

# The Covington News

SATURDAY-SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4-5, 2023



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Story, page A6

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Inside:

## NATIONAL SIGNING DAY

Newton County football standouts sign with colleges nationwide  
Sports, Section B

His Word

"For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God."

1 Corinthians 1:18 (KJV)

Newton County Sheriff's Office

# 'Deanna was a funny, caring person'

## Reward offered for information in hit-and-run that killed mother of seven



Deanna Grimes Mattheus (from GoFundMe)

By TOM SPIGOLON  
tspigolon@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — A GoFundMe account has been set up to pay for funeral expenses for a Covington mother who died after being struck by a hit-and-run vehicle as she walked along Georgia Hwy. 36 late Monday.

Newton County Sheriff's Office also announced a \$2,000 reward was being offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person

responsible for the death of Deanna Grimes Mattheus, 44.

The GoFundMe account stated it had a \$5,000 goal and donations could be made to the account or directly to J.C. Harwell & Son Funeral Home, which was in charge of arrangements.

"Deanna was a funny, caring person and loved her family and friends and deserves to be brought home to the family and to be at rest ..." the account organizer said.

Investigators determined a Ford vehicle struck and killed the mother of seven as she walked along foggy Jackson Highway late Monday, Jan. 30, the sheriff's office reported.

The vehicle then left the scene, which was about a mile south of the Covington city limits.

Deputies were called to the incident that occurred between 11:30 p.m. and

See REWARD, A2

Alcovy Judicial Circuit

# New judge takes bench



Special | Office of Gov. Brian Kemp

Superior Court Judge Kevin Morris is sworn into office by Gov. Brian Kemp as Morris' wife and daughter look on Monday, Jan. 30, at the State Capitol in Atlanta.

## Governor swears in Kevin Morris as Superior Court judge

By TOM SPIGOLON  
tspigolon@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — Gov. Brian Kemp swore in new Superior Court Judge Kevin Morris to the Alcovy Judicial Circuit bench Monday, Jan. 30.

Kemp swore in Morris, 51, with

his wife and daughter by his side at the State Capitol in Atlanta.

Morris is scheduled to hear his first cases next week.

Kemp on Dec. 16 named Morris to be one of five Superior Court judges in the circuit that includes Newton and Walton counties.

The Monroe resident is a former Atlanta-area attorney. He served as a Walton County Magistrate Court judge for eight years before his appointment.

A native Georgian, Morris gradu-

See GOVERNOR, A2

Newton County BOC

# Commissioner: Youth Facility grant still alive

By GABRIEL STOVALL  
gstovall@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — Two weeks ago, while the Newton County Board of Commissioners were wrapping up its work session that preceded their regular meeting, the most pressing matter regarding the planned Westside Youth Facility was location.

Now, it appears that funding may be at the forefront of concerns once again.

On a video posted on Commissioner Alana Sanders' Facebook page on Jan. 25, the District 3 representative referenced a story published by the Newton Citizen newspaper that alleged that the \$4 million grant given for the building of the Westside Youth Facility could be rescinded due to the fact that no location has been set in stone yet for the facility.

But Sanders said, via email, that after talking with U.S. Rep. Hank Johnson, R-Stonecrest, and hearing those concerns directly from him, she was told to contact the U.S. Department of Housing and

See GRANT, A7



Alana Sanders

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Inside

February is a month for reflection, appreciation

Column, A4



Weekend Weather Forecast



Saturday, Feb. 4  
High: 51° Low: 32°  
• Mostly sunny



Sunday, Feb. 5  
High: 57° Low: 36°  
• Cloudy

Index

Classifieds, B2  
Opinions, A4  
Legals, B2

Sports, B1  
Obituaries, A2  
Business, A8

SINCE 1865

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Georgia Bureau of Investigation

# Covington man arrested on child porn distribution charge

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

COVINGTON, Ga. — A Newton County man was arrested in late January as part of a GBI operation targeting the sharing of child pornography online.

The GBI's Child Exploitation and Computer Crimes Unit (CE-ACC) and Special Enforcement Team (SET) worked together Jan. 23-26 to execute multiple residential search warrants as part of unrelated child exploitation investigations, a news release stated.

Sudesh Ryan Rajkoomar, 26, of Covington, was arrested Jan. 23 at his residence and charged with three counts of Distribution of Child Sexual Abuse Material.

A GBI agent said the investigation into the Covington case began after the agency received a cyber tip from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children that the suspect had im-



**Sudesh R. Rajkoomar**

ages of children on a computer he was allegedly sharing with others online.

"It was regarding a particular social media company that had reported to the National Center that this individual was distributing child sexual abuse material," said Special Agent in Charge Brian Johnston.

The two GBI units planned the operation for months and named it "Happy New Year," a news release stated.

Eleven were arrested and charged with child exploitation offenses after the CEACC Unit executed a total of 17 search warrants over the four-day period in Newton, Clayton, DeKalb, Spalding, Gwinnett and Fulton counties.

Those arrested ranged in age from 18 to 62 with individual charges from one count to 12 counts of Sexual Exploitation of Children.

The cases came from cybertips received from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children concerning individuals using

computer peer-to-peer file sharing networks for the collection and dissemination of child sexual abuse material and individuals engaged in sexually explicit or obscene internet contact with a child.

As a result of the search warrants, over 230 digital devices were previewed on scene by GBI digital forensic investigators assigned to the CEACC unit — the host agency for Georgia's Internet Crimes Against Children's Task Force.

Many of the devices were seized and will be subjected to full digital forensic processing which will likely result in more arrests, the release stated.

The Newton County Sheriff's Office assisted the GBI in the Covington case, the release stated.

Operation "Happy New Year"

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

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

Anyone with information about these cases or other cases of child exploitation is asked to contact the Georgia Bureau of Investigation Child Exploitation Unit at 404-270-8870.

## REWARD:

Continued from A1

midnight near Laurie Lane and found the victim, who was pronounced dead at the scene, according to information from the sheriff's office.

"Following an on-scene investigation, it has been determined the vehicle involved in the hit-and-run is a Ford and will have damage on the passenger side," said Newton County Sheriff's Office spokesperson Caitlin Jett.

Anyone with information about the incident can call 678-283-4010.

Matheus was an Atlanta native and lifelong resident of Covington.

She attended Newton County High School, according to an obituary from J.C. Harwell & Son Funeral Home.

She is survived by seven children, two grandchildren, mother, sister and brother.

The GoFundMe account is at: [https://www.gofundme.com/f/funeral-expenses-for-deanna-matthews-grimes?utm\\_campaign=p\\_cp+share-sheet&utm\\_content=undefined&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=customer&utm\\_term=undefined](https://www.gofundme.com/f/funeral-expenses-for-deanna-matthews-grimes?utm_campaign=p_cp+share-sheet&utm_content=undefined&utm_medium=email&utm_source=customer&utm_term=undefined).

## GOVERNOR:

Continued from A1

uated from the University of Georgia in 1994. He then moved to Shizuoka, Japan, to teach English and business communications to Japanese executives.

In 1999, Morris graduated from Mercer Law School and began handling complex litigation claims involving local governments.

Morris also has served as the deputy county attorney for Butts and Henry counties.

He replaces longtime Superior Court Judge John Ott — who retired Dec. 31 and was later appointed as a senior judge.

Superior Court Judge Ken Wynne replaced Ott as the chief judge of the Alcovy Judicial Circuit.

In Georgia, Superior Court judges are constitutional officers who are elected to four-year terms in circuit-wide nonpartisan elections.

However, the governor fills some vacancies in Superior Court by appointment.

Superior Court judges preside over all felony trials, have exclusive jurisdiction over divorces and may correct errors made by limited jurisdiction courts, according to information from the Alcovy Judicial Circuit.

Each county has its own Superior Court, though a judge may serve more than one county. A chief judge handles the administrative tasks for each circuit.

# Life After Perfect

WITH **KATE BOWLER**  
Author. Professor. Incurable Optimist.

## Chaplain's Lecture Series

Kate Bowler, PhD is a New York Times bestselling author, podcast host, and a professor at Duke University. She studies the cultural stories we tell ourselves about success, suffering, and whether (or not) we're capable of change.



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## Obituaries

### Barry O. Richardson

Caldwell & Cowan  
Funeral Home

Barry O. Richardson, of Greensboro, passed away Friday, January 27, 2023, at the age of 76. Mr. Richardson proudly served in the United States Navy during the end of the Vietnam era. He attended Lake Oconee Community Church. Mr. Richardson was the president of Boiler & Steam Performance, which has been in operation since 1989. Born in Lithonia, he lived in



**Barry O. Richardson**

Covington for over 20 years and resided on Lake Oconee. Mr. Richardson was a member of the Board of Directors for St. Mary's Good Samaritan Hospital. Additionally, he was active in the Greensboro Chamber of Commerce and heavily involved with several other civil organizations in Greene County. Mr. Richardson was preceded in death by his parents, Morris Oliver and Mildred Clarice Richardson.

He is survived by his wife of 39 years, Shirley Richardson; son, Josh Richardson (Audrea); daughters, Tanya Rowell (Mark), Jill Feeney (David), Donna Mares, Shirley Ann Moore (Marty), Teresa K. Crocker (Robert

Nault); 19 grandchildren; 9 great-grandchildren; sister, Lurene Emerick (Sammy); and numerous nieces and nephews.

A Funeral Service for Mr. Richardson will be held Saturday, February 4, 2023, 2:00 P.M., at The Baptist Tabernacle, 10119 Access Road, in Covington, with Pastor Todd Sweat and Pastor Jeff Hegwood officiating and entombment following in Memory Chapel Mausoleum in Lawnwood Memorial Park, 1111 Access Road, in Covington. Friends are invited to visit with the family at Caldwell & Cowan Funeral Home, 1215 Access Road, in Covington, on Friday, February 3, from 6:00 – 8:00 P.M. Flowers are accepted, or in lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to St. Mary's Good Samaritan Hospital, Attn: Administration, 5401 Lake Oconee Parkway, Greensboro, GA 30642.

Visit [www.caldwellandcowan.com](http://www.caldwellandcowan.com) to place online condolences.



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# REGIONAL REPORT

Read about what's happening across the metro and beyond Newton County's border >>

## Bill sets mandatory minimum sentences for gang recruitment

Georgia lawmakers want to increase the sentence for gang recruitment activities as part of a tough-on-crime push under the Gold Dome this legislative session.

A new state Senate bill would increase the penalties for recruiting someone to join a gang or participate in gang activity through mandatory minimum sentencing guidelines that judges would have to follow in most cases.

Sponsored by Sen. Bo Hatchett, R-Cornelia, Senate Bill 44 has the backing of Gov. Brian Kemp and Lt. Gov. Burt Jones.

"This bill is one piece of the overall approach to reaffirm that Georgia will not tolerate gang activity or recruitment," Jones said. "Senate Bill 44 will enact powerful new tools to combat the violent street gangs operating across our state."

The bill requires judges to impose at least a five-year prison sentence for violation of the law. If the person who has been recruited to the gang is under 17 years of age or has a disability, the mandatory minimum penalty is steeper – at least 10 years for the first offense.

The legislation provides some exceptions to the mandatory minimum sentences, including if the accused has not already been convicted of a felony or if the judge decides that "the interests of justice will not be served." It also provides an exception to the minimum sentencing rules if the accused helps with identifying and convicting other gang members.

Not everyone agrees that the bill's sentences for gang recruitment would help solve Georgia's crime problem.

Senate Democrats would prefer to reduce the number of guns on the street in Georgia and increase community investments in mental health and violence-prevention programs, according to a legislative agenda released Tuesday.

"We will be tough on crime in a common-sense way: keeping guns away from people who will harm Georgians," the agenda states.

In general, states have moved away from mandatory minimum sentencing requirements over the past few decades, said Kay Levine, a professor at the Emory University School of Law and an expert in criminal procedure.

Levine said leniency in sentencing is not a major problem in Georgia, and increasing penalties does not necessarily deter crime.

"All that we know about deterrence is that it is the likelihood of getting caught that affects people's behavior... not the punishment," she said.

Judges often view the minimum sentencing rules as legislative overreach into the judicial domain, Levine said.

"They're like, 'We have this job for a reason: we're the ones who hear the evidence, we're the ones who read the pre-sentence report, we're the ones who have seen the defendant testify, we hear from the victim,'" Levine said of how many judges think about such requirements. "We are judges, we are here to exercise our judgment."

Despite such misgivings, the bill has a strong shot of success in what has been a slow start to the legislative session. Twenty-two Senate Republicans have signed on as co-sponsors.

"There is no place for gangs in Georgia," said Hatchett, the bill's main sponsor. "Passage of this vital legislation is a top priority."

—Capitol Beat News

## Gas South Convention Center in Duluth reopens after 3 years

Gwinnett County officials, the Gas South District Board of Directors, and venue partners gathered Wednesday to celebrate the grand reopening of Gas South Convention Center in Duluth which began construction in February 2020.

Gas South District pulled back the curtains to unveil the

newly expanded and renovated Convention Center. The state-of-the-art facility now offers 90,000 square feet of exhibit hall space, a 21,600-square-foot ballroom, 24 meeting rooms, and outdoor gathering areas with landscaping enhancements.

The Gas South District master plan encompasses the expansion of the Convention Center space and the addition of an entertainment district and luxury hotel to the campus. Phase 1 of the project which included the addition of 50,000 square feet of exhibit hall space, a new junior ballroom, and outdoor plaza was finished in December of 2021. The work then shifted to Phase 2 which was a complete renovation of the existing facility that also incorporated the addition of a new food hall and upgraded technology. Completion of the 348-room Westin Atlanta Gwinnett is expected in 2024.

The first events being held in the Convention Center's Ballroom are the Gas South District Speaker Series luncheon and the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce annual dinner.

—Gas South District

## Mid-year state budget clears Georgia House committee

Georgia House budget writers approved a \$32.6 billion mid-year state budget Wednesday that takes advantage of a \$6.6 billion revenue surplus to increase spending 7.8% above the record fiscal 2023 budget lawmakers adopted last spring.

"It is putting the focus on the people of this state and our state employees," House Appropriations Committee Chairman Matt Hatchett, R-Dublin, said of the mid-year budget, which covers state spending through June. "We've got the money right now to do that."

The mid-year spending plan, which the full House will take up Thursday, supports most of the mid-year budget recommendations Gov. Brian Kemp outlined

last month.

Big-ticket items in the governor's plan include \$166.7 million in grants to help the state land large economic development projects, \$105 million for a new electronic medical records system at the Medical College of Georgia, and \$92 million for a state reinsurance plan launching this month that aims to hold down health coverage premiums.

House appropriators also endorsed Kemp's request for \$51.4 million for emergency maintenance and repairs to state prisons and \$35.7 million to establish a Rural Workforce Housing Fund.

The House committee also kicked in additional funds beyond the governor's recommendations in a number of areas.

The panel put an extra \$1 million toward completing an expansion of the Savannah Convention Center, an amount to be matched later by the Senate. Kemp also is seeking \$8 million in bond funding for the project in his fiscal 2024 budget package.

House appropriators added \$23 million to the school security grants the governor is requesting in his mid-year budget plan, for a total of \$138.8 million.

The committee also earmarked \$5 million for the Georgia Department of Human Services to help find housing for foster children. A lack of space is forcing the "hoteling" of foster kids in hotels or state offices, a problem that was highlighted during a legislative hearing last week.

The House panel also is looking to provide an additional \$7.8 million in state aid to airports and \$5.7 million for additional aircraft and hangars at the School of Aviation on Middle Georgia State University's Eastman campus.

—Capitol Beat News

## Ossoff goes to bat for two proposed land preservation projects

U.S. Sen. Jon Ossoff, D-Ga., is asking the United States Forest

Service to support two fiscal 2024 Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) projects in Georgia.

The proposed Dug-down Mountain Corridor project would build on a multi-state effort to connect the Paulding/Sheffield Forest areas northwest of Atlanta to the Talladega National Forest in Alabama.

The proposed Chatahoochee-Oconee National Forest project would add new land across watersheds that provide drinking water

to millions of people and contain habitat for endangered species, ensuring they are further protected.

"There is significant demand for public use for both projects," Ossoff wrote in a letter last week to the chief of the forest service, Randy Moore. "However, these areas' proximity to urban centers also increases the risk that they will be converted into non-forest use. Thus, it is urgent that these lands be secured through the LWCF."

—Capitol Beat News

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# OPINIONS

The Covington News

**Gabriel Stovall** publisher and editor

## A month for reflection, appreciation

Let February begin! February is always one of the most meaningful months of any year for me, starting with the fact that it's my birthday month. This year, I turn 43 on my Feb. 25. Gift cards and donations of homemade cakes and pies are welcome!



But beyond that, this month means more to me because it's the month that celebrates my heritage as a Black man — particularly a Black man in America.

Though sometimes complex, it's still something I'm immensely grateful for and proud of. Why complex, you ask? Well, it's not just for one or two reasons — which, I guess, is why I say it's complex.

Years ago, author James Baldwin said, "To be a Negro in this country, and to be relatively conscious, is to be in a rage almost all the time."

He said that in 1961 during the height of the Civil Rights Movement while racial unrest in America was occurring and reaching white-hot proportions. About two years later, on June 12, 1963, Civil Rights activist Medgar Evers was assassinated. That was the beginning of a rash of high-profile assassinations that targeted political/civil rights figures from President John F. Kennedy (November 1963) to Malcolm X (February 1965) and Martin Luther King, Jr. (April 1968), culminating with President Kennedy's brother, Robert F. Kennedy (June 1968).

There were other less prominent ones as well.

It was a particularly ugly period in our nation's history that underscored just exactly how difficult it was for America to pivot away from the idea that judging each other by way of skin color and political fervor was supremely heinous and sinister.

Some would say that the struggle still persists, thankfully, though with far less assassination blood.

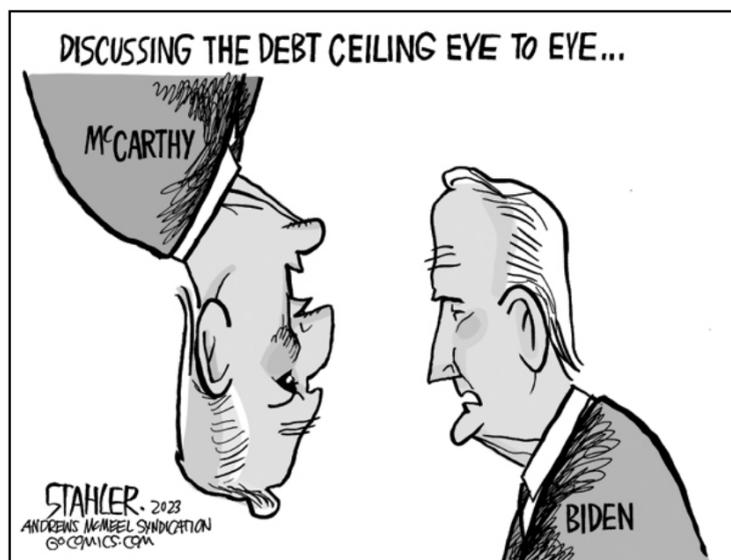
But as I watched the heart-breaking situation unfold with the murder of Tyree Nichols at the hands of five Black Memphis police officers last month, Baldwin's quote came rushing to the forefront of my mind, just as Black History Month began.

Some may roll their eyes at the notion of it being difficult to be Black in America. But if one has never walked in those shoes, it may be best for them to reserve judgment and take on a posture of learning.

Often, we joke about how Black people were given the shortest month of the year to pay homage to our heritage. But you know what they say — behind every joke is

See **STOVALL, A5**

**Jeff Stahler** cartoonist



**Byron York** national columnist

## The Joe Biden-Hunter Biden scandal convergence

Republicans have long said the Hunter Biden laptop scandal is really a Joe Biden story. Now, it looks like the Joe Biden classified documents scandal is also a Hunter Biden story. Two Biden scandals are merging into one.

The convergence point is President Biden's house in Wilmington, Delaware. The public learned in the last few weeks that Biden stored a number of classified documents there, both in his garage — famously next to his vintage Corvette — and in his personal library.



How many documents? Biden will not say. His personal lawyer, Bob Bauer, released a statement saying that after a search of the house, Justice Department lawyers took "six items consisting of documents with classification markings and surrounding materials." The problem is, no one knows what an "item" is. Is it a single piece of paper with classification markings? Or is it a box of papers, perhaps hundreds of pages, some of which are marked classified? If you look at how DOJ described the results of the Trump Mar-a-Lago search, you'll see it used the word "item" to describe boxes of documents. So there's no way to be certain how many documents Biden allegedly mishandled.

In any event, the documents were in the house. And then we learned that also in the house at times over the years was Hunter Biden, the president's formerly drug-addicted son. And of course we know that Hunter Biden spent years cultivating relationships with shady foreign actors. Plus, he was at times addicted to crack and was, to say the least, unreliable when it came to information security. You might recall that he forgot about a whole laptop he once left for repair.

That is reason enough for further investigation, given the undisputed presence of classified documents in the Wilmington house. But now some Republicans worry that Hunter Biden might have been the recipient of classified information, which he then used to advance his foreign business interests while his father was vice president.

At the center of the new questions is an April 13, 2014, email — found on the laptop, of course — from Hunter Biden to business partner (and later convicted fraudster) Devon Archer. The email was sent a few months after Hunter Biden was discharged from the Naval Reserve for cocaine use. It was an analysis of the political and business outlook in Ukraine, where both Biden and Archer were trying to secure cushy positions, for at least \$50,000 per month, on the board of the corruption-plagued energy company Burisma. The email was unusually long and unusually detailed for a Hunter Biden missive. It showed a depth of knowledge and inside information about Ukraine that seems unlikely Hunter Biden would possess.

Miranda Devine, author of the book "Laptop From Hell," has posted screenshots of the email. Biden began by saying he had done "some research." He went into the Ukrainian presidential race, Russian activities and intentions, the future of Ukrainian energy exploration, IMF loan guarantees, the possible role of Kazakhstan, the future of pipelines, European Union policy, the activities of various oligarchs, corporate structure and much, much more. Biden also mentioned his father's then-upcoming visit to Ukraine: "The announcement of my guy's upcoming travels should be characterized as part of our advice and thinking, but what he will say and do is out of our hands," Biden wrote. "In other words, it could be a really good thing or it could end up creating too great an expectation. We need to temper expectations regarding that visit."

Those sentences alone showed that Hunter Biden's business was all about Joe Biden. But Republican Sen. Ron Johnson is concerned that it showed more than that. "I've traveled overseas, and you get what they call scene setters from the State Department," Johnson told Fox Business' Maria Bartiromo. "It reads like one of those scene setters, a highly detailed information in terms of Ukraine."

Putting the memo in the context of what Hunter Biden was doing at the time, Johnson said, "It's obvious that Hunter Biden

See **YORK, A5**

**Dick Yarbrough** columnist

## Random thoughts on some random subjects

Sen. Brandon Beach, R-Alpharetta, has introduced Senate Bill 7, known as the "3G" bill or the "Gangs, Guns, Gone" bill. It would impose a 10-year mandatory minimum sentence for anyone who uses a gun while committing or attempting to commit a violent felony, whether the weapon was discharged or not. The 10 years would precede whatever other sentence might be imposed by the courts. Sen. Beach said the idea for "Gangs, Gun, Gone" concept was inspired by longtime, no-nonsense Fulton County Superior Court Judge Craig Schwall who takes a dim view of gangs with guns and wants them gone. . . .



I wonder how the boobirds feel now. You will recall that Gov. Brian Kemp was jeered at the state GOP convention on Jekyll Island a couple of years ago by delegates who felt he didn't do enough to help Donald Trump win an election they thought (and probably still do) he should have won. Fast forward to today. A poll conducted by the University of Georgia's School of Public and International Affairs for the Atlanta newspapers, shows the governor's approval rating at a record high and that most Georgians say the state is on the right track. He is also positioning Georgia as the primary location for the electric vehicle industry. Since 2018, 35 EV-related projects have brought \$23 billion in investments across the state. Since Republicans sometimes have problems figuring out who is the enemy (Hint: The Democrats?), maybe the boobirds can boo each other. . . .

He wouldn't remember me but I met Georgia Speaker of the House Jon Burns a few years back when I spoke at the annual meeting of the Effingham Chamber of Commerce. A very nice guy. I wish him well in his new role. . . .

Baltimore Ravens quarterback Lamar Jackson has rejected a contract offer that would have guaranteed him \$133 million to re-sign with the team. This, for putting a plastic bucket on his head and heaving an oblong sphere to a bunch of other overpaid plastic bucket wearers. In contrast, Georgia public schoolteachers would make roughly 11% of that total if they spent

30 years in the profession. It tells you a lot about our value system, doesn't it? . . .

Speaking of our schoolteachers, the governor and legislators risk serious tendinitis patting themselves on the back for the promise to add \$2,000 to teacher pay this session. With a couple of schoolteachers in my family, I know they will appreciate the additional compensation. However, I think what all teachers would appreciate more is some respect for what they do and the circumstances under which they do it. . . .

Raising teacher pay doesn't seem to have deterred state Rep. John Carson, R-Marietta, from continuing his assault on public schools and those that teach within. He is proposing that tuition subsidies for private K-12 schools be increased from the current \$120 million to \$200 million next year. This allows the affluent among us to send their kids to private schools — which they could do anyway — and get a like amount credited against their tax bill. What is this guy's problem with public schools, anyway? Did he fail recess? . . .

A suggestion to Gov. Kemp. You were instrumental in getting the Board of Regents to do the right thing and name the field at Sanford Stadium for Vince Dooley, which should have been done a long time ago. Thankfully, he lived to see it accomplished, thanks to you. Now, suggest (wink! wink!) that the logo be placed on the field as is done in many other named stadiums across the country. If not, why not? . . .

Finally, a point of personal privilege. I am proud to be associated with the Henry W. Grady School of Journalism at the University of Georgia and enthusiastically support it with my time and tithes. That's because the place is chock-full of outstanding academics and professionals and brighter-than-a-new-penny students. But somebody behind the scenes has to make things run smoothly and deal with all the paperwork. That person was Donna LeBlond who retired last week after 30 years as an administrative associate in the Department of Advertising and Public Relations at Grady. She was my go-to person at Grady. I will miss her and her perennially-positive attitude.

Contact Dick Yarbrough at [dick@dickyarbrough.com](mailto:dick@dickyarbrough.com); or at Box 725373, Atlanta, GA 31139.

## The Covington News

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Georgia General Assembly

# Bill approved to widen GBI powers

By **REBECCA GRAPEVINE**  
Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA — The state Senate Wednesday passed a bill that would allow the Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI) to independently investigate a wide range of terrorism cases.

The first bill to make it to the Senate floor this session — the “Georgia Fights Terrorism Act” — passed handily, with 49 senators voting for the bill and only three voting against it.

The bill would allow the GBI to open investigations of terrorism independently instead of solely at the request of govern-

ment agencies or officials, as is typically the case now.

“This bill simply allows the Georgia Bureau of Investigation the ability to proactively, either independently or with our other agencies, both local and federal, go after and investigate crimes related to terrorism, nuclear, biological, chemical, cyber and domestic,” said Sen. John Albers, R-Roswell, the bill’s chief sponsor.

Under the bill, the GBI could open such investigations if the agency’s director finds that doing so “would not compromise the successful completion of cases.”

The GBI provides a number of services to the state, including forensic analysis, autopsies, investigations of serious crimes and tracking of crime statistics.

Though the bill breezed through the Senate, some advocates say the bill is unnecessary.

“Our main concern . . . is that a lot of the conversations around protesting, around some of the complaints and issues that communities have . . . are starting to slowly be called things like domestic terrorism,” said Isabel Otero, Georgia policy director for the Southern Poverty Law Center Action Fund.

## STOVALL:

Continued from A4

a bit of truth. Sometimes the weight of African American plight can be overwhelming.

Some will try to brush it off as an overreaction, comparing the Black American’s struggles and historic treatment to other ethnic groups as if to say, “See, you all don’t have it so bad. Quit complaining” (Words that have actually been spoken to me before).

Others take the opposite approach and try to make everything about race. And others still look at situations like Nichols’ death at the hands of ones who look like him — men in blue, no less — and wonder, “Well, if Black people don’t care about their own, why should anyone else?”

All the while, we live and navigate through the difficulties while striving to remain integral parts to the uplifting of American society — a place that many of us feel we’ve had to learn to love despite it not always loving us. It reminds me of the biblical narrative in the book of Nehemiah when the workers who were rebuilding Jerusa-

lem’s walls had to work with a hammer in one hand and a sword in the other.

Black Americans constantly feel the dichotomy of trying to fight for our freedoms while also helping to build the country that once constitutionally referred to us as subhuman.

Most times, I find myself oscillating between frustration at how others treat us and how we sometimes treat ourselves. At the same time, I also continuously bask in the progress and power of our race, despite the odds — and, to be sure, I do that more than just in February. It’s alot.

But in February, we get the opportunity to put special emphasis on the plenteous contributions Black people have made to our nation. And each year, I always discover something or someone new — something I’d never considered before.

This year, I’m focusing on learning the important African American figures who have achieved greatness right here in Newton County, and I’m looking forward to not only discovering them

but telling some of their stories, hopefully in fresh ways that natives to this area would appreciate.

I believe it’s important for each ethnicity and each people group in our country to take special emphasis moments to consider and remember how their parts have contributed to the whole. And doing so doesn’t mean we have to do it at the expense of respecting or appreciating those who are different from us.

To try and pretend that Black Americans didn’t have it harder than most in this country does no one any good. To honor Black Americans for accomplishments in a nation that was often antagonistic to our presence here, actually helps reinforce the fact that America can be a land of opportunity, despite its vast imperfections and sins.

For those who don’t share our heritage, I challenge you to take this month and learn some things about our history and culture that you may not have known or maybe even took for granted — things that may even dispel some

personally held myths or stereotypes about African Americans.

For my fellow Black Americans, I say, let’s take this month to push pause on the negative narratives that surround us — no matter their source — and be reminded of why our presence in this land is needed and should always be highly valued, and why we need unity among ourselves to be stronger than ever.

As I stand on the strength of my ancestors who were everything in this nation from slaves to groundbreaking preachers and pastors — my great, great, great grandfather was reportedly one of the first, if not the first, Black pastors to start a church in Mississippi — to business leaders and educators, I say to you all, “Happy Black History Month.”

It’s not a sin to be proud of who you are as long as that pride isn’t stepping on someone else.

*Gabriel Stovall is the publisher and editor of The Covington News. He can be reached at gstovall@covnews.com.*

## YORK:

Continued from A4

is selling access to information. And does that have anything to do with some of the classified documents that then-Vice President Biden was squirreling away in his residence? I don’t know, but it looks incredibly suspicious.”

Republican Sen. Ted Cruz is also concerned. “Hunter Biden is not an expert on Ukraine,” he told Bartiromo. “He’s not an expert on Eastern Europe. He’s not an expert on Russia.”

But that email did help him get on the board of Burisma. . . . It showed a level of expertise, not coming from him, but he was getting it from somewhere. That’s clearly from some sort of briefing. We don’t know whether it was a classified briefing or not. . . . This email is unusual in the Hunter Biden emails. There’s a

level of scholarship and erudition that . . . doesn’t appear in the other emails he’s sending. The obvious question is, what was he cutting and pasting from? What was his source? And it raises the natural inference that Hunter Biden had direct access to these classified documents.”

A few years after the 2014 email, of course, Hunter Biden hit a low point, becoming addicted to crack, consorting with a parade of prostitutes, throwing money away, and desperately looking for ways to get more cash. Many of those ways, of course, involved trading on his father’s name with disreputable foreign contacts. Some of that time, Hunter Biden was living in the Wilmington house with the classified documents.

It should be said

that Johnson and Cruz are engaging in some conjecture about what might have happened with Hunter Biden and classified information. But there is certainly reason to investigate the convergence of the Hunter Biden laptop scandal and the Joe Biden classified documents scandal. And if the Justice Department does not do it, the Republican-controlled House of Representatives will.

*Byron York is chief political correspondent for The Washington Examiner. For a deeper dive into many of the topics Byron covers, listen to his podcast, The Byron York Show, available on the Ricochet Audio Network at ricochet.com/series/byron-york-show and everywhere else podcasts are found.*

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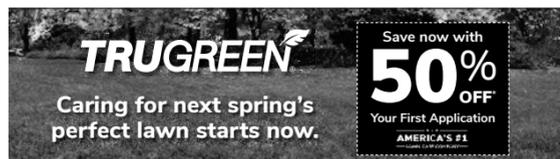
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Morning Worship Services – 10:30 A.M.  
Evening Worship Services 5:30 P.M.

**WEDNESDAY**  
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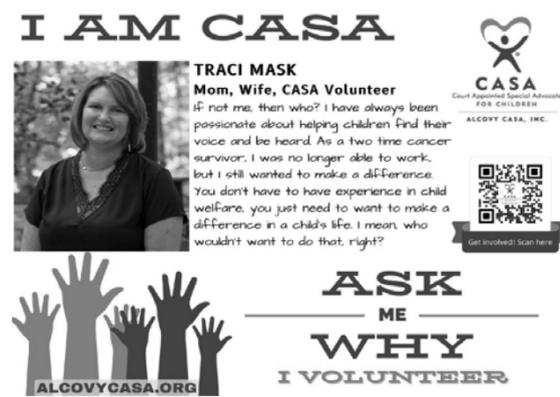
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Newton County Senior Services

# Senior Center celebrated half-century of service in '22

**STAFF REPORT**  
news@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — As this new year begins, the Newton County Senior Center looks forward to the future while reminis-

ing on its 50 years. Beginning in 1972, the Senior Center has served Newton County faithfully, and with only two directors in its history, it has been a steadfast constant for

the community. With seniors comprising over a fourth of Newton County's population, having a facility devoted to seniors is essential.

Many seniors regard the Senior Center as a home away from home and a second family. It is a place where seniors flourish and thrive! There is a saying located in the lobby of the Senior Center that embraces all who enter, "Family isn't always blood. It's the people in your life who want you in theirs; the ones who accept you for who you are. The ones who would do anything to see you smile and who love you no matter what."

In the early 1970s, Covington's Mayor Dr. William L. Dobbs along with local attorney and State Sen. Don Ballard saw the need for a place where seniors could go during the week and enjoy gathering with others. Dobbs and Ballard both felt very strongly that the best individual to head this program was none other than Josephine B. Brown. They knew Brown would operate with the best interest of seniors at heart and help the Senior Center reach its full potential.

Beginning in 1972, Brown canvassed the county and recruited her first members. From there, the Senior Center began, and with

Brown's hard work, it gained momentum full steam ahead. What started as a basic fellowship and food program soon turned into more as Brown noticed that seniors needed additional activities. She envisioned a family environment where seniors had opportunities to increase knowledge, exercise their talents, and try new things.

There were many difficulties and uncertainties to navigate, but Brown persevered and conducted the Senior Center with creative strategies — sometimes pioneering original programs. As a result, the Newton County Senior Center has long been considered one of Georgia's best. Recognized for its growth and different activities, it has earned numerous innovative program awards.

Having the ability to think outside the box and try new things has afforded great success for the Senior Center. It serves as an exemplary center for other senior centers throughout Georgia. All Northeast Georgia counties have modeled something from the Newton County Senior Center, and many counties around the state have as well.

After serving 45 years as executive director, Brown retired, and a seamless transition to Freda Reed occurred. Both Brown

and Reed have won Director of the Year for Georgia by the Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC). The ADRC covers all Georgia senior centers and provides staff training, workshops, and resources. Reed has continued in the footsteps of Brown by adding new programs such as the Drama Club and choir, devoting time to research, and pursuing grants to further enhance the quality of life for seniors.

The Senior Center offers ceramics, arts and crafts, quilting, sewing, exercise, drama, dancing, computer, book club, dominoes, choir, travel, day-trips, nutrition classes, fellowship, grandparents club, workshops, holiday entertainment, and more. Home Delivery clients also receive meals. As one of the fastest growing and most vibrant senior centers, the Newton County Senior Center must meet the needs of the diverse population so all can enjoy and feel at home. The large number of activities makes Newton County stand out because most centers do not have the selection. The Drama Club and Voices of Wisdom Choir are very special programs not easily found elsewhere.

The Senior Center has evolved quite extensively, moving to numerous locations

over the years due to the growing number of participants. Recently, the Senior Center located at Turner Lake was remodeled, expanded, and renamed the Josephine B. Brown Senior Center. However, this facility will be expanded for a second time to accommodate the ever-increasing number of members and is scheduled for completion by April 2023.

The success of the past fifty years would not have been possible without the outstanding leadership of two exceptional directors, a caring and devoted staff, excellent volunteers, and numerous community and corporate sponsors. The entire staff and seniors of the Senior Center would like to thank everyone for their support. May the next fifty years contain even greater fun with more friends!

To be a part of the exciting events happening at the Senior Center and to make a positive difference in the lives of seniors, come volunteer! Donations are also appreciated and help fund extra programs and services. Visit us at the Josephine B. Brown Senior Center 6183 Turner Lake Road, Covington, GA 30014 or call 770-787-0038 to volunteer!



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U.S. House of Representatives

## Johnson secures committee assignments

**STAFF REPORT**  
news@covnews.com

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Rep. Hank Johnson, D-Stonecrest, announced he has secured positions as a senior Democrat member of the House Judiciary Committee and the Transportation & Infrastructure Committee (T&I).

He was also elected by his peers as the ranking member of the Judiciary Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property and the Internet. He served as chairman of the Courts

subcommittee during the 117th Congress.

"Alongside my fellow House Democrats, I am focused on lowering costs, creating better-paying jobs, making our communities safer, and defending our freedoms.

"I also look forward to continuing my work to reform the courts — particularly Supreme Court and federal court expansion, ethics reform, and transparency and modernization efforts," Johnson said.

He said he also looked forward to working with

Courts Subcommittee Chairman Darrell Issa, R-Calif., "wherever possible."

In his ninth term, Johnson "has a proud record of working on the Judiciary Committee and subcommittees on gun safety reform, fundamental court reform, consumer protection and voting rights," a news release stated.

On Transportation & Infrastructure, Johnson "fought for more investments in mass transit, aviation safety and reconnecting communities cutoff by the racism

ingrained in historical transportation and urban planning."

The Judiciary Committee has jurisdiction over matters relating to the administration of justice in federal courts, administrative bodies, and law enforcement agencies.

"Its infrequent but important role in impeachment proceedings has also brought it much attention," the release stated.

The Transportation and Infrastructure Committee has jurisdiction over all modes of transportation: aviation, maritime and waterborne transportation, highways, bridges, mass transit and railroads.

Johnson will serve on two other Judiciary subcommittees: Regulatory Reform and Antitrust; and Constitution & Government. And he will serve on two T&I subcommittees: Aviation, Highways and Transit; and Railroads, Pipelines and Hazardous Materials.

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# GRANT:

Continued from A1

Urban Development (HUD) to see if there was a way to prevent the grant from being rescinded.

Sanders stated in her video that the HUD representative she spoke with assured her that, since the grant had been fully approved, it would not be rescinded, and that HUD would be willing to work with the county to make sure all requirements were met. Sanders reinforced this in her email response, also adding that she was “instructed by Congressman Johnson’s team to get a document from HUD to verify” that the grant would still be available to the county for the facility.

Sanders said she did just that, and has communicated to the BOC that the grant money for the proposed Westside Youth Facility is still in play. “Now it is on the commissioners to decide if they will keep the \$4 (million),” Sanders wrote in the email. “I did my part and now it’s up to the board. It has been passed by Congress and has been confirmed. Per HUD, they would not take back the grant. It was confirmed through Congress, and they will work with us even if we’re at the beginning stage.”

In that aforementioned Facebook video, Sanders stated that she and the rest of the BOC became aware of Congressman Johnson’s grant via an email dated March 24, 2022 that was sent to the entire BOC from the congressman’s office. Sanders showed

the email via screen share on her Facebook page, and said she felt compelled to apply for the grant herself, given that the County has no grant writer.

She said that the initial pushback from interim county manager Jarvis Sims was that, because she applied for the grant without board approval, it could mean that the county couldn’t receive it. “I take that responsibility,” Sanders said. “I was eager and wanted to apply. I didn’t think I had to (get approval) because it was sent to all commissioners, and because we don’t have a grant writer in Newton County.”

Sanders showed where the Youth Facility project was selected by Johnson for submission to the Appropriations Committee, via an email from the congressman’s legislative assistant dated April 20, 2022. Sanders then displayed the email from Johnson’s office that the Youth Facility’s \$4 million grant was officially approved in December 2022.

Before the most recent questions regarding the grant funding, the main point of contention about the facility has been the location.

In July 2022, Johnson included plans for the facility on a list of 4th Congressional District community projects proposed for Congress’ annual spending plan for Fiscal Year 2023. That list included \$4 million for the Youth Facility.

In January, federal funds from the recently approved federal omnibus appropriations bill were combined with

local sales tax proceeds to provide enough money for the facility. In other words, the \$4 million grant was matched with \$4.2 million from the voter-approved 2017 Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST).

Included in the local funding was \$495,000 approved by voters in the 2017 SPLOST, and an additional \$3.7 million came from funds garnered above the originally budgeted amount from 2017 SPLOST collections.

In the Jan. 17 BOC Work Session, three “finalist” locations for the proposed facility were presented to the board.

The top three prospective sites are from a Wright Monk property, located in District 3 that features five parcels of land that’s a little over 60 acres, two tracks of land totaling just under 74 acres that’s in District 2’s Crescent Circle, right off of Salem Road and a piece of land that would be donated from the Boys & Girls Club — a four-acre tract of land that fronts Brown Bridge Road.

While the third option seems to be the most cost effective, Sanders fears that settling for the Boys and Girls Club property would undermine the desires of those whom the Youth Facility would directly benefit — the students themselves.

“It just seems like we’re trying to push everybody towards that,” Sanders said during the Jan. 17 work session meeting. “The Boys and Girls Club is a great organization. It was good

for our generation, the Baby Boomers and Gen X. But now we have a new Generation. Gen Y and Z — our social media generation, and their programming doesn’t fit well for that.”

Sanders went on to say that, in her data collection, she discovered young people, their parents and other residents raised concerns that failing to build something unique to the county itself could be a mistake.

“In petitioning those residents, they said they didn’t want their tax dollars going to the Boys and Girls Club,” Sanders said. “They want their own facility erected by the county. One person actually asked, ‘Why do counties think the Boys and Girls Club is always the answer to communities with minority kids?’”

The county’s western area is predominantly African American, and Sanders cited statistics she said were from the Boys and Girls Club’s website that stated “the No. 1 race that attends the Boys and Girls Club are Caucasian females.”

“Our youth in the school systems are saying they don’t want to go there, and administrators are backing it up,” she continued. “That is my issue. We’re forcing our community toward something they’re not looking for. Why are we investing our tax dollars into something that’s not working? The kids don’t want to go there.”

Though County Chairman Marcello Banes stressed that the board needed to

make a decision on location soon, he moved to table discussion of location into a soon-coming executive session.

The county Board of Commissioners is scheduled to reconvene Tuesday, Feb. 7, at 6:30 p.m.

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## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**Tuesday, Feb. 7**

• Chaplain’s Lecture Series featuring free talk by Kate Bowler, New York Times bestselling author, podcast host and professor at Duke University, to speak on “Life After Perfect” on Feb. 7 at 7:30 p.m. at Greer Forum in the Student Center. Event is free but space is limited so registration is recommended. For more information, visit <https://oxford.emory.edu/news/events.html#main>.

**Thursday, Feb. 9**

• Chocolate Crawl, 6-8 p.m., downtown Social Circle. Participating businesses will have a bright red heart in their windows letting the public know they are a part of the event designed to encourage shopping in the city’s historic

**Saturday, Feb. 11**

• Newton County Republican Party Precinct Caucus, 10 a.m., Canaan Baptist Church, 5581 Salem Road, Covington. All Newton County residents who are legally registered to vote and

believe in the principles of the Republican Party are urged to participate in this process. For more information, email [bcherry@newtongop.org](mailto:bcherry@newtongop.org).

**Friday, Feb. 17**

• The Oxford Sustainability Committee is hosting their Pull Invasive Plants event

from 10 a.m. to noon. Meet at the end of East Bonnell Street near the Oxford Organic Farm exit. For more information, call 770-786-7004.

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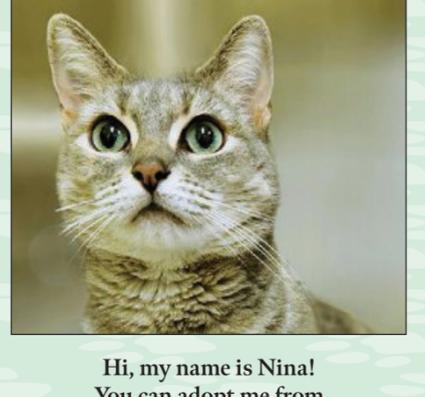
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# BUSINESS

The Covington News

Local Gas Prices

## Price rises 23 cents per gallon in two weeks

By TOM SPIGOLON  
tspigolon@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — Newton County's average gas price was at the state's average this week after the cost rose at the pump compared to a week ago in Georgia.

The average price of a gallon of unleaded regular gas

was \$3.39 in both Newton and statewide on Monday, Jan. 30, AAA reported.

Cheapest prices locally were found at retailers along Salem Road, where they ranged from \$3.19 at the north end near Kroger, to \$3.29 at Salem Road's intersection with Ga. Hwy. 81, according to gas

price website gasbuddy.com.

The average price in Newton was 23 cents higher than on Jan. 16 — after the 29-cent state gas tax was reimposed for the first time in 10 months.

Newton County's average price Sunday was higher than all its contiguous counties except Butts and Jasper, where

it was \$3.43 and \$3.41 respectively, according to AAA.

The statewide average was 14 cents more than a week ago, 67 cents more than a month ago, and 20 cents more than this time last year.

Since Jan. 23, the national average for a gallon of regular gasoline had increased by 9

cents to \$3.50.

Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy, said retailers passed along the rise in wholesale gasoline prices due to refinery utilization not fully recovered from December's cold weather and "refinery maintenance season that's just around the corner."

## Chamber makes new businesses welcome



The Newton Chamber of Commerce recently hosted events for new and expanding businesses. Above, Batteries Plus recently cut the ribbon on its new Covington location at 12601 Town Center Drive, Suite 110, in the Covington Town Center. The locally-owned franchise business sells batteries and light bulbs of all kinds, among other services. Above right, the Chamber hosted a groundbreaking for Liberty Communities' new residential development in the River Walk Farm subdivision at River Walk Farm Parkway and Kingfisher Walk. Right, University Cancer & Blood Center was the scene of a ribbon cutting for its new clinic at 4182 Hwy. 278 NE in Covington.

Special | Newton Chamber of Commerce



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### Economic Development

## Kia celebrates Georgia success

By DAVE WILLIAMS  
Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA — Georgia's political leaders celebrated Kia Day at the state Capitol Tuesday, touting past successes at Kia's plant in West Point even as the Korean automaker prepares to start producing electric vehicles in the U.S.

The West Point Kia plant, which opened in 2009, is turning out more than 1,400 cars per day, Stuart Countess, president and CEO of

Kia Georgia, said during an outdoor ceremony at Liberty Plaza across from the Capitol. It expects to pass the 4 million mark sometime in April, he said. The plant boasts a workforce of more than 3,000 employees and more than 14,000 when counting the various suppliers that serve the plant.

"What an incredible story," said Gov. Brian Kemp, who followed Countess to the podium. "Kia has not only been a good partner for our state but has been incredibly successful here."

Kia's success story helped convince Korean affiliate automaker Hyundai to commit \$5.5 billion last year to building an electric vehicle manufacturing near Savannah expected to create 8,100 jobs when fully built out, making it the largest economic development project in Georgia history.

Together, Kia and Hyundai have been responsible for two "generational" investments in the Peach State in less than two decades, Kemp said. The West Point plant thus far has pro-

duced the highly popular Telluride sports-utility vehicle and the Sorrento SUV. Now, the plant is preparing to enter the electric vehicle space with the Kia EV-6.

"Kia's an active participant in Georgia's Electric Mobility and Innovation Alliance," Kemp said, referring to an initiative he launched in 2020 aimed at strengthening Georgia's status as a leader in the electric mobility industry.

Producing the EV-6 in Georgia is all the more reason the governor and legislative leaders are anxious to move forward during the current session with legislation paving the way for construction of a network of EV charging stations across the state.

A bill addressing that issue fell short last year, caught up in a disagreement over who would build and operate the charging stations, retailers including convenience stores or electric utilities. Kemp acknowledged Tuesday the issue likely will involve difficult negotiations but said he's confident a solution can be reached.



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## SPORTS

The Covington News

Prep Recruiting

## NATIONAL SIGNING DAY



Phillip B. Hubbard | The News

Kenai Grier announced his commitment and signed his national letter of intent to play college football at Kennesaw State on National Signing Day.



Cassie Jones | The News

After committing to Samford, Logan Cross official signed with the Bulldogs on Wednesday as part of Social Circle's National Signing Day ceremony.

## Grier goes with Kennesaw State

By PHILLIP B. HUBBARD  
phubbard@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — After completing an impressive senior season as an Eastside Eagle, Kenai Grier has decided to continue his football career at Kennesaw State.

Grier signed his national letter of intent at Eastside High Wednesday as part of National Signing Day.

His signing came after he was originally offered the athletic scholarship on Jan. 13. Then, Grier took an official visit to Kennesaw State's campus in Kennesaw just 11 days prior to his signing.

Other college programs among his offers were Austin Peay and Charleston Southern.

Grier recognized the weight his visit to the campus on Jan. 21 had on his final decision.

"When I went on my official visit last week, it just felt like home from when I got there until I left," Gri-

er said. "Coach [Brian] Bohannon reminds me so much of coach [Jay] Cawthon. I just had to commit."

Among his offers were Tuskegee University, Austin Peay, and Charleston Southern.

The senior Eagle put together quite the senior resume before departing from Eastside's football program.

Grier tallied 1,422 rushing yards (8.8 yards per carry) and 20 total touchdowns. Grier also had eight of the Eagles' 11 games where he rushed for over 100 yards.

Grier's numbers earned a few post-season accolades, too.

First, he was named Region 8-AAAAA's Offensive Player of the Year then Grier earned the 2022 All-Cov News Most Valuable Player. Both honors were before it was announced that the senior tailback received Honorable Mention on Georgia High

See GRIER, B6

## Cross signs with Samford

By PHILLIP B. HUBBARD  
phubbard@covnews.com

SOCIAL CIRCLE, Ga. — After a storied career at Social Circle, quarterback Logan Cross signed his letter of intent Wednesday afternoon to continue his career at the next level.

Cross announced three days prior that he would be continuing his athletic and academic career at Samford University in Fall 2023.

One key piece that led Cross to choose Samford was the similarity in offensive schemes run between the Bulldogs and the Redskins.

"They run a similar offense to the one we did and I had a really good connection with coach Hatcher and the other coaches," Cross said. "I visited last Thursday and Friday and I just loved it."

One of the biggest parts of signing day for Cross was being able to sign next to some of his teammates that he has known for most of his life.

"It feels great [to sign with them], I have known most of them since I was 5 or 6 so I grew up with almost everybody. It was a special moment," Cross said.

Cross played a pivotal role in the development of Social Circle's football program. Cross has been behind center for all four of his years as the Redskins continued to have a better record each season he was quarterback.

He finished his career with the Redskins with 8,445 passing yards to go with 89 touchdowns.

The future Bulldog would not have been able to put up those numbers without a stellar senior season, which saw Social Circle make it to the second round of the Class A state playoffs for the first time ever.

Cross accounted for 2,504 yards and 30 touchdowns while passing at

See CROSS, B6

Prep Basketball

## New role players have emerged for Rams hoops



Garrett Pitts | The News

(From left) Timothy Prather (3), Tay Jefferies (4), Jabez Jenkins (10) and Ashton Pennamon (11) are the new role players for Newton basketball in the 2022-23 season.

By PHILLIP B. HUBBARD  
phubbard@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — Names like Stephon Castle and Jakai Newton have become synonymous with Newton Rams basketball the past few years. However, four new role players surrounding the aforementioned five-and-four star prospects have emerged: Tay Jefferies, Timothy Prather, Jabez Jenkins and Ashton Pennamon.

According to head coach Charlemagne Gibbons, their play might be the most important piece to what Newton hopes is a state championship season. The players have the same belief for a state title run.

"It's very important to get over the hump and win state," Pennamon said. "That way we can show that we're the top team in Georgia."

Three of the four players were on last year's squad

that suffered defeat to eventual state champion Norcross in the Class AAAAAAA Final Four.

That postgame feeling has stuck even this season. "I'm not going to lie... [last year's Final Four loss] hurt," Jefferies said. "In the summertime, we had to go even harder than last year."

And, while all four players are aware of the star power they play alongside, each of them remain focused on doing their part.

Pennamon said his vocal nature is one of his strongest assets.

"For me, I think my voice helps a lot," Pennamon said. "I have great speed, too, and I press on defense to disrupt my opponent."

Meanwhile, Jenkins believes he brings a high level of energy on and off the court.

"Being a leader on the court is huge and just being

there for my brothers," Jenkins said.

Despite their abilities on the court, none of it would matter if the entire group hadn't learned the art of playing together as a team. That camaraderie on the court begins, they say, with how they get along with each other off the court. It's also built confidence in themselves and each other.

"I learned how important off the court stuff is," Pennamon said. "And, if you take care of things off the court, then everything will be sharper on the court."

"We're always playing hard," Prather added. "And we know anyone can make shots."

The foursome understands the importance of honing and refining their skills during practice time. But when it's time to tip off in front of a large crowd,

See ROLE, B6

# CLASSIFIEDS & LEGALS

The Covington News

## CLASSIFIEDS

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## LEGALS

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**THE VEHICLES** are currently located at 4199 Old Atlanta Hwy Covington, GA 30014

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

**VEHICLE MAKE:** HOMEMADE Year: 1998 Model: TRAILER  
**VEHICLE ID #:** T699057 Vehicle License #: TL078W4 GA Picked up from: CITY IMPOUND

**ANYONE WITH** an ownership interest in any of these vehicles should contact the following business immediately:  
**BUSINESS NAME:** Chanceys Wrecker Service  
**ADDRESS:** 4199 OLD ATLANTA HWY COVINGTON, GA 30014  
**TELEPHONE #:** (770) 483-0698

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500161**  
**1/29-2/5**

#### ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE

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**VEHICLE MAKE:** ISUZU Year: 2004 Model: NPR  
**VEHICLE ID #:** JALC4B14547006550 Picked up from: CALDWELL FUNERAL HOME/ACCESS RD  
**VEHICLE MAKE:** CHEVROLET Year: 2009 Model: IMPALA  
**VEHICLE ID #:** 2G1WT57K891280850 Picked up from: I-20 EB MM 95  
**VEHICLE MAKE:** FORD Year: 2003 Model: EXPEDITION  
**VEHICLE ID #:** 1FMFU16W43LC13374 Picked up from: 301 W HIGHTOWER TRAIL  
**VEHICLE MAKE:** NISSAN Year: 2003 Model: ALTIMA  
**VEHICLE ID #:** 1N4AL11D93C211161 Picked up from: I-20 EB MM 86  
**VEHICLE MAKE:** DODGE Year: 1999 Model: RAM 1500  
**VEHICLE ID #:** 1B7HF16Z8XS266975 Picked up from: SPRING RD & UNDERWOOD RD  
**VEHICLE MAKE:** TOYOTA Year: 1996 Model: 4RUNNER  
**VEHICLE ID #:** JT3GN86R2T0004810 Picked up from: I-20 EB MM 86  
**VEHICLE MAKE:** VOLKSWAGEN Year: 2014 Model: JETTA  
**VEHICLE ID #:** 3VWVD17AJ2EM283243 Picked up from: 6243 TURNER LAKE RD  
**VEHICLE MAKE:** MAZDA Year: 2003 Model: PROTEGE  
**VEHICLE ID #:** JM1BJ225330175891 Picked up from: HWY 36 & EAST END RD  
**VEHICLE MAKE:** TOYOTA Year: 2007 Model: RAV4  
**VEHICLE ID #:** JTMZD31V875072472 Picked up from: HWY 213 /ALCOVY RESERVE  
**VEHICLE MAKE:** BUICK Year: 2014 Model: ENCORE  
**VEHICLE ID #:** KL4CJASB8EB09518 Picked up from: 11975 GA-142  
**VEHICLE MAKE:** CHEVROLET Year: 2012 Model: MALIBU  
**VEHICLE ID #:** 1G1ZA5EU1CF265114 Picked up from: 10156 MAGNOLIA HEIGHTS CIR  
**VEHICLE MAKE:** HONDA Year: 2008 Model: PILOT  
**VEHICLE ID #:** 5FNYF28328B003958 Picked up from: 10156 MAGNOLIA HEIGHTS CIR  
**VEHICLE MAKE:** FORD Year: 2008 Model: FOCUS  
**VEHICLE ID #:** 1FAHP35N88W122446 Picked up from: BALL GROUND RD & GA-36  
**VEHICLE MAKE:** CHEVROLET Year: 2005 Model: IMPALA  
**VEHICLE ID #:** 2G1WH52K059337885 Picked up from: 3175 US-278  
**VEHICLE MAKE:** FORD Year: 2002 Model: ECONOLINE E-250  
**VEHICLE ID #:** 1FTNE24252HB79719 Picked up from: 4200 SALEM RD WALMART  
**VEHICLE MAKE:** FORD Year: 1997 Model: F-150  
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**VEHICLE ID #:** 1G1PF5SC3C7343388 Picked up from: 3559 SALEM RD  
**VEHICLE MAKE:** BMW Year: 2008 Model: 328I  
**VEHICLE ID #:** WBAVA33518KX84195 Picked up from: I-20 WB @ ALMON RD  
**VEHICLE MAKE:** HOMEMADE Year: 1998 Model: TRAILER  
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**TELEPHONE #:** (770) 483-0698

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500143**  
**1/29-2/5**

#### 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: Chancey's Wrecker Service 4199 Old Atlanta Hwy Covington, Ga 30014

**ANYONE WITH** an ownership interest in a vehicle listed herein may file an answer to the petition on or before: February 23rd, 2023.

**ANSWER FORMS** may be found in the Magistrate Court Clerk's office located at: 1132 Usher St. NW, Ste. 149 Covington, GA 30014

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

**VEHICLE MAKE:** ENCLOSED Year: N/A Model: TRAILER Vehicle ID #: NO VIN Vehicle License #: NO TAG Magistrate Court Case No.: 22-5541AV

**VEHICLE MAKE:** EXPRESS Year: 2022 Model: DD50QT9A Vehicle ID #: L2BB9NCC4NB515168 Vehicle License #: NO TAG Magistrate Court Case No.: 22-5538AV

**VEHICLE MAKE:** INFINITI Year: 2007 Model: G35 Vehicle ID #: JNKBV61F17M820279 Vehicle License #: NO TAG Magistrate Court Case No.: 22-5540AV

**VEHICLE MAKE:** CHEVROLET Year: 2011 Model: CRUZE Vehicle ID #: 1G1PC5SH1B7130636 Vehicle License #: TFF9566 GA Magistrate Court Case No.: 22-5884AV

**VEHICLE MAKE:** HONDA Year: 2003 Model: ACCORD Vehicle ID #: 1HGCM56633A116254 Vehicle License #: RYD6430 GA Magistrate Court Case No.: 22-5887AV

**VEHICLE MAKE:** NISSAN Year: 2006 Model: ALTIMA Vehicle ID #: 1N4AL11D06C160377 Vehicle License #: RVE3032 Magistrate Court Case No.: 22-5888AV

**VEHICLE MAKE:** BUICK Year: 2007 Model: LUCERNE Vehicle ID #: 1G4HP5721U208521 Vehicle License #: RRP2532 Magistrate Court Case No.: 22-5889AV

**VEHICLE MAKE:** DODGE Year: 2005 Model: DAKOTA Vehicle ID #: 1D7HE42N55S308299 Vehicle License #: NO TAG Magistrate Court Case No.: 22-5890AV

**VEHICLE MAKE:** HYUNDAI Year: 2008 Model: ELANTRA Vehicle ID #: KMHDU46D98U300241 Vehicle License #: RYD1988 GA Magistrate Court Case No.: 22-5892AV

**VEHICLE MAKE:** CHEVROLET Year: 2005 Model: MALIBU Vehicle ID #: 1G1ZT62895F265873 Vehicle License #: RQF7690 GA Magistrate Court Case No.: 22-5893AV

**VEHICLE MAKE:** TOYOTA Year: 2006 Model: SCION XB Vehicle ID #: JTLKT324364116591 Vehicle License #: TED8157 GA Magistrate Court Case No.: 22-5894AV

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500166**  
**1/29-2/5**

#### 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 vehicle (s) 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 vehicle (s) is : 9179 Aaron Dr. Covington, GA 30014. **ANYONE WITH** an ownership interest in a vehicle listed herein may file an answer to the petition on or before: 1/30/23 Answer forms may be found in the Magistrate Court Clerks office located at: Newton County Court House **FORMS** may also be obtained online at [www.georgiamagistratecouncil.com](http://www.georgiamagistratecouncil.com)

**2012 DODGE CHARGER 2C3CDXBG5CH117419 23-190AV**  
**2017 DODGE CHARGER 2C3CDXL96HH520039 23-187 AV**  
**2011 CHEVROLET MALIBU 1G1ZC5EU0BF372437 23-188 AV**  
**2002 GMC YUKON 1GKEC13VX2J114387 23-189 AV**  
**2007 HYUNDAI SONATA 5NPEU46F37H268602 23-180 AV**  
**2008 CHEVROLET 1500 2GCEC13J281178810 23-181 AV**  
**1996 CHEVROLET 1500 1GCEC14W77Z111906 23-182 AV**  
**2015 CHEVROLET IMPALA 2G1WB5E37F1124406 23-183 AV**  
**2013 VOLKSWAGEN PASSAT 1VWBP7A3XDC112263 23-184 AV**  
**2001 SUZUKI KATANA JS1GN79A712100262 23-185AV**  
**2006 NISSAN SENTRA 3N1CB51D96L451805 23-186AV**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500144**  
**1/29-2/5**

#### ABANDONED VEHICLES

**MIKE'S KUSTOM COLORS**  
**9231 C HWY 278**

**2011 INFI G37**  
**JN1CV6EL1BM261124**

**OWNER SHELIA Foster**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500210**  
**2/5,12**

**KING'S 24 HOUR TOWING AND REPAIR LLC 3195 HWY 81 SOUTH COVINGTON, GA 30016 770-787-6243**

**YOU ARE** hereby notified that a petition was filed in the Magistrate Court of Newton County to foreclose a lien for all amount owed. If the lien is foreclosed, a court shall order the sale of the vehicle to satisfy the debt.

**2003 HONDA ACCORD**  
 1HGCM56383A144153  
**2007 HONDA CRV**  
 JHLRE48507C033222  
**2003 LEXUS ES300**  
 JTHBF30G930126396  
**2000 FORD EXPEDITION**  
 1FMFU18L0YL11535  
**2010 DODGE CHARGER**  
 2B3CA3CV0AH252381  
**2007 CHEVROLET HHR**  
 3GCD25P07S635576  
**2014 CHEVROLET SPARK**  
 KL8CB6S9EC55910  
**2010 FORD ESCAPE**  
 1FMCU9EG3AK1744  
**1999 NISSAN PATHFINDER**  
 JN8AR07SXHW389050  
**2011 CHEVROLET MALIBU**  
 1G1ZC5EU0BF161674  
**2016 TOYOTA COROLLA**  
 5YFBURHE3G486420

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500168**  
**1/26-2/5**

#### SELLARS WRECKER SERVICE

**295 HWY 162**  
**COVINGTON, GA 30016**  
**770-786-1869**

#### NOTICE OF ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLES:

• **2001 HONDA ACCORD**  
 1HGCG22581A016425  
 • **2015 FORD FUSION**  
 3FA6P0H93FR309226  
 • **2006 HONDA CIVIC**  
 1HGFA16566L117297  
 • **1999 MAZDA 626**  
 1YVGF22C6X5870472  
 • **2006 FORD TAURUS**  
 1FAFP53U06A128023  
 • **2004 MITSUBISHI**  
 ECLIPSE 4A3AE45G04E03747  
 • **2018 FORD FUSION**  
 3FA6P0H73JR118199  
 • **2002 INFINITI I35**

JNKDA31A32T001764  
 • **2008 BMW 328i**  
 WBAVA37568NL44188

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500216**  
**2/5,12**

#### Alcoholic Beverage

##### NOTICE - APPLICATION ALCOHOL LICENSE

**NOTICE IS** hereby given that an application has been made to the Mayor and Council of the City of Covington to obtain a license to sell alcoholic beverages for on-premises consumption only for:  
**KSM MANAGEMENT Corp.**  
**DBA PENALTIES Bar & Grill**  
**10205 ACCESS Rd, Ste A**

**APPLICANT'S NAME:** Kenneth Taylor

**THE APPLICATION** will be heard on February 6, 2023 at 6:30 PM at City of Covington Council Room, 2116 Stallings Street, NW, Covington, GA. This notice is published pursuant to the provisions of Section 5.12.080(C), Covington Municipal Code.

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

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500214**  
**2/5**

#### Bids

**THE CITY** of Covington is accepting bids for the purchase of FIVE (5) Electronic Reclosures as specified in Exhibit "A" attached in the bid packet. Sealed bids must be received by the Purchasing department, Attn: Scott Cromer in City Hall by 10:00 AM on Thursday, February 9th, 2023. Bids will be opened at 10:30AM.

**REQUEST FOR Bids** and additional information may be obtained by accessing the request for proposals/ bids 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 #500163**  
**1/29-2/5**

#### Citations

##### CRISTAL DENISE FAVORS

has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **FERNANZA LORENZO FAVORS** 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 objection must be in writing, and filed with this Court on or before MARCH 6 2023, next, at ten o'clock a.m.

**MELANIE M. BELL, JUDGE**  
**MARCIA WYNNE, CLERK**  
**PROBATE COURT NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA**

##### NEWTON COUNTY PROBATE COURT

**1132 USHER STREET-148 COVINGTON, GA 30014**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500225**  
**2/5,12,19,26**

##### PEGGY ANN BURNS

has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **KEASHAWN SHAWNAE WASHINGTON** 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 objection must be in writing, and filed with this Court on or before MARCH 6 2023, next, at ten o'clock a.m.

**MELANIE M. BELL, JUDGE**  
**MARCIA WYNNE, CLERK**  
**PROBATE COURT NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA**

##### NEWTON COUNTY PROBATE COURT

**1132 USHER STREET-148 COVINGTON, GA 30014**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500165**  
**1/29-2/5**

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

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500165**  
**1/29-2/5**

#### Citations

##### CRISTAL DENISE FAVORS

has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **FERNANZA LORENZO FAVORS** 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 objection must be in writing, and filed with this Court on or before MARCH 6 2023, next, at ten o'clock a.m.

**MELANIE M. BELL, JUDGE**  
**MARCIA WYNNE, CLERK**  
**PROBATE COURT NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA**

##### NEWTON COUNTY PROBATE COURT

**1132 USHER STREET-148 COVINGTON, GA 30014**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500201**  
**2/5,12,19,26**

##### TE'CORIA JOYCELYN GREEN

has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **WAYNE DOUGLAS MIMS** 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 objection must be in writing, and filed

**MELANIE M. BELL, JUDGE**  
**MARCIA WYNNE, CLERK**  
**PROBATE COURT NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA**

##### NEWTON COUNTY PROBATE COURT

**1132 USHER STREET-148 COVINGTON, GA 30014**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500198**  
**2/5,12,19,26**

## NOW HIRING

**MASTERACK**  
 Masterack is a leading manufacturer of industrial truck interior designs in Social Circle with an immediate need to fill the following full-time positions:

- Machine Operators • Paint Line Tenders
- Assemblers (Entry Level) • Set Up / Run Operators
- Material Handlers / Forklift Drivers (Experienced)
- Experienced Production Supervisor – 2nd Shift Operations

8 hour shifts Monday through Friday from 6:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. and Second Shift from 2:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m. Second shift hours come with a \$1.00 per hour shift pay differential.

**Compensation & Benefits:**  
 Compensation ranges from **\$15.00 per hour up to \$26.00 per hour** all depending on the particular job applied for and experience level. **Benefits are available after only 30 days of service** and include: 401K with an Employer Match; Health, Dental, Vision Care and Flexible Spending Account; Health Savings Account with an Employer Contribution; Paid Vacation Time; 10 Paid Holidays; Company Paid Life Insurance and Short & Long Term Disability Coverage.

To Apply, Stop By Masterack at:  
 1670 Annie P Henderson Dr, Social Circle, GA 30025

**(470)-482-4812**

**\*\*All positions will require a pre-employment drug screening and a criminal background\*\***

### Due to Continued Growth, Masterack is Hiring for Full Time Positions

**CITATION**

**DOUGLAS E. ANDERSON** has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **ELAINE A. ANDERSON** deceased. (The applicant has also applied for waiver of bond and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. 53-12-232). All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said application should not be granted. All objection must be in writing, and filed with this Court on or before MARCH 6 2023, next, at ten o'clock a.m.

**MELANIE M. BELL, JUDGE**  
**MARCIA WYNNE, CLERK**  
**PROBATE COURT NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA**

# LEGALS:

Continued from B2

**WAS GRANTED BY COURT ON JANUARY 18 2023**

**TO DEBORAH LANE LUMPKIN**

**THIS IS** to notify you to file objection, if there is any, to the Petition of **BENNING M. GRICE, JR** for Letters of Administration with will annexed (will previously probated) Estate of **THELMA LANE LACKEY**.

**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 **MARCH 6, 2023** at 10:00 a.m.

**MELANIE M. BELL** PROBATE JUDGE  
**BY: MARCIA Wynne**  
**CLERK OF PROBATE COURT**  
**1132 USHER STREET COVINGTON, GA 30014**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500200**  
**2/5, 12, 19, 26**

**NOTICE**

**RE: PETITION of DEBORAH DENISE SIMMONS** to Petition for Letters of Administration, Estate of **TAURUS J. ANDREWS UPON WHICH AN ORDER FOR SERVICE WAS GRANTED BY COURT ON JANUARY 27, 2023**

**TO UNKNOWN FATHER OF TAURUS J. ANDREWS**

**THIS IS** to notify you to file objection, if there is any, to the Petition of **DEBORAH DENISE SIMMONS** to Petition for Letters of Administration Estate of **TAURUS J. ANDREWS**

**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 **MARCH 6, 2023** at 10:00 a.m.

**MELANIE M. BELL** PROBATE JUDGE  
**BY: MARCIA Wynne**  
**CLERK OF PROBATE COURT**  
**1132 USHER STREET COVINGTON, GA 30014**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500224**  
**2/5, 12, 19, 26**

**NOTICE**

**RE: PETITION of MELVIN WOODS** to Petition for Letters of Administration, Estate of **CLAUDIA TURNER STRONG UPON WHICH AN ORDER FOR SERVICE WAS GRANTED BY COURT ON OCTOBER 10, 2022**

**TO KATHY FLETCHER**

**THIS IS** to notify you to file objection, if there is any, to the Petition of **MELVIN WOODS** to Petition for Letters of Administration Estate of **CLAUDIA TURNER STRONG**

**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 **MARCH 6, 2023** at 10:00 a.m.

**MELANIE M. BELL** PROBATE JUDGE  
**BY: MARCIA Wynne**  
**CLERK OF PROBATE COURT**  
**1132 USHER STREET COVINGTON, GA 30014**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500203**  
**2/5, 12, 19, 26**

**NOTICE**

**RE: PETITION of OCIE FRANKLIN** to Petition for Letters of Administration, Estate of **HIBBLER GODFREY UPON WHICH AN ORDER FOR SERVICE WAS GRANTED BY COURT ON JANUARY 6, 2023**

**TO DEBORAH KAY**

**THIS IS** to notify you to file objection, if there is any, to the Petition of **OCIE FRANKLIN** to Petition for Letters of Administration Estate of **HIBBLER GODFREY, SR.**

**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 **MARCH 6, 2023** at 10:00 a.m.

**MELANIE M. BELL** PROBATE JUDGE  
**BY: MARCIA Wynne**  
**CLERK OF PROBATE COURT**  
**1132 USHER STREET COVINGTON, GA 30014**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500199**  
**2/5, 12, 19, 26**

**Corporations**

**NOTICE OF INCORPORATION**

**NOTICE IS** given that Articles of Incorporation that will incorporate **Longpath Publishing International, Inc.** have been

delivered to the Secretary of State for filing in accordance with the Georgia Corporation Code. The initial registered office of the corporation is located at 125 Heaton Pl. Trail, Covington, Ga 30016 and the initial registered agent at such address is **Evan Kilpatrick**.

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500155**  
**1/29-2/5**

**THE UNDERSIGNED** hereby certify that they are conducting a business at 11600 Town Center Dr. in the City of Covington, County of Newton, State of Georgia under the name of **Dental Care at Town Center**, and that the nature of the business is general dentistry, and that said business is composed of the following corporation: **Georgia Dental Professionals, PC**, 1200 Network Centre Dr., Effingham, IL 62401.

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500213**  
**2/5, 12**

**Debtors Creditors**

**ALL CREDITORS** of the ESTATE OF **ROY LEE DAVIS** late of Newton County, deceased, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law and all persons indebted to the said estate are required to make payment to:

**NAME OF ADMINISTRATOR**  
**MICHAEL ALLEN DAVIS**  
**ADMINISTRATOR ADDRESS** 5445 SALEM RD  
**COVINGTON GA 30016**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500114**  
**1/15, 22, 29-2/5**

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS STATE OF GEORGIA COUNTY OF NEWTON**

**ESTATE NO. 2023-ES-007 IN RE: ESTATE OF RICHARD LANIER WHEELER, DECEASED**

**ALL DEBTORS** and creditors of the estate of **Richard Lanier Wheeler**, deceased, late of Newton County, are hereby notified to render their demands and/or make your payments to the undersigned according to law. This the 23rd day of January, 2023. **Michelle Faith**, Executor 125 Ewing Dr, Social Circle, Georgia 30025

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500160**  
**1/29-2/5, 12, 19**

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the Debtors and Creditors of the Estate **Peggy Haynes Dean**, deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render in your demands and/or make your payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law.

**THIS THE 5th day of January, 2023.**

**JANE HARDMAN** Alexander & John Larry Dean  
**CO-EXECUTORS OF the ESTATE OF Peggy Haynes Dean**  
**P.O. BOX 2564**  
**COVINGTON, GA 300158-2564**

**STRICKLAND & STRICKLAND, LLP**  
**ATTORNEY AT LAW**  
**P.O. BOX 70**  
**COVINGTON, GEORGIA 30015-0070**  
**TELEPHONE (770) 786-5460**  
**FACSIMILE (770) 786-5499**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500098**  
**1/15, 22, 29-2/5**

**NOTICE TO Debtors and Creditors**

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

**THIS 22ND day of January, 2023**

**NAME: LATANDRIA Chambers**  
**TITLE: ADMINISTRATOR**  
**ADDRESS: 609 N. Crossing Way, Decatur, GA 30033**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500092**  
**1/22, 29-2/5, 12**

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

**ALL CREDITORS** of the Estate of **MARY ASTRID SAAVEDRA TRUJILLO**, late of Newton County, Georgia, 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 27TH day of December, 2022**

**MICHELLE MARIE** Moore, Administrator of the Estate of **Mary Astrid Saavedra Trujillo**

**C/O MELISSA P. Walker, Esq.**  
**1418 DRESDEN Dr Suite, 240**  
**ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30319**  
**404-500-4987**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500113**  
**1/15, 22, 29-2/5**

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

**ALL CREDITORS** of the Estate of **MYRTIE KATE REEP** late of Newton County Georgia, 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 10TH day of January, 2022**

**DAVID PAUL** Dill, Executor  
**ESTATE OF Myrtle Kate Reep**  
**2583 CLUBHOUSE Lane SE**  
**CONYERS, GA 30094**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500124**  
**1/22, 29-2/5, 12**

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate

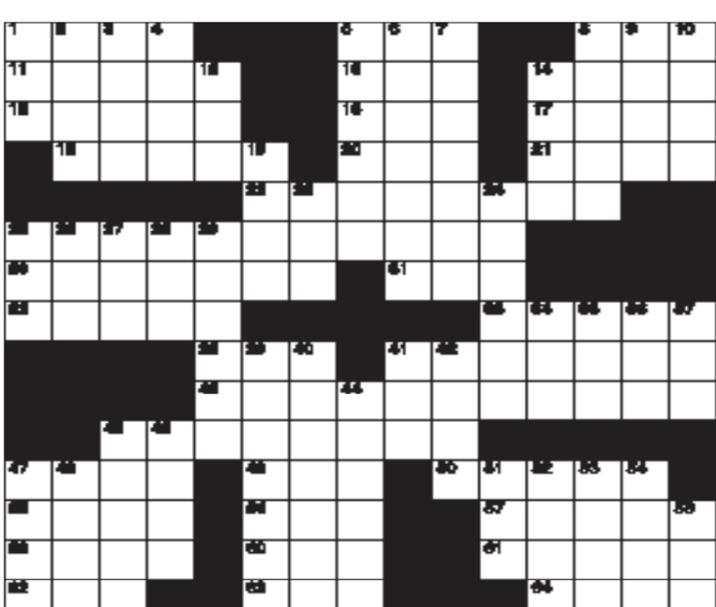
**CLUES ACROSS**

1. Functions
5. Records electric currents associated with contractions of the heart
8. Trigonometric function (abbr.)
11. Secret political clique
13. Type of gibbon
14. Nocturnal S. American rodent
15. Famed American playwright
16. Mesopotamian goddess
17. Abba \_\_, Israeli politician
18. Long ridge of gravel and sediment
20. A place to stay
21. Actor Idris
22. One who behaves in a rebellious way
25. A way to measure movement
30. Distinguish oneself
31. Type of drug (abbr.)
32. Basketball great Baylor
33. Masses of salivary matter
38. Calls balls and strikes
41. Plant that grows along the ground
43. A recreational activity in the air
45. Consumes too much
47. Island nation
49. Pistol
50. Mixtures of soul and calypso
55. Ancient Greek City
56. Similar
57. Roughly trimmed tree trunk used in a Scottish game
59. Semitic fertility god
60. Born of
61. Frogs, toads, tree toads
62. School in the northeast (abbr.)
63. Soviet Socialist Republic
64. " \_\_ the Man" Musical, baseball player

**CLUES DOWN**

1. Fiddler crabs
2. Discount
3. Partner to "flows"

**CROSSWORD PUZZLE**



4. Ethnic group of Laos
5. Beloved "Seinfeld" character
6. Book of tickets
7. The last name of "Hermione"
8. Type of TV package
9. Helps to heal a cut
10. Town in Galilee
12. Actor Horsley
14. "Hocus Pocus 2" actor Ed
19. Bird-loving group (abbr.)
23. They respond when someone is sick
24. Emerged
25. Midway between south and southeast
26. Monetary unit of Afghanistan
27. Unit of work or energy
28. Indicates near
29. Famed river
34. For each
35. News organization
36. CNN's founder
37. They \_\_
39. Areas off to the side

40. Satisfies
41. A spare bed
42. Legendary singer Diana
44. Frothy mass of bubbles
45. A kind of sorcery
46. River in South Africa
47. Philippine Island
48. County in China
51. S. American plant
52. Beverage containers
53. Edge
54. Protein-rich liquids
58. Moved quickly on foot

**LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:**



of **ADA WILLIAMS** 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 20TH day of JANUARY 2023**

**GERALDINE MOORE**  
**7168 LASETER STREET SW**  
**COVINGTON GA 30014**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500187**  
**1/29-2/5, 12, 19**

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **ALONZO WILLIAMS** 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 20TH day of JANUARY 2023**

**GERALDINE MOORE**  
**7168 LASETER STREET SW**  
**COVINGTON GA 30014**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500189**  
**1/29-2/5, 12, 19**

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **DAVID JOHNSON** 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 JANUARY 2023**

**DAVID FORDHAM**  
**309 HORIZON COURT**  
**CONCORD, NC 28027**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500228**  
**2/5, 12, 19, 26**

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **FRANCES RAINEY PARTEE** 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 27TH day of JANUARY 2023**

**LINDA STEPHENSON**  
**3773 CLUB DRIVE**  
**ATLANTA, GA 30319**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500188**  
**1/29-2/5, 12, 19**

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **GLADYS MALLARD SHEETS** 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 19TH day of JANUARY 2023**

**RODNEY WAYNE SHEETS**  
**695 SKYLINE DR**  
**COVINGTON GA 30014**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500180**  
**1/29-2/5, 12, 19**

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate

of **GLORIA CAMPBELL PARNELL** 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 20TH day of JANUARY 2023**

**BRADLEY ANDREW BANKS & APRIL BANKS**  
**923 BAILEY RD**  
**MONTICELLO GA 31064**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500184**  
**1/29-2/5, 12, 19**

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **HENRIETTA CAROL KEY** 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 24TH day of JANUARY 2023**

**SANDRA KEY MOBLEY**  
**751 COOPER ROAD**  
**SOCIAL CIRCLE, GA 30025**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500182**  
**1/29-2/5, 12, 19**

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

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

**THIS THE 18TH day of JANUARY 2023**

**JOANN OLIVER**  
**30 WHITE BIRCH DR**  
**COVINGTON GA 30016**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500190**  
**1/29-2/5, 12, 19**

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **JAMES E. HAMILTON** 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 19TH day of JANUARY 2023**

**ELIZABETH B. HAMILTON**  
**4148 TOWN BRANCH CT**  
**COVINGTON GA 30014**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500179**  
**1/29-2/5, 12, 19**

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **JANE CROSBY CAPPS** 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 20TH day of JANUARY 2023**

**HAROLD R WHITNEY**  
**53 BOARDWALK**  
**SCOTTSBORO, AL 35769**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500186**  
**1/29-2/5, 12, 19**

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **KENNETH CLEVELAND ROYSTON** 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 JANUARY 2023**

**DELLA TAYLOR ROYSTON**  
**109 MEADOWGLEN CIR**  
**DALLAS, TX 75019**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500229**  
**2/5, 12, 19, 26**

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **KENNETH CONARD COOK** 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 20TH day of JANUARY 2023**

**JEANNE JORDAN COOK**  
**2643 HIGHWAY 11 S**  
**MANSFIELD GA 30055**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500181**  
**1/29-2/5, 12, 19**

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **MATTIE PEARL HENDERSON** 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 27TH day of JANUARY 2023**

**CHARLIE JEFFERIES**  
**245 WYNFIELD DR**  
**COVINGTON GA 30016**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500230**  
**2/5, 12, 19, 26**

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

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

**THIS THE 18TH day of JANUARY 2023**

**ROCHELLE A. MCCOLLUM**  
**471 FINCHER RD**  
**COVINGTON GA 30016**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500185**  
**1/29-2/5, 12, 19**

**NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS**

**NOTICE IS** hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **NOEL STARR SMITH** 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 19TH day of JANUARY 2023**

LEGALS:

Continued from B3

WILLIAM BRANNON Inman
MELISSA M. Shannahan, Esq.
1901 WEST Spring Street, Suite 203
MONROE, GEORGIA 30655

PUBLIC NOTICE #500149
1/29-2/5,12,19



CITY OF LAWRENCEVILLE
MUNICIPAL COURT 70
SOUTH CLAYTON STREET
LAWRENCEVILLE, GEORGIA
30046 770-963-3288

DUI NOTICE
CASE NAME: THOMPSON,
DARRYL DANTE
ADDRESS: 110 CINIMON FERN
CIRCLE COVINGTON, GA 30016
OFFENSE DATE: 10/16/2022
LOCATION: SCENIC HWY/E.
CROGAN ST
TIME OF OFFENSE: 08:05P.M.
COURT: CITY OF LAWRENCEVILLE
MUNICIPAL COURT
CASE DISPOSITION: GUILTY

PUBLIC NOTICE #500205
2/5

Foreclosures

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF NEWTON
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER

BECAUSE OF a default under the
terms of the Security Deed executed
by Gene R. Scott to Mortgage
Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.
as nominee for Vanderbilt Mortgage
and Finance, Inc. dba Silverton
Mortgage dated September 17,
2018, and recorded in Deed Book
3752, Page 338, Newton County
Records, said Security Deed having
been last sold, assigned, transferred
and conveyed to Wells Fargo Bank,
N.A. securing a Note in the original
principal amount of \$92,250.00,
the holder thereof pursuant to said
Deed and Note thereby secured
has declared the entire amount of
said indebtedness due and payable
and, pursuant to the power of sale
contained in said Deed, will on the
first Tuesday, March 7, 2023, during
the legal hours of sale, before the
Courtroom door in said County, sell
at public outcry to the highest bidder
for cash, the property described in
said Deed, to-wit:

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF
LAND LYING AND BEING IN LAND
LOT 3 OF THE 10TH DISTRICT,
NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA,
BEING LOT 162, MOUNTAINVIEW
ESTATES SUBDIVISION, UNIT
THREE, AS PER PLAT RECORDED
IN PLAT BOOK 32, PAGES 110-112,
NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA
RECORDS, SAID PLAT BEING
INCORPORATED HEREIN AND
MADE A REFERENCE HERETO.

SAID PROPERTY is known as 645
Mountainview Dr, Covington, GA
30016, together with all fixtures and
personal property attached to and
constituting a part of said property,
if any.
SAID PROPERTY will be sold
subject to any outstanding ad
valorem taxes (including taxes which
are a lien, whether or not now due
and payable), the right of redemption
of any taxing authority, any matters
which might be disclosed by an
accurate survey and inspection of
the property, any assessments, liens,
encumbrances, zoning ordinances,
restrictions, covenants, and matters
of record superior to the Security
Deed first set out above.

THE PROCEEDS of said sale will
be applied to the payment of said
indebtedness and all expenses of
said sale as provided in said Deed,
and the balance, if any, will be
distributed as provided by law.

THE SALE will be conducted subject
(1) to confirmation that the sale is not
prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy
Code and (2) to final confirmation
and audit of the status of the loan
with the secured creditor.

THE PROPERTY is or may be in the
possession of Gene R. Scott, a/k/a
Gene Scott, successor in interest or
tenant(s).

WELLS FARGO Bank, N.A. as
Attorney-in-Fact for Gene R. Scott
FILE NO. 22-079768
LOGS LEGAL GROUP LLP\*
ATTORNEYS AND Counselors at
Law

1211 PERIMETER Center Parkway,
N.E., Suite 300
ATLANTA, GA 30346
(770) 220-2535/GR
HTTPS://WWW.LOGS.COM/

\*THE LAW FIRM IS ACTING
AS A DEBT COLLECTOR. ANY
INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL
BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

PUBLIC NOTICE #500074
1/8,15,22,29

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE
SALE UNDER POWER
NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA

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

UNDER AND by virtue of the Power
of Sale contained in a Security
Deed given by Jeffery Maben
a/k/a Jeffrey Maben and Katrina
A. Maben to Long Beach Mortgage
Company, dated October 3, 2005,
and recorded in Deed Book 2037,
Page 178, Newton County, Georgia
Records, as last transferred to U.S.
Bank Trust National Association,
as Trustee of the Bungalow Series
IV Trust by assignment recorded
in Deed Book 4166, Page 235 in
the Office of the Clerk of Superior
Court of Newton County, Georgia
Records, conveying the after-
described property to secure a Note
in the original principal amount of
one hundred fifty-two thousand one
hundred fifty dollars and 00/100
(\$152,150.00), with interest thereon
as set forth therein, there will be sold
at public outcry to the highest bidder
for cash before the courthouse door
of Newton County, Georgia, within
the legal hours of sale on March
7, 2023, the following described

property:
ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL
OF LAND LYING AND BEING
IN LAND LOT 43 OF THE 10TH
DISTRICT, NEWTON COUNTY,
GEORGIA, BEING LOT 60, UNIT
FOUR, BERKSHIRE, AS PER PLAT
RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 36,
PAGE 278, NEWTON COUNTY
RECORDS, SAID PLAT BEING
INCORPORATED HEREIN BY
REFERENCE THERETO.

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

YOUR MORTGAGE servicer can be
contacted at 800-603-0836 - Loss
Mitigation Dept., or by writing to SN
Servicing Corporation (Servicer),
323 Fifth Street, Eureka, CA 95501,
to discuss possible alternatives to
avoid foreclosure.

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

TO THE best knowledge and belief
of the undersigned, the party in
possession of the property is Jeffery
Maben; Jeffrey Maben; Katrina
A. Maben; or tenant(s); and said
property is more commonly known
as 435 Berkshire Drive, Covington,
GA 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.

U.S. BANK Trust National
Association, as Trustee of the
Bungalow Series IV Trust as Attorney
in Fact for Jeffery Maben a/k/a
Jeffery Maben and Katrina A. Maben.
QUINN LEGAL, P.A.

19321 US Hwy 19 N, Suite 512
CLEARWATER, FL 33764
PHONE: (727) 474-9603
ESERVICE@QUINNLEGAL.COM
BY: /S/ Erin M. Rose
Quinn

ERIN M. Rose Quinn, Esq.
GEORGIA BAR Number 547833

PUBLIC NOTICE #500233
2/5,12,19,26

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE
SALE UNDER POWER
NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA

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

UNDER AND by virtue of the Power
of Sale contained in a Security Deed
given by Vincent Clemons and
Carolyn Clemons to Decision One
Mortgage Company, LLC, dated
June 30, 2000, and recorded in Deed
Book 942, Page 1, Newton County,
Georgia Records, as last transferred
to U.S. Bank Trust National
Association, as Trustee of Cabana
Series III Trust by assignment
recorded in Deed Book 3805, Page
40 in the Office of the Clerk of
Superior Court of Newton County,
Georgia Records, conveying the
after-described property to secure a
Note in the original principal amount
of ninety-seven thousand, seven
hundred fifty dollars and 00/100
(\$97,750.00), with interest thereon
as set forth therein, there will be sold
at public outcry to the highest bidder
for cash before the courthouse door
of Newton County, Georgia, within
the legal hours of sale on March 7, 2023,
the following described property:

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF
LAND LYING AND BEING IN LAND
LOT 72 OF THE 10TH DISTRICT,
NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA,
BEING LOT 6, UNIT ONE OF DOVE
POINT SUBDIVISION, AS PER
PLAT RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK
26, PAGE 53, NEWTON COUNTY
RECORDS, WHICH PLAT IS
INCORPORATED HEREIN BY THIS
REFERENCE AND MADE A PART
OF THIS DESCRIPTION.

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

YOUR MORTGAGE servicer can be
contacted at 800-603-0836 - Loss
Mitigation Dept., or by writing to SN
Servicing Corporation (Servicer),
323 Fifth Street, Eureka, CA 95501,
to discuss possible alternatives to
avoid foreclosure.

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

TO THE best knowledge and belief
of the undersigned, the party in
possession of the property is Vincent
Clemons; Carolyn Clemons; or
tenant(s); and said property is more
commonly known as 540 Oak Hill
Road, Covington, GA 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.

U.S. BANK Trust National
Association, as Trustee of Cabana
Series III Trust as Attorney in Fact
for Vincent Clemons and Carolyn

Clemons.
QUINN LEGAL, P.A.
19321 US Hwy 19 N, Suite 512
CLEARWATER, FL 33764
PHONE: (727) 474-9603
ESERVICE@QUINNLEGAL.COM
BY: /S/ Erin M. Rose
Quinn
ERIN M. Rose Quinn, Esq.
GEORGIA BAR Number 547833

PUBLIC NOTICE #500232
2/5,12,19,26

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE
SALE UNDER POWER
NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA

UNDER AND by virtue of the Power
of Sale contained in a Security Deed
given by John H. Anderson, Jr. to
Mortgage Electronic Registration
Systems, Inc., as grantee, as
nominee for Real Estate Mortgage
Network, Inc., dated November 5,
2009, and recorded in Deed Book
2771, Page 94, Newton County,
Georgia Records, subsequently
modified by a Loan Modification
Agreement recorded January
21, 2020 in the amount of Sixty-Four
Thousand Three Hundred Forty-Six
and 46/100 (\$64,346.46) Newton
County, Georgia Records, as last
transferred to Wilmington Savings
Fund Society, FSB, d/b/a Christiana
Trust, not individually but as trustee
for Pretium Mortgage Acquisition
Trust by assignment recorded on
January 25, 2019 in Book 3796
Page 255 in the Office of the Clerk
of Superior Court of Newton County,
Georgia Records, conveying the
after-described property to secure a
Note in the original principal amount
of Fifty-Six Thousand and 0/100
dollars (\$56,000.00), 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, within the legal hours of
sale on March 7, 2023, the following
described property:

ALL THAT tract or parcel of
land, with house and all other
improvements located thereon,
lying and being in Land Lot 121 of
the 10th District of Newton County,
Georgia, being Lot 79 of Buck Creek
Subdivision as shown on plat of
Buck Creek Subdivision, as same is
recorded in Plat Book 21, page 188,
Newton County, Georgia Records.
The description of said property
as contained on said plat is hereby
incorporated herein and made an
essential part hereof by reference.

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

THE ENTITY having full authority to
negotiate, amend or modify all terms
of the loan (although not required
by law to do so) is: Selene Finance
they can be contacted at (877) 735-
3637 for Loss Mitigation Dept, or by
writing to 3501 Olympus Boulevard,
5 th Floor, Suite 500, Coppell,
Texas 75019, to discuss possible
alternatives to avoid foreclosure.

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

TO THE best knowledge and belief
of the undersigned, the party in
possession of the property is Pamela
Marie Anderson Mayo or tenant(s);
and said property is more commonly
known as 30 Buckeye Circle,
Covington, GA 30016.

THE SALE will be conducted subject
to (1) confirmation that the sale is not
prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy
Code (2) final confirmation and audit
of the status of the loan with the
holder of the security deed and (3)
any right of redemption or other lien
not extinguished by foreclosure.

WILMINGTON SAVINGS Fund
Society, FSB, d/b/a Christiana
Trust, not individually but as trustee
for Pretium Mortgage Acquisition
Trust as Attorney in Fact for John H.
Anderson, Jr.

BROCK & Scott, PLLC
4360 CHAMBLEE Dunwoody Road
SUITE 310
ATLANTA, GA 30341
404-789-2661
B&S FILE no.: 19-101551

PUBLIC NOTICE #500218
2/5,12,19,26

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
CONTAINED IN SECURITY DEED
STATE OF GEORGIA,
COUNTY OF Newton

PURSUANT TO a power of sale
contained in a certain security
deed executed by William H.
Cook, Jr. and Carrie A. Cook,
hereinafter referred to as Grantor,
to Chase Manhattan Mortgage
Corporation recorded in Deed Book
1405, beginning at page 63 and as
modified at Deed Book 3150, Page
359 and as modified at Deed Book
3780, Page 401, of the deed records
of the Clerk of the Superior Court
of the aforesaid state and county,
and by virtue of a default under the
terms of said security deed, and the
related note, the undersigned attorney-in-
fact for the aforesaid Grantor (which
attorney-in-fact is the present holder
of said security deed and note
secured thereby) will sell before
the door of the courthouse in said
county within the legal hours of sale,
for cash, to the highest bidder on
the first Tuesday in March 2023, all
property described in said security
deed including but not limited to the
following described property:

ALL THAT tract or parcel of land
lying and being in Land Lot 102 of
the 10th District of Newton County,
Georgia, being Lot 47 of McGiboney
Place Subdivision, Unit Two, as
per plat recorded in Plat Book 32,
Page 288, Newton County, Georgia
records, which plat is incorporated
herein by reference and made a part

hereof.
SAID LEGAL description being
controlling, however, the Property
is more commonly known as: 295
McGiboney Place, Covington, GA
30016
SAID PROPERTY will be sold
on an "as-is" basis without any
representation, warranty or recourse
against the above-named or the
undersigned. The sale will be
subject to the following items which
may affect the title: 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, and
all other matters of record superior
to the said Security Deed. 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.
MidFirst Bank, through its division
Midland Mortgage as loan servicer
is the entity with full authority to
negotiate, amend and modify the
terms of the Note and Security Deed.
MidFirst Bank, through its division
Midland Mortgage may be contacted
at: 999 Northwest Grand Boulevard,
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73118;
1-800-552-3000. To the best of
the undersigned's knowledge and
belief, the party in possession of the
property is believed to be William
H. Cook, Jr. and Carrie A. Cook, or
tenant(s).

MIDFIRST BANK,
AS TRANSFEREE, Assignee, and
Secured Creditor
AS ATTORNEY-IN-FACT for the
aforesaid Grantor
CB LEGAL, LLC

ATTORNEYS AT Law
GLENRIDGE HIGHLANDS II
5565 GLENRIDGE Connector, Suite
350
ATLANTA, GA 30342
(770) 392-0041
22-6948
THIS LAW FIRM MAY BE HELD TO
BE ACTING
AS A DEBT COLLECTOR, UNDER
FEDERAL LAW.

IF SO, ANY INFORMATION
OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR
THAT PURPOSE.

PUBLIC NOTICE #500212
2/5,12,19,26

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
GEORGIA, NEWTON COUNTY

UNDER AND by virtue of the Power
of Sale contained in a Security
Deed given by Nancy N Christian
to Academy Mortgage Corporation,
dated July 7, 2014, recorded in
Deed Book 3246, Page 410,
Newton County, Georgia Records,
as last transferred to Georgia
Housing and Finance Authority by
assignment recorded in Deed Book
3246, Page 427, Newton County,
Georgia Records, conveying the
after-described property to secure a
Note in the original principal amount
of NINETY-EIGHT THOUSAND
NINETY AND 0/100 DOLLARS
(\$98,090.00), 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
March, 2023, the following described
property:

SEE EXHIBIT "A" ATTACHED
HERETO AND MADE A PART
HEREOF
THE DEBT secured by said Security
Deed has been and is hereby
declared due because of, among
other possible events of default,
failure to pay the indebtedness as
and when due and in the manner
provided in the Note and Security
Deed. The debt remaining in default,
this sale will be made for the purpose
of paying the same and all expenses
of this sale, as provided in the
Security Deed and by law, including
attorney's fees (notice pursuant to
O.C.G.A. § 13-1-11 having been
given).

SAID PROPERTY will be sold subject
to any outstanding ad valorem taxes
(including taxes which are a lien,
but not yet due and payable), the
right of redemption of any taxing
authority, any matters which might
be disclosed by an accurate survey
and inspection of the property, any
assessments, liens, encumbrances,
zoning ordinances, restrictions,
covenants, and any matters of record
including, but not limited to, those
superior to the Security Deed first
set out above. Said property will be
sold on an "as-is" basis without any
representation, warranty or recourse
against the above-named or the
undersigned.

GEORGIA HOUSING and Finance
Authority 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: State Home Mortgage,
60 Executive Park South, Atlanta,
GA 30333, 404-679-4908/-3133.
Note, however, that such entity is not
required by law to negotiate, amend
or modify the terms of the loan.

TO THE best knowledge and belief
of the undersigned, the party in
possession of the property is Nancy
N Christian or a tenant or tenants
and said property is more commonly
known as 40 Aiken Court,
Covington, Georgia 30016. Should
a conflict arise between the property
address and the legal description the
legal description will control.

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.

GEORGIA HOUSING and Finance
Authority
AS ATTORNEY in Fact for
NANCY N Christian
MCCALLA RAYMER Leibert Pierce,
LLC

1544 OLD Alabama Road
ROSWELL, GA 30076
WWW.FORECLOSUREHOTLINE.
NET
EXHIBIT "A"

ALL THAT tract or parcel of land,
with house and all other improvements
located thereon, lying and being
in Land Lots 127 & 128 of the 9th

Land District of Newton County,
Georgia, being shown as Lot 15 of
Cotton Field Subdivision as shown
on Plat of Survey prepared by Mark
D. Patrick, Georgia R.L.S. No. 2791,
said plat being recorded in Plat Book
36, pages 253-258, Newton County,
Georgia Records. The description of
said property as contained on said
plat is hereby incorporated herein
and made an essential part hereof
by reference.

MR/MEH 3/7/23
OUR FILE no. 22-10257GA - FT17

PUBLIC NOTICE #500169
2/5,12,19,26

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF NEWTON
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER
POWER IN
DEED TO SECURE DEBT

UNDER AND BY VIRTUE of that
Power of Sale contained in a certain
Deed to Secure Debt from CRYSTAL
LEEANN HARMON in favor of RAY
W. HILL dated July 26, 2018 and
recorded at Deed Book 3729, pages
503-508, Public Records, Newton
County, Georgia, the undersigned,
RAY W. HILL, as Attorney in Fact
for CRYSTAL LEEANN HARMON,
will sell at public outcry to the
highest bidder for cash before the
Courthouse door in Newton County,
Georgia, during the legal hours of
sale, on the first (1st) Tuesday in
March, 2023, namely March 7, 2023,
the following described property to-
wit:

ALL THAT TRACT or parcel of land
lying and being in Land Lot 135 of the
9th Land District of Newton County,
Georgia and being shown as 0.81
acres off Georgia Highway 36 on that
Plat of Survey prepared for Ray Hill
by Patrick & Associates, Inc., and
certified by Louie D. Patrick, Georgia
Registered Land Surveyor No. 1757,
said plat being dated September 3,
1998 and recorded at Plat Book 32,
page 90, Public Records of Newton
County, Georgia and said plat by
reference thereto being incorporated
herein and made apart hereof for a
more particular description of the
captioned property.

SAID PROPERTY being known as
14652 Highway 36, Covington,
Georgia in accordance with the
present system of numbering
properties in Newton County,
Georgia.

ALSO CONVEYED hereby is the
right of ingress and egress across
that 12-foot strip as shown on the
plat of said property.

TAX MAP and Parcel No.:
0090000000009000

THE DEED to Secure Debt herein
foreclosed securing a Purchase
Money Promissory Note dated July
26, 2018, in the original, principal
amount of \$75,000.00. The debt
secured by said Deed to Secure
Debt being in default by, among
other possible events of default,
failure to pay said indebtedness
as the same fell due, and the debt
secured by said Deed to Secure
Debt and evidenced by said Note
has been and is hereby declared
due and payable in full because
of said default. This sale will be
made for the purpose of paying the
remaining principal indebtedness
and accrued interest as accelerated.

The proceeds thereof will be applied
to the payment of said indebtedness
and all charges and expenses in
connection with said foreclosure
in accordance with the terms of
said Deed to Secure Debt and the
balance, if any, will be applied as
provided by law.

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

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

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

THE UNDERSIGNED will execute
a Deed Under Power of Sale to the
Purchaser at sale as attorney-in-fact
for CRYSTAL LEEANN HARMON,
as provided in the Deed to Secure
Debt herein foreclosed, and Georgia
Law.

THE PROPERTY is or may be in the
possession of CRYSTAL LEEANN
HARMON, successors or tenants.

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

RAY W. HILL is the person who has
full authority to negotiate, amend,
and modify all terms of the mortgage
with the debtor. His address is 1201
Newton Road, Madison, Georgia
30650 and his telephone number is
404-520-7048. In addition, he can
provide a current payoff amount for
a day certain at any time.

RAY W. HILL as Attorney-in-Fact for
CRYSTAL LEEANN HARMON
BY: DAVID A. Henderson\*
Attorney at Law

6169 ADAMS Street, NE
Covington, Georgia 30014
(770) 787-2946

\*THE LAW FIRM IS ACTING
AS A DEBT COLLECTOR. ANY
INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL
BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
FILE NO.: 21-274(N)

PUBLIC NOTICE #500211
2/5,12,19,26

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF NEWTON
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER

PURSUANT TO the power of sale
contained in the Security Deed
executed by JUANITA HARRIS
to MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC
REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. AS
NOMINEE FOR HOME AMERICA
MORTGAGE, INC. in the original
principal amount of \$143,497.00
dated August 19, 2005 and recorded
in Deed Book 1994, Page 99, Newton
County records, said Security Deed
being last transferred to SELENE
FINANCE LP in Deed Book 4456,
Page 527, Newton County records,
the undersigned will sell at public
outcry to the highest bidder for cash,
before the Courthouse door in said
County, or at such other place as

lawfully designated, within the legal
hours of sale, on March 07, 2023, the
property in said Security Deed and
described as follows:
ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF
LAND LYING AND BEING IN LAND
LOT 90 OF THE 10TH DISTRICT,
NEWTON COUNTY, GEORGIA,
BEING LOT 103, OAK HILL, PHASE
3, AS PER PLAT RECORDED
AT PLAT BOOK 41, PAGES
229 THROUGH 231, NEWTON
COUNTY RECORDS, TO WHICH
REFERENCE IS MADE FOR THE
PURPOSE OF INCORPORATING
THE SAME AS A PART HEREIN.
SAID PROPERTY being known as:
20 WILDCAT WAY COVINGTON,
GA 30016

TO THE best of the undersigned's
knowledge, the party or parties in
possession of said property is/are
JUANITA HARRIS or tenant(s).

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

SAID PROPERTY will be sold subject
to the following: (1) any outstanding
ad valorem taxes (including taxes
which are a lien, whether or not yet
due and payable); (2) the right of
redemption of any taxing authority;
(3) any matters which might be
disclosed by an accurate survey
and inspection of the property;
and (4) any assessments, liens,
encumbrances, zoning ordinances,
restrictions, covenants, and matters
of record superior to the Security
Deed first set out above.

SAID SALE will be conducted subject
to the following: (1) confirmation that
the sale is not prohibited under the
U.S. Bankruptcy Code; and (2) final
confirmation and audit of the status
of the loan with the holder of the
Security Deed.

THE NAME, address, and telephone
number of the individual or entity
who has full authority to negotiate,
amend, and modify all terms of the
mortgage is as follows:
SELENE FINANCE LP
3501 OLYMPUS Boulevard, 5th
Floor, Suite 500
DALLAS, TX 75019
877-768-3759

NOTE THAT pursuant to O.C.G.A.
§ 44-14-162.2, the above individual
or entity is not required by law to
negotiate, amend, or modify the
terms of the mortgage.

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

SELENE FINANCE LP
AS ATTORNEY-IN-FACT for
JUANITA HARRIS
ROBERTSON, ANSCHUTZ,
Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC
10700 ABBOTT'S Bridge Road
SUITE 170
DULUTH, GA 30097
PHONE: 470.321.7112
FIRM FILE No. 22-061088 - DaG

PUBLIC NOTICE #500126
1/22-2/5,12,19,26

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF NEWTON
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER

PURSUANT TO the power of sale
contained in the Security Deed
executed by TIMOTHY L. KEY AND
BOBBIE ANN KEY to CENTEX
HOME EQUITY COMPANY, LLC
in the original principal amount of
\$112,800.00 dated June 5, 2006
and recorded in Deed Book 2219,
Page 338, Newton County records,
said Security Deed being last
transferred to U.S. BANK NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR
ASSET BACKED SECURITIES
CORPORATION HOME EQUITY
LOAN TRUST, SERIES MO 2006-
HE6, ASSET BACKED PASS-
THROUGH CERTIFICATES,
SERIES MO 2006-HE6 in Deed

# LEGALS:

Continued from B4

**DISCLOSED BY** an accurate survey and inspection of the property; and (4) any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above.

**SAID SALE** will be conducted subject to the following: (1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code; and (2) final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed.

**THE NAME**, address, and telephone number of the individual or entity who has full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the mortgage is as follows:

**NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC**  
d/b/a Mr. Cooper  
8950 CYPRESS Waters Blvd.  
COPPELL, TX 75019  
1-888-480-2432

**NOTE THAT** pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2, the above individual or entity is not required by law to negotiate, amend, or modify the terms of the mortgage.

**THIS LAW FIRM IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED MAY BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.**

**U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR ASSET BACKED SECURITIES CORPORATION HOME EQUITY LOAN TRUST, SERIES MO 2006-HE6, ASSET BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES MO 2006-HE6, AS ATTORNEY-IN-FACT FOR TIMOTHY L. KEY AND BOBBIE ANN KEY**  
**ROBERTSON, ANSCHUTZ, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC**  
10700 ABBOTT'S Bridge Road  
SUITE 170  
DULUTH, GA 30097  
PHONE: 470.321.7112  
FIRM FILE No. 20-010774 - LIV

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500172**  
2/5,12,19,26

**STATE OF GEORGIA**  
**NEWTON COUNTY**

**UNDER AND** by virtue of the power of sale contained in Security Deed and Agreement from **Matt Burley** to Newton Federal Bank, said Security Deed and Agreement dated December 13, 2013, filed for record and recorded December 16, 2013 in Deed Book 3194, Page(s) 407-419, as modified by a Loan Modification Agreement, dated June 24, 2016, filed for record July 6, 2016 at Deed Book 3454, Page(s) 3-5, Newton County, Georgia records; securing a note from Matt Burley to Newton Federal Bank, in the principal amount of \$42,000.00, will be sold by the undersigned in front of the Courthouse door in Newton County, Georgia, on the first Tuesday in March, 2023 during the legal hours of sale, to the highest bidder for cash, the following described property, to wit:

**ALL THAT** tract or parcel of land lying and being in Newton County, Georgia, and being a part of the Tenth Land district and being a part of Land Lot 93, and being more particularly described as Tract One containing 1.54 acres in accordance with a survey dated June 1, 1993, prepared by Louis D. Patrick, GA. R.L.S. No. 1757, for Thomas M. Moss and said survey is recorded in Newton County, Plat Book 27, Page 32, and said survey is incorporated herein and made a part hereof by reference thereto.

**THE DEBT** secured by said Deed to Secure Debt has been and is hereby declared due and payable because of failure to comply with certain terms and conditions in said Deed to Secure Debt. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying said indebtedness including all accrued and unpaid interest thereon, and attorney fees and all expenses of said sale, and the remainder, if any, shall be applied as provided by law.

**TO THE** best of the undersigned's knowledge and belief the property is in the possession of Matt Burley, and said property will be sold as the property of Matt Burley. Notice of the initiation of proceedings to exercise the said power of sale and to collect attorney fees as provided in said note has been given to Matt Burley, as provided by law in Section 44-14-162.2 and Section 13-1-11, respectively, Official Code of Georgia Annotated.

**THIS 31ST** day of January, 2023.

**NEWTON FEDERAL BANK, AS ATTORNEY-IN-FACT FOR MATT BURLEY**  
**STRICKLAND & Strickland, LLP**  
P.O. BOX 70  
COVINGTON, GA 30015-0070  
770-786-5460 PHONE  
770-786-5499 FAX

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500215**  
2/5,12,19,26

## Name Changes

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

**IN RE** the Name Change of Child(ren):  
**ADRIENNE POWELL**

**HIOWA O'KELLY**  
PETITIONER,  
V.

**DAVID POWELL**  
RESPONDENT.

**CIVIL ACTION NUMBER**  
2023-CV-50-3

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

**HIOWA O'KELLY** filed a petition in the Newton County Superior Court on NOVEMBER 7 2022, to change the name of the following minor child from: **ADRIENNE IZZY POWELL** to **ADRIENNE ISSA O'KELLY** ANY INTERESTED party has the right to appear in this case and file objections within the time prescribed in O.C.G.A. §§ 19-12-1(f)(2) and (3).

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500130**  
1/22,29-2/5,12

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF**

**NEWTON COUNTY**  
**STATE OF GEORGIA**

**IN RE** the Name Change of Child(ren):  
**JEREMIAH KHALIL ALVIS**

**JAMARA S. ALVIS-ELLIOTT**  
PETITIONER,  
V.

**DWAYNE E. ELLIOTT**  
RESPONDENT.

**CIVIL ACTION NUMBER**  
2022-CV-2737-5

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

**JAMARA S. ALVIS-ELLIOTT** filed a petition in the Newton County Superior Court on DECEMBER 30 2022, to change the name of the following minor child from: **JEREMIAH KHALIL ALVIS** to **JEREMIAH KHALIL ALVIS-ELLIOTT** ANY INTERESTED party has the right to appear in this case and file objections within the time prescribed in O.C.G.A. §§ 19-12-1(f)(2) and (3).

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500111**  
1/15,22,29-2/5

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

**IN RE** the Name Change of Child(ren):  
**PROMISE ANAIYA KOONCE**

**WHITNEY KOONCE**  
PETITIONER,  
V.

**DAMIEN KOONCE**  
RESPONDENT.

**CIVIL ACTION NUMBER**  
2022-CV-2736-4

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

**WHITNEY KOONE** filed a petition in the Newton County Superior Court on DECEMBER 29 2022, to change the name of the following minor child from: **PROMISE ANAIYA KOONCE** to **KETURA PROMISE KOONCE** ANY INTERESTED party has the right to appear in this case and file objections within the time prescribed in O.C.G.A. §§ 19-12-1(f)(2) and (3).

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500112**  
1/15,22,29-2/5

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

**IN RE** the Name Change of Child(ren):  
**VICTORIA MARIE OWENS**

**PETITIONER,**  
V.

**RESPONDENT.**

**CIVIL ACTION NUMBER**  
2023-CV-117-4

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

**SHAWNDAE MARTIN** filed a petition in the Newton County Superior Court on JANUARY 17 2023, to change the name of the following minor child from: **VICTORIA MARIE OWENS** to **VICTORIA MARIE MARTIN** ANY INTERESTED party has the right to appear in this case and file objections within the time prescribed in O.C.G.A. §§ 19-12-1(f)(2) and (3).

**SHAWANDA MARTIN**  
**WINDCREST DR**  
COVINGTON GA 30016

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500158**  
1/29-2/5,12,19

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

**IN RE** the Name Change of:  
**GABRIELLE WYATT**  
PETITIONER,

**CIVIL ACTION NUMBER**  
2023-CV-144-3

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

**NOTICE IS** hereby given that **GABRIELLE JEAN-ANN WYATT** filed a petition in the Newton County Superior Court on JAN 20 2023 to change the name from **GABRIELLE JEAN-ANN WYATT** to **GABRIELLE JEAN-ANN FOX** Notice is hereby given pursuant to law to any interested or affected party to appear in said Court and to file objections to such name change. Objections must be filed with said Court within 30 days of the filing of said petition

**THIS 20TH** day of JANUARY 2023

**GABRIELLE WYATT**  
6142 FOREST DR S.E.  
COVINGTON GA 30014

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500207**  
2/5,12,19,26

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

**IN RE** the Name Change of:  
**TIFFANY NATALIE WILLIAMS**  
PETITIONER,

**CIVIL ACTION NUMBER**  
2023-CV-08-4

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

**NOTICE IS** hereby given that **TIFFANY NATALIE WILLIAMS** filed a petition in the Newton County Superior Court on JAN 3 2023 to change the name from **TIFFANY NATALIE WILLIAMS** to **TIFFANY NATALIE CURETON** Notice is hereby given pursuant to law to any interested or affected party to appear in said Court and to file objections to such name change. Objections must be filed with said Court within 30

**days of the filing of said petition**

**THIS 3RD** day of JANUARY 2023

**TIFFANY NATALIE WILLIAMS**  
**CHEYENNE DR**  
COVINGTON GA 30016

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500110**  
1/15,22,29-2/5

**MODIFICATION TO CONDITIONS OF ZONING**  
**GEORGIA, NEWTON County**

**A PETITION** (MOD22-000002) HAS BEEN FILED WITH THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR A MODIFICATION TO THE CONDITIONS OF ZONING FOR THE PROPERTY BELONGING TO: **KATHRYN DALE CHESNUT** WHOSE SUBJECT PROPERTY ADDRESS/LOCATION is 2486 Hwy 81, BEING ON TAX MAP 28A PARCEL 1. **APPLICANT IS** REQUESTING TO MODIFY THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS OF ZONING BY SUBSTITUTING THE SITE PLAN FOR CONDITION 2A WHICH REFERENCES THE PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROPOSED OPERATION OF A LANDSCAPE BUSINESS; AND TO REMOVE CONDITION 3D WHICH LIMITS THE HOURS OF OPERATION FROM 7:00AM THROUGH 10:00PM; AND CONDITION 3E WHICH REQUIRES THE MAINTENANCE OF A 75 FT TREE LINE ALONG SHEPHERD ROAD. **A PUBLIC HEARING** WILL BE HEARD BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON THE: **21ST DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2023 AT 7:30 PM** **THIS MEETING** WILL BE HELD IN THE NEWTON COUNTY HISTORIC COURTHOUSE, 2ND FLOOR BOARDROOM. THOSE HAVING CONCERNS ABOUT THIS PETITION SHOULD ATTEND THIS MEETING.

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500223**  
2/5

**REZONING PETITION**  
**GEORGIA, NEWTON County**

**A PETITION** (REZ22-0000013) HAS BEEN FILED WITH THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR A REZONING FOR THE PROPERTY BELONGING TO: **JBW INVESTMENTS LLC** WHOSE SUBJECT PROPERTY ADDRESS/LOCATION IS AT 375 FLAT ROCK RD CONTAINING APPROXIMATELY 126.69 ACRES BEING ON TAX MAP 79 & PARCEL 9.

**THE OWNER** HAS INITIATED A REZONING REQUEST FOR 15.56 OF THE 126.69 ACRES FROM A (AGRICULTURAL) TO M2 (INDUSTRIAL). **A PUBLIC HEARING** WILL BE HEARD BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON THE: **21ST DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2023 AT 7:30PM** **BOTH MEETINGS** WILL BE HELD IN THE NEWTON COUNTY HISTORIC COURTHOUSE, 3RD FLOOR BOARDROOM. THOSE HAVING CONCERNS ABOUT THIS PETITION SHOULD ATTEND THE MEETINGS.

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500222**  
2/5

**REZONING PETITION**  
**GEORGIA, NEWTON County**

**A PETITION** (REZ22-0000014) HAS BEEN FILED WITH THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR A REZONING FOR THE PROPERTY BELONGING TO: **HULL, WILLIAM STEWART & SUSIE KATE UNDERWOOD C/O ANN HULL HEAD** WHOSE SUBJECT PROPERTY ADDRESS/LOCATION IS AT 7079 Hwy 212 & HWY 212, CONTAINING APPROXIMATELY 2.89 ACRES COMBINED & BEING ON TAX MAP 1 & PARCEL 7 AND TAX MAP 1 & PARCEL 7A. **THE OWNER** HAS INITIATED A REZONING REQUEST FROM R2 (SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) TO CG (GENERAL COMMERCIAL). **A PUBLIC HEARING** WILL BE HEARD BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON THE: **21ST DAY OF JANUARY, 2023 AT 7:30PM** **BOTH MEETINGS** WILL BE HELD IN THE NEWTON COUNTY HISTORIC COURTHOUSE, 3RD FLOOR BOARDROOM. THOSE HAVING CONCERNS ABOUT THIS PETITION SHOULD ATTEND THE MEETINGS.

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500221**  
2/5

**REZONING PETITION**  
**GEORGIA, NEWTON County**

**A PETITION** (MOD22-000002) HAS BEEN FILED WITH THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR A MODIFICATION TO THE CONDITIONS OF ZONING FOR THE PROPERTY BELONGING TO: **KATHRYN DALE CHESNUT** WHOSE SUBJECT PROPERTY ADDRESS/LOCATION is 2486 Hwy 81, BEING ON TAX MAP 28A PARCEL 1. **APPLICANT IS** REQUESTING TO MODIFY THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS OF ZONING BY SUBSTITUTING THE SITE PLAN FOR CONDITION 2A WHICH REFERENCES THE PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROPOSED OPERATION OF A LANDSCAPE BUSINESS; AND TO REMOVE CONDITION 3D WHICH LIMITS THE HOURS OF OPERATION FROM 7:00AM THROUGH 10:00PM; AND CONDITION 3E WHICH REQUIRES THE MAINTENANCE OF A 75 FT TREE LINE ALONG SHEPHERD ROAD. **A PUBLIC HEARING** WILL BE HEARD BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON THE: **21ST DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2023 AT 7:30 PM** **THIS MEETING** WILL BE HELD IN THE NEWTON COUNTY HISTORIC COURTHOUSE, 2ND FLOOR BOARDROOM. THOSE HAVING CONCERNS ABOUT THIS PETITION SHOULD ATTEND THIS MEETING.

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500231**  
2/5

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

**THE ENCLAVE AT GROSS LAKE HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION, INC.,**  
**PLAINTIFF,**

**V.**

**LLOYD JACKSON, JR. AND**

**SANDRA E. JACKSON,**

**DEFENDANTS.**

**CIVIL ACTION FILE NO. 22-373CS**

**NOTICE OF PUBLICATION AS TO DEFENDANT SANDRA E. JACKSON ONLY** BY ORDER for Service by Publication dated the 5th of January, 2023, all interested parties are hereby notified that on January 25, 2022, Plaintiff The Enclave at Gross Lake Homeowner's Association, Inc. filed its Complaint for Money Owed against Defendants Lloyd Jackson, Jr. and Sandra E. Jackson, said case being filed in the Magistrate Court of Newton County and assigned Civil Action File No. 22-373CS. **DEFENDANT SANDRA E. JACKSON** is hereby directed and required to file with the Clerk of the Magistrate Court of Newton County, Georgia and to serve upon Plaintiff's attorney an Answer to this lawsuit, in writing, within sixty (60) days of the date of the Order for Publication. **WITNESS THE** Honorable Tami Wells Thomas, Judge of the Magistrate Court of Newton County. **THIS 5TH** day of JANUARY , 2023

**DEPUTY CLERK, Magistrate Court of Newton County**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500138**  
1/22,29-2/5,12

**NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC**

**YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED** that on the 13th day of February, 2023, at 9:00 a.m., at **THE NEWTON County Judicial Center** at 1132 Usher St NW #338, Covington, Georgia, Judge Jeff **FOSTER** of the Superior Court of Newton County will hear the case of the STATE OF GEORGIA, **PLAINTIFF V. NEWTON COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY** and **ARCHER AVIATION INC.,** Defendants, Civil Action File No. 2023-CV-182-1, in **THE SUPERIOR** Court of Newton County, the same being a proceeding to confirm and validate the **NEWTON COUNTY Industrial Development Authority Taxable Revenue Bonds (Project Archer), SERIES 2023,** in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$118,000,000. The Bonds are to **BE ISSUED** by the Newton County Industrial Development Authority (the "Issuer") for the purpose **OF FINANCING,** in part, the acquisition, construction, improvement, installation and equipping of **FACILITIES** for the purpose of manufacturing aircraft (the "Project") located on property located in **THE CITY** of Covington, Newton County, Georgia, and leased to and operated by **Archer Aviation INC.,** A Delaware corporation (the "Company"). Said Project will be leased by the Issuer to the **COMPANY PURSUANT** to a Lease Agreement. In said proceeding, the Court will also pass upon the **VALIDITY** of said Lease Agreement (including a Project Agreement attached as an exhibit thereto), **AN INDENTURE** of Trust, a Guaranty Agreement and a Bond Purchase Agreement in connection **THEREWITH.** **THE ISSUER HAS WAIVED THE PERFORMANCE AUDIT AND PERFORMANCE REVIEW REQUIREMENTS PROVIDED** IN O.C.G.A. § 36-82-100 **AND WILL CONDUCT** NO "PERFORMANCE AUDIT" OR "PERFORMANCE REVIEW" WITH RESPECT TO THE BONDS, AS SUCH TERMS ARE DESCRIBED IN **O.C.G.A. § 36-82-100.** **ANY CITIZEN** of the State of Georgia residing in Newton County, Georgia, or any other **PERSON WHEREVER** residing who has a right to object, may intervene and become a party to this **PROCEEDING,** in accordance with

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500221**  
2/5

**REZONING PETITION**  
**GEORGIA, NEWTON County**

**A PETITION** (REZ22-0000014) HAS BEEN FILED WITH THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR A REZONING FOR THE PROPERTY BELONGING TO: **HULL, WILLIAM STEWART & SUSIE KATE UNDERWOOD C/O ANN HULL HEAD** WHOSE SUBJECT PROPERTY ADDRESS/LOCATION IS AT 7079 Hwy 212 & HWY 212, CONTAINING APPROXIMATELY 2.89 ACRES COMBINED & BEING ON TAX MAP 1 & PARCEL 7 AND TAX MAP 1 & PARCEL 7A. **THE OWNER** HAS INITIATED A REZONING REQUEST FROM R2 (SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) TO CG (GENERAL COMMERCIAL). **A PUBLIC HEARING** WILL BE HEARD BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON THE: **21ST DAY OF JANUARY, 2023 AT 7:30PM** **BOTH MEETINGS** WILL BE HELD IN THE NEWTON COUNTY HISTORIC COURTHOUSE, 3RD FLOOR BOARDROOM. THOSE HAVING CONCERNS ABOUT THIS PETITION SHOULD ATTEND THE MEETINGS.

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500221**  
2/5

**REZONING PETITION**  
**GEORGIA, NEWTON County**

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**PUBLIC NOTICE #500221**  
2/5

**REZONING PETITION**  
**GEORGIA, NEWTON County**

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**PUBLIC NOTICE #500221**  
2/5

**REZONING PETITION**  
**GEORGIA, NEWTON County**

**A PETITION** (REZ22-0000014) HAS BEEN FILED WITH THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR A REZONING FOR THE PROPERTY BELONGING TO: **HULL, WILLIAM STEWART & SUSIE KATE UNDERWOOD C/O ANN HULL HEAD** WHOSE SUBJECT PROPERTY ADDRESS/LOCATION IS AT 7079 Hwy 212 & HWY 212, CONTAINING APPROXIMATELY 2.89 ACRES COMBINED & BEING ON TAX MAP 1 & PARCEL 7 AND TAX MAP 1 & PARCEL 7A. **THE OWNER** HAS INITIATED A REZONING REQUEST FROM R2 (SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) TO CG (GENERAL COMMERCIAL). **A PUBLIC HEARING** WILL BE HEARD BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON THE: **21ST DAY OF JANUARY, 2023 AT 7:30PM** **BOTH MEETINGS** WILL BE HELD IN THE NEWTON COUNTY HISTORIC COURTHOUSE, 3RD FLOOR BOARDROOM. THOSE HAVING CONCERNS ABOUT THIS PETITION SHOULD ATTEND THE MEETINGS.

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500221**  
2/5

**REZONING PETITION**  
**GEORGIA, NEWTON County**

Newton Senior Services, the local St. Vincent de Paul Society, the Faith Community, and the United Way will determine how the funds awarded to Newton County are to be distributed among the emergency food and shelter programs run by local service agencies in the area. The Local Board is responsible for recommending agencies to receive these funds and any additional funds available under this phase of the program.

**UNDER THE** terms of the grant from the National Board, local agencies chosen to receive funds must: 1) be private voluntary non-profits or units of government, 2) be eligible to receive federal funds, 3) have an accounting system, 4) practice nondiscrimination, 5) have demonstrated the capability to deliver emergency food and/or shelter programs, and 6) if they are a private voluntary organization, have a voluntary board. Qualifying agencies are urged to apply. **NEWTON COUNTY** has distributed Emergency Food and Shelter funds previously with The Salvation Army, the Community Food Pantry, FaithWorks, Project ReNeWal, Newton Senior Services, the local St. Vincent de Paul Society participating.

**PUBLIC OR** private voluntary agencies interested in applying for these Emergency Food and Shelter Program funds may request an application by emailing your request to: [efspnewtonga@currently.com](mailto:efspnewtonga@currently.com) **THE DEADLINE** for completing and returning the application is 12 pm on March 3, 2023.

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500231**  
2/5

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

**THE ENCLAVE AT GROSS LAKE HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION, INC.,**  
**PLAINTIFF,**

**V.**

**LLOYD JACKSON, JR. AND**

**SANDRA E. JACKSON,**

**DEFENDANTS.**

**CIVIL ACTION FILE NO. 22-373CS**

**NOTICE OF PUBLICATION AS TO DEFENDANT SANDRA E. JACKSON ONLY** BY ORDER for Service by Publication dated the 5th of January, 2023, all interested parties are hereby notified that on January 25, 2022, Plaintiff The Enclave at Gross Lake Homeowner's Association, Inc. filed its Complaint for Money Owed against Defendants Lloyd Jackson, Jr. and Sandra E. Jackson, said case being filed in the Magistrate Court of Newton County and assigned Civil Action File No. 22-373CS. **DEFENDANT SANDRA E. JACKSON** is hereby directed and required to file with the Clerk of the Magistrate Court of Newton County, Georgia and to serve upon Plaintiff's attorney an Answer to this lawsuit, in writing, within sixty (60) days of the date of the Order for Publication. **WITNESS THE** Honorable Tami Wells Thomas, Judge of the Magistrate Court of Newton County. **THIS 5TH** day of JANUARY , 2023

**DEPUTY CLERK, Magistrate Court of Newton County**

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500138**  
1/22,29-2/5,12

**NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC**

**YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED** that on the 13th day of February, 2023, at 9:00 a.m., at **THE NEWTON County Judicial Center** at 1132 Usher St NW #338, Covington, Georgia, Judge Jeff **FOSTER** of the Superior Court of Newton County will hear the case of the STATE OF GEORGIA, **PLAINTIFF V. NEWTON COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY** and **ARCHER AVIATION INC.,** Defendants, Civil Action File No. 2023-CV-182-1, in **THE SUPERIOR** Court of Newton County, the same being a proceeding to confirm and validate the **NEWTON COUNTY Industrial Development Authority Taxable Revenue Bonds (Project Archer), SERIES 2023,** in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$118,000,000. The Bonds are to **BE ISSUED** by the Newton County Industrial Development Authority (the "Issuer") for the purpose **OF FINANCING,** in part, the acquisition, construction, improvement, installation and equipping of **FACILITIES** for the

Prep Baseball

# Redskins are 'hungry for more' in upcoming season

By DJ MOORE  
Correspondent

SOCIAL CIRCLE, Ga — The Social Circle Redskins' baseball team is coming into the 2022-2023 season looking to go even further than last season. And that only means one thing — the Redskins have a state title on their mind.

Social Circle reached the Class A Final Four last year and suffered a two-game sweep by eventual state runner-up Charlton County 4-0 and 16-6, respectively.

The Redskins, who were led by head coach Kevin Dawkins, finished the season with a 27-13 overall record while finishing third in Region 8A-Public with a 14-4 mark. The Redskins have brought everybody back from last year's team and are looking to appear in the final four and win the Class A-Division I state championship.

"We have a big senior group this year, and we got a bunch of underclassmen that are hungry for more," said Dawkins. "Last year we weren't particularly on anyone's radar at the beginning of the season, but as the season went on, we were on the radar."

Building off last year's success is something that will be beneficial for the team this year to reach the state finals. And leadership from some seniors like Logan Cross, Mason Moore, Mitch McCullough and Brayden Mitchell will be key.

"I just want to see them be humble, and there is a difference between being humble and laying down for your opponent," Dawkins said. "I just want them guys to continue to lead, but I do want other guys to help lead this year as well."

In the first couple of weeks of the preseason, the Redskins have been doing a great job of holding each other accountable which has been a pleasant surprise, according to Dawkins.

The preseason progress is vital because Dawkins believes this year's squad won't be sneaking up on anyone, thanks to last year's deep playoff run.

"I think anything with success will bring a target on your back," said Dawkins. "And after beating Wilcox County, who was the No. 1 team in the state, teams started to realize that it is Social Circle baseball."

Before the Redskins started competing in region play last year, their non-region schedule helped create the necessary chemistry to help them prevail later on down the line. And this year is no different for Dawkins' bunch as the non-region slate is lit-



File | The News

The Social Circle baseball team enters the 2023 season hopeful that it can build off of last year's Final Four finish in the state playoffs.

tered with perennially tough teams in higher classifications like Morgan County and Eastside.

The Redskins will open the season in Conyers against the Heritage Patriots on Feb.13. Their first region game will be in Lexington, Georgia, against

Oglethorpe County on Monday April 3.

"I want to face adversity early on and see how our boys respond to it," said Dawkins. "Since our first region game is in the first week of April, we have 20 non-region games or opportunities to get better."

## CROSS:

Continued from B1

a 68% completion rate in his final season.

Following his senior season, Cross had his fair share of awards and accolades to look back on.

Cross was awarded a spot on the Region 5A-Division I First Team as well as being an honorable mention for Class A-D1 All-State. The senior quarterback was named The Covington News' Offensive Player of the Year, too.

Despite having the accolades and

playing time, Cross has one thing in mind when asked what he wants to be remembered for during his time at Social Circle.

"I want to be remembered that our class changed Social Circle football," Cross said. "We have brought it to a place now where they can build off of last season."

## GRIER:

Continued from B1

School Football Daily's All-State team.

More importantly than his final statistics, Grier highlighted how he was going to miss the brotherhood of playing football at Eastside.

"I'm going to miss the family and the culture," Grier said. "Just the relationship we had with the school and how much they've invested into the program. I'm going to miss all of that."

Nevertheless, Grier is excited for his next step as he'll begin his college

football career in Fall 2023.

But, before he graduates Eastside in May, Grier knows none of the opportunities presented to him would have been possible without the help of his team and coaches.

"There hasn't been an easy day yet here at Eastside," Grier said. "Every day is hard and [the coaches] emphasize how they're going to get us ready for college. And I feel like they have."

## ROLE:

Continued from B1

that's when things jump to another level.

"It's always on," Pennamon said. "But once the game comes, we take it up another notch."

Each player's role has helped Newton (14-7, 6-1) achieve the top spot in Region 4-A-A-A-A-A-A. The Rams' closest losses have come against some of the best high school squads in the country, such as Duncanville (Texas), IMG Academy and McEachern.

Newton also has a few key wins this year, start-

ing with its season-opening 30-point victory against Mays as well as defeating three more out-of-state opponents to claim the City of Palms tournament win in Fort Myers, Florida.

More opportunities to nab some marquee wins present themselves as Newton will face Archer (16-5) Friday, an ESPN-televised bout Monday with No. 3 Wheeler and a rematch with region rival Grayson on Feb. 10 to close out the regular season.

Despite the gaunt-

let-style schedule, the Rams are achieving even with new pieces on this year's roster. But that hasn't slowed them down one bit. Actually, the players feel like the team is better than last year's.

"We got a bigger, better team," Jenkins said. "We're going to continue to work harder than we did last year. And then we'll end up winning that [state title] game."

When asked what their favorite memory from this season is, all four players, in unison, said it

was that tournament win.

"We won the championship with my brothers," Jenkins said. "We went down there and accomplished what we set out to do."

Something else besides winning the tournament came from that trip to Florida. Pennamon believes each player's bond was enhanced, as a result.

"Every time we're together is always fun," Pennamon said. "Whenever we're with our teammates on the road or in the locker room, we're

making moments we'll remember forever."

Now they're hoping more memories can be made as the postseason looms.

After the regular season conclusion, the Rams will compete in the Region 4-A-A-A-A-A-A tournament hosted by Grayson. In each of the last two years, Newton has come up short in the region title game against Grayson.

But the ultimate goal the Rams have surpasses a region supremacy —

it's claiming the ultimate state title.

And, while Pennamon, Prather, Jenkins and Jeffries aren't considered the faces of Newton basketball, winning a state crown would still mean just as much to them as it would to the Rams' headliners — perhaps even more, in some ways.

"It'll be legendary," Prather said. "I'm from Covington, so winning a state championship will be pretty special."

## LEGALS:

Continued from B5

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**THIS 13TH** day of JANUARY 2023

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500156**  
1/29-2/5

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**THIS 12TH** day of JANUARY 2023

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2/5,12

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2/5,12

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**THIS 9TH** day of JANUARY 2023

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1/29-2/5

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**GEORGIA, NEWTON COUNTY**

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**THIS 10TH** day of JANUARY 2023

**PUBLIC NOTICE #500157**  
1/29-2/5

## Prep Baseball

# Rams expecting another playoff berth in 2023

By DJ MOORE  
Correspondent

COVINGTON, Ga — The Newton Rams baseball team is coming off a playoff berth in the 2022 season — in fact, its first back-to-back postseason appearances since a string of four straight from 2012 through 2016 — and is looking to make it three straight this season.

Their 2022 campaign came to an end when the Rams lost a first round playoff series against Newnan losing their two games, 17-2 and 9-2, respectively.

The Rams finished the 2021-2022 season 8-19 overall while finishing fourth in Region 4-AAAAAA with a 3-9 record.

Their region this year will consist of newly added Archer and familiar foes such as Brookwood, Grayson, Parkview and South Gwinnett. In other words, it'll be the same tough competition Newton's grown to expect in region play.

"In this region, I feel like you can escape the fourth seed because of the tough teams that we play in the region," head coach Derwin McNealy said. "We'll have a chance to go deep in the

playoffs."

The Rams will be looking for more juice from its batters a year after averaging a .227 batting average as a team while hitting two home runs. Newton showed some prowess along the base paths, stealing 82 bags last year. But defensively, pitching and unforced mistakes were a problem. Newton's team 7.22 ERA was two runs more than the national high school average of 5.10. Its fielding percentage was .850 and the Rams committed 82 errors.

With the majority of the team being juniors or under with little to no varsity experience, coach McNealy thinks that the experience will be good for this year's team.

"I feel like we'll be better this year because the guys will know the system," McNealy said. "I think getting that experience actually playing their freshman year will help a lot."

Every team has a goal set for the season, and the Rams' goal this season will be to not get comfortable with just getting into the playoffs, but actually making a deep run when they

make the playoffs and securing a top three seed.

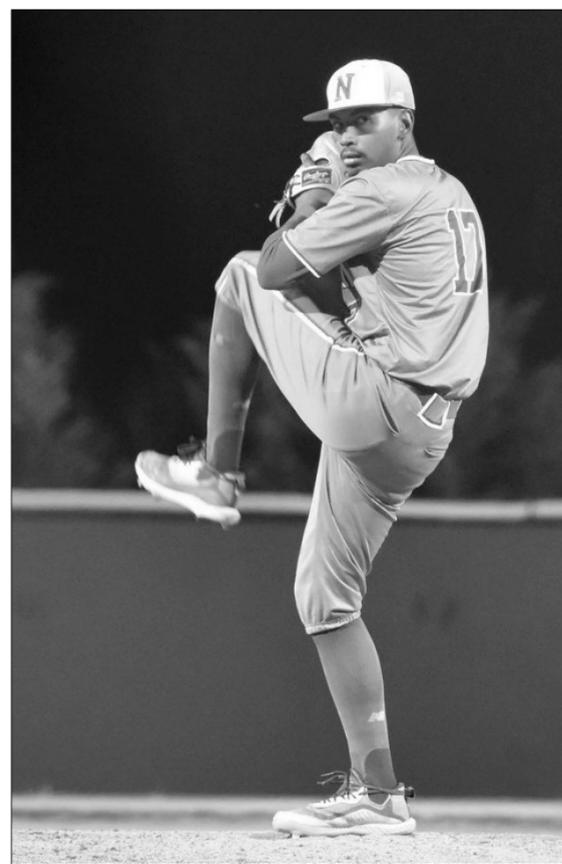
McNealy and the Rams will be leaning on the leadership of sophomore Caden Brown, who will be playing a new position this year.

"Last year as a freshman, he took some lumps but he really had some high moments as we got deeper into the region," McNealy said. "As a leader he is falling into that role. He's a baseball player."

Understanding how McNealy's system works is one of the strengths that this year's team has.

"Last year the buy-in was there, but it was the ability to understand and execute some of the things we were learning," said McNealy. "So this year, our strength is that we are able to execute more consistently, and the guys understand how we want to play the game."

The Newton baseball team will officially open its season on the road against the Morrow Mustangs on Feb. 6. And their first region series will take place March 13-17 as it hosts Brookwood.



File | The News

The youth on last year's team is now a year older and has more varsity experience under their belts. Newton is hoping that will help in their playoff pursuit in 2023.

## Prep Recruiting

# Vinson signs with Garden City to continue football career

By GARRETT PITTS  
Correspondent

SOCIAL CIRCLE, Ga. — Social Circle's AJ Vinson penned his letter of intent to play football at the next level Wednesday afternoon. Vinson made the announcement just a day before the Redskins' National Signing Day that he had committed to play at Garden City Community College in Kansas.

The announcement and signing comes after a long career at Social Circle that saw Vinson shine at both football, basketball in addition to track and field.

During his final two years at Social Circle, Vinson helped lead the football team to multiple playoff appearances while also being a part of the Redskins basketball team that made it to the Final Four in the state playoffs his junior season.

Vinson's decision to stick with football and commit to Garden City was a tough one, but Vinson chose football with the possibility of him walking on to play basketball in college.

"Playing basketball and track made me better at football," Vinson said. "It is going to be hard to not

play all three sports in college but I plan to walk off if I get a chance."

Vinson's play on Friday nights played big parts in Social Circle's run to the playoffs, as Vinson was the anchor in head coach Rob Patton's offensive line that protected fellow signee Logan Cross.

Following his senior season, Vinson was awarded a spot on the Region 5A-Division I First Team for his performance.

When making his decision to play football at the next level, Vinson saw what he needed from Garden City in order to make the decision to play his collegiate football for the Broncbusters.

"All of my [Social Circle] coaches were telling me about how good [Garden City] is and I spent a lot of time reviewing them and they have," Vinson said. "Coach Patton helped me talk to all the coaches."

When discussing his legacy as a Social Circle student-athlete, Vinson has a clear picture of what he wants to be remembered by.

"[I want to be remembered] as one big guy who played at Social Circle who is going to make it big one day," Vinson said.



Cassie Jones | The News

AJ Vinson, a multi-sport athlete at Social Circle, signed to continue his football career with Garden City Community College.

## Prep Wrestling



Special Photo

Piedmont Academy's wrestling team recently won the 2023 GIAA Region 4 Championship. Boone Pope, Colt Leddon, Micheal Joseph, Nick Nyman and Braxton Floyd each placed first in their respective weight classes. Scott Swann, Patrick Meadows, Dalton Wallace and Jamus Wingate each placed second while Jacob Betts, Trenton Jones and Eli Parker finished third.

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# The Covington News

## Prep Recruiting

# Duplessis finishes 'whirlwind' week with signing

By PHILLIP B. HUBBARD  
phubbard@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — When D'Von Duplessis woke up on Monday, he had no offers and, therefore, no certainty whether or not he would get to play college football. One phone call Monday afternoon changed all of that.

Duplessis received the scholarship offer from the University of the Cumberland on Monday, committed on Tuesday and signed on Wednesday. "It has been a whirlwind," Duplessis said. "I've been thinking about it all week. I called coach [Jay] Cawthon about signing today and he was really happy and I was happy, too."

Duplessis' signing was celebrated on the traditional February National Signing Day inside Eastside High's auditorium. He signed alongside Jordan Edwards who is also going to the University of the Cumberland.

Eastside's 2022 leading tackler's stats stood head-and-shoulders above any other Eagle last football season.

By season's end, the senior linebacker recorded 100 total tackles, which was 15 better than any other Eagle. He also had 20 tackles for loss (seven better) and nine sacks (four better). Duplessis intercepted a pass to boot.

When the season concluded, Duplessis received a couple of special honors.

First, he was voted First Team All-Region by the coaches of Region 8-A-A-A-A-A. Then, Duplessis earned a spot as a linebacker on the 2022 All-Cov News Football team.

His contributions opened the door for him to play college football.

Nevertheless, Duplessis feels ready for the move that awaits him in August 2023 after his high school graduation in May.

"[The coaches] have prepared all of us to become men," Duplessis said. "I'm really happy about what's next and I thank [the coaches] for that. I'm really excited for the next level."

One reason Duplessis feels ready for his next chapter is the support of the Eagles' football program. Without it, Duplessis stressed he wouldn't be in



Phillip B. Hubbard | The News

**D'Von Duplessis thanks all of his supporters, teammates and coaches before signing his national letter of intent to the University of the Cumberland on Wednesday.**

the position he is in today.

"I've been playing football since I was four," Duplessis said. "All my life, I've been thinking about the next level and now I'm here."

# Henderson is off to join Westminster football

By PHILLIP B. HUBBARD  
phubbard@covnews.com



Phillip B. Hubbard | The News

**DJ Henderson was overwhelmed with emotions as he announced his commitment and signing to Westminster College football.**

COVINGTON, Ga. — Dontorrie "DJ" Henderson took part in Eastside's National Signing Day on Wednesday inside the school's auditorium.

When Henderson's time came to ink his letter of intent, in the ceremony, he announced his commitment to Westminster College.

Henderson became overwhelmed with emotion during and after his signing.

"These coaches have believed in me since day one," Henderson said. "I love them so much. My teammates and everybody, they've supported me. I never thought I would be here."

Henderson chose Westminster from a field of offers from Wilmington College, Westminster College and Ottawa University — the schools Henderson narrowed to his top four choices on Dec. 8.

In total, Henderson had over a dozen athletic scholarship offers.

Before that, Henderson built a senior resume on the ground.

The senior running back for the Eagles had 88 carries for 471 yards and three touchdowns.

Henderson's stats earned him Second Team honors from the Region 8-A-A-A-A-A coaches in the postseason.

All of this was accomplished by Henderson after transferring from Newton and spending his senior year with the Eagles.

Henderson is grateful for what Eastside has meant to him.

"Coming from Newton, it's a different experience," Henderson said. "I love this school and I'm thankful to have been an Eastside Eagle."

Now, Henderson is off to New Wilmington, Pennsylvania, to join Westminster's football program in the fall of 2023. But, before that happens, Henderson is on track to graduate from Eastside in May.

And, while he feels ready for the next level, Henderson is anxious for what this next step holds for his future.

"I'm very blessed," Henderson said. "Last year, I had zero offers, but I didn't cry or moan, I just went to work. God has blessed me in many ways."

# Gresham signs to become a Catawba Indian

By PHILLIP B. HUBBARD  
phubbard@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — One of the six Eastside Eagles football players who signed on Wednesday was Aeron Gresham. During the special National Signing Day ceremony Eastside held, Gresham signed with Catawba College, based in Salisbury, North Carolina.

Gresham described the moment he put pen to paper as "exciting."

"I'm very excited about what the future holds for me," Gresham said.

Gresham's signing was just five days removed from his commitment to Catawba's football program. He also received offers from Tuskegee University, Bethel University and Wingate College among others.

His signing came after filling up the statistics sheet his senior season with the Eagles. Gresham seemed to make an impact by



Phillip B. Hubbard | The News

**Aeron Gresham dons a smile after placing his Catawba hat on his head during Eastside's National Signing Day ceremony.**

playing on both sides of the ball all year.

From his cornerback position, Gresham tallied 36 tackles, four tackles for loss, one interception, nine pass deflections and two fumble recoveries. On offense as a wide receiver, Gresham hauled in six catches for 66 yards and a touchdown.

Gresham was honored in the postseason, too, being voted First Team All-Region for

Region 8-A-A-A-A-A, which is a recognition that is voted on by the region's coaches.

Gresham was also featured as a member of the 2022 All-Cov News football team.

But none of the accolades compare to the memories he made while playing at Eastside.

"Playing under the Friday night lights is the best," Gresham said.

# Edwards signs with the University of the Cumberland



Phillip B. Hubbard | The News

**Jordan Edwards addresses the audience in attendance for Eastside's National Signing Day ceremony Wednesday morning in the auditorium.**

By PHILLIP B. HUBBARD  
phubbard@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — On the morning of National Signing Day, Jordan Edwards signed the dotted line to continue his football career with the University of the Cumberland.

Edwards signed the national letter of intent inside Eastside's auditorium in a special ceremony.

Upon reflection of the moment, Edwards was overjoyed with what he

accomplished by signing the scholarship.

"It was a moment to remember," Edwards said. "All of my boys and I worked hard to get to this moment and we're all happy for each other."

Edwards finished his senior season as the third leading receiver for the Eagles' offense in 2022. He had nine receptions for 128 yards, which is an average of 14.2 yards per catch. As a defensive

back, Edwards had 37 tackles, one of which was a tackle for loss, and two pass deflections.

In the postseason, Edwards was voted onto Region 8-A-A-A-A-A's Second Team All-Region by the region's coaches.

However, Edwards will miss one thing about his high school playing days above all else.

"Our chemistry and our bond was special," Edwards said. "I'll miss that and our coaching staff. I won't find anyone else like these guys. I'll always

Now, with his next step solidified, Edwards is excited to join the University of the Cumberland's football program. He'll be on campus, in Williamsburg, Kentucky, beginning in the Fall 2023 after his high school graduation in May.

"They've helped me get ready in different ways," Edwards said.

Prep Recruiting

# Arnold will take his athleticism to Charleston Southern

By PHILLIP B. HUBBARD  
phubbard@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — It was hard to miss E'Sean Arnold on the field for Eastside football this past fall. Arnold was all over the place, playing quarterback and defensive back while handling all of the punting responsibilities for the Eagles.

Now, the senior athlete — who once declared the personal mantra, "I'm just an athlete who makes plays." — will take his multidimensional play to Charleston Southern.

The move became official in Eastside's auditorium on Wednesday morning during the traditional National Signing Day period.

According to Arnold, the decision to go with Charleston Southern was quite simple.

"My relationship with the coaching staff was the difference maker," Arnold said. "They recruited me at two dif-



E'Sean Arnold wears a Charleston Southern hat on National Signing Day, signifying his signing with the Buccaneers.

Phillip B. Hubbard | The News

ferent places. So why not go where you're wanted?"

Arnold committed to the Buccaneers' program on Jan. 20 after his official visit to the

campus on Jan. 11.

In addition to Charleston Southern, Arnold also received offers from Stony Brook University as well as the University

of the Cumberlands.

Ultimately, Arnold said his style of play fit more into Charleston Southern's scheme compared to others. "They want to use

me in different ways on defense," Arnold said. "They recruited me as an athlete so we'll see."

Once his senior season ended, Arnold was recognized on the

All-Cov News squad as the First Team quarterback. That was after he was named First Team All-Region 8-A-A-A-A-A's First Team All-Region.

Arnold's final statistics allowed for such honors.

Offensively, the senior gunslinger completed 63% of his passes while throwing for 954 total yards with four touchdown passes. As a defensive back, Arnold had 63 tackles, three pass deflections and an interception.

Arnold recognized how his football journey at Eastside came with "a lot of adversity." But he expressed gratitude for the Eagles' support through it all.

"They have made me a better man and a better player," Arnold said. "It means a lot. I'll miss the family atmosphere of Eastside football and the Friday night lights at Sharp... there's nothing like it."

# Smith signs with Concord University's football program



Special Photo

Brandon Smith (27) recorded 29 tackles, three tackles for loss and had one interception for the Rams in his senior season.

By PHILLIP B. HUBBARD  
phubbard@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — Brandon Smith was part of Newton High School's National Signing Day ceremony on Wednesday morning. In the ceremony, Smith signed with Concord University.

Signing the athletic scholarship was representative of all the time Smith has invested into the sport he loves.

"It felt great for the hard work I've been through to finally pay off," Smith said. "I'm blessed to have this opportunity to play at the next level."

Smith selected Concord over

offers from Arkansas State, Eastern Kentucky and Morehouse College.

When asked what separated Concord from the rest of the field, Smith recalled his visit to its campus in Mercer County, West Virginia.

"When I went on my visit the coaches made it feel like home," Smith said. "And I like the culture and the direction the program is headed."

In his senior football season, Smith recorded 29 tackles — three of which were tackles for loss — and one interception.

With those statistics, Region

4-A-A-A-A-A-A's coaches voted Smith Honorable Mention.

But, more importantly, Smith gave Newton a ton of credit when asked if he feels ready for this next step of his career.

"Newton is the best at preparing the product," Smith said. "All the coaches have prepared me for the next level. Coach [Josh] Skelton has worked with me day in and day out. I appreciate him for being a good person I can lean on. I've also played alongside some talented DBs at Newton."

# Jenkins signs to become a Lenoir-Rhyne Bear.



Cassie Jones | The News

Grayson Jenkins (middle) signs his national letter of intent as his parents look on Wednesday afternoon.

By GARRETT PITTS  
Correspondent

SOCIAL CIRCLE, Ga. — One of the players taking the step to the next level for the Social Circle Redskins is Grayson Jenkins, who signed with Lenoir-Rhyne University in North Carolina.

Jenkins announced days before National Signing Day, which was Wednesday, that he committed to play for the Bears and head coach Mike Jacobs.

"[Lenoir-Rhyne] was very nice when I visited. The coaches are really good people and the atmosphere is great," Jenkins said.

Jenkins was a two-way player for Social Circle, playing as a defensive back and a wide receiver.

During his senior season, he made plays for head coach Rob Patton on both sides of the ball. Jenkins accumulated 78 tackles, four interceptions, seven tackles for a loss, one forced fumble and one touchdown.

Following his senior season, Jenkins was named to the Region 5A-Division I First Team as a defensive back.

Prior to signing with Lenoir-Rhyne, Jenkins had received offers from Wittenberg University, University of La Verne, Culver-Stockton College, Thiel College and Carthage College.

Jenkins made sure to savor his moment on stage Wednesday as he signed alongside his teammates and coaches that

have helped him get to the point where he can play football at the next level.

"I am really proud of them; it has been a long four years but we did what we wanted to do. The football program has gone up a lot," Jenkins said. "The coaches helped a lot. They have helped talk to [college] coaches and if I had any questions they were there."

As Jenkins gets ready to play for the Bears in the fall, he knows exactly what kind of player Lenoir-Rhyne will be getting when he makes his arrival.

"[They are getting] a very physical and aggressive player," Jenkins said. "I am never going to back down from anything and I am going to try my hardest."

# Weasley signs to Navarro College



File | The News

Kyle Weasley (21) finished his senior football season with 22 total tackles and had two interceptions.

By PHILLIP B. HUBBARD  
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COVINGTON, Ga. — On Wednesday morning, which was recognized as National Signing Day, Kyle Weasley took the stage in Newton High's auditorium. After sitting at the table, Weasley signed his name to an athletic scholarship to play football at Navarro College.

Weasley's signing was just four days after he announced his commitment to Navarro via his personal Twitter.

Putting pen to paper on Wednesday was pretty special for the senior Ram.

"It felt good signing today," Weasley said. "It felt like I accomplished something."

Weasley chose Navarro College — a junior college in Corsicana, Texas — from a field of offers that included Coffeyville Community College, Austin Peay University, Morehouse College and Arkansas State.

A few things stood out to Weasley that made his decision crystal clear.

"It is in a good location, has a family-like atmosphere and is the best opportunity for me to play ball," Weasley said.

The defensive back finished his senior football season with 22 total tackles, one tackle for loss and led his team with two interceptions. After the season ended, Weasley was voted onto Region 4-A-A-A-A-A-A's Second Team.