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# The Covington News

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### INSIDE:

## 'It was a scare to us all ...'

Read the story of an Oxford teen and how she's coping with a neurological condition by helping others deal with it, [See A2](#)



### His Word

But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking. Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.

Matthew 6:7-8, KJV

# Early voting generates record turnout

## Election officials change procedures to speed process

By **TOM SPIGOLON**  
[tspigolon@covnews.com](mailto:tspigolon@covnews.com)

COVINGTON, Ga. — Newton County election officials changed some procedures to help move voters along more quickly during the first week of advance voting in Georgia this week.

An overwhelmed state database and the county elections board's underestimate of the number wanting to use the advance voting option slowed the process and led to lines, said Phil Johnson, chairman of the county Board of Elections.

However, county officials increased the number of check-in stations and the Secretary of State's office worked to increase the speed of its database response as the week went on, Johnson said.

Statewide, more than 540,000 had voted in-person on the first four days this year — up 62% from the fourth day of the advance voting period in 2016, the Secretary of State's office reported.

By the end of the day Thursday, a total of 3,366 residents had taken advantage of advance voting through the first four days in Newton County.

A total of 890 voted on the first day, Monday, Oct. 12, but decreased to 746 on Tuesday. It then surged to 817 on Wednesday and 913 on Thursday, officials said.

The elections

**See TURNOUT, A8**

## Sheriff under fire for alleged poll actions

[See A8](#)

Special to The Covington News

Each year, the Kimberly Chance Atkins Foundation recognizes women in Newton and Rockdale counties who are either fighting or have survived a fight with breast cancer by nominating them for the Wall of Hope.

# Never lose hope

## Local foundation dedicated to honoring breast cancer patients

By **MASON WITTNER**  
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COVINGTON, Ga. — A little bit of hope can go a long way. Plastered on a wall inside the women's centers at Piedmont Newton and Piedmont Rockdale hospitals is a tribute to bravery. Both monuments are dubbed the Wall of Hope, which is a movement the Kimberly Chance Atkins Foundation (KCAF) has been behind for more than a decade to honor those diagnosed with breast cancer.

Each year, local citizens nominate women they believe show great resolve in their ongoing battle with cancer while also making a positive impact in the community. The annual recipients are then presented with a plaque on the wall inside the women's centers and recognized in a presentation.

KCAF began the Wall of Hope a few years after the organizations inception with the desire to shed a light on the noble women in the community who are in the fight of their lives.

"We wanted to highlight women that were outstanding in the community as individuals, but who has also been breast cancer survivors or going through breast cancer," KCAF Executive Director Brenda Edwards said.

Unfortunately, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, this will be the first year in quite some time that women won't be inducted into the Wall of Hope. Instead, the organization is

**See NEVER, A3**

## Alcovy Judicial Circuit

# Governor appoints McCamy next Superior Court judge

## Covington native succeeds late Horace J. Johnson Jr.

By **TOM SPIGOLON**  
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COVINGTON, Ga. — Covington native Cheveda McCamy will replace the late Horace Johnson Jr. as a Newton County Superior Court judge.

Gov. Brian Kemp on Thursday, Oct. 15, announced he was appointing McCamy to the judgeship left vacant by the July 1 death of Johnson.

McCamy, the Henry County chief assistant district attorney, will be one of five judges on the Alcovy Judicial Circuit Superior Court bench overseeing criminal and civil cases in Newton and Walton counties — including jury trials expected to resume in January.

"It truly is an honor to be selected to serve my community as your next Superior Court judge," McCamy said..



**Cheveda McCamy**

"I am excited to bring my energy, experience and vision to the court system in Newton and Walton counties. Thank you to Gov. Kemp for having confidence in me to follow the legacy of fairness and justice that Judge Johnson embodied in the Alcovy Circuit.

"I am grateful to my family, my colleagues and everyone who supported me in this journey. Together with our community, I will ensure that my courtroom is a place where all voices are heard."

The state Judicial Nominating Commission Sept. 2 recommended McCamy and Covington attorney Hillary W. Edgar out of six finalists for Kemp's appointment.

Superior Court Judge John Ott, who is chief judge for the Alcovy Circuit, said he had been "very pleased" with the experience of both candidates for the judgeship.

**See MCCAMY, A3**

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### Up Next

Ginn Motors to new Covington location

**Coming Wednesday**



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Covington

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# Oxford teen with neurological condition works to help others deal with it

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

OXFORD, Ga. — Shelby Lee’s “unusual” symptoms began showing up in March 2018. “We got her an Apple Watch that Christmas (2018) and it was through the Apple Watch we found out she had tachycardia,” said her mother, Allison Lee.

Tachycardia is a condition in which the heart beats faster than normal even when the person has not been exerting herself. However, things for

Shelby “went downhill from there,” her mother said.

“She was developing many more new symptoms and we couldn’t find a doctor that knew what was causing all of them,” she said.

Shelby, 13, suffered with the condition for a year before knowing that it was dysautonomia, Mrs. Lee said.

After pediatric cardiologist Dr. Meghann McKane of Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta referred the Lees to Leslie Bishop of Sibley Heart Center Cardiol-

ogy, Bishop diagnosed her with the neurological condition in January.

“It was scary to all of us not knowing what was wrong,” she said. “It took us a year of being referred from one doctor to another until we finally were referred to someone who had knowledge of what Shelby has.”

Dysautonomia — pronounced “dis-ough-ta-know-me-uh,” Mrs. Lee said — is a general term for a group of disorders related to a malfunctioning autonomic nervous system, according to information from The Cleveland Clinic.

The autonomic nervous system is the part of the nervous system that controls involuntary body functions such as heart rate, blood pressure, breathing, digestion, body and skin temperature and more.

When the system does not function properly, it can lead to heart and blood pressure problems, breathing trouble, loss of bladder control and other problems, according to The Cleveland Clinic.

Mrs. Lee said Shelby “was so happy someone was telling her they knew what was wrong with her and could help.”

“When we left the doctor that day, she immediately knew she wanted to raise awareness,” she said.

“She started making a list of all the things



**Shelby Lee, 13, stands in front of the Historic Courthouse in Covington with the Newton County Board of Commissioners' proclamation of October as Dysautonomia Awareness Month in the county.**

Special to  
The Covington News

she wants to do to help and she is working off that list today. She said to me, “Mom, I don’t want anyone else to have to go through what I went through, or maybe even worse, to get diagnosed.”

Shelby, the daughter of Ryan and Allison Lee, is a local volunteer for the advocacy group Dysautonomia International.

The homeschooled eighth-grader said she wanted to be active in educating and raising awareness about the disease rather than playing video games or other typical activities of 13-year-olds.

“Even though it’s work, it’s what I want to do because it’s the right thing,” Shelby said. “I enjoy helping others.”

She also said she had “a choice” about what she wanted to do after her diagnosis.

“I can either sit and do nothing and only worry about myself, or I can raise awareness and educate others on dysautonomia, so that others don’t have to go through what I went through and they can get people diagnosed faster,” she said.

Shelby also created an Instagram page, titled dysautonomia\_warrior\_, to help raise awareness and to share her story to encourage others, her mother said.

“Shelby has always had a huge heart for helping others. Anyone that meets her says she has the sweetest spirit, with so much compassion for others,” Mrs. Lee said.

Chairman Marcello Banes of the Newton County Board of Commissioners proclaimed October as Dysautonomia Awareness Month in Newton County after meeting with Shelby.

He said he decided to sign the proclamation “to shine a light on something that is a concern to me.”

“To be honest, this was the first time I was made aware of dysautonomia and I thank Miss Shelby for bringing it to my attention,” Banes said.

“I learned this month that dysautonomia can sometimes be misdiagnosed. Miss Shelby Lee educated me that this disorder affects the neurological system.

“Our citizens and affected families need to be aware of and do

individual research on other disorders that may play a part in unexplained sickness, diagnosis or misdiagnosis of people who are trying to find answers.”

Banes said he discovered the disorder is linked to conditions such as Parkinson’s disease and diabetes.

He said he also learned that when the autonomic nerves are damaged, it can cause serious problems in one or more of the systems.

“Knowing this and being made aware of this condition, gives us other opportunities to do research and have an educated conversation with our physicians and specialists,” he said.

“I applaud her for making sure that we are all aware and ensuring that #OneNewton is educated on additional medical conditions that may affect our citizens, family members and friends,” Banes said.

Mrs. Lee said Shelby is still struggling with the disorder.

“There were times — and still are — Shelby’s heart rate is 170 just sitting in the car riding down the road.”

She said, in late June, Shelby started having issues with passing out.

“We are currently working with her specialist to try to get all her symptoms under control.

“There are many, many more symptoms Shelby has but there are too many to list. We are still adding to the list.”

For more information about, visit [dysautonomiainternational.org](http://dysautonomiainternational.org).



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## OBITUARY

**Betty Jane Robinson Beam**

Betty Jane Robinson Beam, of Covington, passed away Monday, Oct. 12, 2020, at the age of 96.

In 1971, Mrs. Beam moved to Newton County and became a vibrant member of her newly adopted hometown — a community where she would live, work, and play. She retired from Covington Molding after 13 years of loyal service and was a much-loved member of Mansfield Baptist Church, where she faithfully attended worship and was actively involved in the Joy Sunday School Class.

Mrs. Beam’s hobbies of cake baking and decorating and painting folk art reflected her creative nature. She was preceded in death by her husband, Oscar Beam; son, Terry L. Waid; and parents, Paul T. and Lena F. (Bassler) Robinson.

Mrs. Beam’s memory will always remain in the hearts of her beloved family, especially her son and daughter-in-law, Jerry P. and Patricia Waid; brother and sister-in-law, Carl P. and Katherine Robinson; four grandchildren; as well as five great-grandchildren.

A graveside service for Mrs. Beam was held Thursday, Oct. 15, 2020, 11 a.m., at Lawnwood Memorial Park, 1111 Access Road, in Covington, with Dr. Jeff Perkins officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Mansfield Baptist Church, Attn: Joy Sunday School Class, 101 Woodlawn Road, Mansfield, GA 30055.

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*We Support Breast Cancer Awareness!*



# Newton BOC approves policy to increase contracts to minority businesses

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

A new policy seeks to award at least 30% of county government contracts to minority and female-owned businesses by the end of 2021.

However, it also acknowledges it may need to use “outreach efforts” to let affected businesses know about the effort.

The Newton County Board of Commissioners on Oct. 6 unanimously approved a Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Policy as an addition to

the county’s Purchasing Policy.

The addition states the county does not have a purchasing preference based on race or ethnicity “and will provide an equal opportunity for all businesses to compete for county contracts.”

“Due to the general historical under-representation of minority business enterprises in access to procurement awards, creating a truly competitive playing field may require outreach efforts to ensure that such opportunities are advertised and made fully available,”

the policy stated.

It stated the county would develop and maintain a minority business enterprise list.

The county government has a goal of awarding 30% of contracts to minority business operations in calendar year 2021, it stated.

The policy defined a “minority business enterprise” as a “small business concern” with at least 51% ownership by women, African American, Asian American, Native American, Hispanic or Pacific Islanders.

In other action, the

board unanimously approved an agreement with the Atlanta Regional Commission to allow use of federal funding for a study to create a transit master plan for the county.

The total cost of the study is estimated at \$357,414, with the county required to provide matching funds of \$71,483 to accept the grant.

The county already included the money in its 2021 budget, the chairman said.

ARC is acting as the required direct recipient

**See MINORITY, A8**

## MCCAMY:

Continued from A1

He said he had heard “all very positive” comments about McCamy from judges in the Flint Judicial Circuit in Henry County.

“The judges think very highly of her,” he said.

Ott said he did not believe it will take other judges much time to help McCamy get “up to speed” on the position.

He added it will be “great to have a full complement of judges” to hear the many cases now going through the circuit.

Ott said he expected jury trials will begin again in January after being delayed since March because of safety concerns around the COVID-19 pandemic.

The appointment makes McCamy the first Black woman to serve as an Alcovy Superior Court judge.

McCamy earlier this year was a candidate for another Superior Court judgeship now held by Eugene Benton in the Alcovy circuit. She narrowly lost a chance to compete against Monroe attorney Jeff Foster in an August runoff that Foster won.

Her appointment also was the second Superior Court judgeship Kemp filled this year following his June appointment of former District Attorney Layla Zon as the first female Superior Court judge in the Alcovy circuit.

McCamy earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology from the University of Georgia and a Juris Doctorate degree from Mercer University Walter F. George School of Law.

She is a 1991 graduate of Social Circle High School, where she was class president.

McCamy has practiced law in Georgia for more than 20 years as a prosecutor and a civil attorney.

In addition to Henry County, she has worked as an assistant district attorney for the Fulton and DeKalb District Attorney’s offices in the Crimes Against Women and Children, Major Case and Public Integrity units.

Prior to becoming a prosecutor, she worked as an associate attorney for the insurance defense firm Hall, Booth, Smith and Slover P.C. and the general practice firm of Lisa R. Roberts

and Associates P.C.

She also worked in her own private practice handling criminal law, family law, personal injury, estate planning and real estate; and taught torts and criminal law to paralegal students at Atlanta Metropolitan Technical College.

Professionally, she is a member of the bar associations in Newton, Walton and Henry counties.

She also is a member of the Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys and its Judicial Review Committee; the Georgia Trial Lawyers Association, the Georgia Association of Women Lawyers and the National District Attorneys Association.

With the Henry County District Attorney’s office, McCamy helped implement Power Moves, which is geared toward middle school students and addresses leadership development and conflict resolution.

She serves as co-chairperson of the Newton County Domestic Violence Task Force, a board member for the Newton County Boys & Girls Club,

community service committee member for the Kiwanis Club of Covington, and is a member of the Covington-Newton County Chamber of Commerce.

She also is a leader of the Couples Ministry for her church, Springfield Baptist Church.

McCamy serves as secretary of the Black Alumni Council of Mercer University Walter F. George School of Law. She also serves as co-chairperson of the Community Service Committee of NewRock Legal Society, which is an association of minority attorneys dedicated to educating the public about the law.

She helped establish the Beyond The Bar Scholarship Foundation which is a collaborative effort between NewRock and the bar associations in Newton, Walton and Rockdale counties to help high school seniors pay for college.

McCamy and husband, Marcellus McCamy, have been married for 20 years and have a daughter and son.

## NEVER:

Continued from A1

dedicating this year to the employees at the women’s centers who donate their time and energy to helping patients.

“We feel like those women are the ones that are on the front, the battle lines,” Edwards said.

“They’re the ones that are doing the screenings, the diagnostic mammograms, the ultrasounds. And they’re the ones that, when others are diagnosed, are providing comfort and reassurance that everything’s going to be OK.”

To understand the mission of Edwards’ organization, she insists, one must first understand the basis on which it was founded.

Benny Atkins lost his wife, Kimberley, to breast cancer in October 1999. Nine years after her death, Benny helped found the KCAF in Conyers, to provide support for others in Rock-

dale County who were battling against the disease. The organization has since expanded into Newton County with the same mission in mind.

KCAF is committed to the promotion of early detection of breast cancer, as well as providing information about prevention, treatment options and recovery. But perhaps the biggest promotion the company has is offering mammograms for women who are either underinsured or without insurance.

Since the end of 2019, the organization has provided help for 2,319 women — covering the costs of screenings, diagnostic mammograms and procedures.

“Benny started the foundation when he saw the need to help other breast cancer victims and survivors,” Edwards explained.

“He saw that there was a need

in the community and wanted to start something to give back.”

As they delve deeper into breast cancer awareness month, the members of KCAF want to carry on Benny’s vision by imploring women to put their health at the forefront.

“You need to keep up with your physicals and make sure that you continue with your yearly mammograms,” Edwards urged. “October is the month for breast cancer awareness. We want people to realize that it is something they should not forget, and keep up with their bodies.”

For those interested in receiving more information about the Kim Chance Atkins Foundation, please visit their website at [www.kimatkins.net](http://www.kimatkins.net).

## Community Calendar

### SATURDAY, OCT. 17

- Octoberfest Sales Event in the Downtown District, “Saturday Sideline Sale,” from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Details to be announced.

### THURSDAY, OCT. 22

- The Arts Association hosts Concert on the Square starting at noon.

### SATURDAY, OCT. 24

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

### THURSDAY, OCT. 29

- The Arts Association hosts Concert on the Square starting at noon.

### THROUGH OCT. 30

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

### SATURDAY, OCT. 31

- Octoberfest Sales Event in the Downtown District, “Sweets on the Square,” from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. participating businesses will be handing out free treats throughout the day.

### THROUGH NOV. 30

- Virtual Vampire Run from Oct. 1 through Nov. 30. All net proceeds from the race will go toward the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Prospective racers can register for the virtual run at [rungsiup.com/Race/GA/MysticFallsCovington/VirtualVampireRun](http://rungsiup.com/Race/GA/MysticFallsCovington/VirtualVampireRun) and help “take a bite out of blood cancers.”

### ONGOING

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

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# OPINIONS

The Covington News

Andy Offutt Irwin columnist

## CoronaKudzu

Because of social-distancing changes in the television industry, a particularly grand opportunity has come to a show-biz friend of mine. My friend,



an ethical and profoundly good man, is feeling a bit guilty that his good fortune is coming on the heels of a disease. And although I am a shallow man and therefore envious of him, he is also somebody that I hold dear, so our friendship has forced me into a position of saying something to assuage his guilt. I told him, “This virus for you right now is like how kudzu was for me when I was a kid.” I will explain that. But first...

• • •

This year will ever be marked for generations forward. A great many decades from now, when my college-aged son admonishes his grandchildren to wash their hands, those kids will flee from him, scurrying to the bathroom sink, yelling, “Run! Grandpop is about to tell us stories from back *in the COVID* days again!”

Some in my country have blamed China for the germ and have – with racist vitriol – so named the germ.

It is the nature of humans to sew blame, most often irrationally. And it’s the nature of our contemporary age for such blame to go viral.

*Viral.* Think about that word and its social media use for a minute. Now, please, recall the word’s root: *virus*.

**On Jan. 31,** The Virus was not expected to catch any flights to the United States from China. We were, after all, only allowing only 40,000 of “the right people” to return here.



Wikimedia Commons

**Kudzu, like a virus, spreads. Kudzu, like a virus, does not care. It covers old trees, old houses and old people.**

But the Virus did not heed the travel ban.

**On Aug. 9,** although high school students in Paulding County, Georgia, were seated six feet apart from one another in their classrooms, the virus was not expected to spread during the hallway crush as classes changed. Indeed, as the principal pointed out, that narrowly contained snaking mass of mostly mask-less teenaged humanity only lasted for 10 minutes at a time. Alas, those vira are too small to wear watches.

**And on Sept. 26,** at the ceremony for the nomination of Judge Amy Coney Barrett... well, if this had been pre-COVID days, the very photographs of that event at The White House Rose Garden would make this tall essayist squirm, because, clearly, there was not enough leg room between the folding chairs. Not to mention breathing room. On that day there was an indoor reception in the Oval Office and the Diplomatic Room. One of the guests, The Rev. Paul Scalia, the son of the late Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, wrote an apologetic letter to his parishioners stating that he was instructed to remove his mask after a – not always accurate – rapid test for the virus. As of this writing, nine of the people who attended that ceremony have tested positive for the coronavirus, including the President of the United States. Now, some 23 people in the President’s circle have tested positive.

Yet, on Oct. 3, Georgia’s Sen. Kelly Loeffler laid *exclusive* blame for the President’s illness on China. She tweeted, “Remember: China gave this virus to our President... WE MUST HOLD THEM ACCOUNTABLE.”

This is silly. As far as name-calling goes, we should no more call COVID-19 the “China Virus” than we should call it the “Stupid Brazen White People Virus.”

Decelerations such as Sen. Loeffler’s remove personal responsibility from folks who do not take minimal recommended precautions. As all our grandmothers used to tell us, “An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.” In these times, the ounce of prevention has been clearly laid out by a whole lot of epidemiologists.

Before you bring it up, yes, yes, I know, dadgummit; in late February, Dr. Anthony Fauci was not recommending masks for the general public. But if you’ll recall in this short history, there was a shortage of PPE for hospital workers in the early part of the year. And masks had yet to become the ever-plentiful colorful fashion accessory available at your grocery store checkout line.

But most importantly, boys and girls, science reserves the right to learn as it goes as more research brings more light to the situation.

• • •

Once upon a time, my mom, Tootsie, was the nurse at Newton County Comprehensive High School. (Without qualifications – that is another story.) Whenever an illness was going through the school, she used to say, “The croup is spreading like the kudzu.”

Kudzu, like a virus, does that; it spreads. Kudzu, like a virus, does not care. Kudzu covers old trees, old houses, old cars, and old people.

In my tender tween-aged years, goodly chunks of my summers were spent with my neighborhood friends, hacking with our machetes through the thick and established kudzu on a hill near my house.

(Yes, our mamas let us buy Army surplus machetes. We loved sharpening them. We were gleeful to have an excuse to say, “bastard file.”) We cut long tunnels through the stuff. There was a white oak tree with two-inch-thick vines dangling from the highest branches. We cut those vines at the ground level. We nailed foot-long 2-by-4 boards onto the trunk of the tree so we could climb to a dangerously high branch. We swung on those vines, Tarzan-style, over the creek. It was insanely fun.

One morning during the summer when I was 11, I was at the grocery store with my mom. We ran into old Mr. Hanksaw.

We all greeted each other. Mr. Hanksaw looked at me and asked, “And how are you spending this summer, young man?”

I told him of our kudzu adventures in the enthusiastic tones as I have just shared with you.

His entire head reddened. His finger appeared in my face. And his conspiracy theory came at me in rage and bigotry and spittle. He told me how kudzu is the scourge of the South. How the yellow menace J-ps convinced us to take the kudzu to destroy our farms and our homes before they sent their planes to Pearl Harbor in 1941.

My mom put her arm around my shoulder, shoved our shopping buggy ahead, and in her best Agnes Morehead voice declared, “Good day, Mr. Hanksaw.”

On our way home I was feeling pretty shaky – confused, scared, and guilt-ridden. But my mom said, “Now, there’s a bona fide mean old man. He sits around all day thinking about the people he hates and new ways to hate ‘em.” She thought for a moment. “Your granddaddy planted kudzu on his farm to cut down on erosion. Kudzu is an exotic plant. We didn’t know how it would get away from us.” When we got home, she said, “Now, go play in your contemptible kudzu, and be careful.”

• • •

Alright, y’all, keep showing kindness and care for one another by wearing your masks. Keep washing your hands. Be steadfast, And be careful.

*Andy Offutt Irwin is an American storyteller, singer-songwriter, and humorist. He was born and raised in Covington. He may be reached at [andy@andyirwin.com](mailto:andy@andyirwin.com).*

Rev. Lyn Pace columnist



Tom Spigolon | The Covington News

**Voters stand in line outside the Newton County Administration Building in Covington ready to cast their ballot.**

## Blessings and curses of voting

I recently led an opening reflection at a meeting of the faculty at Oxford College where I talked about blessings.



The practice of offering blessings seems rare these days. There was a time when blessings took place regularly – before a meal, as a group set off for a journey, when a child entered the world, at the start of a marriage. I asked our faculty to think about a moment during their week when they felt blessed and then enter the name of the one that blessed them. Thankfully, they participated and flooded the chat with their blessings!

I relish in my calling to a vocation that requires me to think about blessings and then offer them. I am also grateful to have the opportunity to share these blessings in formal ways at Convocations, Commencement ceremonies, weddings and funerals, and even in faculty meetings.

In the gospel of Matthew, Jesus gave one of his most familiar sermons, the Sermon on the Mount. It is full of blessings. Blessed are the poor in spirit. Blessed are those who mourn. Blessed are the meek. Blessed are the merciful. Blessed are the peacemakers. At the end of the list of blessings, he says that even those cursed on his account are blessed. “Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you” (Matthew 5:12 NRSV).

As we vote in one of the most consequential elections in November, I am feeling blessed knowing that 2020 is the centennial anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment on August 18, 1920. The women – known and unknown – in history who persisted through constant oppression to make it to that day bless me. It took activists and reformers close to 100 years to win women the right to vote.

While I feel that blessing today on the one hand, I also feel the curse of racism and white supremacy and those who kept

too many people from voting even after 1920. Civil rights activist, Fannie Lou Hamer, once said, “I had never heard, until 1962, that black people could register and vote.” She was 44 years old, and she spoke those words 42 years after the first women cast their vote at the ballot box. Still today, voter suppression plagues our society.

Voting is a right and a privilege according to the United States Constitution, but it is not mandatory. For me, voting is a blessing, and I know how privileged I am to say that and to be able to do it. The path to voting for far too many has not been easy. Roadblocks have been and continue to be erected for some (often those not in power and/or most vulnerable). That is wrong or to put it more theologically, it is a sin.

In his book of blessings, *To Bless the Space Between Us*, John O’Donohue offers a blessing for citizenship that includes these lines:

*The industry of distraction  
Makes us forget  
That we live in a universe.*

*We have become converts  
To the religion of stress  
And its deity of progress;*

*That we may have courage  
To turn aside from it all*

*And come to kneel down before the poor,  
To discover what we must do,  
How to turn anxiety  
Back into anger,  
How to find our way home.*

If you would like to read the entire blessing with some commentary, I recommend this website: <https://onbeing.org/blog/parker-palmer-finding-your-way-home-in-anxious-times/>.

If you decide you would like to lean into O’Donohue’s blessing, please be sure you at least vote first.

*The Rev. Dr. Lyn Pace is a United Methodist minister and college chaplain who lives in Oxford, Georgia with his spouse and 7-year-old.*

## The Covington News

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# CLASSIFIEDS & LEGALS

The Covington News

## CLASSIFIEDS

### Yard Sales

Yard & Estate Sales			
26 NORTH Broad St., Porterdale Oct 22-24 9am-6pm (rain or shine)			
APPLIANCES, FURNITURE, Household items, and more.			
6 7 8 - 3 5 8 - 6 3 3 7			
PARKING	IN	rear	

### Jobs

### Help Wanted

**DAYCARE REOPENING!** Caring, Excited, Dependable Part-time Teachers needed for daytime 730a-1130am, and 8a-12p until we extend care hours. Call 770-905-6708 Ms Sherri

**HOTEL HELP WANTED**  
**HELP WANTED** hotel front desk. 2 years experience and Computer knowledge Housekeeping help wanted 1 year experience. Call 770-788-8919.

**SEEKING:** **LOVING**  
dependable child care Teachers. Excellent work environment. Apply in person at Kids R Great. 2235 Dixie Road across from East Newton Elementary.

## The Covington News

Place your  
ad here!  
770-787-6397

## LEGALS

### Public Notices

#### Abandoned Vehicles

**ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE (TOWING OR STORAGE COMPANY)**

**YOU ARE** hereby notified, in accordance with OCGA 40-11-19 (a) (2), that each of the below-referenced vehicles are subject to a lien and petition may be filed in court to foreclose a lien for all amounts owed. If the lien is foreclosed, a court shall order the sale of the vehicle to satisfy the debt.

**THE VEHICLES** are currently located at 218 GUM CREEK ROAD, OXFORD, GA 30054

**THE VEHICLES** subject to liens as stated above are identified as:

**VEHICLE MAKE:** DODGE  
**YEAR:** 2018  
**MODEL:** JOURNEY  
**VEHICLE ID** #  
3C4PDCAB8JT183155  
**VEHICLE LICENSE** #: CIK3678  
**STATE:** GA

**VEHICLE MAKE:** CHEVROLET  
**YEAR:** 2016  
**MODEL:** SILVERADO  
**VEHICLE ID** #:  
1G1C1CUEG7GF250951  
**VEHICLE LICENSE** #: CFX9311  
**STATE:** GA

**ANYONE WITH** an ownership interest in any of these vehicles should contact the following business immediately:

**M & M Towing & Recovery, LLC**  
**218 GUM** Creek Rd  
**OXFORD, GA** 30054  
**678-712-9571**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117433**  
**10/18,25**

**ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE (TOWING OR STORAGE COMPANY)**

**2008 SUZUKI** SV650  
**JS1VP53A782101078**

**YOU ARE** hereby notified, in accordance with OCGA 40-11-19 (a) (2), that the above-referenced vehicle is subject to a lien and a petition may be filed in court to foreclose a lien for all amounts owed. If the lien is foreclosed, a court shall order the sale of the vehicle to satisfy the debt.

**THE VEHICLE** is currently located at 3195 Hwy 81 South, Covington, GA 30016. Anyone with an ownership interest in this vehicle should contact the following 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 #117415**  
**10/11,18**

**ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE PETITION ADVERTISEMENT**

**YOU ARE** hereby notified, in accordance with O.C.G.A. Section 40-11-19.1, that petitions were filed in the Magistrate Court of NEWTON County to foreclose liens against the vehicles listed below for all amounts owed. If a lien is foreclosed, the Court shall order the sale of the vehicle to satisfy the debt. The present location of the vehicles is: 9179 Aaron Dr. Covington, GA 30014.

**ANYONE WITH** an ownership

### JUDICIAL POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

Pursuant to O.C.G.A. §15-11-50(f), the Superior Court Judges of the Alcovy Judicial Circuit are seeking qualified applicants for the position of full time Juvenile Court Judge for the Alcovy Judicial Circuit which includes the following counties: Newton and Walton. Two (2) applicants will be appointed as full time Juvenile Court Judges, one (1) of whom will have an office in Newton County and the other will have an office in Walton County.

These will be four year appointments by a majority vote of the Superior Court Judges in the circuit. Each full time position will become effective January 1, 2021. Qualified applicants must be at least thirty (30) years of age, must have been a citizen of the state of Georgia for three (3) years, must have practiced law for five (5) years, and must be a member of the State Bar in good standing. A Juvenile Court Judge shall be eligible for reappointment.

Travel throughout the circuit and some limited state travel will be required. It shall be unlawful for a full time judge to engage in any practice of law outside his or her role as a Juvenile Court Judge. Salary and benefits will be provided consistent with O.C.G.A. §15-11-52.

Those persons interested may apply by sending a resume with cover letter to the Hon. John M. Ott, Chief Judge, Alcovy Judicial Circuit, 303 South Hammond Drive, Suite 221, Monroe, Georgia 30655. Only applications received by December 4th, 2020, will be considered.

# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

### FOOT CARE

**METRO**  
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Specialty treatment of the Foot and Ankle serving Lithonia, Covington and the surrounding areas.

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### HEALTH CARE

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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](http://www.advirhealthcare.com) and click on careers to apply for interview. or call 404.348.2643 ext 702.

interest in a vehicle listed herein may file an answer to the petition on or before: 10-28-2020

**ANSWER FORMS** may be found in the Magistrate Court Clerk's office located at: Newton Court House

**FORMS MAY** also be obtained online at [www.georgiamagistratecouncil.com](http://www.georgiamagistratecouncil.com).

**2000 DODGE DURANGO**  
**1B4HS28N5YF110198**  
**20-3176AV**

**1995 CHEVROLET S10**  
**1GCCS1448S8205953**  
**20-2505AV**

**2000 FORD F150**  
**1FTRX17W7YNC19703**  
**20-2500AV**

**1993 CHEVROLET G20**  
**1GBEG25K1PF344942**  
**20-3268AV**

**2000 FORD TAURUS**  
**1FAFP53U1YA167951**  
**20-3265AV**

**1998 TOYOTA CAMRY**  
**4T1BG22K6WU286366**  
**20-3270AV**

**2006 SUZUKI FORENZA**  
**KL5JD56Z9K6398453**  
**20-3269AV**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117428**  
**10/18,25**

#### Alcoholic Beverage

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

**BROWNBRIDE TEXACO, inc.**  
**TAHIR N. Khan**  
**15036 BROWN Bridge**  
**COVINGTON, GA** 30016

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

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117405**  
**10/18,11/1**

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

**NORA BUSINESS, LLC**  
**DBA NEIGHBORS MARKET**  
**ABIGAIL L POWELL**  
**14656 BROWN BRIDGE RD**  
**COVINGTON, GA** 30016

**OCCUPATION TAX/BUSINESS**

License Contact:  
**TINA WATERS**  
**BUSINESS LICENSE Clerk**  
**TWATERS@CO.NEWTON.GA.US**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117424**  
**10/18,11/1**

#### Bids

**THE CITY** of Covington is accepting proposals from qualified firms to obtain benefits consulting and broker of record services for the City of Covington's benefits program. The benefits program includes medical, dental, vision, life, and ancillary/voluntary benefits for employees of the city as well as the city's wellness program. Sealed proposals are due by 10:00 am on Friday, November 6, 2020.

**REQUEST FOR** Proposals and additional information may be obtained at City Hall or by accessing the request for proposals on the City's website at [HTTPS://WWW.CITYOFCOVINGTON.ORG/INDEX.PHP?SECTION=BUSINESS-OPPORTUNITIES](https://www.cityofcovington.org/index.php?section=BUSINESS-OPPORTUNITIES)

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

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117431**  
**10/18,25**

**THE CITY** of Covington is seeking bids for the purchase of light poles and arms as specified in exhibit "A" of the bid packet

**SEALED BIDS** must be delivered to City Hall, 2194 Emory Street NW, Covington, GA 30014, Attn: Scott Cromer no later than 10:00am on Monday, October 26, 2020. Bids will be opened and read aloud at that time.

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

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

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117434**  
**10/18,25**

#### Citations

##### CITATION

**CHERYLE D. BROOKS** has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the **Estate of LINDA MARIE MOORE**, deceased. (The applicant has also applied for waiver of bond and/or grant of

See LEGALS, A6

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STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS FOR THE WEEK OF 10/18/20

EDUCATION /Career Training

Online Pharmacy Technician Training New Students Only. Call & Press 1. Financial Aid Available for those who qualify. 100% online Courses. Call 855-212-7763.

Medical Billing and Coding Training. New Students Only. Call and Press 1. 100% Online courses. Financial Aid Available for those who qualify. Call 833-628-2698.

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

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

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MISCELLANEOUS

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**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)

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## POSITION AVAILABLE: ADMINISTRATIVE CLERK

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



## POSITION AVAILABLE: GROUNDSKEEPER

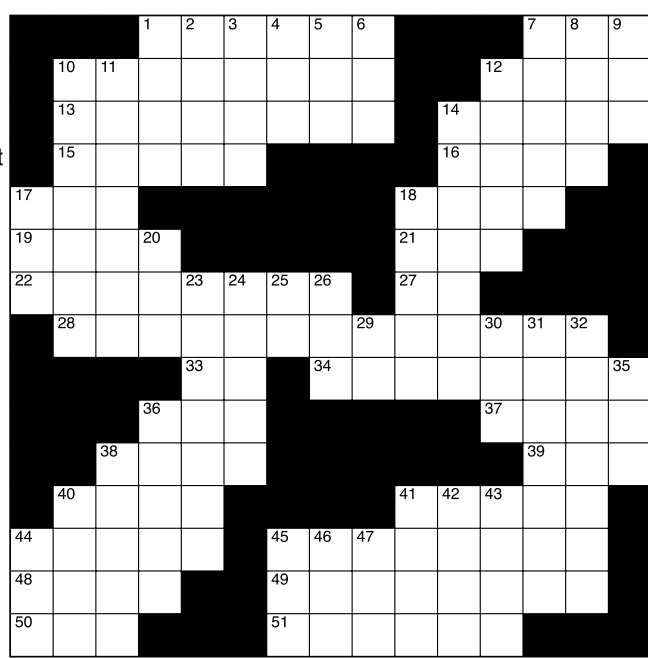
The City of Oxford is accepting applications for the position of Groundskeeper. This position is responsible for operating mowing equipment to maintain grounds of parks, trails, and city properties, and maintaining trees and plantings. Minimum qualifications include experience with equipment such as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

#### CLUES ACROSS

- Lunar crater
- Upstate NY airport (abbr.)
- Fruit
- Seventh avatar of Vishnu
- Organism that grows without air
- Heals
- A book has one
- Open
- Twit
- Plant of the mint family
- Soon
- Witch
- Long, mournful complaint
- Killer clown film
- Keeps us occupied
- Influential lawyer
- Formation of concepts
- Insecticide
- Swiss river
- Actress Lucy
- Unit of g-force
- Can repel attackers
- Essential oil used as perfume
- Cut into small pieces
- Mexican agricultural worker
- Best pitchers
- Benign tumors
- Danish krone
- Looms above

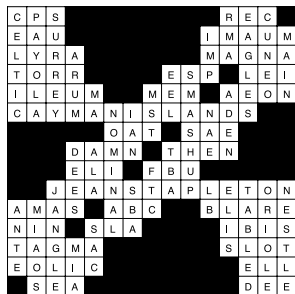
#### CLUES DOWN

- Make a map of
- Cain and —
- Dried-up
- Corporate exec (abbr.)
- Trading floor hand gesture
- Strongly alkaline solution
- Yemen capital
- Military leader (abbr.)
- Maintains possession of
- Afternoon show
- Imaginary being
- Rearrange
- Holy person or sage
- \_\_\_ Mahal
- Bonbone
- Brooklyn hoopster
- Intervened
- Extremely angry
- Indicates position
- Chinese surname
- Potato state
- When you think you'll get there
- \_\_\_ Falls
- Bullfighters
- Born of
- Small fishes
- "Father of chemical warfare"
- Waste matter
- Skin disease
- Scandinavian mythological



god  
43. \_\_\_ and haws  
44. Villain  
45. Tell on  
46. Difficulty  
47. Not old

#### LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:



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**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 NOVEMBER 2, 2020, next, at ten o'clock, a.m.

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

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117379**  
**10/4,11,18,25**

**CITATION**

**DAVID ALAN** DINGLER has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the **Estate of HARVEY JAMES DINGLER**, 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 NOVEMBER 2, 2020, next, at ten o'clock, a.m.

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

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117377**  
**10/4,11,18,25**

**CITATION**

**DAVID M.** BOUNDS has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the **Estate of JOHN W. BOUNDS**, 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 NOVEMBER 2, 2020, next, at ten o'clock, a.m.

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

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117378**  
**10/4,11,18,25**

**CITATION**

**DOROTHY BRANTLEY** has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the **Estate of WILLIE BERNARD BRANTLEY, 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 NOVEMBER 2, 2020, next, at ten o'clock, a.m.

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

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117299**  
**10/4,11,18,25**

**CITATION**

**JACQUELINE E.** RAINEY has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the **Estate of MELVIN AUTHUR HENRY LESTER**, 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 NOVEMBER 2, 2020, next, at ten o'clock, a.m.

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

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117376**  
**10/4,11,18,25**

**CITATION**

**JOHN L.** DYKES has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the **Estate of JOHN LEE DYKES, 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 NOVEMBER 2, 2020, next, at ten o'clock, a.m.

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

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117374**  
**10/4,11,18,25**

**CITATION**

**KIMBERLY R.** SMILEY-DENSLEY has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the **Estate of HENRY SMILEY, 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 NOVEMBER 2, 2020, next, at ten o'clock, a.m.

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

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117373**  
**10/4,11,18,25**

**CITATION**

**LOURIE WILLIAMS** has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the **Estate of GEORGE WILLIAMS**, 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 NOVEMBER 2, 2020,

next, at ten o'clock, a.m.

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

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117372**  
**10/4,11,18,25**

**CITATION**

**MICHAEL A.** HIGHT has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the **Estate of BETTY HIGHT DEVOE**, 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 NOVEMBER 2, 2020, next, at ten o'clock, a.m.

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

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117375**  
**10/4,11,18,25**

**CITATION**

**RE: ESTATE of DOROTHY PETERS THOMPSON, Deceased**

**SANDRA LYNN BANKS, Executrix** has petitioned for Final Settlement of Accounts and Discharge from Office and all Liability. All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause as to why said petition should not be granted. All objections must be in writing and filed with this Court on or before November 2, 2020, at ten o'clock am.

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

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117436**  
**10/18**

**CITATION**

**RE: ESTATE of EDDIE LEE ELLISON, SR., Deceased**

**EDDIE LEE ELLISON, JR., Executrix** has petitioned for Final Settlement of Accounts and Discharge from Office and all Liability. All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause as to why said petition should not be granted. All objections must be in writing and filed with this Court on or before November 2, 2020, at ten o'clock am.

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

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117441**  
**10/18**

**CITATION**

**RE: ESTATE of ERIC H. UNGER, Deceased**

**HENRY E. UNGER, Executrix** has petitioned for Final Settlement of Accounts and Discharge from Office and all Liability. All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause as to why said petition should not be granted. All objections must be in writing and filed with this Court on or before November 2, 2020, at ten o'clock am.

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

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117439**  
**10/18**

**CITATION**

**RE: ESTATE of GAYNELL D. ELLISON, Deceased**

**EDDIE LEE ELLISON, Executrix** has petitioned for Final Settlement of Accounts and Discharge from Office and all Liability. All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause as to why said petition should not be granted. All objections must be in writing and filed with this Court on or before November 2, 2020, at ten o'clock am.

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

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117440**  
**10/18**

**CITATION**

**RE: ESTATE of GEORGIA ANNE C. WHITLOCK, Deceased**

**HILLARY W. EDGAR, ESQ., Administrator** has petitioned for Final Settlement of Accounts and Discharge from Office and all Liability. All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause as to why said petition should not be granted. All objections must be in writing and filed with this Court on or before November 2, 2020, at ten o'clock am.

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

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117442**  
**10/18**

**CITATION**

**RE: ESTATE of GRACE DEARING BUDD-SPRADLEY, Deceased**

**GARY K. BUDD, Executrix** has petitioned for Final Settlement of Accounts and Discharge from Office and all Liability. All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause as to why said petition should not be granted. All objections must be in writing and filed with this Court on or before November 2, 2020, at ten o'clock am.

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

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117438**  
**10/18**

**CITATION**

**RE: ESTATE of JAMES B. WHITLOCK, SR., Deceased**

**HILLARY W. EDGAR, ESQ., Administrator** has petitioned

for Final Settlement of Accounts and Discharge from Office and all Liability. All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause as to why said petition should not be granted. All objections must be in writing and filed with this Court on or before November 2, 2020, at ten o'clock am.

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

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117443**  
**10/18**

**CITATION**

**RE: ESTATE of RAYMOND THOMAS SMITH, SR., Deceased**

**TARA THOMAS ODOM, Executrix** has petitioned for Final Settlement of Accounts and Discharge from Office and all Liability. All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause as to why said petition should not be granted. All objections must be in writing and filed with this Court on or before November 2, 2020, at ten o'clock am.

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

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117436**  
**10/18**

**CITATION**

**SONYA L.** POWERS has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the **Estate of MILDRED ARIE HEARD**, 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 NOVEMBER 2, 2020, next, at ten o'clock, a.m.

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

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117380**  
**10/4,11,18,25**

**CITATION**

**THE PETITION of BALINDA E. MILLS, widow/widower of FREDERICK LEE MILLS,** 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 November 2, 2020, next at ten o'clock a.m.

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

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117381**  
**10/4,11,18,25**

**CITATION**

**THE PETITION of MARY H. PINSON, widow/widower of JAMES F. PINSON,** 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 November 2, 2020, next at ten o'clock a.m.

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

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117383**  
**10/4,11,18,25**

**CITATION**

**THE PETITION of SHARON LEFTWICH, widow/widower of MICHAEL ROYSTER LEFTWICH,** 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 November 2, 2020, next at ten o'clock a.m.

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

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117382**  
**10/4,11,18,25**

**CITATION**

**TO: DYWANE JOHNSON AND ANTOINETTE KITCHENS**

**SHEIA CARLYLE** has filed Temporary Letters of Guardianship of the Person(s) **cannon Johnson** minor(s). All objections must be in writing and filed with this Court on or before November 2, 2020 at ten o'clock, a.m.

**MELANIE M.** Bell, Judge  
**BY: DANYELL Thomas**  
**CLERK, PROBATE Court**  
**NEWTON COUNTY, Georgia**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117435**  
**10/18,25**

**CITATION**

**TO: UNKNOWN FATHER & ALL INTERESTED PARTIES**

**DONNA REID** has filed Temporary Letters of Guardianship of the Person(s) **CAIDEN SIMMONS** minor(s). All objections must be in writing and filed with this Court on or before October 26, 2020 at ten o'clock, a.m.

**MELANIE M.** Bell, Judge  
**BY: DANYELL Thomas**  
**CLERK, PROBATE Court**  
**NEWTON COUNTY, Georgia**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117419**  
**10/11,18**

**NOTICE**

**RE: PETITION of** Nancy Gail Bialock, to Probate Will in Solemn Form, Estate of Zelma Jayne Clary, Deceased

**TO: RAQUEL** Riley Tillman

**THIS IS** to notify you to file objection, if there is any, to the Petition of

Nancy Gail Bialock to Probate **WILL IN** Solemn Form, Estate of Zelma Jayne Clary.

**BE NOTIFIED FURTHER:** All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All pleadings/objections must be signed before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your pleadings/objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel at the following address/telephone number for the required amount of filing fees. All objections must be filed by November 2, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

**MELANIE M. BELL**  
**PROBATE JUDGE**

**BY: MARCIA** Wynne  
**CLERK OF PROBATE COURT**  
**1132 USHER STREET**  
**COVINGTON, GA 30014**  
**770 784 2045**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117384**  
**10/4,11,18,25**

**Corporations**

**NOTICE IS** given that articles of incorporation that will incorporate We Are People Helping People, Inc. have been delivered to the Secretary of State for filing in accordance with the Georgia Nonprofit Corporation Code. The initial registered office of the corporation is located at 5174 Hackett Street, NE, Covington, GA 30014 and its initial registered agent at such address is KNZ Enterprises, Ltd. Co.

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117430**  
**10/18,25**

**NOTICE OF CHANGE OF CORPORATE NAME**

**NOTICE IS** given that articles of amendment which will change the name of Trust Security, Inc. to DMK Jasper, Inc. have been delivered to the Secretary of State for filing in accordance with the Georgia Business Corporation Code. The registered address of the corporation is PO Box 114, Mansfield, GA, 30055.

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117408**  
**10/11,17**

**NOTICE OF Intent TO INCORPORATE**

**NOTICE IS** given that Articles of Incorporation, which will incorporate Mark & Kim's Restorations 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 will be located at 6128 Green Acres Drive SW, Newton County, Covington, GA, 30014, and its initial registered agent at such address is Mark Logan.

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117358**  
**10/11,18**

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO INCORPORATE**

**NOTICE IS** given, that Articles of Incorporation which will incorporate **Burroughs Trucking LLC**, a for-profit corporation, will be delivered to the Secretary of State for filing in accordance with the Georgia Business Corporation Code. (O.C.G.A. Sec. 14-2-202.1)

**THE INITIAL** registered office of the corporation will be located at 125 Lakeside Trail, Covington, Newton County, Georgia 30016 and its initial registered agent at such address is Jerome Burroughs.

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117432**  
**10/18,25**

**Debtors Creditors**

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

**ALL CREDITORS of the Estate of Joyce Vaughn Tingley**, late ofNewton County, deceased, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.

**THIS 181H** day of September, 2020.

**VICKI A.** Hennecy, Executrix for **THE ESTATE** of Joyce Vaughn Tingley  
**822 COOPER Way**  
**LAWRENCEVILLE, GEORGIA**  
**30046**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117354**  
**10/4,11,18,25**

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the **Estate of BETTY ZANE EDWARDS**, 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 22nd** day of September, 2020.

**WALLACE E. EDWARDS, JR.**  
**2780 BROUGHTON RD**  
**NEWBORN, GA 30056**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117327**  
**9/27/10/4,11,18**

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the **Estate of CLAUDE MCKENZIE CAMPBELL**, 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 September, 2020.

**DEANNA TAMARA CAMPBELL**  
**371 SUMMIT VIEW DRIVE**  
**MCDONOUGH, GA 30253**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117334**  
**9/27,10/4,11,18**

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the **Estate of CLYDE MARVIN BOWEN**,

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 22nd** day of September, 2020.

**ELIZABETH POPE**  
**2173 CONYERS ST.**  
**COVINGTON, GA 30014**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117331**  
**9/27,10/4,11,18**

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of ELLA FAY PATTERSON, deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law.

**THIS THE 16th** day of September, 2020.

**MARIO S.** Ninfo, Attorney for **PAIGE STODDARD**, Administrator  
**1198 CLARK St., NW**  
**COVINGTON, GA 30014**  
**770 784 8000**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117320**  
**9/27,10/4,11,18**

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

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

**BONNIE KITCHENS**  
**5121 SWANN ST, SW**  
**COVINGTON, GA 30014**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117418**  
**10/11,18,25, 11/1**

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the **Estate of ERNESTINE T. SILVERMAN**, 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 15th** day of SEPTEMBER, 2020.

**DERWIN BRYAN** Davis, Esquire, CFP  
**P.O. BOX 82870**  
**CONYERS, GEORGIA 30013**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117311**  
**9/27,10/4,11,18**

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the **Estate of GARY JOSEPH SPRINGSTON**, 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 17th** day of September, 2020.

**SHAWN SPRINGSTON**  
**205 EWING DRIVE**  
**SOCIAL CIRCLE, GA 30025**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117329**  
**9/27,10/4,11,18**

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the **Estate of GENEVIEVE M. JONES**, 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 28th** day of September, 2020.

**ALAN D. JONES**  
**121 HEATON ROAD**  
**COVINGTON, GA 30016**</



**THE RELIEF** demanded in the complaint.

**THIS 17TH** day of September, 2020.

**CLERK OF** Superior Court  
**LINDA D.** Hays  
**NEWTON COUNTY,** Georgia

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117388**  
**10/11,18,25,11/1**

**Foreclosures**

**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 **Charles R Davis** to Newton Federal Bank, dated July 27, 2012, recorded in Deed Book 3029, Page 571, Newton County, Georgia Records, as last transferred to HVRML Trust 2019-1 by assignment recorded in Deed Book 3927, Page 563, Newton County, Georgia Records, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of FIFTY THOUSAND AND 0/100 DOLLARS (\$50,000.00), with interest thereon as set forth therein, there will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the courthouse door of Newton County, Georgia, or at such place as may be lawfully designated as an alternative, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in November, 2020, the following described property:

**SEE EXHIBIT "A" ATTACHED**  
**HERE TO AND MADE A PART**  
**HEREOF**

**THE DEBT** secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of default, failure to pay the indebtedness as and when due and in the manner provided in the Note and Security Deed. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, as provided in the Security Deed and by law, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given).

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

**HVRML TRUST 2019-1** is the holder of the Security Deed to the property in accordance with OCGA § 44-14-162.2.

**THE ENTITY** that has full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the mortgage with the debtor is: BSI Financial Services, 11350 McCormick Road, EP II, Ste 903, Hunt Valley, MD 21031, 866-581-4495.

**TO THE** best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party in possession of the property is Charles R Davis or a tenant or tenants and said property is more commonly known as **88 McGiboney Road, Covington, Georgia 30016**. **THE SALE** will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the security deed.

**HVRML TRUST 2019-1** as **ATTORNEY** in Fact for **CHARLES R Davis**  
**MCCALLA RAYMER** Leibert Pierce, LLC

**1544 OLD Alabama Road**  
**ROSWELL, GA 30076**  
**WWW.FORECLOSUREHOTLINE.NET**

**EXHIBIT "A"**  
**ALL THAT** tract of parcel of land lying and being in Land Lot 102, 10th District of Newton County, Georgia, as per plat of survey for Sidney E. Bailey by Robert M. Buhler, L.S. #1403, dated December 22, 1981, said plat being incorporated herein and made a part hereof by reference, and being more particularly described as follows:

**BEGINNING AT** a nail and cap set in pavement, said nail and cap being North 01 degree 30 minutes East 895 feet along the east paved edge of McGiboney Road extended straight to the center of Salem Road (80' right-of-way); thence from said nail and cap, North 03 degrees 56 minutes East 70.00 feet to a point; thence North 84 degrees 30 minutes East 23.0 feet to a 1/2" iron rod set; thence North 84 degrees 30 minutes East 175.00 feet to an iron pin found; thence South 03 degrees 56 minutes West 70.00 feet to an iron pin found; thence South 84 degrees 30 minutes West 175.00 feet to a 1/2 iron rod set; thence South 84 degrees 30 minutes West 23.0 feet to the nail and cap which is the said POINT OF BEGINNING. Located hereon is a one story frame residence known as 88 McGiboney Road.

**THIS BEING** the same property deeded to Sidney E. Bailey by deed recorded at Deed Book 161, page 603, Newton County Records.

**MR/CA 11/3/20**  
**OUR FILE** no. 5410019 - FT17

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117360**  
**10/4,11,18,25,11/1**

**NOTICE OF SALE UNDER**  
**POWER, NEWTON COUNTY**

**PURSUANT TO** the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by **John W. Gordon** and **Barbara L. Gordon** to Option One Mortgage Corporation, a California Corporation dated 9/21/2006 and recorded in Deed Book 2322 Page 152 Newton County, Georgia records; as last transferred to or acquired by Deutsche Bank National Trust Company as Trustee for HSI Asset Securitization Corporation Trust 2007-OPT1, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2007-OPT1, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of \$94,240.00, with interest at the rate specified therein, there will be sold by the undersigned at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the Courthouse door of Newton County, Georgia (or such other area as designated by Order of the Superior Court of said county), within the legal hours of sale on November 3, 2020 (being the first Tuesday of

**TERMINATION JUDGMENT**

**GEORGIA LAW** provides that you can permanently lose your rights as a parent. A Petition to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed requesting the Court to terminate your parental rights to your child. A copy of said Petition to Terminate Parental Rights can be obtained from the Clerk of the Newton County Juvenile Court. A Court hearing of your case has been scheduled for the 17th day of December, 2020, at 1:00 p.m., at the Newton County Juvenile Court, Newton County Judicial Center, 1132 Usher Street, NW, Covington, Georgia 30014.

**IF YOU** fail to appear, the Court can terminate your rights in your absence.

**IF THE** Court at the trial finds that the facts set out in the Petition to Terminate Parental Rights are true and that termination of your rights will serve the best interests of your child, the Court can enter a judgment ending your rights to your child.

**IF THE** judgment terminates your parental rights, you will no longer have any rights to your child. This means that you will not have the right to visit, contact, or have custody of your child or make any decisions affecting your child or your child's earnings or property. Your child will be legally freed to be adopted by someone else.

**EVEN IF** your parental rights are terminated:

(1) **YOU** will still be responsible for providing financial support (child support payments) for your child's care unless and until your child is adopted; and

(2) **YOUR** child can still inherit from you unless and until your child is adopted.

**PURSUANT TO** statute, you are put on notice that as a biological father you may lose all rights to your child named above and will not be entitled to object to the termination of your rights to such child unless, within 30 days of receipt of notice, you file:

(1) **A** petition to legitimate such child; and

(2) **NOTICE** of the filing of the petition to legitimate with the Court in which the termination of parental rights proceedings is pending.

**THIS IS** a very serious matter. A party is entitled to an attorney in the proceedings. You should contact an attorney immediately so that you can be prepared for the court hearing. You have the right to hire an attorney and to have him or her represent you. If you cannot afford to hire an attorney, the Court will appoint an attorney if the Court finds that you are an indigent person. Whether or not you decide to hire an attorney, you have the right to attend the hearing of your case, to call witnesses on your behalf, and to question those witnesses brought against you.

**IF YOU** have any questions concerning this notice, you may call the telephone number of the clerk's office which is 770-784-2060.

**THIS IS** a summons requiring you to be in Court. If you fail to come to court as required, you may be held in contempt of court and punished accordingly.

**WITNESS THE**  
Honorable Jenny S. Carter, Judge of said Court, this 18th day of September, 2020.

**/S/ JANELL Gaines**  
**CLERK, JUVENILE** Court of Newton County, Georgia

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117323**  
**9/27,10/4,11,18**

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

**IN THE INTEREST OF:**  
**BABY BOY** Doe, a/k/a Baby Boy Foundling  
**SEX:** Male  
**D O B :** 04/23/2020  
**Case #**107-20J-0373  
**CHILD UNDER** 18 Years of Age

**SUMMONS**

**TO:** **JANE DOE**, Mother; **JOHN DOE**, and any unknown, unnamed biological father or other persons claiming to have a parental interest in the minor child named above born to **JANE DOE** on the date above-listed.

**A PETITION** to Terminate Parental Rights was filed in this Court on October 2, 2020, by the Georgia Department of Human Services, by and through the Newton County Department of Family and Children Services, concerning the above child. In accordance with O.C.G.A. §15-11-281, you are hereby notified that this proceeding and the hearing(s) specified herein are for the purpose of terminating your parental rights and to place permanent custody of said child with the Georgia Department of Human Services, by and through the Newton County Department of Family and Children Services, pending adoption. The Court shall mail a copy of said Petition to the last known address of the above-named parent(s) within fifteen (15) days of filing of the Order of Service by Publication. This is a summons requiring you to be in Court. If you fail to come to court as required, you may be held in contempt of court and punished accordingly.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, you, the party(ies) named above, are commanded to be and appear on the date and time stated below, and to remain in attendance from hour to hour, day to day, month to month, year to year, and time to time, as said case may be continued, and until discharged from the court, and you are commanded to lay any and all business aside and to be and appear in said Court at the time and place below stated, each of you then and there to make defense thereto and to show cause why the said child and all parties named herein should not be dealt with according to the provisions of law.

**NOTICE OF EFFECT OF**

**TERMINATION JUDGMENT**

**GEORGIA LAW** provides that you can permanently lose your rights as a parent. A Petition to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed requesting the Court to terminate your parental rights to your child. A copy of the Petition to Terminate Parental Rights can be obtained from the Clerk of the Newton County Juvenile Court. A court hearing of your case has been scheduled for the 7th day of January, 2021, at 1:00 p.m., at the Newton County Juvenile Court, Newton County Judicial Center, 1132 Usher Street, NW, Covington, Georgia 30014.

**IF YOU** fail to appear, the Court can terminate your rights in your absence.

**IF THE** court at the trial finds that the facts set out in the Petition to Terminate Parental Rights are true and that termination of your rights will serve the best interests of your child, the court can enter a judgment ending your rights to your child.

**IF THE** judgment terminates your parental rights, you will no longer have any rights to your child. This means that you will not have the right to visit, contact, or have custody of your child or make any decisions affecting your child or your child's earnings or property. Your child will be legally freed to be adopted by someone else.

**EVEN IF** your parental rights are terminated:

(1) **YOU** will still be responsible for providing financial support (child support payments) for your child's care unless and until your child is adopted; and

(2) **YOUR** child can still inherit from you unless and until your child is adopted.

**PURSUANT TO** statute, you are put on notice that as a biological father you may lose all rights to your child named above and will not be entitled to object to the termination of your rights to such child unless, within 30 days of receipt of notice, you file:

(1) **A** petition to legitimate such child; and

(2) **NOTICE** of the filing of the petition to legitimate with the Court in which the termination of parental rights proceeding is pending.

**THIS IS** a very serious matter. A party is entitled to an attorney in the proceedings. You should contact an attorney immediately so that you can be prepared for the court hearing. You have the right to hire an attorney and to have him or her represent you. If you cannot afford to hire an attorney, the Court will appoint an attorney if the Court finds that you are an indigent person. Whether or not you decide to hire an attorney, you have the right to attend the hearing of your case, to call witnesses on your behalf, and to question those witnesses brought against you.

**IF YOU** have any questions concerning this notice, you may call the telephone number of the clerk's office which is 770-784-2060.

**THIS IS** a summons requiring you to be in Court. If you fail to come to court as required, you may be held in contempt of court and punished accordingly.

**WITNESS THE**  
Honorable Jenny S. Carter, Judge of said Court, this 2nd day of October, 2020.

**JANELL GAINES**  
**CLERK, JUVENILE** Court of **NEWTON COUNTY,** Georgia

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117401**  
**10/11,18,25,11/1**

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

**IN THE INTEREST OF:**  
**E.C. SEX:** Male  
**DOB: 10/08/2018**  
**CASE #**107-20J-0360  
**A CHILD** Under 18 Years of Age

**SUMMONS**

**TO:** **AYRIKA LYRIC COLEMAN** mother; **LAMONTE MALONE**, putative father; **DYWUNTRAE HOWARD**, putative father; **JOHN DOE**, and any unknown, unnamed biological father or other persons claiming to have a parental interest in the minor child named above born to Ayrika Lyric Coleman on the date above-listed.

**A PETITION** to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed in this Court on September 25, 2020, by the Georgia Department of Human Services, by and through the Newton County Department of Family and Children Services, concerning the above child. In accordance with O.C.G.A. §15-11-281, you are hereby notified that this proceeding and the hearing(s) specified herein is/ are for the purpose of terminating your parental rights and to place permanent custody of said child with the Georgia Department of Human Services, by and through the Newton County Department of Family and Children Services, pending adoption. The Court shall mail a copy of said Petition to the last known address of the above-named parent(s) within fifteen (15) days of filing the Order of Service by Publication. This is a summons requiring you to be in Court. If you fail to come to court as required, you may be held in contempt of court and punished accordingly.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, you, the party(ies) named above, are commanded to be and appear on the date and time stated below, and to remain in attendance from hour to hour, day to day, month to month, year to year, and time to time, as said case may be continued, and until discharged from the Court, and you are commanded to lay any and all business aside and to be and appear in said Court at the time and place below stated, each of you then and there to make defense thereto and to show cause why the said child and all parties named herein should not be dealt with according to the

provisions of the law.

**NOTICE OF EFFECT OF**  
**TERMINATION JUDGMENT**

**GEORGIA LAW** provides that you can permanently lose your rights as a parent. A Petition to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed requesting the Court to terminate your parental rights to your child. A copy of said Petition to Terminate Parental Rights can be obtained from the Clerk of the Newton County Juvenile Court. A Court hearing of your case has been scheduled for the 12th day of January, 2021, at 9:00 a.m., at the Newton County Juvenile Court, Newton County Judicial Center, 1132 Usher Street, NW, Covington, Georgia 30014.

**IF YOU** fail to appear, the Court can terminate your rights in your absence.

**IF THE** Court at the trial finds that the facts set out in the Petition to Terminate Parental Rights are true and that termination of your rights will serve the best interests of your child, the Court can enter a judgment ending your rights to your child.

**IF THE** judgment terminates your parental rights, you will no longer have any rights to your child. This means that you will not have the right to visit, contact, or have custody of your child or make any decisions affecting your child or your child's earnings or property. Your child will be legally freed to be adopted by someone else.

**EVEN IF** your parental rights are terminated:

(1) **YOU** will still be responsible for providing financial support (child support payments) for your child's care unless and until your child is adopted; and

(2) **YOUR** child can still inherit from you unless and until your child is adopted.

**PURSUANT TO** statute, you are put on notice that as a biological father you may lose all rights to your child named above and will not be entitled to object to the termination of your rights to such child unless, within 30 days of receipt of notice, you file:

(1) **A** petition to legitimate such child; and

(2) **NOTICE** of the filing of the petition to legitimate with the Court in which the termination of parental rights proceedings is pending.

**THIS IS** a very serious matter. A party is entitled to an attorney in the proceedings. You should contact an attorney immediately so that you can be prepared for the court hearing. You have the right to hire an attorney and to have him or her represent you. If you cannot afford to hire an attorney, the Court will appoint an attorney if the Court finds that you are an indigent person. Whether or not you decide to hire an attorney, you have the right to attend the hearing of your case, to call witnesses on your behalf, and to question those witnesses brought against you.

**IF YOU** have any questions concerning this notice, you may call the telephone number of the clerk's office which is 770-784-2060.

**THIS IS** a summons requiring you to be in Court. If you fail to come to court as required, you may be held in contempt of court and punished accordingly.

**WITNESS THE**  
Honorable Jenny S. Carter, Judge of said Court, this 25th day of September, 2020.

**S/JANELL GAINES**  
**CLERK**  
**JUVENILE COURT** of Newton County, Georgia

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117361**  
**10/4,11,18,25**

**Name Changes**

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

**IN RE:**  
**PETITION OF**  
**BENNE JEAN GILKEY**  
**CIVIL ACTION FILE NUMBER:**  
**2020-CV-1900-4**

**NOTICE OF PETITION TO**  
**CHANGE NAME**

**TO ANY AND ALL INTERESTED**  
**PERSONS:**

**GREETINGS:**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given that, **BENNE JEAN GILKEY** filed his Petition in the Superior Court of Newton County, Georgia on the **SEPTEMBER 18, 2020** requesting to change his name from **BENNE JEAN GILKEY TO BENNA LAJEAN GILKEY**. Notice is hereby given pursuant to law to any interested or affected party to appear in the Superior Court of Newton County and to file objections to said name change. Objections must be in writing and filed with the Clerk, Newton Superior Court within thirty (30) days of the filing of said Petition.

**THIS 25TH** day of September, 2020  
**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,**  
**SHARON L. Barksdale**  
**ATTORNEY FOR** Petitioner  
**GEORGIA BAR** No. 037981  
**P.O. BOX** 81084  
**CONYERS, GA** 30013  
**PHONE:** (770) 760-9383  
**FAX:** (770) 760-1629  
**EMAIL:** SLBATTY@BELLSOUTH.NET

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117390**  
**10/14,21,28,11/5**

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

**IN RE** the Name Change of:  
**JAN DELORES BLANCHARD**  
**PETITIONER**  
**CIVIL ACTION** File Number:  
**2020-CV-2020-2**

**NOTICE OF PETITION TO**  
**CHANGE NAME OF ADULT**

**JAN DELORES BLANCHARD** filed

a petition in the Newton County Superior Court on **October 6, 2020** to change the name from **JAN DELORES BLANCHARD** to **ALEXANDRIA GEORGIA BLANCHARD**. Any interested party has the right to appear in this case and file objections within 30 days after Petition was filed.

**DATED OCTOBER 6, 2020**

**JAN DELORES** Blanchard  
**70 MOORES** Lane  
**OXFORD, GA** 30054

**NOTICE #117429**  
**10/18,25,11/1,8**

**Public Hearings**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
**ON PROPOSED ORDINANCE TO**  
**THE**  
**NEWTON COUNTY CODE OF**  
**ORDINANCES**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given that a public hearing will be held Tuesday, October 20, 2020, 7:00 p.m. at the Newton County Historic Courthouse, 1124 Clark Street, Covington, Georgia to consider Ordinance No. O-102020.

**A N**  
**ORDINANCE** ADOPTING AND  
**ENACTING A NEW CODE FOR**  
**THE**

COUNTY; PROVIDING  
FOR THE REPEAL OF CERTAIN  
ORDINANCES NOT  
INCLUDED THEREIN;  
PROVIDING A PENALTY FOR THE  
VIOLATION

THEREOF; PROVIDING  
SUCH CODE;  
AND PROVIDING WHEN SUCH  
CODE AND THIS ORDINANCE  
SHALL  
BECOME EFFECTIVE. The Public  
Hearing is to receive public input on the  
proposed ordinance. The proposed  
ordinance can be reviewed at the  
Newton  
County Board of Commissioners  
Office/County Clerk.

**JACKIE SMITH**, County Clerk

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117425**  
**10/14,18**

**Public Notice**

**CITY OF COVINGTON**  
**NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given, per the City of Covington's Code of Ordinances Chapter 16.52.180 that an application has been submitted for a Certificate of Appropriateness to be considered by the Covington Historic Preservation Commission.

**THE APPLICANT** is the Covington First United Methodist Church and they have submitted an application proposing to reconstruct an addition to the rear of the Youth House located within a historic district on a 1.30 acre site. The property is located at 2316 Church Street, Tax Parcel Identification Number C027 0010 005, Covington, Georgia.

**THE COVINGTON** Historic Preservation Commission will hold a Virtual Public Meeting on November 4, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.to consider these Certificate of Appropriateness Applications.

**DUE TO** circumstances necessitated by emergency conditions involving public safety and preservation of public services, public access to this meeting is limited to teleconference and video access. **THE PUBLIC MAY ACCESS THIS MEETING BY CALLING** 1-929-436-2866, use the following Meeting ID Number: 336-686-1958. To view online use the following link: https://zoom.us/j/3366861958 with the Meeting ID: 336 686 1958

**ALL INTERESTED** parties are invited to participate. For more information, contact Tres Thomas, at thomas@cityofcovington.org, or 770-385-6831.

**PUBLIC NOTICE #117445**  
**10/18**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that on the 3rd day of November, 2020, an election will be held at the regular polling places in all the election districts of Newton County, Georgia (the "County"), at which time there will be submitted to the qualified voters of the County for their determination the question of whether a one percent transportation special purpose local option sales and use tax (the "Sales and Use Tax") shall be imposed on all sales and uses in the special district created in the County for a period not to exceed five years commencing on April 1, 2021 for the raising of approximately fifty-six million, one-hundred thousand dollars (\$56,100,000.00) for the funding of transportation purposes.

**IF IMPOSITION** of the tax is approved by the voters, such vote shall also constitute an approval of the issuance of general obligation debt of the County secured first by the Sales and Use Tax in the aggregate principal amount of eighteen million, nine-hundred thousand dollars (\$18,900,000) (the "Debt"). The proceeds of the Debt, if issued, shall be used to pay the costs of (i) all or a portion of the County's and the City of Covington's transportation purposes, (ii) capitalized interest on the Debt and (iii) the costs of issuing the Debt.

**THE DEBT**, if so authorized, may be issued by the County in whole or in part and in one or more series and shall bear interest at rates not exceeding 5% per annum from the first day of the month during which the Debt is to be issued or from such other date as may be designated by the County prior to the issuance of the Debt. The actual rate or rates shall be determined in a supplemental resolution to be adopted by the County prior to the issuance of the Debt. The amount of principal to be paid in each year during the life of such Debt shall be as follows:

**YEAR**  
**MAXIMUM** Principal  
Payable in Such Year

**2022**  
**\$3,295,000**  
**2023**



<p><b>\$3,620,000</b> <b>2024</b> <b>\$3,800,000</b> <b>2025</b> <b>\$3,990,000</b> <b>2026</b> <b>\$4,195,000</b></p> <p><b>ANY BROCHURES</b>, listings, or other advertisements issued by the Board of Commissioners by any other person, firm, corporation or association with the knowledge and consent of the Board of Commissioners, shall be deemed to be a statement of intention of the Board of Commissioners concerning the use of the proceeds of the Debt, and such statement of intention shall be binding upon the Board of</p>	<p>Commissioners in the expenditure of such Debt or interest received from such Debt to the extent provided in Section 36-82-1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated.</p> <p><b>THE PRINCIPAL</b> and interest on the Debt are expected to be paid from proceeds of the Sales and Use Tax and shall be payable in lawful money of the United States of America.</p> <p><b>PURSUANT TO</b> O.C.G.A. 36 82 100, the County notifies all interested parties that no independent performance audit or performance review (the "Audit") will be conducted with respect to the Debt. However the County will continue to ensure</p>	<p>that Debt proceeds are expended efficiently and economically, as intended by the Audit.</p> <p><b>THE BALLOTS</b> to be used at the Election shall have written or printed thereon substantially the following:</p> <p>“( )                      Yes.                      ( ) No.</p> <p><b>SHALL A</b> special one percent sales and use tax be imposed in the special district consisting of Newton County for a period of time not to exceed five years and for the raising of not more than an estimated amount of fifty-six million, one-hundred thousand dollars (\$56,100,000.00) for transportation purposes? If imposition of the</p>	<p>tax is approved by the voters, such vote shall also constitute approval of the issuance of general obligation debt of Newton County in the principal amount of eighteen million, nine-hundred thousand dollars (\$18,900,000) for the above purpose.”</p> <p><b>THE SEVERAL</b> places for holding said election shall be at the regular and established voting precincts of the election districts of the County, and the polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on the date fixed for the election.</p> <p><b>THIS NOTICE</b> is given pursuant to a resolution of the Board of Elections and Registration of Newton County,</p>	<p>adopted on July 27, 2020.</p> <p><b>BOARD OF</b> Elections and Registration of Newton County</p> <p><b>PUBLIC NOTICE #117319</b> <b>9/27,10/4,11,18,25</b></p> <p><b>Public Sales Auctions</b></p> <p><b>PUBLIC AUCTION:</b> Sellars Wrecker Services, In accordance with the <b>OCGA (40-11-2)</b> the following vehicle will be sold to the highest <b>BIDDER AT</b> public auction that will be held on September 27, 2020. <b>SEALED BIDS</b> will be accepted from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at Sellars <b>WRECKER SERVICES</b>, 295 Hwy</p>	<p>162, Covington Ga. 30016.</p> <p>• <b>2005</b> Harley Davidson Motorcycle 1HD1BWB165Y086557 • <b>2002</b> LEXUS ES300 • <b>1998</b> JEEP CHEROKEE SPORT 1J4FT68S6WL125435 • <b>2007</b> SATURN AURA JTHBF30G920022747 • <b>1G8ZS57NX7F201941</b> • <b>2006</b> FORD FOCUS 1FAHP34N66W194535</p> <p><b>PUBLIC NOTICE #117404</b> <b>10/11,18</b></p>
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# Sheriff under fire

State launches investigation into alleged illegal campaign tactics

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

COVINGTON, Ga. — The Georgia Secretary of State’s office is investigating alleged illegal campaign tactics by Sheriff Ezell Brown after receiving complaints Brown and someone representing his campaign got too close to voters last week.

One complaint references a photo — eventually shared on social media — that appears to show a box truck representing Brown’s campaign traveling next to a line of voters on a Pace Street sidewalk near the Newton County Administration Building in downtown Covington Monday, Oct. 12.

A separate complaint alleges the sheriff personally talked to those in line on the same day in violation of the state-mandated 25-foot barrier.

Video screens on the side of the truck’s cargo area appear to be broadcasting a campaign video of Brown within the required 25-foot barrier that state law mandates between anyone soliciting votes and voters standing in line.

A video also shows a sheriff’s deputy ordering the truck to the side of the road, a complainant told *The Covington News*.

Brown, who is seeking re-election to a fourth term in the Nov. 3 General Election, said a donor allowed his campaign to use the truck. The driver from north Georgia was unfamiliar

with the area and was told to drive on U.S. Hwy. 278 and in other areas of the county. He then followed other vehicles with flags and signs supporting presidential candidates on Pace Street, which runs between the Covington Square and Hwy. 278, Brown said.

“Since he was not familiar with the area, he ended up near the administrative building,” Brown said.

Deputies in the area then stopped him and the other trucks and informed them they were not allowed in the area because of the proximity to voters in line, Brown said.

“Again, it is important to mention that the driver was passing through the area. After being told that this was a voting area, and that he could not be near the precinct, he parked 300 (to) 400 feet away from the building,” Brown said.

Brown said he was acting as sheriff and “not candidate” when he traveled to the administration building on the same day of the advance voting period before the Nov. 3 General Election.

He said the trip was in response to “several calls from citizens and the supervising deputy referencing the extremely long lines and related extended waiting periods” for voters.

“By constitutional law, I am mandated to respond to issues related to elections,” Brown said.

He said the law mandates

the sheriff “attend the place or places of holding an election at the county site on the day of an election...”

“I have not and would not abuse this power,” he said.

“I am very familiar with the rules of the office of sheriff and campaign laws,” Brown said.

He said he was in the area three to five minutes during which “there was absolutely no conversation about voting for myself or anyone else.”

Brown said two women approached him to say they wanted to file a complaint about the lines for advance voting, and he told them the procedure began with the county elections board.

Another person in the area thanked him for the sheriff’s office’s Explorer program.

“I carried myself in the same manner I do every day, just speaking to everyone,” Brown said.

He said he then spoke with elections director Angela Mantle about the voter lines, before walking away from the area with a supervising deputy. He then waited in a nearby parking lot for a deputy to return with his purchasing card after buying food and drinks for deputies assigned to the event.

Brown said he spoke with someone from the Secretary of State’s office about the incident and “gave them a play-by-play account of what actually happened.”

“I also invited them to conduct their own investigation,” he said.

# Newton Commission candidates discuss potential challenges

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

COVINGTON, Ga. — *The Covington News* asked the candidates for the District 1 seat on the Newton County Board of Commissioners the same three questions about some challenges they will face if elected.

The candidates include incumbent Commissioner Stan Edwards, a Republican, and Democrat Catalata Hardeman.

District 1 includes southeastern, southern and southwestern Newton County.

**THE COVINGTON NEWS:** What do you believe will be the top county government issue that will most affect the majority of District 1 residents in 2021 and what is your position on it?

**STAN EDWARDS:** Overall the budget but more specifically — spending.

In the last four years I have worked to ensure the board puts in place certain processes that eliminate ambiguity in the movement of funds and to add practicality during the budget process. Additionally, I have put forth substitute or amended budgets that demonstrated savings or the reduction in unnecessary spending.

Without a doubt my actions, suggestions, and persistence has led us to a more fiscally restrained budget over the course of my first term. Because of a more conservative budget over the last four years we have built our cash reserves close to the

level suggested by (Association County Commissioners of Georgia) and many financial experts.

**CATALATA HARD-EMAN:** One of the top government issues that will affect District 1 is to continue strategic growth and development that will work during the current pandemic and beyond. That means making available resources to where local, state, federal and private sectors work together to our advantage so that ALL districts benefit.

We need to support expanding businesses across District 1 so all citizens have more access. We must be able to increase family incomes to support the income median for this district. Currently we are below median income levels with the average household income of \$75,000 or less held by 20% of the district.

We should take a look at contracting local work within our district for small businesses in the area. I believe the citizens that live in the district want to improve, expand, and beautify the area we call home. If we allow some of these small businesses to make bids in the district for services such as landscaping, transportation, etc., this would increase incomes for many people as well as improve the quality of life where we live, work and play.

*The candidates’ complete Q&A can be read online at CovNews.com.*

## TURNOUT:

Continued from A1

office also reported that more than 18,000 absentee ballots had been mailed to Newton County voters through mid-week — more than six times the total of 2,286 mailed throughout the 2016 election — likely because of concerns about safety from COVID-19.

**RESPONSE TO DELAYS**

Delays have come during the check-in process where election officials are required to use the Secretary of State’s database to confirm a voter’s registration and precinct, Johnson said.

A factor that contributed to long lines seen at the Newton County Administration Building included the large number of voters who requested absentee ballots but opted to vote in-person, he said.

Johnson said voters should bring the absentee ballot with them to

allow the elections official to cancel it more quickly.

If voters receive an absentee ballot but decide to vote in person, Johnson said bringing it with them would speed up the official’s cancellation of the ballot and move voters in and out of the polling place more quickly.

If the voter does not bring the absentee ballot, the elections official must use the state database to determine if a ballot was requested and ask the voter to sign an affidavit, officials have said.

However, availability of machines did not seem to be a factor during the week, Johnson said.

**VOTERS REACT**

Among those waiting in line along Pace Street early in the week were Mia Johnson and daughter, Jocelyn, 10.

Johnson said the time spent standing in line

was worth it to help “teach my daughter the importance of voting.”

“We’re here to do our civic duty,” she said.

“She’s studying it in school as well, so it falls at a perfect time.”

James Lindsay said he chose to cast a ballot in person during the advance voting period rather than on Election Day on Nov. 3 “because I may have something to do that day.”

He added he wanted to make sure to vote in the General Election “because of the way things are going on in the country.”

“We need a good man in office that knows what he’s doing,” Lindsay said. “I want to make my vote count.”

Mike Franklin said he wanted to cast a ballot during the advance voting period because of its availability before Election Day Nov. 3.

He said he expected to wait in line longer

at his assigned voting precinct on Nov. 3 than the two hours he spent there during the Primary Election in June.

He also said he was “not comfortable with mail-in voting.”

Franklin, who is pastor of Solid Rock Baptist Church, said it was important to vote in this election because of the candidates’ stands on the issues.

“I believe we’re at a crossroads of freedom, democracy and socialism,” he said.

His wife, Cindy Franklin, agreed.

“I do not want to lose a lot of my freedoms to socialism,” she said.

She added she believed the surge in voter participation in recent elections in Georgia was “wonderful.”

“America needs to vote either way,” she said. “Everybody needs their voice heard.”

**MORE DAYS, HOURS**

Voters can cast ballots in-person at the elections office in the Newton County Administration Building Oct. 19 through Oct. 23, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and on Saturday, Oct. 24, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., county elections officials said.

The hours will expand to 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. during the final week of advance voting Oct. 26 through Oct. 30 at the elections office, located at 1113 Usher St. NW in downtown Covington.

A second early voting location is scheduled to be open in western Newton County Oct. 26 through Oct. 30 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Porter Memorial Library on Ga. Hwy. 212, across from Denny Dobbs Park.

**ABSENTEE BALLOTS**

For those planning to vote by absentee ballot, Johnson provided the

following recommendations:

- Those who have not yet applied for an absentee ballot should do so now either through the Secretary of State’s website or by requesting one from the Newton County Board of Elections. The phone number is 770-784-2055.
- Those who already received an absentee ballot should complete it now and return it as soon as possible by mailing it to the Newton County Board of Elections.

Voters also can use a drop box at the Newton County Sheriff’s Office Westside Precinct at 3612 Salem Road; or at the north entrance to the Newton County Administration Building at 1113 Usher St.

*Publisher and Editor Taylor Beck contributed to this story.*

## MINORITY:

Continued from A3

of the funding before it sends the money to Newton County, according to documents provided to commissioners.

Commissioners also approved:

- The sheriff’s office’s acceptance of a Justice

Assistance Grant for \$27,636 to purchase equipment; and its application for a funding grant for surveillance work for the Newton County Accountability Court.

- Renewal of the District Attorney office’s

VOCA Grant for \$187,922 to fund existing Victim Advocate positions held by Cindy Hooper, Gabriela Arredondo and Leslie Smith.



# The Covington News



## Thanksgiving SPECIAL!

Subscribe to  
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during the month  
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# EDUCATION

The Covington News



Special to The Covington News  
The Georgia Association for Alternative Education recently named Kelly Byrd of RISE Academy as Georgia Alternative Education Teacher of the Year.

## Newton’s Byrd named 2020 Georgia Alternative Education Teacher of the Year

**STAFF REPORTS**  
news@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — RISE Academy teacher Kelly Byrd is the 2020 Georgia Alternative Education Teacher of the Year. Keith Hose, who is Georgia Association for Alternative Education vice president and awards chairman, announced the award during the recent 2020 Georgia Alternative Education Association conference.

“We are extremely proud of Ms. Byrd and this great accomplishment,” said Phalanda Perriman, RISE Academy Program Supervisor. “Ms. Byrd is an outstanding educator who is very passionate about our students at RISE Academy. She is a shining example of excellence in education and truly embodies our motto, ‘Second Chances New Beginnings’ each day when she welcomes our students with an enthusiastic greeting and a word of encouragement. She is committed to ensure that all of our students experience success. We are very grateful to have Ms. Byrd at RISE Academy.”

Byrd is a graduate of Jackson State University in Jackson, Mississippi, where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in mathematics. She earned a master’s degree from Marygrove College in Detroit, Michigan, and recently added a Specialist in

Curriculum and Instruction. Her teaching career spans 15 years with the majority of her career with Newton County Schools. Prior to joining the RISE staff, she taught ninth grade math at Alcovy High School.

According to Amie Cumming, NCSS Director of Student and Family Support and program director of RISE Academy, during her time at RISE Academy, Byrd has helped students who may otherwise never have tried, to enroll in and attend college.

“With her guidance and assistance, Ms. Byrd has witnessed students with no educational confidence realize their own self-worth and achieve alongside their peers,” said Cumming.

“RISE Academy has allowed me to be an all-around teacher,” said Byrd. “I get to teach, support, encourage, and watch my students grow. Helping students achieve for the first time in their lives is a satisfaction like no other.”

“We were very selective when hiring our staff for RISE Academy,” added Cumming. “It takes a very special teacher to work with alternative education students. A successful alternative education teacher looks past the behaviors and sees only the promise the students bring. Often the teacher must believe in the student until he or she can believe in themselves.”

Cumming explained. “It was easy to see from the beginning Ms. Byrd’s love and respect for every student. I always love to hear her parting words to the students each day, ‘Be safe, be great, and I can’t wait to see you back tomorrow.’”

“To be the GAEE Teacher of the Year is a true honor while representing RISE and Newton County Schools,” Byrd shared. “I was overwhelmed with joy during the virtual conference when the announcement was made. I look forward to fulfilling the duties of GAEE Teacher of the Year.”

“It is certainly quite an accomplishment to be named as the 2020 Georgia Alternative Education Associations Teach of the Year,” said Samantha Fuhrey, superintendent of Newton County School System. “Mrs. Byrd is a phenomenal educator whose compassion and commitment is evident in all that she does to ensure her students are successful. Congratulations to Mrs. Byrd; I am extremely proud of her and grateful for her contributions to our school system.”

Byrd is married to Jermaine Byrd. They reside in Covington with their two children, Jacob and Jada-Kendall.

## University System of Georgia generates \$18.5 billion economic impact, 157K jobs

**By BEAU EVANS**  
Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA — The University System of Georgia (USG) delivered an economic impact of \$18.5 billion to the Peach State during fiscal 2019 while generating 157,770 jobs, system Chancellor Steve Wrigley reported last week.

That represents a 4.5% increase over the previous fiscal year. “USG and our 26 institutions play a critically important role in local economies all across Georgia,” Wrigley said. “At the same time ... USG remains committed to improving on the state’s investment in higher education and carrying out our ultimate mission to prepare students for life and work with a college degree.”

The annual economic impact study conducted by the University of Georgia also revealed every dollar spent by the system’s colleges and universities generates an additional 47 cents for the surrounding region’s economy. Of the jobs generated by USG during fiscal 2019, 33% are on campus, while the remaining 67% are located within institutions’ home communities. On average, each on-campus job led to the creation of two additional off-campus jobs as a result of spending by the institution.

The 2019 study also showed \$12.6 billion of the \$18.5 billion in economic impact came from direct spending by institutions, while \$5.9 billion came from additional spending within their local communities.

The annual study is conducted by Jeff Humphreys, director of the Selig Center for Economic Growth at UGA’s Terry College of Business.

This year, Humphreys and Alexandra Hill of the Selig Center also conducted a companion study titled “Lifetime Earnings for University System of Georgia Class of 2019.” The center’s research shows lifetime earnings increase substantially with each step up in post-secondary educational attainment, a finding that holds true for both Georgia and the nation as a whole.

On average, each Class of 2019 university system graduate is predicted to earn \$888,563 more over the course of their career as a result of their degree from a USG institution.

## COVID-19 update from NCSS

As of Oct. 9, there were 5,143 total Newton County students were attending school in person. Of those students, only 19 were quarantined due to symptoms of, or coming into contact with a person with COVID-19; however there were no new cases of the virus among students, according to a report from the school system.

Of the system’s 2,626 staff members, 16 had been quarantined. Three new cases had been confirmed among staff members.

— from Staff Reports

## ed·u·ca·tion (ějē-kā’shən) n.

1. The act or process of imparting or acquiring general knowledge, developing the powers of reasoning and judgment, and generally of preparing oneself or others intellectually for mature life.

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## FALL:

Continued from B1

Eastside delivered the first blow of the night. On the Eagles’ first drive, senior running back Sincere Johnson broke loose and raced to the house for a 33-yard touchdown just over two minutes into the first quarter.

Clarke Central scored on its own first drive, as Robinson hit tight end Rio Foster for a 7-yard score to tie the game midway through the period.

## TIMEOUT:

Continued from B1

game. Colquitt County athletic director Greg Tillery made the announcement. “Due in part to several positive COVID-19 cases and out of an abundance of caution, we have decided to cancel the Alcovy football game,” Tillery stated. “We fully expect to resume the season against Camden County on Friday, Oct. 30, 2020, at 7:30 pm. Also, the homecoming activities

Braddy gave the Gladiators a 14-7 lead early in the second quarter with a short rushing touchdown, but powerful touchdown runs from Eastside’s Kenai Grier and Dallas Johnson set the Eagles up with a 21-7 advantage.

In the final moments of the first half, Williams drilled a 42-yard field goal to send the Eagles into the locker room with a 24-14 lead on the road.

will coincide with the Camden County football game.” This is the second time the Packers have pressed pause on their 2020 season. They were forced to cancel their first two games against Brookwood and Marietta. Alcovy was unable to schedule another game in time to play this week, but is actively searching for a replacement for its game on Friday, Oct. 23.

Parkview Panthers 35, Newton Rams 7

# Rams suffer setback against Parkview

By **GARRETT PITTS**  
Correspondent

LILBURN, Ga. — The Rams came out of the Orange Jungle empty handed Friday night as the Panthers defense mauled the Rams for four straight quarters. Newton lost to Parkview by a score of 35-7, as the Parkview defense dominated the Rams at every point of the game, keeping the high-powered Rams quiet for one of the few times all season.

For the first three drives of the game, both offenses were stalling as both defenses took control early. On Parkview’s second offensive drive, running back Cody Brown took the handoff up the middle and take it 48-yards all the way in for the score to put the Panthers on the board first with a score of 7-0.

After a 62-yard pass from Rams’ quarterback Jevarra Martin to Nyland Green that put Newton inside the Panthers 10-yard line, Martin’s next passed was tipped at the line and intercepted to give the Parkview offense the ball back. The Panthers answered big on the next play with quarterback Colin Houck connecting with Jared Brown on the 89-yard touchdown pass to give Parkview the commanding 14-0 lead in the first quarter.

After another empty drive from the Rams’ offense, Newton’s defense was be the one to come up big. Star defensive end Justin Benton stripped the ball from Houck on the sack, allowing Tahjae Mullix to pick the ball up for the scoop n’ score to put the Rams on the board 14-7. Another three and out from the Rams offense allowed the Panthers to kill Newton’s momentum as Houck would once again find Brown who took the short pass 68-yards for the



Anthony Banks | The Covington News  
**Newton’s Justin Benton (99) gets to the backfield to make a tackle on Parkview’s Tyler Curtis (26) during the Rams’ loss Friday night.**

touchdown, giving Parkview a 21-7 lead. The Panthers’ defense once again got a stop late in the second quarter by intercepting Martin for the second time of the night, putting a close to the first half by keeping Parkview ahead by two scores. Going into halftime 21-7, the Panthers defense held Martin to only 107 yards and two interceptions, while keeping the Rams’ rushing total under 50 yards. After receiving the opening kickoff of the second half, Houck once again found Brown down the sideline for a 58-yard touchdown. The touchdown marked the third time in the game that Houck and Brown had

connected for a touchdown of 50-yards or more. Houck threw his fourth touchdown pass of the night midway through the final quarter of the game as he found wideout Bryce Fleetwood on the 30-yard pass to put the Panthers up 35-7. After forcing the Rams’ third turnover on downs in their last four drives, the Panthers would run the rest of the clock out to beat the Rams by a score of 35-7. After losing their third consecutive game to drop to 2-3 on the year, the Rams will have a week off before hosting the Brookwood Broncos on Friday, Oct. 30.

Washington-Wilkes Tigers 56, Social Circle Redskins 0

# Redskins shut out in region opener by Washington-Wilkes

By **MICHAEL PITTS**  
Correspondent

**SOCIAL CIRCLE,** Ga. — The Redskins were on the wrong side of a blowout Friday night, dropping their first region game of the season to undefeated Washington-Wilkes, 56-0. Washington-Wilkes scored on their opening possession, getting out to an 8-0 before 90 seconds were off the clock. The Tigers’ defense gave the ball back to their offense immediately by intercepting Social Circle quarterback Logan Cross. The interception was taken to the end zone by Washington-Wilkes senior Corey Danner, but the touchdown was negated by a holding penalty on the return. The Tigers had three huge plays called back by penalties, and they had seven penalties in the first quarter as a team. But penalties did not make a difference; Tigers had a 16-0 lead at the end of the first quarter. The Redskins’ woes from the first quarter continued into the second, with Cross throwing two more interceptions in the first four minutes, helping the Tigers extend their lead out to 37-0. Washington-Wilkes converted 4-of-4 third down attempts in the first half and scored every time they touched the ball, as Social Circle could not find a way to stop Tigers quarterback Dalen Cobb. Three of the Social Circle’s six first half possessions ended in turnovers, and they



Taylor Beck | The Covington News  
**Social Circle running back Phillip Baynes, Jr. (6) fights for extra yardage against Washington-Wilkes on Friday night.**

trailed 43-0 at halftime. The Redskins turned the ball over on downs in Tiger territory to be-

gin the second half, and the Tigers scored again, pushing it out to 49-0. Johnny Crowe came into the game at quarterback for the Redskins in the third quarter, but it would not change their luck. Washington-Wilkes added another score and went up 56-0 after backup quarterback Andrew Meech connected with Hunter Price for a 25-yard touchdown on their first possession of the fourth quarter for the final score of the game. Social Circle head coach Rob Patton did not mince words after the loss. “We got physically whooped,” Patton

said. “We have to get stronger physically and mentally if we want to compete with teams that are going to be in the playoffs.” Patton also had high praise for the now 5-0 Tigers. “They are a playoff team,” Patton explained. “That is a team that is good enough to play for a state championship, and they are at the level that we want to get to.” Social Circle continues region play against Lincoln County next week — Friday, Oct. 23 — and will look to get their 2020 campaign back on track.



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Georgia defensive back Tyrique Stevenson (7) during the Bulldogs' victory against Tennessee on Dooley Field at Sanford Stadium in Athens, on Saturday, Oct., 10, 2020.

# Turning toward the Tide

## Bulldogs prepare for top-5 tussle with Alabama

**By JOHN ZENOR**  
The Associated Press

The bombshell news came three days and change before college football's biggest regular season game of the year. No. 2 Alabama's 68-year-old coach Nick Saban tested positive for COVID-19 ahead of Saturday night's Southeastern Conference showdown with third-ranked Georgia. Barring negative tests leading up to the game, for the first time since arriving in 2007, Saban's scowling presence will be absent from Alabama's sideline during a game. And it just happens to be a top-5 matchup between the SEC's only teams to emerge unbeaten from the first three weeks.

"We've had a lot of challenges this year," Saban said. "Our guys have showed great maturity in how they've handled all these challenges. I'm sure they'll handle this in a very positive way as well."

Saban was still scrutinizing practices, presiding over meetings and sticking to his normal work routine ahead of the game. Just from home.

He left offensive coordinator Steve Sarkisian at least nominally in charge within the football building. As of Thursday afternoon, it wasn't clear who would be running the show from the sideline. Sarkisian, a former head coach at USC and Washington, will still be calling the plays regardless, Saban said, keeping things as normal as possible.

Sarkisian already had his

hands full. He'll lead the nation's top scoring offenses against one of college football's best defenses. Georgia coach Kirby Smart is a former Alabama defensive coordinator and has built a talent-rich roster that rivals Saban's and a defense that resembles the Tide's old dominant groups.

"This is what college football is all about, so we are looking forward to the matchup," Smart said.

Alabama is coming off a 63-48 win over Mississippi, giving up the most yards in program history. The Tide face a different style of offense from the Rebels' fast-paced system.



Bulldogs quarterback Stetson Bennett makes his first start on the road in a huge game, but offensive lineman Jamaree Salyer feels he has the mentality to pass that test.

"Stets is going to go out there and compete, and he's going to give you everything he's got on every play, and he's not going to fold on you when things get tough," Salyer said.

**DEFENDING ALABAMA**

Tide quarterback Mac Jones and his array of playmakers are averaging 51 points a game and include one of the nation's most dangerous receiving groups. But Georgia presents the biggest test by far with the nation's top run defense and No. 2 scoring defense. The Bulldogs counter with players like safety Richard LeCounte, linebacker Monty Rice and pass rusher Azeez Ojulari.





**The Matchup**  
Who: No. 3 Georgia (3-0) vs. No. 2 Alabama (3-0)  
When: Saturday, Oct. 17; 8 p.m. ET kickoff  
Where: Bryant-Denny Stadium, Tuscaloosa  
Watch: CBS  
Listen: Georgia Bulldogs Sports Network (IMG)

**Quick Facts**  
Alabama leads the all-time series with Georgia 40-25-4. Georgia has made just nine trips to Tuscaloosa and gone 2-7. Seventh-ranked Georgia won 27-25 over No. 22 Alabama in 2002. In 2007, No. 22 Georgia registered a 26-23 decision over No. 16 Alabama in overtime in Nick Saban's first season.

**FACING SABAN**

Saban is 21-0 against his former assistants-turned-head coaches, though it remains to be seen if this will be counted toward that total. But Smart's teams have put up

quite a fight both in the SEC championship and national title games, and his program is farther along than most of the others.

"We have an established program, they have an established program," Saban said. "There's two pretty good teams gonna go at it."

**SPECIAL TEAMS**

In a game that appears very evenly matched, special teams could be the difference. Alabama has one of the nation's most dangerous return men with Jaylen Waddle, but he seldom gets the ball delivered his way. "He is as dynamic and electric as I have seen," Smart said.

Georgia has the nation's leading punter Jake Camarda and Jack Podlesny has fared well in replacing Lou Groza Award winner Rodrigo Blankenship. Also, Georgia special teams coordinator Scott Cochran was a longtime strength and conditioning coach under Saban.

**BEATING THE EAST**

Alabama has won 27 consecutive games against teams from the SEC East, but has been pushed to the brink in both matchups against Smart's Bulldogs. The Tide rallied to win the national championship game in overtime in January 2018 and came back again to win the SEC championship game the following season. Both comebacks were led by backup quarterbacks in

# Saban sidelined

Alabama head coach tests positive for COVID-19

**By JOHN ZENOR**  
The Associated Press

Nick Saban won't be allowed to coach No. 2 Alabama from home against third-ranked Georgia per NCAA guidelines, and also can't be in the stadium while testing positive for COVID-19.

Saban said on his radio show Thursday night that he hasn't had a fever or any symptoms and has still been able to perform all his normal work duties from home.



Nick Saban

"I feel great, I don't have any problems," Saban said. "I've been able to do everything that I would do if I were working from (the office), whether it's being in meetings, watching film with the coaches, watching practice film, have communication on the field that I can still correct players."

He said offensive coordinator Steve Sarkisian, a former Southern California and Washington head coach, will handle the head coaching decisions on the sideline during the game.

When asked if a coach who remained positive could coach from an isolated room at the stadium, SEC spokesman Herb Vincent cited CDC guidelines saying "people who are in isolation should stay home until it's safe for them to be around others."

Then there are the NCAA restrictions.

NCAA spokeswoman Stacey Osburn referred to the rules interpretation written by national coordinator of football officials Steve Shaw when asked about Saban coaching. In an earlier response to the prospect of any coach being in quarantine because of COVID-19, Shaw's interpretation was that coaches aren't allowed to use technology to call in plays or communicate with the team in the locker room.

He also interpreted Rule 1-4-11-a as prohibiting the use of computers or other technology "for coaching purposes," including any virtual communication with the team during a game.

The 68-year-old Saban and athletic director Greg Byrne tested positive for COVID on Wednesday. Robinson said at the time that they were the only positive tests in the program.

He questioned the rule keeping head coaches who test positive from having an in-game role, saying "there's ways to do this where you wouldn't be putting people in harm's way."

"If you're the head coach, there ought to be a better way to do it," Saban said. "I don't know exactly what that is but there should be a better way to do that."

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2020 FALCONS SCHEDULE

9/13  
Seattle — 25-38, L

9/20  
@ Dallas — 39-40, L

9/27  
Chicago — 26-30, L

10/5  
@ Green Bay — 16-30, L

10/11  
Carolina — 16-23, L

10/18  
@ Minnesota, 1 p.m.

10/25  
Detroit, 1 p.m.

10/29  
@ Carolina, 8:20 p.m.

11/8  
Denver, 1 p.m.

11/22  
@ New Orleans, 1 p.m.

11/29  
Las Vegas, 1 p.m.

12/6  
New Orleans, 1 p.m.

12/13  
@ LA Chargers, 4:25 p.m.

12/20  
Tampa Bay, 1 p.m.

12/27  
@ Kansas City, 1 p.m.

1/3/21  
@ Tampa Bay, 1 p.m.

Note: Schedule is subject to change.

Quinn fired, Morris tabbed as interim

By CHARLES ODUM  
Associated Press

ATLANTA — The poor performance of Atlanta’s defense under the leadership of Raheem Morris won’t matter if Morris finds a way to win as the Falcons’ interim coach.

The more Morris wins, the better he’ll look to Falcons owner Arthur Blank as perhaps more than just a temporary replacement for the fired Dan Quinn. With 11 games remaining, Blank figures it’s a perfect audition opportunity for Morris.

Can Morris, elevated Monday to interim coach, be a candidate for the full-time job?

“Absolutely,” Blank said, adding with a smile, “if Raheem ends up 11-0, he’ll certainly be a candidate.”

Morris is in his sixth season with the Falcons and was in his first as defensive coordinator. His previous experience as a head coach helped him earn the support of Blank and team president Rich McKay as the choice to lead the team the remainder of the season.

The Falcons fired Dan Quinn on Sunday night, hours after the team fell to 0-5 for the first time since 1997

with a 23-16 loss to the Carolina Panthers. Blank also fired long-time general manager Thomas Dimitroff.

“This is not just a response to 0-5,” Blank said Monday, referring to the Falcons’ 14-23 record under Quinn since the beginning of the 2018 season.

Blank said Quinn and Dimitroff agreed there was a mandate to make the playoffs “or bust” this season following consecutive 7-9 finishes the last two years.

“It’s pretty clear when you go 0-5 that is not going to happen,” Blank said.

“We felt we had given both gentlemen a long period of time to create the winning environment ... and they both hadn’t done it. It was the right decision at this point, we think.”

The Falcons named linebackers coach Jeff Ulbrich as defensive coordinator. Blank and McKay said Morris had the option to retain control of the defense.

Also, Bernie Parmalee, who had been running backs coach, was named special teams coordinator. Will Harriger, who had been game management coordinator, was named

running backs coach. Ben Kotwica, who had been special teams coordinator, was fired.

When firing Quinn and Dimitroff, the Falcons announced McKay would take control of football operations on an interim basis and also assist Blank in the search for a full-time coach and general manager.

McKay and Blank said it may not be necessary to hire the GM before the coach. They said decisions about the future direction of the team, including veterans, would be made by the new hires.

“This will not be a situation where we’re going to predetermine the roster for the next coach or general manager,” McKay said.

Asked about what direction he seeks from a new coach and GM, Blank said “It’s called winning. ... I think we need to win.”

Morris could become a candidate for the full-time job if the Falcons, who play at Minnesota on Sunday, can revive their season. Blank noted 11 games provides an unusually long opportunity for an interim coach to make his mark.

“This is, I think, to Raheem’s advantage,” Blank said. “I know

his aspiration is to be a head coach again. I think in 11 games he’ll have a chance to show his own capabilities and I think he’s looking forward to that.”

Morris was 17-31 as coach of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers from 2009-2011. His team finished 10-6 in 2010, marking the best turnaround in franchise history following a 3-13 finish in 2009. He was the choice as interim coach despite being in charge of a defense which ranks near the bottom of the league in passing, total yards and points allowed.

Morris opened the 2019 season with Atlanta’s wide receivers before being switched to the secondary. The move was seen as a major reason Atlanta went 6-2 in its final eight games.

“A lot of the change he was the catalyst for,” Blank said. “We’ll see if he’ll be able to do that this year.”

WHAT’S NEXT?

The team will try to regroup before it travels to Minnesota to face the Vikings (1-4). Morris must boost morale and get players to pay closer attention to detail as the Falcons attempt to turn the season around.

Courtesy of Atlanta Falcons

Raheem Morris was named the interim head coach of the Atlanta Falcons this week after the club fired Dan Quinn on Sunday night.

WHEN: Sunday, Oct. 18, at 1 p.m. • WHERE: US Bank Stadium, Minneapolis, MN • WATCH: FOX 5 Atlanta, WAGA-TV • LISTEN: 92.9 FM, The Game

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Dr. McKee is passionate about women’s health issues. She remains up-to-date on cutting-edge treatments through attendance at the international San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium each year and multidisciplinary breast tumor conferences each month. Dr. McKee has been involved with breast cancer research since 2010 and has published on topics such as factors affecting adherence to endocrine therapy, and transitional work relating to a tumor’s microenvironment and potential response to immunotherapy.

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