Porter, 21, with Sexual Exploitation of

Children (Possession of Child Sexual Abuse Material) in violation of state law Dec. 8, a news release stated.

He was the Student Government Association executive vice president of GSU's Newton campus and was a candidate for SGA president for the



Atlanta campus, according to a report in the university's student newspaper The Signal.

Porter, who was a business major, resigned from his position and is no longer a Georgia State student, the newspaper reported.

Before returning to GSU in the fall semester, Porter and other SGA officers attended a human trafficking and Title IX workshop, it reported.

He joined the SGA in 2018 as a senator for Academic Affairs before becoming the speaker of the Newton campus in spring 2019, The Signal reported.

The suspect, whose address is listed as Conyers, was being held in the Newton County Jail without bond on one count of the felony charge in connection with allegedly uploading suspected child pornography, according to information from the GBI and Newton County Sheriff's Office.

The GBI's Child Exploitation and Computer Crimes (CEACC) Unit began an investigation into Porter's online activity after receiving a cybertip from

the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children regarding the upload of suspected child pornography by Porter using a "popular social media application," the release stated.

It stated a search of Porter's home and electronic devices produced evidence that led to his Dec. 8 arrest. Porter was taken into custody and booked into the Newton County Jail.

"This investigation is part of the ongoing effort by the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force, housed within the GBI's Child Exploitation and Computer Crimes Unit, to identify those involved in the child pornography trade," the release stated.

"The ICAC Program, created by the U.S. Department of Justice, was developed in response to the increasing number of children and teenagers using the Internet, the proliferation of child pornography, and the heightened online activity by predators searching for unsupervised contact with underage victims."

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Year in Review

4 Violent, unusual deaths top Newton's 2020 crime

By TOM SPIGOLON
tspigolon@covnews.com

Violent and unusual deaths and child trafficking arrests dominated the crime news in Newton County in 2020.

- Police in September arrested a woman after a body identified as her father was found in a Newton County Boy Scout camp the previous month. Human remains found Aug. 13 in a wooded area in Bert Adams Boy Scout Camp in southern Newton County were identified as Perry Davis, 72, of Kirk Street in Covington.
- Covington Police arrested his daughter, Tamela Renee Carter, 48, of Covington, on Sept. 14 after she reportedly told investigators Davis had died in his bed in mid-April at the Kirk Street home they shared. Carter told investigators she had

taken her father to a wooded area off Scout Road in south Newton County, placed his body there and continued to access Davis' Social Security funds for four months following his death, a spokesman said.

Meanwhile, a judge denied bond in December for a Newton County woman accused of murdering her mother in April 2019.

Carly Walden, 36, is charged with the murder of Andrea Walker, 57, of Covington after sheriff's deputies found her dead of a gunshot wound in a bedroom of the home they shared at 355 Alcovy Way.

Walden was arraigned on charges of Malice Murder, Felony Murder, Aggravated Assault and Possession of a Firearm during the Commission of a Felony in August 2019 in Newton County Superior Court and has been held without bond in the Newton County jail since the incident.

- An Oxford woman pleaded guilty in



File | The Covington News
Jennifer Michelle Bellah, of Oxford, pleaded guilty in August to shooting her 2-year-old daughter to death but being mentally ill at the time of the 2018 incident.

August to shooting her 2-year-old daughter to death but being mentally ill at the time of the 2018 incident.

Jennifer Michelle

Bellah, 33, on Aug. 26 pleaded Guilty but Mentally Ill to a charge of Felony Murder in the 2018 shooting death of her daughter, Natalya

Bellah.

Superior Court Judge Ken Wynne Jr. sentenced her to 15 years

See CRIME, A7

5 2020 brings upheaval to Alcovy Judicial Circuit

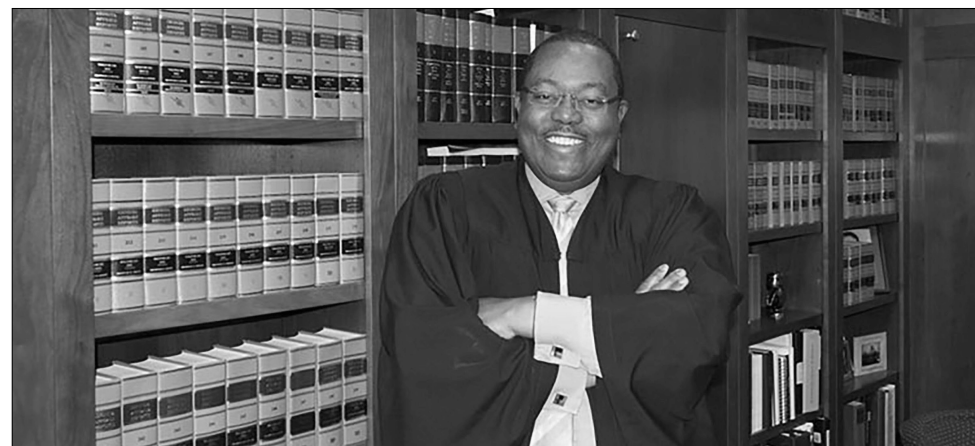
By DAVID CLEMONS
The Walton Tribune

The Alcovy Circuit had been a model of stability but as with many aspects of life, 2020 changed everything.

The year ends with two new judges — both historic choices by the governor — and a third new judge about to take office after a wild election. But jury trials have been suspended and other court functions are being held under strict guidelines for social distancing.

As 2020 dawned, it appeared all five Superior Court seats would be on the ballot. It would be fairly neat.

Judge Horace J. Johnson Jr., who in 2002 became the first Black judge in the circuit, said he would run for an open seat on the state Supreme Court. Cheveda McCamy of Covington, the chief assistant district attorney of the



File | The Covington News
Judge Horace J. Johnson Jr. died July 2 from cardiac arrest after having been diagnosed with COVID-19. Gov. Brian Kemp chose to appoint Cheveda McCamy, of Covington, to succeed Johnson.

Flint Circuit, planned to run for Johnson's seat.

Judge Samuel D. Ozburn, who like Johnson hailed from Newton County, said he wouldn't seek reelection and would retire at the end of the year. Lined up to seek his seat was District Attorney Layla H. Zon, also of Covington.

Also planning to retire was Judge Eugene M. Benton of Monroe, who has served since

2005. Although Covington attorney Bob Stansfield first said he would run for the Johnson seat, he decided to seek Benton's post, opposing Monroe attorney Jeff Foster.

But in late January, Ozburn said he would retire at the end of April. That meant, instead of an election, Gov. Brian Kemp would appoint Ozburn's successor.

And later, Justice

Robert Benham also decided to retire early, and the Judicial Nominating Commission omitted Johnson from its list of finalists. So Johnson decided to run for reelection, prompting McCamy to instead oppose Foster and Stansfield for the Benton seat.

That race was to be decided in a May primary, which was delayed to June 9 due to the pandemic.

Foster led the field but couldn't avoid a runoff. Stansfield finished third in his home county but got just enough votes in Walton to make the runoff.

Although neither candidate won a precinct in the other candidate's county, Foster did better in Walton than Stansfield did in Newton. Foster got 52% of the overall vote and nearly 73% in Walton to claim the victory.

He was sworn in Wednesday and took office Friday.

Meanwhile, Kemp appointed Zon to the role of judge to succeed Ozburn, and appointed McCamy as a senior judge. Zon became the first female Superior Court judge in the circuit.

Zon was seated June 2, and on July 1, Johnson died from cardiac arrest after having been diagnosed with COVID-19. Chief

Judge John M. Ott also had been diagnosed with the illness.

Kemp chose McCamy to succeed Johnson, making her the first Black woman to serve on the bench locally. She was seated Oct. 26.

Johnson would have been sworn in Wednesday to a fifth full term. He was reelected without opposition in June.

Also reelected without opposition were Ott and Judge Ken Wynne.

Zon's ascension to a judgeship caused a vacancy for district attorney. Her chief deputy, Randy McGinley, has served as interim district attorney and was elected to the position permanently in November.

He becomes the first Walton resident to serve as district attorney since Ott gave up the role to become a judge in 1990.

JUDGES:
Continued from A1

KILLED:
Continued from A1

Foster is replacing Eugene Benton, who has served as an Alcovy Circuit Superior Court judge since his election in 2004 to replace Judge Marvin Sorrells.

The new judge served as judge of Social Circle Municipal Court and is a former Walton County associate Magistrate judge and Monroe Municipal Court judge.

Foster earned an undergraduate degree in economics from the University of Delaware in 1989, and his law degree from the University of Georgia School of Law in 1993.

He worked as a law clerk for Ott, and as chief assistant district attorney when Wynne served as DA, before opening his own law firm in 2004.

He was a partner in the Foster, Hanks and Ballard firm in Monroe before his election.

Ott and Wynne were unopposed in the June 9 election.

Then-Gov. Joe Frank Harris appointed Ott as a Superior Court judge in August 1990. He has served as chief judge since 2005.

Ott was appointed after serving as district attorney in the



Tom Spigolon | The Covington News
From left are Alcovy Judicial Circuit Superior Court Judges Jeff Foster and Layla Zon, Chief Judge John Ott, retiring Judge Eugene Benton, and Judges Ken Wynne and Cheveda McCamy.

Alcovy Judicial Circuit from 1984 to 1990.

He has served as the Administrative Judge for the 10th Judicial District and was on the Executive Council of The Superior Court Judges and the Judicial Council for the State of Georgia.

Ott also has served as the Superior Court Judge representative on the Interstate Commission for Adult Offender Supervision and the Advisory Committee for the Georgia

Department of Community Supervision.

He earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Georgia and his law degree from the Walter F. George School of Law at Mercer University.

Wynne has served as a Superior Court judge since July 1, 2010, after his December 2009 appointment by then-Gov. Sonny Perdue.

He also served as district attorney for the Alcovy Cir-

cuit from 2001 to 2009 after working as an assistant DA for 12 years.

Wynne established the Newton County Adult Felony Drug Court in 2013 and has presided over that court since its inception.

He is a former president of the Alcovy Bar Association, a past president of the Covington Kiwanis Club, and a 2003 graduate of Leadership Walton.

He is a past recipient of the State Bar of Georgia Younger Lawyers' Division Commitment to Justice Award. In 1990, the Georgia Department of Human Resources named him Georgia Child Support Attorney of the Year.

Wynne earned an undergraduate degree in political science from the University of Georgia in 1984, and his law degree from the University of Georgia School of Law in 1987.

Superior Court judges in Georgia preside over all criminal felony trials and have exclusive jurisdiction over divorces, among other legal matters, according to information from the Alcovy circuit.

Hospital and later died.

The driver of the Audi, 21-year-old Destiny Lynn Carter, was not injured. She was issued three citations, including driving under the influence, following too closely and vehicular homicide.

She was booked into the Newton County Jail on Monday and remained there Wednesday on warrants from the Georgia State Patrol.

Conviction of first-degree vehicular homicide carries a prison term of three to 15 years in Georgia.

Fuller was one of 20 people to die on Georgia roadways over a 78-hour Christmas holiday period.

Chris Bridges columnist

Nation’s political eyes turn to Georgia

By this point even the most die-hard follower of political campaigns has probably become fed up with the two U.S. Senate runoffs in Georgia. Republican incumbent David Perdue is facing Democratic challenger Jon Ossoff, while appointed Republican U.S. Sen. Kelly Loeffler is trying to fend off the challenge of Democrat Raphael Warnock. Who among us has not become weary from the television and radio advertisements for all four candidates along with enough campaign mailers to create a nice bonfire?

In reality, the two runoffs are very important in terms of balance of power in our country. With the Democrats regaining the White House, the Republicans hope to maintain control of the US Senate.



If Ossoff and Warnock both win then the U.S. Senate count goes to a 50-50 split with a Democratic vice president set to break the tie. Many Republicans have cried that one party having complete control would be bad for our country. That is a true statement. However, Republicans didn’t seem to mind when they had control of the White House and the U.S. Senate the last four years. Surely no one can be surprised by this bit of hypocrisy that often comes from both of the major political parties.

The amount of money poured into these two U.S. Senate races boggles the mind. Millions upon millions have been spent with more monopoly-like cash to be used in the final days and hours before the Jan. 5 vote.

One long-time political observer in Georgia recently said, “Are these four the best we have to choose from? If so, help us all.”

These are definitely

the four we have left. Even with 18 other candidates running against Loeffler and Warnock in a special “jungle primary,” these were the two who floated to the top. Loeffler, it has to be pointed out, has done nothing since being appointed to the position by Gov. Brian Kemp.

Loeffler’s biggest achievement seemingly has been to support everything President Trump does or says. It’s not unexpected that a U.S. Senator would support the president from their own party, but to give blanket approval shows a lack of ability to think for one’s self and a blind loyalty that is unwise and not needed.

If Loeffler defeats Warnock what will her legacy be moving forward? Will it be that she opposed everything President Biden does or says?

Recent polls actually show the two Democratic challengers leading but these races are going to be razor close.

Don’t be surprised if the dreaded word “re-count” comes into play once we wake up the morning of Jan. 6.

Perdue and Loeffler both have shown questionable behavior in using insider information for profit when it comes to the COVID-19 virus. While perhaps not technically illegal, it shows what they are willing to do for additional profit and that they have their own financial interests above those who are supposedly representing.

Warnock was the choice of state Democratic Party insiders. They wanted him as the nominee and went as far as to encourage other Democrats in the jungle primary to exit the race. None did but Warnock did emerge as the overall top vote getter last November among 20 names representing all political leanings.

Republicans seem to enjoy painting Ossoff with a very negative brush, even going as far to question the legitimacy of his marriage. You can’t make this stuff up folks.

Ossoff has run a solid campaign but whether it will be enough to defeat Perdue remains to be seen.

The question about the Jan. 5 runoff is who will show up to vote. Many supporters of President Trump are still furious over the outcome of that election going as far to throw Georgia’s Republican governor, lieutenant governor and secretary of state under the bus.

Some Trump backers in Georgia say the Jan. 5 runoff will be rigged, so why even bother voting? That mindset is absurd. If you don’t want a particular candidate to win then not voting does nothing to help that goal.

Overlooked in Jan. 5 runoff is a very important contest for a spot on the Georgia Public Service Commission. The PSC is a group which most people couldn’t tell you what it does and certainly couldn’t

tell you a member’s name.

Yet the PSC has as much impact on our wallet as any elected office. Your power bill and your phone bill are just two of the ways. Yet often current members or challengers accept contributions from those working for or closely tied to utility companies. Ironically, while not illegal, it certainly should raise concerns about whose best interest someone on the PSC would have when they accept these contributions.

And as we (hopefully) close the book on the 2020 election next week, it should be noted that presidential hopefuls for 2024 are already starting to emerge. Here we go again.

Chris Bridges is a former sports editor for The Walton Tribune and The Covington News. You can email comments about this column to pchrisbridges@gmail.com.

Jeff MacKenzie columnist

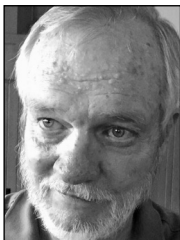
It’s time we take a long look at the legal system

The law is a maw with abuse in its claws: ... Arthur C. Clarke once described us as “a nation of engineers run by lawyers” — a critical comment on the ills that beset our society.

Indeed, jurisprudence spawned by the Constitution fills thousands of volumes, presented in esoteric terms harking back to ancient Greek and Roman and English common law. The layman ensnared in its clutches is usually helpless.

So professional interpreters trained in its arcana unravel the mystery for the rest of us.

We depend on the



lawyers. They would have it no other way.

Unfortunately this dependence has been exploited to the extreme, and in many places is a drag on everyday life and commerce.

Yet we need laws. “Laws are there to keep the good guys honest,” an architect once told me. Arguably the rule of law enshrining freedom of expression is what has drawn millions of immigrants and refugees to our shores.

Of course, some would say it’s the Benjamins — the prospect of acquiring and keeping more of those magic papers, enjoying property protections by law unknown in much of the world, where despots may take them on a whim.

Some truth in all of

that.

Yet there are also existential truths evolving these attractive features into a monster not easily tamed.

Here are a few along with a short summary of their abuses:

There is real estate law: A monstrously complex vehicle for changing real property ownership. Lawyers preside over a transfer ceremony called a “closing,” with a raft of documents of mysterious provenance — a process so recondite that exhaustion is a common feeling upon completion.

In fact, dependence on lawyers in such events is almost total.

And there is patent/copyright law: Designed to protect inventors and artists from exploitation — process evolved and refined by very high-priced lawyers.

And there is criminal law: Thousands of prosecutors, defense attorneys and judges have dockets so clogged that plea bargaining is the norm. To proclaim innocence is frowned upon — they’ve got these dockets, you see — and thousands are given a Hobson’s Choice: Accept a guilty plea, a fine and often only weeks in jail. Or go to trial and face years plus time in jail awaiting trial if bail money is not available. And lawyers’ fees.

And there is tort law: Civil lawsuits, monetary penalties but no jail time. In our system, one may

sue another for any reason. If spurious enough (a comment overheard disparaging one’s attire, or suing an election board for fraud without corresponding evidence) the courts may reject them.

But the judge, and the plaintiffs and defense attorneys will be paid.

And the tort system is just as abusive in the other direction: Author John Grisham’s excellent book, “The King of Torts” describes a subculture of class action legal firms that feed on slip-ups by large companies and pursue jury selection and attack ads in the most venal way. It’s a work of fiction, but truth resonates on its pages.

And there is treaty law: Used to displace and disinherit Native Americans from the lands of their ancestors. A massive scale of ethnic cleansing. In every case the tribes were promised the law would protect them.

It didn’t, and carpet-bagging lawyers made killings throwing them off their land.

And there is the law of eminent domain: Created for states to seize land (with compensation) for roads, railroads, airports and other public interest works.

This system is also subject to abuse, with small businesses and landowners displaced in favor of malls, big box stores, and stadium parking lots.

All deemed in the public interest due to an increase in the tax base.

Resistance manifests in civic meetings and

in the courts. It’s often futile. Expensive legal talent can overwhelm it in mass filings and technicalities.

Of course, not all aspects of legal systems are bad. Most were created for more efficient functioning of society.

And it has its admirable proponents. My personal lawyer is a delightful guy, devoted family man and apparently resistant to the venality infesting his profession. He has given good advice on matters of will and property since we landed in Covington.

Is he an anomaly? Not sure. I have known lawyers of a different ilk whose meter always seemed to be running.

It’s past time for us to address the legal system as a whole and consider remedies.

America is a hodge-podge of states, cities and counties with different takes on this issue.

Which is good. Different approaches can be tried, evaluated and distilled into useful, user-friendly systems.

And we can learn from successful nations overseas. The Swiss canton system manages three very different cultures — French, German and Italian — under one orderly banner. The Swiss have lawyers, but their duties are subdued and integrated.

Norway has “a very successful criminal justice system with low prison rates and low recidivism” — per The National Law Review.

Local systems, where most citizen/lawyer

interface occurs, are as varied as the weather and often as dependable. By nature they are subordinate to state governments, so any attempt at reform must originate there.

Currently no classification system evaluates worldwide local governance using the same metrics. There are some obvious appeals: Town meetings, New England style, give anyone interested a chance to participate but don’t work well for larger cities. Government by referendum has been extant in California for decades with mixed results.

Internationally, local governments in India, Australia and Africa are as varied as the cultures therein. All have optimistic goals. Most — like those in the U.S. — suffer from funding deficits relative to the services they are tasked with. If a local tax base cannot afford it, then infrastructure (roads, hospitals, schools, etc.) must come from the state, with equitable statewide distribution of funding.

Reform of legal structures will nonetheless never achieve efficiency unless exploitation by unscrupulous lawyers is controlled.

Jeff MacKenzie, the Design Consumer, examines issues of design — be they objects or systems — all are designed and all are products the citizen consumer uses.

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business immediately.

BUSINESS NAME: King's 24
Hour Towing and Repair, LLC
ADDRESS: 3195 Hwy
81 South

COVINGTON, GA

30016
TELEPHONE#: 770-787-
6243

PUBLIC NOTICE #117740
01/03,10

Bids

ADVERTISEMENT FOR
PROPOSALS

THE CITY of Covington is soliciting
proposals from qualified firms for
the retrofitting an existing railroad
trestle bridge with a concrete deck
for the Covington Crickettfrog Trail
in Covington, GA. All Bids shall be
in accordance with the Contract
Documents and AASHTO LRFD
Guide Specifications for the
Design of Pedestrian Bridges –
December 2009 and the ACI318-
11 for Design of Concrete Elements
and Georgia DOT Standard
Specifications for Construction
of Transportation Systems, 2013
Edition, 2016 Supplemental
Agreement. There will be a
mandatory pre-bid meeting held at
10:00am on January 7, 2020 in the
City of Covington Council Room
located at 2116 Stallings Street
NW Covington, GA 30014.

ALL PROPOSALS must be
submitted, to Attn: Scott Cromer,
City of Covington Purchasing
Department, at 2194 Emory Street
NW, Covington, Georgia 30014.
Proposals are due no later than
10:00 am on Tuesday, January 26,
2021.

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

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

PUBLIC NOTICE #117706
12/20,1/3

DOCUMENT 00021
INVITATION TO BID
LEGAL NOTICE

1. SEALED proposals for
ALCOVY ROAD/TOWN CENTER
BOULEVARD SIGNAL PLAN
owned by The City of Covington,
Georgia will be received by Tres
Thomas at the City of Covington
City Hall, located at 2194 Emory
Street, Covington, Georgia 30014
until 2:00 PM on January 21th,
2021 at which time they will be
publicly opened.

2. THE project consists of
the following generally described
work:

THE PROJECT consists of
installation of a stop and go
traffic signal at the intersection
of Alcovy Road and Town Center
Boulevard in the City of Covington,
Georgia. The traffic signal will
be installed following current
GDOT standard specifications
and details. Crosswalks will be
installed as shown on the plans
to accommodate pedestrian

Georgia
STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS

Run your classified ad in 124+ Georgia newspapers
reaching over 1 million readers for only \$350

Call Georgia Newspaper Service - 770-454-6776

We don't knowingly accept
advertisements that discriminate,
or intend to discriminate, on any
illegal basis. Nor do we knowingly
accept employment advertise-
ments that are not bona-fide job
offers. All real estate advertise-
ments are subject to the fair
housing act and we do not accept
advertising that is in violation of
the law. The law prohibits discrimi-
nation based on color, religion,
sex, national origin, handicap or
familial status.

FREE! High-quality rechargeable
Nano hearing aids priced 90%
less than competitors. Nearly
invisible! 45-day money back
guarantee! 866-395-1310

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 mobil-
ity with the compact design and
long-lasting battery of Inogen One.
Free information kit! Call 888-670-
0481.

A Place For Mom. The nation's
largest senior living referral
service. Contact our trusted,
local experts today! Our
service is FREE/no obliga-
tion. 1-855-508-8043.

ATTENTION: Oxygen users! Gain
Freedom with a Portable Oxygen
Concentrator! No more heavy
tanks and refills! Guaranteed
Lowest Prices! Call the Oxygen
Concentrator Store: 844-923-
2359.

Attention Oxygen Users: THE
NEW INOGEN ONEG5. 1-6
flow settings. Designed for 24
hour oxygen use. Compact and
Lightweight. Get a Free Info Kit
today: 855-968-2718.

Arthritis, COPD, Joint Pain or
Mobility Issues on the Stairs?
STOP STRUGGLING Give
Your Life A Lift! An Acorn Stairlift is
a perfect solution! A BBB Rating.
Call now for \$250 OFF your pur-
chase. FREE DVD & brochure.
855-200-4205.

HOME IMPROVEMENT

SsAVE YOUR HOME! Are

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 protec-
tion. 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 recov-
ered millions for clients! Call today
for a FREE consultation! 855-399-
5797

COMPUTER ISSUES? GEEKS
ON SITE provides FREE diagno-
sis 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.

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, col-
lections, 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

movements at the signal and the
intersection will be restriped to
accommodate the new signal. The
installation shall be coordinated with
the City and GDOT District 2 Traffic
Operations Office.

3. PLANS and
Specifications are open to inspection
at the City of Covington City Hall,
located at 2194 Emory Street,
Covington, Georgia 30014, or
Thomas & Hutton Engineering Co.,
5553 Peachtree Road; Suite 175,
Atlanta, GA 30341.

4. IN order to assure that
Bidders receive all addenda and or
clarifications to the bid documents
in a timely manner, it is highly
recommended that all bidders
obtain at least one complete set
of Bid Documents directly from
the Engineer. Entities that do not
purchase Bid Documents from the
Engineer will not be on the Engineer's
plans holder list and will not receive
addenda and/or clarifications to
the bid documents directly from the
Engineer. Bidders relying on plans
rooms or other services to obtain
the Bid Documents, rather than
purchasing them directly from the
Engineer, are doing so at their own
risk. Sets of the Bid Documents may
be obtained at the office of Thomas
& Hutton, the Engineer, or via
email upon receipt of payment of a
nonrefundable fee of \$25 for a digital
copy of the Bid Documents in PDF
format.

5. BIDS shall be
accompanied by a bid bond or
certified cashier's check in an amount
not less than 10% of the base bid. All
bonds shall be by a surety company
licensed in Georgia with an "A"
minimum rating of performance and
a financial strength of at least five
times the contract price as listed
in the most current publication of
"Best's Key Rating Guide Property
Liability." Performance and Payment
Bonds, each in an amount equal to
100% of the contract price shall be
required of the successful bidder
if contract is awarded. Each Bond
shall be accompanied by a "Power of
Attorney" authorizing the attorney-in-
fact to bind the surety and certified to
include the date of the bond.

6. OWNER reserves
the right to reject any or all Bids,
including without limitation, the rights
to reject any or all nonconforming,
nonresponsive, unbalanced or
conditional Bids and to reject the Bid
of any Bidder if Owner believes it
would not be in the best interest of
the Project to make an award to Bidder,
whether because the Bid is not
responsive or the Bidder is unqualified
or of doubtful financial ability or fails
to meet any other pertinent standard
or criteria established by the Owner.

7. ALL questions shall be
submitted in writing to Engineer by
Friday, January 8th, 2021 at 2:00
PM. An addendum addressing all
questions and comments received by
the question deadline will be issued
via electronic mail and facsimile by
end of business on Thursday, January
14th, 2021.

ENGINEER OWNER
THOMAS & Hutton City of
Covington
ATTN: JEFF Halliburton, P.E.
Attn: Tres Thomas
2127 USHER Street NW,
2194 Emory Street
COVINGTON, GA 30014
PHONE: 912-429-2135
Phone: 770-385-2000
EMAIL: HALLIBURTON.J@TANDH.
COM Email: tthomas@
cityofcovington.org

END OF INVITATION TO BID

PUBLIC NOTICE #117702
12/20,1/3

Citations

CITATION

BAILEY UTTERBACK has petitioned
to be appointed Administrator of the
Estate of JOSE "JUJU" SALAS
MORALES, 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 FEBRUARY 1, 2021, next, at
ten o'clock, a.m.

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

CITATION

BELINDA M. PINKEY has petitioned
to be appointed Administrator of the
Estate of ROBERT GEORGE
PINKNEY 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 FEBRUARY 1, 2021, next, at
ten o'clock, a.m.

MELANIE M. Bell, Judge
BY: MARCIA Wynne
CLERK, PROBATE COURT
NEWTON COUNTY, GA
PUBLIC NOTICE # 117729
01/3,10,17,24

CITATION

BRIAN N. STIGGERS has petitioned
to be appointed Administrator of the
Estate of MARGARET STIGGERS
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 FEBRUARY 1, 2021, next,
at ten o'clock, a.m.

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

PUBLIC NOTICE # 117727
01/3,10,17,24

CITATION

MICHAEL SYPHOE has petitioned
to be appointed Administrator of
the Estate of EBBIE D. SYPHOE ,
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 FEBRUAY 1 ,2021, next,
at ten o'clock, a.m.

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

PUBLIC NOTICE #117730
01/3,10,17,24

CITATION

MONIQUE R. SNOWDEN
has petitioned to be appointed
Administrator of the Estate of ISSAC
RAY SNOWDEN 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 FEBRUARY 1, 2021, next,
at ten o'clock, a.m.

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

PUBLIC NOTICE #117722
01/03,10,17,24

CITATION

THE PETITION OF SARAH LYNN
QUINTON, widow/widower of BOBBY
GENE QUINTON III, 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 FEBRUARY 12021, next at ten

o'clock a.m.

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

PUBLIC NOTICE #117726
01/3,10,17,24

CITATION
TO: ANGELICA Nolley & all
interested parties

RICHARD GRIFFIN has filed for
Temporary Letters of Guardianship
of the Person(s) Trinarion Griffin
minor(s). All objections must be in
writing and filed with this Court on
January 21st 2021 at ten o' clock,
a.m.

MELANIE M. Bell, Judge
BY: MARCIA Wynne
CLERK, PROBATE Court
NEWTON COUNTY, GA
PUBLIC NOTICE #117723
01/03,10,17,24

Corporations

“NOTICE OF INCORPORATION

NOTICE IS given that articles of
incorporation which incorporate
Three Little Pynk Houses, Inc. have
been delivered to the Secretary of
State for filing in accordance with the
Georgia Business Corporation Code.
The initial registered office of the
corporation is located at 1864 Smith
Store Road, Covington, Newton
County, Georgia 30016. The initial
registered agent of the corporation at
such address is STEPFANIE GRAY.

LISA M. GABLE
ROBERTSON & GABLE, LLC
5875 PEACHTREE Industrial Blvd.,
Suite 170
PEACHTREE CORNERS, GA
30092 (770) 736-5182"
PUBLIC NOTICE #117744
01/03,10

Debtors Creditors

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF
NEWTON COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA

IN THE INTEREST OF:
HELEN SANDRA HICKS,
DECEASED.

ESTATE NO. 2020-P-296

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND
CREDITORS

ALL CREDITORS of the estate of
HELEN SANDRA HICKS 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 DECEMBER, 2020.

DERWIN BRYAN Davis
973 GREEN Street, SE
CONYERS, GA 30012

PUBLIC NOTICE #11709
12/20,27,1/3,10

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND
CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the
debtors and creditors of the
Estate of EUGENE TALMADGE
NASWORTHY, 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 7th day of DECEMBER,
2020.

CHRISTY ANN NASWORTHY
50 STEWART HOLLOW LANE
COVINGTON, GA 30016

PUBLIC NOTICE #117714
12/27,1/3,10,17

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND
CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the
debtors and creditors of the Estate of
HARRIETT EUGENIA KITCHENS,
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 7th day of DECEMBER,

BUSINESS
DIRECTORY

HEALTH CARE

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.

If interested in positions go to www.advirhealthcare.com
and click on careers to apply for interview. or call
404.348.2643 ext 702.

RETAIL

SHOE HOUSE

Fine Italian Leather men's dress shoes
retail at \$129 to \$250.
Your price is only \$69.95-\$79.95 | Sizes 8-14.
New Blaze tennis shoes are here!
Men and Women Only \$55.00 to \$65.00
Pastors Receive 10% Off!

Conyers Mini Mall | Thursday-Sunday
678-798-2883 or 678-549-6322

RETAIL

neaker
ASYLUM

COMING SOON

2233 GA Highway 20 | Conyers, GA 30013
info@shopsneakerasylum.com
www.shopsneakerasylum.com

DATING

LET GOLDEN DATING CONNECT YOU!

Golden Dating™
CONNECTIONS

Dating Website for Singles Over 40 Years of Age
www.goldendatingconnections.com

SIGN UP FOR A 7-DAY TRIAL TODAY!

SPACE NEEDED

SPACE NEEDED FOR NEW MINISTRY

Safe, clean and reasonably priced space
needed for Ministry Recruiting, Worship,
and Bible Study. Only needed for 2-3
times per month. Willing to share or rent
with another Ministry. Space should
seat upwards of 25-50 people. Willing
to share space. Please contact Pastor
Barbara Sherman at 404-468-2190.

2020.

BRANDON EPPS
4177 CHESTNUT LAKE AVE
LITHONIA, GA 30038

PUBLIC NOTICE #117711
12/27,1/3,10,17

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND
CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the
debtors and creditors of the Estate of
HARRIETT EUGENIA KITCHENS,
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 7th day of DECEMBER,
2020.

BRANDON EPPS
4177 CHESTNUT LAKE AVE
LITHONIA, GA 30038

PUBLIC NOTICE #117712
12/27,1/3,10,17

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND
CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the
debtors and creditors of the Estate
of JACQUELYN B. SIMS, 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 18th day of DECEMBER,

ANGELA SIMS-DAVIS
1406 SWIFTWATER CIR.
MCDONOUGH, GA 30252

PUBLIC NOTICE #117723
01/3,10,17,24

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND
CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the
debtors and creditors of the Estate of
LAURA LEE SANDERS., 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 21st day of December,
2020.

REESE SANDERS
5540 HIGHWAY 20
COVINGTON, GA 30016
PUBLIC NOTICE # 117731
01/3,10,17,24

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND
CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the
debtors and creditors of the Estate
of MARSHA NEAL MCCALL
SEARS, 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 7th day of DECEMBER,

See LEGALS, A6

LEGALS:

Continued from A5

2020.

LISA A. SINGLEY
P.O. BOX 2637
COVINGTON, GA 30015

PUBLIC NOTICE #117713
12/27,1/3,10,17

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the **Estate ofMICHAEL HENRY AUTRY 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 18th day of December, 2020.

DIANE SALE
12285 BROWN Bridge Rd
COVINGTON, GA 30016
PUBLIC NOTICE # 117732
01/3,10,17,24

NOTICE TO Debtors/Creditors

ALL CREDITORS OF THE ESTATE OF BETTY RAMSEY KINCAID LATE OF ROCKDALE 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 SUSAN B. ATKINSON, EXECUTOR OF THE ESTATE BETTY RAMSEY KINCAID AT 195 BRIAR PATCH DRIVE, COVINGTON, GEORGIA 30014 THIS 21ST OF DECEMBER 2020

PUBLIC NOTICE#117741
01/3,10,17,24

Divorces

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

WILLIE HENDON
PLAINTIFF,

-VS-
VIVIAN HERNDON
DEFENDANT.

CIVIL ACTION No.:2020-CV2476-Z

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

TO: VIVIAN HERNDON
P.O. BOX 171
LITHONIA, GA 30058

BY ORDER of the court for service by publication dated **DECEMBER 7, 2020** you are hereby notified that on DECEMBER 10, 2020 (date of filing) **WILLIE HERNDON** (plaintiff) filed suit against you for Divorce . **YOU ARE** required to file an answer in writing within sixty (60) days of the date of the order for publication with the clerk of the Superior Court of Newton County and to serve a copy of the answer upon the plaintiff (if pro se) or upon the plaintiff's attorney (if represented).

WITNESS THE Honorable **JOHN M. OTT**, Judge Superior Court of Newton County.

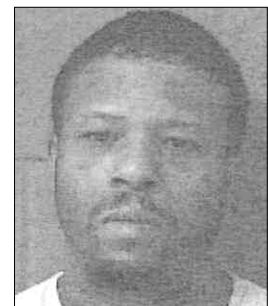
THIS,THE 17th day of **DECEMBER 2020**.

LINDA D. Hays
CLERK OF Superior Court

PUBLIC NOTICE #117721
12/30,01/3,6,10

DUI - Second

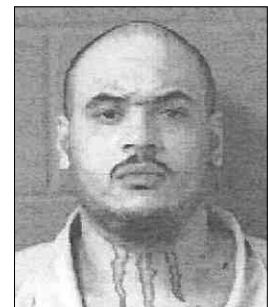
SECOND/SUBSEQUENT DUI CONVICTION



NAME: ROMEO ANTHONY BROWN
ADDRESS: 9290 CEDAR RIDGE DR., APT. A, COVINGTON, GA 30014
DATE OF ARREST: NOVEMBER 11, 2019
DATE OF OFFENSE: NOVEMBER 11, 2019
TIME OF OFFENSE: 3:00AM
PLACE OF OFFENSE: 1-20 EAST

DISPOSITION: P L E A
OF GUILTY— DEFENDANT IS SENTENCED TO A TOTAL OF 5 YEARS,36 MONTHS W/ THE FIRST 3 YEARS TO BE SERVED IN CONFINEMENT AND THE REMAINDER TO BE SERVED ON PROBATION - \$4,000.00 IN FINES PLUS ALL APPLICABLE FEES AND SURCHARGES - DEFENDANT SHALL PERFORM 240 HOURS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE & SHALL ATTEND AND COMPLETE A DUI RISK REDUCTION COURSE
SENTENCE DATE: DECEMBER 10, 2020
NAME OF COURT: SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA
PUBLIC NOTICE# 117747
01/03

SECOND/SUBSEQUENT DUI CONVICTION



NAME: JEVONNE LEE BAILEY
ADDRESS: 8140 STERLING LAKES CT., COVINGTON, GA

30014
DATE OF ARREST: NOVEMBER 18, 2019
DATE OF OFFENSE: NOVEMBER 17, 2019
TIME OF OFFENSE: 10:30 PM
PLACE OF OFFENSE: STARR ST @ NELSON DR

DISPOSITION: PLEA OF GUILTY — DEFENDANT IS SENTENCED TO A TOTAL OF 36 MONTHS W/ THE FIRST 120 DAYS TO BE SERVED IN CONFINEMENT AND THE REMAINDER TO BE SERVED ON PROBATION - \$800.00 IN FINES PLUS ALL APPLICABLE FEES AND SURCHARGES - DEFENDANT SHALL PERFORM 40 HOURS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE & SHALL ATTEND AND COMPLETE A DUI RISK REDUCTION COURSE

SENTENCE DATE: DECEMBER 9, 2020
NAME OF COURT: SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA
PUBLIC NOTICE # 117746
01/03

Foreclosures

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER

GEORGIA, NEWTON COUNTY

BY VIRTUE of a Power of Sale contained in that certain Security Deed from **MARY A. BASKETTE** TO CITIFINANCIAL SERVICES, INC., dated March 30, 2006, recorded March 31, 2006, in Deed Book 2151, Page 404 , Newton County, Georgia Records, said Security Deed having been given to secure a Note of even date in the original principal amount of One Hundred Twenty-Nine Thousand Two Hundred Thirty-Two and 95/100 dollars (\$129,232.95), with interest thereon as provided for therein, said Security Deed having been last sold, assigned and transferred to Community Loan Servicing, LLC fka Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC, 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 February, 2021, all property described in said Security Deed including but not limited to the following described property:

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOT 21, 10TH DISTRICT, NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA, BEING LOT 40, PARK PLACE SUBDIVISION UNIT THREE, AS PER PLAT RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 25, PAGE 249, NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA RECORDS, WHICH PLAT IS INCORPORATED HEREIN AND MADE A PART HEREOF BY REFERENCES.

SAID LEGAL description being controlling, however the property is more commonly known as **65 BOARDWALK AVE, COVINGTON, GA 30016**.

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 now due and payable); the right of redemption of any taxing authority; matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or by an inspection of the property; all zoning ordinances; assessments; liens; encumbrances; restrictions; covenants, and any other matters of record superior to said Security Deed.

TO THE best of the knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the owner and party in possession of the property is **MARY A. BASKETTE, ESTATE AND/ OR HEIRS-AT-LAW OF MARY A. BASKETTE , STACIE BASKETTE HERDER, 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: Community Loan Servicing, LLC fka Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC, Loss Mitigation Dept., 4425 Ponce de Leon Blvd., 5th Floor, Coral Gables, FL 33146, Telephone Number: 800-771-0299.

COMMUNITY LOAN SERVICING, LLC FKA BAYVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC
AS ATTORNEY IN Fact for **MARY A. BASKETTE**

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: Ruben Lublin, LLC, 3145 Avalon Ridge Place, Suite 100, Peachtree Corners, GA 30071
TELEPHONE NUMBER: (877) 813-0992 Case No. CLS-20-04324-1
AD RUN Dates 01/03/2021, 01/10/2021, 01/17/2021, 01/24/2021

01/24/2021

PUBLIC NOTICE # 117733
01/3,10,17,24

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
GEORGIA, NEWTON COUNTY

BY VIRTUE of a Power of Sale contained in that certain Security Deed from **MYIA ROSETTA LOVE-SMITH MYIA ODOM BEY** TO MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS INC AS NOMINEE FOR CITIMORTGAGE INC, dated December 7, 2006, recorded December 21, 2006, in Deed Book 2348, Page 546 , Newton County, Georgia Records, said Security Deed having been given to secure a Note of even date in the original principal amount of One Hundred Twenty-Four Thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$124,000.00), with interest thereon as provided for therein, said Security Deed having been last sold, assigned and transferred to U.S. Bank National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as Trustee of the New Residential Mortgage Loan Trust 2020-NPL1, 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 February, 2021, all property described in said Security Deed including but not limited to the following described property:

ALL THAT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN THE LAND LOT 155 OF THE 10TH DISTRICT, NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA, BEING LOT 165 OF PRINCETON WOODS SUBDIVISION, PHASE FOUR, AS PER SHOWN ON PLAT OF SURVEY THEREOF PREPARED BY LOUIS D. PATRICK, GEORGIA R.L.S. #1757, DATED 03/03/2000 AND RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 34, PAGE 124-126, CLERK'S OFFICE, NEWTON SUPERIOR COURT, WHICH PLAT IS INCORPORATED HEREIN AND MADE A PART HEREOF BY REFERENCE THERETO FOR A MORE COMPLETE DESCRIPTION, THE IMPROVEMENTS THEREON BEING KNOWN AS 435 PRINCETON WAY, COVINGTON, GEORGIA - 30016.

SAID LEGAL description being controlling, however the property is more commonly known as **435 PRINCETON WAY, COVINGTON, GA 30016**.

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 now due and payable); the right of redemption of any taxing authority; matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or by an inspection of the property; all zoning ordinances; assessments; liens; encumbrances; restrictions; covenants, and any other matters of record superior to said Security Deed.

TO THE best of the knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the owner and party in possession of the property is **MYIA ROSETTA LOVE-SMITH MYIA ODOM BEY, CRAIG VINCENT KENNEY, 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: NewRez LLC, F/K/A New Penn Financial, LLC, D/B/A Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing, Loss Mitigation Dept., 75 Beattie Place, Ste. 300, Greenville, SC 29601, Telephone Number: 800-365-7107.

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS TRUSTEE OF THE NEW RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2020-NPL1
AS ATTORNEY IN Fact for **MYIA ROSETTA LOVE-SMITH MYIA ODOM BEY**
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: Ruben Lublin, LLC, 3145 Avalon Ridge Place, Suite 100, Peachtree Corners, GA 30071
TELEPHONE NUMBER: (877) 813-0992 Case No. SHP-20-03471-1
AD RUN Dates 01/03/2021, 01/10/2021, 01/17/2021, 01/24/2021

PUBLIC NOTICE #117704
1/03,10,17,24

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.

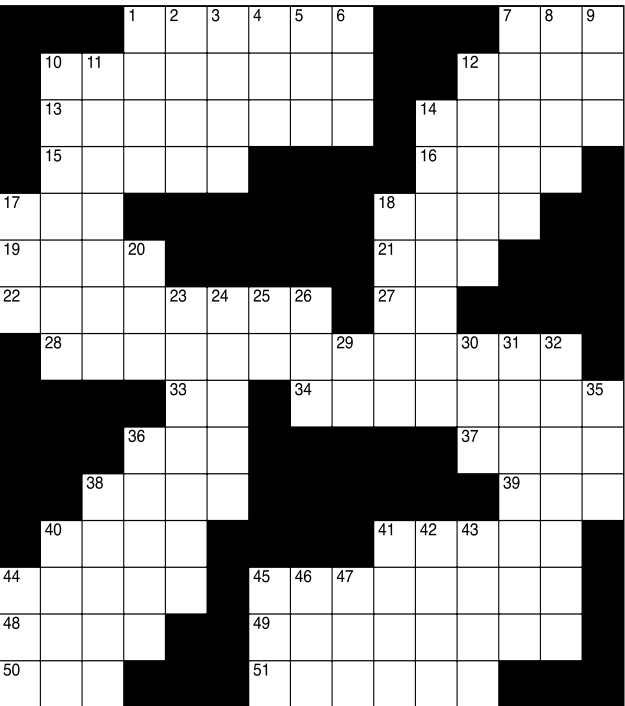
UNDER AND by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by **Lorraine Richardson** to First Franklin a

CLUES ACROSS

- Home of the Cowboys
- "Hawaii Five-O" actor McBride
- Most aged
- Fitted with a shoe
- Courteously
- They form over cuts
- Western Alaskan river
- Aggressive men
- Farm animal
- Young woman (French)
- Sixth month of Hebrew calendar
- Short cry
- State capital
- Rural delivery
- "Twilight Zone" creator
- Gigabyte
- Flammable hydrocarbon
- Supervises flying
- An actor who plays a principal role
- Furnace for pottery
- Fall back
- Afrikaans word for language
- Chinese city
- Fleshy
- Inventor
- Taxis
- A citizen of Spain
- Important age for aging workers (abbr.)
- Body part

CLUES DOWN

- Chinese mountain range
- Romanian city
- Fishermen cast it
- Shelter from wind
- Sign language
- Pigpen
- Make sore
- Flat metal shelves
- Forms that say who you are
- Cigar lovers' necessity
- Popular cooking ingredient
- Skin covering the head

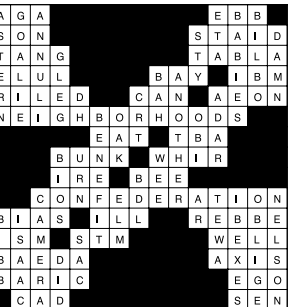


- Unshakable
- Exclamation meaning "Finally!"
- One of the wise men's gifts
- Take away from
- In accordance with the law
- Nicole Kidman's husband
- NY Giants legend
- Utilize
- Beloved Hollywood alien
- Unwell
- More destitute
- Grinded together
- Sun up in New York
- Italian-made cars
- Most sacred site in Islam
- Rip apart
- Go in a specified direction
- Freshwater mussel genus
- "_ the Man" Musical
- One thousand cubic feet

(abbr.)

- West coast time zone
- Mimic
- You can get one in summer

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:



Nivens and Antawan Anderson, Hall Employment Network - Learn Network INC.

TAKE NOTICE that: The right to redeem the following described property, to wit: **ALL AND** only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel C0320 00030 035 000, in Land Lot **234 OF** the 9th District, in the City of Covington, Newton County, Georgia,being 0.24 acre, more or less, and being Lot 32, Block A, Covington South Subdivision, as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 8, page 26, Newton County Georgia Records, which recorded plat is incorporated herein by reference and made a part of this description, located on **Morris Drive**.

WILL EXPIRE and be forever foreclosed and barred on and after the 31st day,of January 2021.

THE TAX deed to which this notice relates is dated the 4th day of December, 2018 ,and is recorded in the office of the Clerk of Superior court of Newton County Georgia, in Deed Book **3786 AT** page 608.

THE PROPERTY may be redeemed at any time before the day of January 31st 2021, by payment of the redemption price as fixed and provided by law to the undersigned at the following address: **BRUNO PROPERTIES** Management LLC. 3126 Mill St. NE Covington, Georgia, 30014

PLEASE BE governed accordingly.

PUBLIC NOTICE #117697
12/27,1/3,10,17

STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF NEWTON
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE

TO: JACOB LUNT, IN REM, ALL HEIRS KNOWN AND UNKNOWN, JSL PROPERTIES, LLC, FIRST FRANKLIN A DIVISION OF NATIONAL CITY BANK, "MERS" MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC,CAPSTONE FUNDING, LLC, CITY OF COVINGTON,

TAKE NOTICE that: The right to redeem the following described property, to wit: **ALL AND** only that parcel of land designated as Tax Parcel C007 00030 002 000, Land Lot 264 of the 9th District, in the City of Covington, Newton County, Georgia, being 0.26 acre, being shown as Lot 102 Covington Mills, Inc. Subdivision according to plat of same recorded in Plat Book 1, Page 192, public records Newton County, Georgia, which plat is by reference thereto incorporated herein and made a party hereof for a more particular and complete description.

SAID PROPERTY being known as **6130 Sorrell Street, Covington, Georgia** in accordance with the current system of numbering properties in Newton County, Georgia.

WILL EXPIRE and be forever foreclosed and barred on and after the 31st day,of January 2021.

THE TAX deed to which this notice relates is dated the 4th day of December,2018 and is recorded in the office of the Clerk of Superior court of Newton County Georgia, in Deed Book 3786 at page 615.

THE PROPERTY may be redeemed at any time before the day of January 31st 2021, by payment of the redemption price as fixed and provided by law to the undersigned at the following address: **BRUNO PROPERTIES** Management LLC. 3126 Mill St. NE Covington, Georgia, 30014

PLEASE BE governed accordingly.

PUBLIC NOTICE #117696
12/27,1/3,10,17

Public Notice

TO: DERRICK GRIFFIN

RUOLDPH AND ALAMYNA CHEN

have applied to be appointed permanent guardians of **MERRITT, STEPHAN, JINUS, CHISTION, MANDRAVEIS, JARVIS, ZAVIER AND** **AYDRION WILLIAMS** (minors). You are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. Any objection must be in writing, signed before a notary public and filed with this court before January 21, 2021 at 10:00 am.

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

PUBLIC NOTICE # 117733
01/3,10

SNAPPING SHOALS Electric Membership Corporation is attempting to notify its past members whose capital credit checks for electric service received in 2000 and 2001 were issued in July 2016 but were returned by the post office as undeliverable. A list of those members is posted at SSEMC's main office, located at 14750 Brown Bridge Road, Covington, GA 30016, and on our website at www.ssemc.com<http://www.ssemc.com/>>. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays. The last date to claim these funds is July 7, 2021. If not claimed by this date, they will be utilized as authorized by current Georgia law

PUBLIC NOTICE #117699
1/3

TRADE NAME
REGISTRATION
AFFIDAVIT
GEORGIA, NEWTON COUNTY

TO WHOM It may Concern: **PLEASE BE** advised that **MARIE N LUSTIN.**, whose address is 400 TRELAWNEY CIRCLE, COVINGTON, GA 30016 is the owner(s) of the certain business now being carried on at 400 TRELAWNEY CIRCLE, COVINGTON, GA 30016 in the following trade name, to-wit: M and M CARIBBEAN RESTAURANT that the nature of said business is: FOOD 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 16 day of DECEMBER, 2020.

PUBLIC NOTICE # 117719
12/27

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 13th day of January, 2021 at 10:00 AM. Said property is Space Shop Self Storage, 6177 Jackson Hwy, Covington, GA, 30014

LATIMORE, JERYCA L19 Heaters, handicap bed, electric wheel chair, boxes, Christmas tree, misc items. Clark, Brett K04 Fridge, tools, lawn mower, boxes, tool box, table, chairs. **BOLIA, AMANDA** 1107 Costumes, Shoes, Clothes, Bags, Guitars, Luggage, Boxes, Books, Briefcase, Amp, Samurai Swords, Small Mattress.

KRAFT, LETITIA 1043 Plastic bins, toys, boxes, scooters, Dvd player. **STEPHENS, RUBY** 1132 Clothes, plastic bins. King, Whitney 1158 Clothes, plastic container, seats for car, shovel.

CLARK, BEVERLY 1049 Chairs, Table, TV, Clothes, Mattresses, Dart Board, Night Stands, Boxes, Bags. **SIMS, MILDRED** 1150 clothes, plastic container, hamper.

LAWRENCE, DAVID G28 windshields, air compressor, misc. PEREZ, NOELIA 2020 nightstand. **PITTS, VALENCIA** A11 wooden furniture, mattresses, lamp, chairs,

See LEGALS, A7

CRISIS:

Continued from A1

COVID-19’s impact first reached Newton County as the community recorded its first positive case on March 15. Shortly after, the county’s school system opted to close over concerns about the novel virus. Local governments began to also close its doors to the public and instituted remote working plans for non-essential employees.

As of Tuesday, Dec. 29, Newton County had a cumulative total of 5,593 COVID-19 cases and 125 deaths.

Several states were forced to shut down, some longer than others, and many remain under a shutdown and/or various restrictions today. Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp was among several states’ leaders to institute COVID-19 guidelines and restrictions that included limiting restaurants and non-essential businesses and organizations to either close their doors altogether or adapt to COVID by limiting services.

Churches, civic groups and other organizations were forced to cancel in-person services and activities but then resorted to streaming meetings online.

There was a brief shortage of food in parts of the country, and there continues to be a shortage of cleaning supplies nationwide, which has led to reports of attempted price gouging.

Hospitals and health care workers were and are still being stretched thin in many parts of the the world. Many facilities were caught off guard as the number of cases soared over the early spring period, reaching their respective bed capacities and running out of PPE and ventilators, among other resources.

Millions of people were losing their jobs. Stocks were plummeting. Thousands of people were dying. And there was no cure.

On March 27, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, which was a \$2.2 trillion economic stimulus bill, was signed into law by President Donald Trump in response to the economic fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic. This included specific aid for schools, businesses and families nationwide.

Later in May, the federal government-initiated Operation Warp Speed, a “public-private” partnership to facilitate and accelerate the “development, manufacturing, and distribution of COVID-19 vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics.”

Despite struggles, Newton County residents and businesses remained resilient by finding ways to help support each other. For example, the city of Covington jumpstarted a grant program to aid small businesses.

In late August, early September, Newton County saw a surge of COVID-19 cases, which led to mask mandates and more event cancellations, including the city of Covington’s annual Fourth of July fireworks celebration and annual holiday events in Porterdale and Oxford.

Newton County’s high school football was even temporarily suspended due to an outbreak and games did not begin until early September.

Newton County Schools started the 2020-2021 school year virtually, which proved to be difficult. Thanks to diligence of the district’s leaders and decrease in the virus’ spread, schools were able to fully reopen for in-person instruction in October under specific COVID-19 guidelines.

Sizable crowds were no longer allowed thanks to COVID-19, meaning the Class of 2020’s senior year was not only cut short, but graduation ceremonies were also scaled down. Funeral homes were sadly forced to abbreviate services and limit visitations.

After months of hard work by the world’s top leading scientists, vaccines produced by Pfizer and Moderna were approved by the FDA in December and immediately distributed to be administered around the world.

Though the virus dominated the headlines in 2020, the story of COVID-19 isn’t over yet as its impact will continue to be felt for months, and likely years, from now.

LEGALS:

Continued from A6

SOFA. 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 #117705 12/27,01/3 PUBLIC AUCTION — 212 STORAGE WILL HOLD A PUBLIC SALE TO ENFORCE A LIEN IMPOSED ON SAID PROPERTY, AS DESCRIBED BELOW,PURSUANT TO THE GEORGIA SELF STORAGE FACILITY ACT,GEORGIA CODE 10-4-210 TO 10-4-215,AT	10:00 AM ON WEDNESDAY 13TH OFJANUARY, 2021. AT 212 STORAGE,67 HWY 212,COVINGTON,GA 30014. MANAGEMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO WITHDRAW ANY UNIT FROM SALE. REGISTERED OR MOTOR VEHICLES ARE SOLD "AS IS/PARTS ONLY," NO TITLES OR REGISTRATION. TENANT NAME ,GREGORY BURKE, UNIT #16,18,21,76.ITEMS STORED FURN, BXS, MISC. PUBLIC NOTICE#117739 01/3,10	PUBLIC AUCTION NOTICE OF SALE BUDGET SELF Storage of Covington, pursuant to the Georgia Self Storage Act, 10-4-213, shall conduct a public sale of the following units at 6217 Highway 278 NE, Covington, GA 30014; 770-787-0900; after 1 p.m. on Tuesday, January 19th, 2021. All bids will be accepted online through www.storageauctions.com. Budget Self Storage of Covington reserves the right to withdraw units from such sale and reject any bid. Terms of sale are cash or money order only. The following unit will be sold: • H20 Tonya Reddick	appears to contain totes and clothing. PUBLIC NOTICE# 117745 01/3,10 Trade Names TRADE NAME REGISTRATION AFFIDAVIT GEORGIA, NEWTON COUNTY TO WHOM It may Concern: PLEASE BE advised that PETER FERGUSON. , whose address is 1135A E 224TH ST, BRONX NY is the owner(s) of the certain business now being carried on at 8178 PETTY ST COVINGTON, GA 30014in the following trade name, to-wit: PDF INDUSTRIES that the nature of said	business is: FIXER UPPER WOR, TO TRUCKING BUSINESS. 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 03 day of DECEMBER, 2020. PUBLIC NOTICE# 117742 01/3,10 TRADE NAME REGISTRATION AFFIDAVIT GEORGIA, NEWTON COUNTY TO WHOM It may Concern: PLEASE BE advised that TE'RINA EEZE. , whose address is NW. #149,	COVINGTON, GA 30014is the owner(s) of the certain business now being carried on at 3142 HIGHWAY 278 in the following trade name, to-wit: PDF INDUSTRIES that the nature of said business is: CUSTOMER SERVICE/REMOTE CALL CENTER (WORK FROM HOME). 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 9TH day of DECEMBER, 2020. PUBLIC NOTICE# 117743 01/3,10

CRIME:

Continued from A1

in prison without the possibility of parole, followed by life on probation.

And a judge ordered that a Covington woman should be denied bond in October as the suspect awaited trial on charges she murdered her 5-month-old daughter.

Lakristy Jdeon White had requested that a bond be set to allow for her release from Newton County Jail where she had been held since Sept. 21 on charges of Felony Murder and Cruelty to Children following the death of Aryan White Sept. 13.

A medical examiner stated there was evidence of blunt force trauma to the child’s head and torso, as well as other injuries that had healed, according to testimony at an Oct. 15 hearing.

- The Georgia State Patrol was investigating after three people were killed in September when their vehicle crashed and caught fire as they attempted to flee from pursuing Newton County sheriff’s deputies.
- The incident Sept. 7, at the intersection of Jack Neely and Fairview roads west of Covington began when sheriff’s deputies responded to a call about two people attempting to enter automobiles in a neighborhood off Fairview Road, a spokeswoman said.
- As the suspects’ 2010 Toyota Tacoma was traveling north on Fairview Road, and being pursued by a marked sheriff’s office patrol car with its siren and emergency lights activated, it attempted to negotiate a curve to the left and crashed, caught fire and trapped the three inside, a Georgia State Patrol spokesperson said.
- Two people were charged in Newton County in August following a two-week operation in Atlanta and Macon to rescue endangered missing children.
- Kirk Waters of Covington was arrested on a charge of Felon in Possession of a Firearm; and Trevonte Shareef was charged with Obstruction and Interference with Custody.
- Waters and Shareef were arrested after a teen, who had been reported missing, was found hiding in a Rockdale County garage. U.S. Marshals told WSB-TV the girl had been trafficked for sex since she was 12 years old and she only knew the two suspects as her traffickers.
- A Covington man was charged with murder in November after his wife was found dead from a gunshot wound in a bedroom of their Cook Street home.
- Tony Lamar Holder, 48, was charged with malice murder, felony murder and other charges connected to the incident Nov. 18, said Capt. Ken Malcom of the Covington Police Department.
- According to a witness, Mr. and Mrs. Holder got into an argument which escalated to Tony Holder firing a weapon, which struck and killed Carol Holder, a report stated.
- Meanwhile, another Covington man was charged with murder in December 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

BLUE:

Continued from A1

in-person despite the sudden popularity of the mail-in option.

Obama and Clinton had outpolled their Republican opponents by a few hundred votes in each of the 2008, 2012 and 2016 elections in Newton County.

This year, Newton voters gave the Democratic presidential candidate a 6,000-vote edge over the Republican.

It was the largest margin of victory for a presidential candidate in Newton County since Republican George W. Bush defeated Democrat John Kerry by 7,000 votes in 2004 — the last time county voters gave a majority to a GOP presidential candidate.

In the four years since the 2016 presidential election, Newton County added about 20,000 registered voters to its rolls — equating to a 35% increase — and a majority apparently were Democrats.

In the 2016 primaries, about 9% more Newton County voters participated in the Republican Primary than in the Democratic Primary.

In 2020, roughly 50% more Newton voters participated in the Democratic Primary than in the GOP Primary.

As a result, any Democratic candidate in a contested race elected countywide in Newton County outpolled their Republican opponent.

Democratic challenger Dorothea Bailey-Butts defeated Republican incumbent Tommy Davis for the coroner position, and Democratic challenger Marcus Jordan ousted Republican incumbent Dana Darby from the tax commissioner position.

Incumbent Democratic Sheriff Ezell Brown easily won re-election despite being outspent almost three to one by Republican challenger Ken Malcom.

Democrat Destiny Bryant won by a wide margin over Republican Randy McGinley in the district attorney’s race, if only Newton County votes were counted.

on Keyton Drive in Covington.

He recently was transported from Gwinnett County jail to the Newton County jail in December.

McKenzie had been taken to the Gwinnett County jail after Gwinnett officers arrested him on a murder charge connected to the death of 36-year-old Jillian Myles-Walters in unincorporated Lawrenceville. Myles-Walters and the suspect reportedly had been in a prior relationship.

And a Conyers woman waived an arraignment on a murder charge Nov. 17 in Newton County Superior Court and will await trial for the May 13 fatal shooting of the girlfriend of the father of her child at a Covington apartment complex.

Dalanna Bailey, 22, allegedly fatally wounded La’Peachah Nash, 27, in the head and shot Deshawn Grayson, 20, in the shoulder at Fieldcrest Walk apartments May 13.

According to a Covington Police Department report, Bailey arrived at the apartment complex with her 11-month-old child and proceeded to get into an argument with Deshawn Grayson, the father of the child, before shooting Nash and Grayson.

- A Jasper County man was charged with the murder of a woman that sheriff’s deputies found with multiple gunshot wounds at a Covington residence in July.
- Alex Khalil Smith, 27, of Monticello was charged by the Newton County Sheriff’s Office with one count each of Felony Murder, Possession of a Firearm and Aggravated Assault in relation to the murder of

Cassandra Arnold, 32, of Conyers July 8.

Deputies reportedly responded to a call July 8 at 10:45 p.m. about someone needing help after suffering “penetrating trauma” at a residence at 270 White Birch Drive in Covington. They found the victim with multiple gunshot wounds, a spokeswoman said.

- An accused murderer waived his arraignment Nov. 10 on charges related to a May shooting at a Covington motel that left a man dead from a gunshot wound to the head.
- Terry Yates, 30, was scheduled to be arraigned in Newton County Superior Court on charges connected to a May 27 shooting at Super 8 motel on Alcovy Road at I-20 that left Nijee Anderson, 31, dead.
- Yates is charged with malice murder, felony murder, aggravated assault, possession of a firearm, and tampering with evidence
- A Newton County jury deliberated just under 90 minutes in January before finding a man guilty on multiple charges, including murder, for shooting and killing a friend in 2018.
- Miguel Angel Garcia-Martinez, 34, had been charged with the Jan. 6, 2018, murder of 27-year-old Daniel Antonio Lopez. An interpreter translated the guilty verdicts as they were read by Superior Court Judge Samuel Ozburn.
- Prosecutors said Garcia-Martinez shot Lopez four times, including once in the head, during an argument on Russell Drive. He left the scene and was arrested by authorities a short time later.

SPORTS

The Covington News

College Football

Stokes opts for NFL Draft

Former Eastside football star elects to forego senior season at UGA



University of Georgia Athletics
Eric Stokes Jr. (27) returns an interception for a touchdown against Florida. The former Eastside standout finished the regular season with four interceptions and two touchdowns. He recently announced his decision to forego his senior year with the Georgia Bulldogs and enter the 2021 NFL Draft.

By **MASON WITTNER**
mwittner@covnews.com

Eric Stokes Jr. is ready to play on Sundays.

The University of Georgia defensive back, a graduate of Eastside High School, took to his social media Monday to declare for the 2021 NFL Draft.

“First, I want to give thanks to God because without him none of this would even be possible,” Stokes stated in a Twitter post. “I want to thank my family for continuing to believe in me at my lowest and pushing me to be better. I want to give my internal thanks to the University of Georgia for giving me the opportunity to grow and develop into the man I

am today.” Stokes, a junior, went on to give credit to his coaching staff and the Georgia Bulldog fanbase for their constant support.

“So with that being said,” he added, “and after so much prayer and conversation with my family and mentors, I will forego my final year at UGA and declare for the 2021 NFL draft. I cannot wait to get to work.”

Stokes’ junior campaign was nothing short of spectacular. He started all nine of Georgia’s games and recorded 20 tackles and four interceptions — two were taken back for touchdowns.

The 2021 NFL Draft is scheduled to take place April 29 – May 1 in Cleveland, Ohio.

Year in Review



File | Special Photo
David Scharff, math teacher and assistant baseball coach at Newton High School, holds a sign honoring the senior class during NHS’ drive-through graduation ceremony May 27.

COVID shakes sports world

By **MASON WITTNER**
mwittner@covnews.com

On March 13, Newton traveled to Rockdale County for a regular season baseball game on a Friday evening.

At the time, Newton County had announced it would be the final sporting event “until further notice” in an effort to decrease the spread of COVID-19. But nobody could have predicted the ensuing ripple effect the novel virus would have on the sports world for the next several months.

The remainder of all spring athletics were canceled, forcing high school seniors to forfeit a significant chunk of the final year of their prep careers. No Senior Days were celebrated. No champions were crowned. No redemption was in sight.

Spring gave way to summer, and suddenly fall sports appeared to be in jeopardy as well.

On Monday, Aug. 17, Newton County School officials announced the indefinite suspension of all fall sports and extra-curricular activities. Coming

on the heels of other indefinite suspensions around the state, it appeared as though the plug had been irrevocably pulled on athletics for 2020.

However, just one week later, the county reinstated all sporting events. Consequently, Alcovy, Eastside and Newton were permitted to play out their respective athletics this fall and winter.

Nevertheless, the shadow of COVID-19 remained — as it continues to do so today.

2 Newton athletes pursue collegiate careers



File | The Covington News
Peachtree Academy’s Emily Earwood signs to play volleyball at Mercer University. She became the first athlete in school history to sign an athletic scholarship with a Division I program.

By **MASON WITTNER**
mwittner@covnews.com

If Newton County wasn’t on the national radar before 2020, it sure is now.

The past 12 month have been inundated with a multitude of high school student-athletes signing scholarships to play sports at the next level. These signings have come at all four local schools, in a wide array of sports, for programs spread across the

country.

The most recent crop of signees were Eastside’s Devin Brown (Murray State) and Newton’s Nyland Green (Georgia) and Darius Green (Minnesota), all of whom signed National Letters of Intent to play college football on Dec. 16.

Other notable signings in 2020 included: Eastside’s Aralyn Everett (soccer/Georgia College); Newton’s



Mason Wittner | The Covington News
Alcovy’s hoops star Unique Reed signed with Carver Bible College to further her academic and athletic career.

Blake Peacock (baseball/Bryan College); Peachtree Academy’s Emily Earwood (beach volleyball/Mercer); Alcovy’s Unique Reed (basketball/Carver Bi-

ble College); and plenty more.

Covington is a hotbed for athletic talent. Each year, it appears more and more college programs are taking notice.

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3 Dobbs first Lady Eagle to join 1,000-point club



Eastside's Alysee Dobbs became the first Lady Eagle to join the 1,000-point club against the Hampton Lady Hornets in January.

By MASON WITTNER
mwittner@covnews.com

On Jan. 18, the Eastside Lady Eagles game against the Hampton Lady Hornets was brought to a complete stop for a moment of celebration of a historic achievement by senior Alysee Dobbs.

Dobbs became the first Lady Eagle to join the 1,000 point club with a 3-pointer from the top of the key in the early part of the second quarter against the Lady Hornets. Dobbs did not know until the day before the game that she was only 14 points away from reaching this colossal achievement.

"Honestly, I didn't know I was that close until the day before at practice because my dad would never tell me because he would say 'I don't want you to think about it or get in your head about it' and the day before coach King told everybody at practice that I was 14 points away," Dobbs said.

Lady Eagles' head coach Gladys King knew that she wanted Dobbs to get her 14 points that night and was happy to see her thriving and get that achievement in such a quick fashion.

"To be honest, for me, it didn't matter how she made it. I just wanted for her to get the points that she needed to reach that milestone, which was 14 points. She is a great shooter, but she's very versatile inside and outside and that I always good," King said.

File | Special Photo

4 Newton County schools have historic football season

By MASON WITTNER
mwittner@covnews.com

A pandemic couldn't stop Newton County from completing another high school football season.

And what wondrous results it produced.

For the first time since 2009 — just the second time ever — Alcovy, Eastside, Newton and Social Circle qualified for the postseason in the same year.

The Tigers played a de facto region championship game and came minutes away from their first region title in program history.

The Eagles made it back to the state quarterfinals for the second time in three years.

The Rams knocked off nationally-ranked Brookwood and made it to the playoffs for the ninth consecutive season. They also retained the Newton Cup by defeating county rivals Alcovy and Eastside.

The Redskins finally quenched their thirst following a postseason drought that dated back to 2009.

Years from now, 2020 will be remembered as one of the most successful prep football seasons in the history of the county.



File | The Covington News

Social Circle, led by quarterback Logan Cross, reached the GHSA playoffs for the first time since 2009.



File | The Covington News

The Newton Rams retained the Newton Cup and knocked off nationally-ranked Brookwood during its 2020 season.



File | The Covington News

Eastside running back Dallas Johnson and the Eagles raced past the majority of their opposition in 2020, ending with a trip to the state quarterfinals.



File | The Covington News

Quarterback Ashton Evans and the Alcovy Tigers finished runner-up in their region.

5 Newton mourns death of track and field coach Jay Rollerson



Mason Wittner | The Covington News

Newton High School track and field assistant coach Jay Rollerson died from an apparent heart attack in May.

By MASON WITTNER
mwittner@covnews.com

Newton High School track and field assistant coach Jay Rollerson died in May from an apparent heart attack, Newton head coach Demetrice Perry-Stokes announced. He was 66.

Funeral arrangements were not immediately made available.

Perry-Stokes took to Facebook on Monday to make the announcement and share a heartfelt message about the

loss she and the Newton Ram community suffered.

"My heart is sooo heavy right now, I am really in disbelief at this moment," she said in the social media post. "I lost a great friend, mentor, and legendary coach who stuck with me from the beginning to the end."

Rollerson, referred to by many as 'Coach Rollo,' was an assistant on Perry-Stokes' staff for the past seven years after retiring from teaching. He oversaw an extremely successful period of the Rams program, which included back-to-back region championships.

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BUSINESS

The Covington News

Ways to save on family expenses

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

news@covnews.com

The pandemic sparked by the spread of the novel coronavirus COVID-19 in the winter of 2019-20 blindsided much of the world. Since the World Health Organization declared a pandemic in March, millions of people across the globe have lost their lives, while hundreds of millions more have lost their livelihoods.

Data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics indicates the unemployment rate in the United States, which was lower than 4% in the weeks prior to the WHO's pandemic declaration, was nearly 15% by mid-May. While that figure dropped to less than 9% by the end of summer, many families are still confronting financial challenges stemming from the pandemic. Some parents may still be out of work, while others are working on reduced salaries as their employers try to overcome the economic challenges posed by COVID-19.

No one knows when the pandemic will end and life



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Data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics indicates the unemployment rate in the United States, which was lower than 4% in the weeks prior to the WHO's pandemic declaration, was nearly 15% by mid-May.

will return to normal, so families facing financial uncertainty can benefit from

tightening their belts for the long haul. Thankfully, there are various ways for fami-

lies to cut costs that won't adversely affect their quality of life.

- Plan more meals. Impulse buying is one of the most costly ways that families overspend. A 2018 survey from Slickdeals.net found that the average consumer in the United States spends \$5,400 annually on impulse buys. More than 70% of impulse spending goes toward food. Families looking to cut costs can plan more meals so they know what they need when they visit the grocery store, which should reduce the amount of money they spend on spur-of-the-moment purchases.

- Simplify special occasions. It can be fun to go a little overboard for birthday parties, anniversaries and holiday gatherings. However, such spending should be seen as a luxury during a recession. Momentous occasions can be both special and inexpensive. Birthday picnics in the park or at the beach can be just as unique and memorable as lavish parties, and they won't cost nearly as much. Parents can

agree to forgo gift-giving on anniversaries or birthdays, opting instead for romantic homemade dinners.

- Think of new ways to get away. Many families canceled or postponed vacations in 2020 as travel restrictions and social distancing guidelines greatly limited travel options. While it might be possible to travel safely again in 2021, families still dealing with the fallout from COVID-19 may be hesitant to plan traditional vacations. Thankfully, there are ways to get away without breaking the bank. Many campsites are free or charge nominal fees to use their facilities, and such excursions can be great ways for families accustomed to flying and five-star hotels to enjoy new experiences.

The pandemic has posed financial challenges for millions of families. But there are ways for families to reduce their spending without cutting back on their quality of life.

Academic studies differ on impact of Trump tax cuts

By DAVE WILLIAMS

Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA — The tax cuts President Donald Trump steered through Congress in 2017 will save the average Georgia household more than \$39,000 over their lifetime, a new study has found.

But according to another broader study of tax cuts in multiple countries going back to 1965, tax cuts provide a huge windfall to big corporations and wealthy individuals without producing long-term economic growth or sustained business investment.

A study released this month by Boston University professor Laurence Kotlikoff to coincide with the third anniversary of the Trump tax cuts comes on the heels of an earlier study by the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta that estimated the gain for Georgia families at \$22,676 on average because of the impact of personal income tax reductions.

The new study, funded by the Goodman Institute for Public Policy Research, a free market think tank, includes the effect of reducing corporate taxes.

Lower corporate tax rates attract capital from abroad, raise wages and create greater economic expansion in Georgia and in other states, said John Goodman, the institute's president.

"We used to have one

of the highest corporate tax rates in the world," Goodman said. "High corporate taxes drive capital offshore and that's bad for American workers. With the lower rates we have now, we are more competitive."

The Goodman Institute study comes as President-elect Joe Biden prepares to roll back the Trump tax cuts benefiting the wealthiest Americans and businesses. However, the Democrat has vowed not to raise taxes on Americans earning less than \$400,000 a year.

Tax policy also has been issue during Georgia's two U.S. Senate runoff races, with Democratic challengers Jon Ossoff and Raphael Warnock opposing the Trump tax cuts and incumbent Republican Sens. David Perdue and Kelly Loeffler pledging to preserve them.

The Goodman Institute study shows that many Georgians would be better off in the short run if Biden's economic plan is adopted in full. That's because of Biden's proposal for a more generous child tax credit and more generous benefits for low-income seniors.

But Goodman said the Biden plan comes with long-term costs.

"When today's children become adults, their wages will be lower and the economy will be less prosperous because of

the way these benefits are funded," Goodman said.

The broader study, conducted by the London School of Economics, concluded tax cuts lead to greater income inequality but have no meaningful impact on unemployment or economic growth.

The study examined five decades of tax cuts in 18 wealthy nations from 1965 to 2015, including two Reagan-era tax cuts in 1981 and 1986, which dramatically reduced the top income-tax rate from 70% to 28%.

The study found that tax cuts promote income inequality. The share of national income flowing to the top 1% increased by about 0.8%.

While employment and economic growth fluctuated slightly following major tax cuts, the report found the impact statistically indistinguishable from zero.

The study's authors, David Hope and Julian Limberg, concluded that the momentum behind enacting tax cuts comes from the power of wealthy corporations and individuals to set public policy agendas.

"There is a large political science literature on the power of rich voters and organized business interests to shape public policies in their favor," Hope and Limberg wrote.



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The Institute for College Access and Success says the average student loan debt is \$32,731, while the median student loan monthly payment is \$222.

Tips for paying off student loan debt

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

news@covnews.com

Students and families invest heavily in higher education. Many students rely on student loans to finance their educations. In fact, students amassed \$1.56 trillion in student loan debt by 2020.

According to Forbes, American student loan debt is now the second highest consumer debt category, exceeded only by mortgage debt. The Institute for College Access and Success says the average student loan debt is \$32,731, while the median student loan monthly payment is \$222.

Some students feel like paying off student loan debt is impossible. Many loan repayment schedules kick in shortly after graduation, and certain borrowers may not yet be making enough money to afford even the minimum payments on their student loans. Thankfully, there are ways to get out from under student loan pressure.

- Investigate income-driven repayment. IDR will lower student loan payments based on your income, and some plans even promise to forgive any remaining balance once the repayment period is up. That period can take between 20 and 25 years.

- Make a move. The Rural Opportunity Zone program encourages Americans to move to rural Kansas to help discourage population decline and to give others the benefits of a lower cost of living.

Seventy-seven Kansas counties have been authorized to offer student loan payment incentives.

- Work in public service. A Public Service Loan Forgiveness program, or PLSF, enables student loan forgiveness in exchange for working for a nonprofit or working in government.

- Refinance the loans. Graduates may not be aware that they can refinance their student loans at a lower rate or choose new loan terms, including variable or fixed rates. Maturity dates can even be renegotiated in certain instances. It's possible to save thousands of dollars in interest by refinancing, particularly if borrowers have a credit score of at least 650.

- Make more than the minimum payment. Financial advisor Dave Ramsey says making the minimum payments on student loans will not get them paid off fast, and the interest could pile up as well. By paying more than the minimum payments, you can pay down the principal more quickly. Designate tax refunds and salary increases to pay down student loan debt.

- Ask for help. Speak with your boss about whether he or she can help pay off student loans. Some employers offer conditional student loan repayment to employees.

These are some of the ways that student loan debts can be repaid quickly, efficiently and creatively.

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