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Inside:

SOFTBALL SEASON UNDERWAY

See SPORTS, B1

His Word

See that none render evil for evil unto any man; but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all men.

1 Thessalonians 5:15, KJV

Part IV of a Covington News series

DA calls for P-Card investigation

Newton County residents demand change in policy, seek justice in cases of alleged misuse

By TAYLOR BECK
tbeck@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — District Attorney Randy McGinley has requested state authorities investigate “certain” Newton County purchasing card (P-card) records.

After he received copies of “certain” P-card records, McGinley told The Covington News he met with “a state law enforcement

agency about certain records and requested an investigation into certain transactions.” He said the records would include “certain P-card holder’s records covering 2020 and further back.”



Randy McGinley

“The records I have go into some of 2021, but I am not sure if they go all the way through June of this year,” McGinley said. “But, if I need to get more recent records, I can easily do so.”

“If this necessitates further action, then my office will do so,” he added. “It is not appropriate for me to comment beyond that at this point.”

Bound by Georgia Rules of Professional Conduct,

Rule 3.8, McGinley said he could not make any public comment that would “have a substantial likelihood of heightening public condemnation” of anyone accused of a crime.

“There are times when I will tell everyone that it would not be appropriate for me to comment on whether there is even an ongoing

See P-CARD, A9

CATCH UP:

This article is the conclusion of a four-part Covington News series on P-cards, explaining their purpose and analyzing past spending records. Parts I, II and III are available to read at CovNews.com and on the new Covington News app.



Berry Tree among nation’s best

Covington-grown tree earns spot in Vice President’s home Christmas decorations

By TOM SPIGOLON
tspigolon@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — A Newton County-grown Christmas tree will adorn the Vice President’s official residence in Washington, D.C., this holiday season.

A tree from Berry’s Tree Farm in Covington was one of two Reserve Grand Champion award winners in the 2021 National Christmas Tree Contest in North Carolina on Friday, Aug. 6.

National Christmas Tree Association (NCTA) members chose a Leyland cypress tree from Berry’s for the award, owner Chuck Berry said.

It was his first attempt at entering a national Christmas tree competition, Berry said.

“It was truly an honor and somewhat of a surprise,” Berry said.

See TREE, A8



Chuck Berry of Berry’s Tree Farm in Covington stands with the Leyland cypress tree that was honored as a Reserve Grand Champion by the National Christmas Tree Association.

Special to The Covington News

Porterdale council taps Minnoia to fill vacant seat

By TOM SPIGOLON
tspigolon@covnews.com

PORTERDALE, Ga. — Porterdale City Council voted Thursday to fill its vacant Post 4 seat through the end of this year with a former city planning committee member.

The council voted unanimously to appoint Jill Minnoia to complete the unexpired term of former longtime councilman Mike Harper, who resigned recently because of health issues.

Council members agreed that only Minnoia expressed interest in being appointed to serve the remain four months in the term.

Minnoia has lived in Porterdale since 2016 and served as a Porterdale Planning and Zoning Committee member from 2017 to 2019.

She has worked more than 20 years as an event manager and

See COUNCIL, A8



Jill Minnoia

Mansfield residents mourn owner of city business ‘staple’

Kenny Anderson operated Roosters Drive Inn on Main Street in Mansfield. He died Tuesday at the age of 64.

Special to The Covington News



By TOM SPIGOLON
tspigolon@covnews.com

MANSFIELD, Ga. — Mansfield is mourning a businessman who turned a one-room gas station into a business anchor for this small town.

Edward “Kenny” Anderson, owner and operator of Roosters Drive Inn restaurant in Mansfield, passed away early Tuesday.

Anderson, 64, had operated the restaurant on the town’s main street, Georgia Hwy. 11, since 2016.

Memorial services are set

for Sunday, Aug. 15, at 4 p.m. at J.C. Harwell and Son Funeral Home at 2157 East St. in Covington.

His restaurant was known for a Southern-based menu and entertainment schedule that included singer-songwriters and karaoke.

Former Mansfield mayor Jefferson Riley said Anderson was “the epitome of an entrepreneur.”

“A true success story and a huge blessing to Mansfield,” he said.

County Commissioner Stan Edwards, who was

a regular customer, said Anderson “was a fun-loving guy that enjoyed his patrons immensely.”

“He really enjoyed providing dishes people found authentic and that tasted good,” he said.

Edwards said Roosters had become a Mansfield business staple.

“Kenny will be missed,” Edwards said. “Our thoughts and prayers go out to Michelle, his wife.”

Another area resident,

See MOURN, A8



Newton murderer denied chance to appeal 2018 guilty plea

By **TOM SPIGOLON**
tspigolon@covnews.com
COVINGTON, Ga. — A Covington man sentenced to life in prison for murder in 2018

was denied an appeal Wednesday in a Newton County court nearly three years after he was convicted of the crime. Superior Court Judge

Ken Wynne denied Benjamin Marcus Johnson's request to appeal his October 2018 conviction after hearing a prosecutor say he had not indicated to his trial



Benjamin Johnson

attorney that he wanted to appeal before he notified court officials he wanted a new attorney. Johnson was convicted of bludgeoning 62-year-old Michael Williams to death on May 6, 2017, and setting the homeless man's body on fire in some woods near Washington Street and Old Brown Bridge Road to conceal the crime.

The Covington Police Department reportedly then did an intensive investigation and search. Johnson was identified as a suspect and arrested later that day on charges of Felony Murder, Malice Murder, Aggravated Assault, and Concealing the Death of Another. Johnson ultimately pleaded guilty Oct. 5, 2018, to charges of

Malice Murder and Concealing the Death of Another and received a life sentence. He was incarcerated Oct. 16, 2018, and now resides in Johnson State Prison in Wrightsville, according to Georgia Department of Corrections records. Johnson's attorney, Barbara Mattes, said

See **DENIED, A7**

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**CITY OF OXFORD
MUNICIPAL GENERAL
ELECTION
NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC**

Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 21-2-131(a)(1)(A), notice is hereby given that on Tuesday, the 2nd day of November 2021, a General Election will be held in the Community Center at 110 West Clark Street, Oxford, Newton County, Georgia, for elections to fill City Council Posts 4, 5, and 6 for 4-year terms. Qualifying fees were set on January 11, 2021 by the Mayor and City Council at their Special Called Meeting. Qualifying fees have been set at \$144.00 for each Council Post.

Qualifying will be held at Oxford City Hall, 110 West Clark Street, Oxford, Newton County, Georgia. Qualifying dates and times are Monday, August 16, 2021 through Friday, August 20, 2021 beginning at 8:30 a.m. and ending at 4:30 p.m. each day.

**CITY OF OXFORD
ELECTION QUALIFYING OFFICER**

Covington native serves as member of Navy's 'Silent Service'

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS
news@covnews.com

NORFOLK, Va. — A Covington native is serving in the U.S. Navy aboard USS New Hampshire, one of the world's most advanced nuclear-powered submarines.

Petty Officer 2nd Class Lars Evans, a 2013 Eastside High School graduate, joined the Navy over five years ago.

"I wanted a change of pace and a change of lifestyle," said Evans. "I was in college but decided to pursue other career opportunities with the military."

According to Evans, the values required to succeed in the military

are similar to those found in Covington.

"My family taught me respect and understanding, good morals and values, and these traits helped me become a better man and person overall in and out of the military," said Evans.

Fast, maneuverable and technically advanced, submarines are some of the most versatile ships in the Navy, capable of silently conducting a variety of missions around the



Lars Evans

world.

There are three basic types of submarines: fast attack submarines (SSN), ballistic missile submarines (SSBN) and guided-missile submarines (SSGN).

Fast attack submarines are designed to hunt down and destroy enemy submarines and surface ships; strike targets ashore with cruise missiles; carry and deliver Navy SEALs; carry out intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance missions; and engage in mine warfare. Their primary tactical advantage is stealth, operating undetected under the sea for long periods of time.

The Navy's ballis-

tic-missile submarines, often referred to as "boomers," serve as a strategic deterrent by providing an undetectable platform for submarine-launched ballistic missiles. SSBNs are designed specifically for stealth, extended patrols and the precise delivery of missiles. Their design allows the submarines to operate for 15 or more years between major overhauls.

Guided-missile submarines provide the Navy with unprecedented strike and special operation mission capabilities from a stealthy, clandestine

See **SERVICE, A7**

OBITUARIES

Donald Barnett Wade, Jr.

Lakeside Funeral Home
Donald Barnett Wade, Jr. passed peacefully at home Tuesday, August 3, 2021. He was a dedicated husband, loving father and grandfather, trusted friend, proud veteran, and craft show connoisseur. He was born December 28, 1944, in Florence, South Carolina. He married his high school sweetheart on August 9th, 1966, and would be celebrating their 55th anniversary this year. He and his wife Becky celebrated two children

of their own, four grandchildren, and countless neighborhood and friends' children that still consider him a second father. He attended Andrew Jackson High School in Jacksonville, Florida, and graduated in 1963. Soon after, he joined the United States Air Force and served in the Vietnam War. He was honorably



Donald Barnett Wade, Jr.

discharged in 1967 after flying in over 105 combat-related missions during which he received the Air Medal and Distinguished Flying Cross.

After returning from Vietnam, Don began his career with JCPenney where he started as a stock boy. Over the course of 37 years, six states were called home (some twice), including Florida, Georgia, Alabama, North Carolina, Kentucky, and New Jersey. Thirty-seven years later he retired from JCPenney.

Don is survived by

his wife of 55 years, Becky Wade; Son, Scott Wade (wife Chana); Son, Clark Wade (wife Laura); grandchildren, Jackson (15) and Gracie (13); Blair (12) and Grayson (10); several nieces, nephews; and great-nieces and nephews. Mr. Wade will be interred at the Georgia National Cemetery in Canton, Georgia with full military honors. Services in care of Lakeside Funeral Home, Woodstock, GA 770-293-2757.

Mary Patricia "Patty" Murphy

Mary Patricia "Patty" Murphy passed away on August 12, 2021 surrounded by loving family and friends. Born July 22, 1948, in Springfield, MO, she enjoyed drawing, painting, reading, and collecting anything with cardinals on it. She will be remembered as a devoted and

loving Military wife and mother of four children, seven grandchildren as well as a loyal and valued friend to those that referred to her as such. Patty was steadfast in her belief in God and selflessly prayed for others daily. Patty's devotion to her family and friends set her apart from others and inspired those that knew her. She would

not hesitate to open her home to those in need and act as a mother figure in the absence of the real thing.

Patty is preceded in death by her parents, Ralph Powell of Sacramento, CA and Mary Powell Michelson, of Quincy CA, and her stepfather, Leonard "Bob" Michelson, also of Quincy CA. She is also preceded in death

by her two brothers, Richard Kearny of Nashville, TN and Ralph Anthony "Tony" Powell of Sacramento, CA

Patty is survived by her loving and devoted husband of 52 years, Melvin Ray Murphy of Covington GA, whom she loved unconditionally and irrevocably. She is also survived by her children, James Ray Murphy of Arlington VA, Shon Kevin Murphy and his children of Sanford N.C., Christopher Michael Murphy, his wife Crystal Murphy and their children of Lansing MI, and Patricia Ann Cook and her husband Donny Cook and their children of Covington GA. She is also survived by her brothers, Garith Powell and David Michelson-Bass of Sacramento CA and Michael Powell of Chico CA and her sister Judith Allen also of Chico CA. Patty is further survived by her lifelong friend Kyla Blanton who has loved her as much as she was loved by her and who remained by her side through thick and thin no matter the consequences.

NOTICE OF PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

The Newton County Board of Education has tentatively adopted an M&O millage rate which will require an increase in property taxes by 11.56%. All concerned citizens are invited to the public hearing on this tax increase to be held in the Board Room at the Newton County Board of Education Administrative Offices, 2109 Newton Drive, Covington, Georgia on August 24, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

This tentative increase will result in a millage rate of 19.788 mills, an increase of 2.051 mills. Without this tentative tax increase, the millage rate will be no more than 17.737 mills. The proposed tax increase for a home with a fair market value of \$200,000 is approximately \$171.99 and the proposed tax increase for nonhomestead property with a fair market value of \$175,000 is approximately \$143.57.



REGIONAL REPORT

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

Census data finds nation, Georgia more urban and racially diverse

The United States, including Georgia, became more urban and more diverse during the last decade, according to U.S. Census results released Thursday.

The first detailed data from the 2020 Census covering cities, counties and census blocks showed the concentration of Americans in the nation's metropolitan areas increased from 84.3% in 2010 to 86.3% last year.

Population growth in Georgia during the decade was limited primarily to the counties in metro Atlanta and along the coast.

On the other hand, many of the counties in rural Georgia lost population between 2010 and 2020, including large swaths of South Georgia.

That trend was reflected across the country, as the nation's more heavily populated counties grew while the smaller counties lost residents.

"The country's population is increasingly metropolitan," Marc Perry, senior demographer in the U.S. Census Bureau's Population Division, said during a news conference announcing the results.

Meanwhile, the nation's population grew more diverse during the last decade.

While the country's white population fell by 8.6% between 2010 and 2020, the Black population grew by 5.6%. The Hispanic and Asian populations also showed large increases.

The most diverse regions of the U.S. were in the South and West, including Georgia.

Black residents make up the majority in many Georgia counties, primarily in parts of metro

Atlanta, rural counties west of Augusta and in Southwest Atlanta, the Census found.

Nicholas Jones, the Census Bureau's director of race and ethnic research, said data showing increased diversity across the nation resulted not only from demographic changes but from the way the 2020 Census was conducted. Improvements in how the questions were designed resulted in many Americans self-identifying as belonging to more than one race, he said.

Hispanics made up the largest minority group, with 62.1 million Americans self-identifying as Hispanic or Latino only. Black Americans self-identifying as members of one race only accounted for 41.1 million.

Thursday's data release was the second from the 2020 Census. The Census Bureau reported in April that the total U.S. population grew by 7.4% between 2010 and 2020 to 331.4 million, the slowest growth rate since the 1930s.

Georgia remains the nation's eighth-most populous state with a population of 10.7 million, up from 9.7 million a decade ago.

With the slower growth, only six states will receive more congressional seats. For the first time since the 1980 census, Georgia will not be among them.

The General Assembly will use the data to redraw Georgia's congressional and legislative districts during a special legislative session this fall.

— *Capitol Beat News*

Georgia enjoys record economic development numbers despite COVID-19

Georgia set records for jobs and economic development investments during the last fiscal year despite the coronavirus pandemic, Gov. Brian Kemp announced Wednesday.

Nearly \$11 billion in new investments during fiscal 2021, which ended June 30, represented a 46% increase over the last fiscal year, while 33,439 jobs created across the state beat the previous record by 5%.

"Setting new economic development records during a global pandemic is further evidence that Georgia remains the No. 1 state for business," Kemp said. "By remaining open for business and working alongside local economic development partners and private sector business leaders, we've been able to create greater opportunities for hard-working Georgians and prioritize attracting key industries that bring quality jobs and investments to every corner of the Peach State."

Kemp said 74% of new project locations and expansions came outside of the 10-county Atlanta region, along with more than two-thirds of total investments and about one-third of new jobs. He pledged on the campaign trail three years ago to focus economic development efforts on rural Georgia.

Georgia's international partnerships accounted for the creation of nearly \$2 billion in foreign direct investment in the state.

Leading industries investing in Georgia included automotive, advanced manufacturing, software/technology, logistics and distribution, and food

processing. Additional strong gains in jobs and investments came from financial technology and digital media.

Investments in headquarters reached nearly \$93 million, an increase of 94% from fiscal 2020, and jobs created by headquarters projects were up 281% over the previous year.

— *Capitol Beat News*

Kemp looks to businesses to aid fight against crime

Gov. Brian Kemp called on Georgia businesses Tuesday to join him in the fight against violent crime.

The recent rise in crime across the state, but particularly in metro Atlanta, poses a threat to Georgia's economy, Kemp told the state's top political and business leaders gathered in Columbus for the annual Congressional Luncheon sponsored by the Georgia Chamber of Commerce.

"If crime is rampant on your streets and in your local communities, businesses will look elsewhere," he said. "Chambers of commerce have a responsibility to speak out on crime and look for meaningful solutions."

The growth in violent crime has become a high-priority issue for Kemp and legislative leaders in recent weeks. The governor announced last month that he would add addressing crime to the agenda of a special session the General Assembly will hold this fall to redraw Georgia's congressional and legislative districts.

Kemp also has committed up to \$7 million from the Governor's Emergency Fund to help finance the activities of the state Department of Public Safety's

Crime Suppression Unit.

Top legislative leaders also have floated proposals to combat violent crime. House Speaker David Ralston, R-Blue Ridge, has proposed putting \$75 million toward boosting law enforcement and mental health services in Georgia.

Lt. Gov. Geoff Duncan, who presides over the state Senate, is calling for a \$250 million tax credit to raise funds for crimefighting. The money raised through donations made in exchange for the tax credit would go to police officer pay raises, to hire more officers and to increase training.

Chris Clark, president and CEO of the Georgia Chamber of Commerce, said chamber officials have been working on the crime problem for the last several months.

"We know public safety impacts every one of our employees, customers, clients, families and suppliers," Clark said to Kemp after the governor finished his remarks. "You can count on us."

— *Capitol Beat News*

Raffensperger announces investment and business fair

Georgia-based businesses that have taken advantage of the state's decade-old Invest Georgia Exemption (IGE) will take part in an investment and business fair later this month inside the state Capitol.

Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger is hosting the fair to highlight the exemption, which allows Georgia companies to raise capital from Georgia investors without being subject to the regulatory costs and burdens of registering with the U.S. Securities and Ex-

change Commission.

More than 100 companies have used the exemption to grow their businesses in Georgia since it was created in 2011, Raffensperger said Wednesday.

"As a small-business owner myself, I know how important it is for the government to support rather than get in the way of business and investment," he said. "I am proud to bring more attention to this important tool to help Georgia small businesses and entrepreneurs."

The fair will take place on Aug. 26 from 10 a.m. until noon in the lobby of the Capitol. Participating companies will set up tables displaying what they do and how they have used the exemption to grow their businesses.

Business groups and government agencies, including representatives of the secretary of state's office, also will be on hand to provide information and tips to entrepreneurs interested in starting a business or owners of existing small businesses looking to grow.

"IGE is an example of good public policy," said Larry Williams, president and CEO of the Technology Association of Georgia. "By making it easier to raise capital, IGE helps our members develop new technologies and create value. With help from effective programs like IGE, capital investment in Georgia is growing and deal flow is strong."

The IGE fair is sponsored by the Investors Protection Trust, a nonprofit organization that provides independent, objective information consumers need to make informed investment decisions.

— *Capitol Beat News*

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Letters to the Editor can be delivered by:

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- In person: Stop by 1166 Usher St. NW in downtown Covington
- Email: news@covnews.com

OPINIONS

The Covington News

Dick Yarbrough columnist

Some random thoughts on some random subjects

What a bunch of whiners. I refer to the jive-talkers that stormed the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, waving their Trump flags and having a big ol' time. One even



put a finger emoji on a fuzzy image of himself with the caption, "THIS IS ME.," in case you missed it. Oops! Maybe that wasn't such a good idea after all. Thanks to the magic of motion pictures, he and a lot of others — over 500 so far and counting — are facing some serious jail time. Now, many of them are apologizing for their actions saying they are so embarrassed at their bad behavior. Even ol' Buffalo Boy, who proudly posed for photos on the Senate dais, is expressing regret. Oh, boohoo. Either you are proud of what you did or you are not.

... Last week, I wrote about a seemingly intractable dispute between the bishop of the North Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church, Sue Hauptert-Johnson, and Mt. Bethel Church, the largest church in the conference. The bishop is trying to move the pastor, Dr. Jody Ray, to another job. He doesn't want to go and neither do a number of his members. I got one response defending the bishop, a number defending the church and a large majority saying "amen" when I call organized religion an oxymoron. What I did not get was a single response concerning the fact that more than 40% of those between the ages of 18 and 44 claim no interest in any religion. Isn't that what we should be worrying about?

... In my recent column on Medal of Honor recipient, retired Army Col. Ralph Puckett, of Columbus, I stated he was honored by President Joe Biden in the Oval Office. Not so. It was in the East Room. I also said that in our nation's history, less than 1% of the 40 million Americans who have served in the military have been awarded the Medal of Honor since its inception in 1862. More precisely, it is .0001%. Normally, I would say 'oops!' and let it go but not when it concerns a Medal of Honor recipient and a Great American like Col. Puckett. My thanks to J.D. Lock, Lieutenant Colonel, US Army (Retired), in Forsyth County for

helping me get it right.

... I receive a lot of surveys in my in-box touting one statistic or another. Most of them I ignore, but not this one. Vacation deal website, NextVacay.com devised a "tourist politeness index" to ascertain, state by state, which Americans have the best and worst reputations when they vacation domestically. Georgia is second only to Alaska for playing nice when we travel. I don't know how Alaska beat us except they are probably grateful to get away from the black flies and mosquitos. We are nice because that is the way our momma and daddy raised us. The rudest travelers? According to the survey, Washington state. Not surprised. Those elitists and their socialist pals on the Left Coast think their sweat doesn't stink. Hopefully, they will stay home and riot and defund the police.

... A list of the most popular names for boys and girls was recently released and Noah (#2) and Henry (#9) made the Top 10 for boys. It just so happens that is the name of two of my great-grandsons. (Are we a prescient bunch or what?) On the female side, Olivia still ranks Number One. That is appropriate because Olivia happens to be the name of the greatest retail clerk in the history of the world, who makes her customers feel like they are the most important people to ever enter our local pharmacy.

... It was thought that an asteroid named Apophis could collide with the earth in 2029. Not going to happen says NASA. Not even in 2068, another potential impact date. NASA scientists say, in fact, their studies show no asteroid impact risk for at least the next 100 years. I don't know about you, but at this point I have lost interest in asteroid collisions. I am more worried about colliding with idiot drivers on the Interstate.

... Finally, congratulations to Yvette K. Daniels, the 77th and newest president of the University of Georgia Alumni Association and the first Black female president. I am not sure which number I was but it is an honor I will always cherish. No recognition like it. Go Dawgs! Woof! Woof!.

Dick Yarbrough is an award-winning columnist from Georgia. Reach him at dick@dictyarbrough.com.

Taylor Beck editor and publisher

Board of Commissioners must tighten P-card policy

Newton County purchasing card records from June 2020 to June 2021 were brought to light, as promised.



I spent many hours poring over paperwork and receipts, and analyzing purchases of everyone from Chairman Marcello Banes to a sheriff's deputy that half the county wouldn't know from Adam.

I strived to keep my reporting fair and accurate, as always. I tried to shed light on every questionable purchase possible. I also tried to get clarity on how those purchases were for the business of the county.

I'm sure if I looked once more through the year's worth of records from Newton County's 50 P-card users, there's no doubt I would likely find something I didn't notice the first, second and third time around. In fact, it happened this week. On one occasion, I noticed one of Mr. Banes' "meetings with constituents" was not only with his wife, Cheneeka, but also his daughter, Bailey.

It also came to my attention that it wasn't just one pair of "work boots" that Banes purchased from K&D

Men's Shoes in Conyers. He bought two pairs, and one was listed on the receipt as "Ladies 6 Steel/Brown."

I regret leaving those nuggets of information out of my initial reports, but I believe the work that was published has achieved what was intended — keeping you, the community, informed and out of the dark.

One question that remains is, what's next?

District Attorney Randy McGinley has asked state authorities to investigate some of the county's P-card records. Despite not knowing which P-card users or specific purchases will be under the spotlight, I'm relieved to see this type of action being taken.

Honestly, I hope for the best, because, I mean, who really wants to see their own community mixed up in a situation like this?

To say the least, it's a disappointing position to be in, but I would say it's even more disappointing to know that taxpayer dollars are potentially being mismanaged.

Now that records have been brought to light and an investigation is seemingly underway, what can't happen is for this all to fall upon deaf ears — not again.

In 2016, Newton County Fire Chief

Kevin O'Brien was guilty of using his P-card to purchase a variety of home improvement items over a four-year period in the amount of \$16,991. After he was sentenced to prison time and probation, do we recall what happened? One might think the county took a shot at improving or tightening the policy to ensure nothing of this sort could ever happen again.

Instead, only silence.

Here we are, five years later, and it could all be happening again, pending the outcome of an investigation.

With so many questions still surrounding P-card usage and Newton County's policies and procedures, it's time the Board of Commissioners take action.

Page 12 of the current P-Card Policy states, "Administrative Services will 'make periodic audits of card use and charges for appropriateness.'" This could be done in-house or it could be outsourced. I believe it would serve the county well to hire an outside firm to conduct an audit and present the results publicly.

It would also serve the county well to seek outside influence and revise the current P-card program policy.

McGinley said many entities, including the state government, have

a tighter and clearly defined policy. Why should our county be any different?

Not only would it serve the county well from an operational standpoint, but it would go a long way in gaining and maintaining the trust of its residents.

Someone once said, "True democratic governance is doing what your people want, not just what you want for your people."

Board of Commissioners meetings are held the first and third Tuesday of each month inside the Historic Courthouse at 1124 Clark Street in Covington. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. If you want to see the P-card policy changed, attend these meetings and request to speak during the allotted time for public comments. If you're unable to attend meetings, call the Board of Commissioners office at 770-784-2000 or visit www.co.newton.ga.us to learn how to reach your respective commissioner. Either way, make your voice heard. After all, "the power of the people is much stronger than the people in power."

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

Your Letters to the Editor

Seize opportunities to join in community arts

Dear Editor:
I was lucky enough to have the chance to perform in a musical recently when The Plaza Arts Center and The Arts Barn collaborated on Once Upon A Mattress. After that experience, I truly think that everyone could benefit from getting involved in community arts... whether that be theater, painting, volunteering, the options are endless. Let's make it a goal to seize these opportunities when they come up.

During those two weeks, I saw relationships form, or get stronger, between students from different high schools, between the cast and crew and between director and cast. This created an environment in which, even during the summer, everyone was excited to be working and being put to work starting pretty early during the day.

Students came in and forged bonds with those who they may not have even met if not for this experience. The "games" that started out the day allowed

for bonding moments and moments of trust — something that theater is really good at.

By the end of the performances, the cast and crew truly did not want to leave each other. The two weeks ended with a set strike and an impromptu dance party, which to me, showed just how important this collaboration is. These young adults needed a space to come, be creative and express themselves and The Plaza and The Arts Barn were able to provide that.

Community theater is something that if you're involved in, you get the importance of, but if you aren't, the impact sometimes isn't as obvious.

The Plaza Arts Center and The Arts Barn are vital to communities like Eatonton. These entities provide a safe space for kids and young adults to grow, thrive, communicate and create.

Without either in place, the young community would

lack a creative outlet.

Seeing art literally come to life in just two short weeks was inspiring. We have so much talent in this area and it is worth supporting.

Get involved in your local theater. The Plaza is always accepting new members, volunteers, donors — our doors are always open for you. Come visit and

see the space where so many young peoples' lives were changed this summer. Come see a show, we would love to have you. But, somehow get involved — your life may be changed, too.

Taylor Hembree
The Plaza Arts Center

The Covington News

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Organizers hoping for big turnout for tournament honoring Almond Turner

2020's inaugural event drew 120 golfers for event benefiting area scholarships

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

COVINGTON, Ga. — Dwahn Turner says his late father's love for the game and his hometown led to an annual fund-raising tournament set for Friday, Aug. 20.

His father is the late Almond J. Turner, a Covington native who served as a longtime Newton County School Board member and spent most of five decades with the Covington Police Department.

"It's an opportunity to carry on his legacy," his son said.

Almond Turner introduced Dwahn to golf at a young age. The Oaks was the last course Dwahn and his father played together, he said.

"That's kind of sentimental to me," he said.

The Almond J. Turner Foundation Golf Tournament is scheduled for a tee time of 9 a.m. at The Oaks golf course at 11240 Brown Bridge Road.

About 120 golfers participated in 2020 and Turner said tournament organizers — including Almond Turner's family — believe they can exceed that number this year.

"It's looking good," he said.

Cost is \$80 per person or \$300 per team. All proceeds benefit the efforts of the nonprofit Almond J. Turner Foundation to provide scholarships and fund community projects.

Family members organized the Foundation to honor Almond Turner after his 2019 death.

He served as a Covington officer and administrator for 45 years before his retirement in 2016. Almond Turner also was a longtime member and former chairman of the Newton County School Board.

While attending a birthday party in Meridian, Mississippi, on Nov. 23, 2019, Almond Turner was shot and killed. His



Special to The Covington News

Former county commissioner Nancy Schulz and County Chairman Marcello Banes present family members of the late Almond Turner with a \$9,000 donation for the Almond J. Turner Foundation in 2020. From left are Schulz; family members of Almond Turner, brother Michael Turner, daughters Shaye Barrett and Shundra Greene, son Dwahn Turner, and wife Anita Turner; and Banes.

nephew, Christopher Denson, is charged with his murder.

Almond Turner Foundation scholarships are designed to benefit deserving students pursuing college studies in law enforcement, music or education.

Foundation officials awarded its first three scholarships totaling \$2,500 each earlier this year to James Wilson of Newton High School, Morgan Hathorn of Alcovy High, and Ray Holt of Eastside High.

Dwahn Turner said the Foundation also works with Police Who Care, which helps organize the annual Covington Police Department Fuzz Run of which Almond Turner was a major supporter.

It also plans to work with the local nonprofit Building Strong Futures, which organizes trips for area high school students to visit colleges and universities

outside the Atlanta area they would typically not be financially able to go on.

"He wanted kids to have the opportunity to do that," Turner said of his father. "When I was in high school, going on a trip to New York City was out of the question."

This year's golf tournament also will feature a silent auction with proceeds going to the Foundation.

Turner said the items up for bid will include an autographed jersey donated by Conyers native and Atlanta Falcons star Grady Jarrett — among other items.

He said organizers will register golfers for the tournament up to tee time.

For more information and to make donations, call 404-236-9804 or email theajtfoundation@gmail.com.

Southern Heartland Arts readies for 'Artful Harvest'

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS
news@covnews.com

Southern Heartland Arts, Inc. invites Georgia artists to participate in its annual fall show, Artful Harvest.

The dates of this year's show are Sept. 20 – Oct. 22. Receiving of Art will be Thursday, Sept. 16 from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. and Friday, Sept. 17, from 4-7 p.m.

Artists do not have to be a guild member to participate. There is no charge for junior admissions (under age 18). Artful Harvest is not a juried show, but is a judged show.

Monetary awards for each of the three categories (2D, 3D and Photography) are \$300 for first place, \$150 for second place, \$50 for third place, and one Best in Show at \$500. All art entries must

be original to the artist, and 2D art must either be framed or gallery wrapped, (wired for hanging; no claw type hangers will be accepted).

The show is sponsored by longtime Southern Heartland Arts corporate sponsor, United Bank.

The prospectus, with details and fees for the show may be downloaded at <http://southernheartlandart.com/page6.html> or picked up at Southern Heartland Art Gallery, 1132 Monticello Street, Covington GA. SHA is also happy to email the entry form. Simply email stwahl@bellsouth.net, and a copy will be sent by return email.

SHA, Inc has been hosting art exhibitions since its inception in the 1980s. The South-

ern Heartland Art Festival, an annual September event held at Salem Camp Ground was eventually replaced with our Artful Harvest Exhibition, now held at Southern Heartland Gallery on the Square in Covington.

SHA is proud to have three nationally acclaimed artists to judge this show and encourages all entrants to view their websites. They are:

• Charles Young Walls, 2 D judge, whose full bio is on-line at <https://www.charlesyoungwalls.com/bio>

• Rob Sutherland, 3D judge, whose bio is on-line at www.oxoxpottery.com or <https://www.gooddirt.net/pottery>

• Danny Lee, judge of photography entries, whose bio is on-line at <https://dannyleephoto.com>.



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Saturday, Aug. 14

• Back to School Drive-Thru Giveaway sponsored by District 113 State Rep. Sharon Henderson is set for 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Walmart parking lot at 4200 Salem Rd.

Friday, Aug. 20

• Free Family Movie Night featuring "Playing with Fire" Aug. 20 at Wolverine Field at 8134 Geiger St. in Covington. For more information, visit newtonrecreation.com.

• The Almond Turner Foundation Golf Tournament is set for a 9 a.m. "shotgun start" at the The Oaks Golf Course, 11240 Brown Bridge Road. Proceeds benefit the AJT Foundation Scholarship Fund. Learn more at theajtfoundation.org.

Tuesday, Aug. 24

• Candidates in the 2022 elections are scheduled to speak to the Newton County Republican Party at 7 p.m. at The Reserve at Hendricks at 1149 Hendrick St SW, Covington. Speakers are scheduled to include U.S. House candidate Timothy Barr; Secretary of State candidate David Belle Isle; and state Labor Commissioner candidate Bruce Thompson. For more information, call 443-765-4053 or email bcherry@newtongop.org.

Thursday, Aug. 26

• Think & Thrive Women's Expo is set for 5 to 7 p.m. at The Reserve at Hendricks at 1149 Hendrick St SW, Covington. Hosted by Newton County Chamber of Commerce and GFWC Covington Woman's Club. Visit newtonchamber.com or email amcdaniel@newtonchamber.com for more.



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Kemp defends voluntary approach to fighting COVID-19

By **DAVE WILLIAMS**
Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA — Gov. Brian Kemp Friday defended his decision not to impose mask-wearing or vaccination mandates on Georgians to stem the latest surge in coronavirus cases, hospitalizations and deaths.

“I don’t believe we need to have a dictatorship in government telling what local

school systems need to do, what private businesses need to do, what nonprofits need to do, or what individuals should do,” Kemp said during an appearance at Ball Ground Elementary School in Cherokee County to mark the start of a new school year. “Individuals need to make the best decision they can.”

Kemp said Georgians seem to be getting the message about the need to be vaccinated against COVID-19. He said vaccinations in Georgia have risen 66% since cases of the virus began to increase in recent weeks with the spread of the highly contagious delta variant.

“People who haven’t been vaccinated are realizing the delta variant spreads more rapidly, and they’re looking into getting vaccinated,” he said.

Kemp said his deci-



Office of Gov. Brian Kemp

Gov. Brian Kemp speaks at an event in Gwinnett County on Friday, Aug. 6.

sion not to impose a statewide mask mandate in Georgia schools is driven by his philosophy of local control.

“We’re doing the same thing we did last year,” he said. “We’re trusting the local school systems, the local boards, to work with their parents, work with their administrations, to make good decisions for each individual school.

“Every school is

different. They’re different neighborhoods, different counties. They’re rural. They’re suburban. They’re urban. ... I’m confident our schools can make decisions at the local level.”

School districts have been doing just that, with some imposing mask mandates for students and teachers and others leaving it up to the individual.

Kemp has been fac-

ing pressures from both sides of the political aisle on the masking issue. Some Republicans have urged him to prohibit school systems from imposing mask mandates on their own, while some Democrats have called for a statewide mask requirement in the schools.

On Friday, Kemp urged the Biden administration to move forward with formal Food and Drug Admin-

istration approval of the COVID-19 vaccines.

“The vaccine is still under emergency authorization,” the governor said. “A lot of people won’t take the vaccine because of that.”

In keeping with the education theme of his appearance at an elementary school, Kemp strongly hinted he will follow through next year with the final installment of a \$5,000 teacher pay raise he pledged on the campaign trail three years ago.

In 2019, the General Assembly approved a \$3,000 pay hike. Then this year, teachers got another \$1,000 in the form of a one-time bonus.

Heading into the 2022 legislative session this winter, the state is sitting on a large budget surplus.

“I have not forgotten the promise,” Kemp said, referring to his campaign promise of a \$5,000 teacher pay raise. “We’re looking forward to working with the General Assembly on that issue.”

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By **DAVE WILLIAMS**
Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA — Georgia Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger called on the General Assembly Wednesday to pass a constitutional amendment prohibiting non-U.S. citizens from voting in state elections.

While such a prohibition already exists in Georgia law, Raffensperger pointed to several other states that are allowing noncitizens to vote.

The Vermont legislature overrode a veto by Gov. Phil Scott last year that paved the way for noncitizens to vote in two cities’ municipal elections. Noncitizens already can vote in municipal elections in San Francisco and nine Maryland cities.

Two cities in Massachusetts

have passed resolutions calling for noncitizens to vote there, and proposals for noncitizen voting were introduced recently in New York City and in the states of Washington and Illinois.

“Only American citizens should be voting in our elections,” Raffensperger said Wednesday. “That’s why I’m calling on the General Assembly to act and pass a constitutional amendment ensuring this is the standard for generations to come.”

A constitutional amendment aimed at keeping noncitizens from voting likely would gain strong support from Republican voters in Georgia.

Raffensperger alienated many of those voters last year when he refused to go along with efforts

by former President Donald Trump to overturn Democrat Joe Biden’s narrow victory in Georgia. Trump urged Raffensperger in a telephone call to “find” him the votes necessary to carry the Peach State.

Since then, Trump has endorsed U.S. Rep. Jody Hice’s Republican primary challenge of Raffensperger in next year’s race for secretary of state. Former Alpharetta Mayor David Belle Isle also is seeking the GOP nomination.

A constitutional amendment similar to Raffensperger’s proposal failed in the state Senate in March of last year amid opposition from minority Democrats. Constitutional amendments require two-thirds votes to pass the Georgia House and Senate.

Mansfield City Council votes for rollback property tax rate

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

MANSFIELD, Ga. — Mansfield City Council has voted to approve a lower property tax rate for the fifth year in a row to fund its 2022 budget.

The council voted to reduce the tax rate

from 3.867 to the rollback rate of 3.412 mills Monday, Aug. 9, following a public hearing.

State law requires governments and school districts to calculate a rollback rate which would generate the same amount of revenue as the previous year if reassessments had not occurred.

Mayor G.W. Davis said the council’s action was designed to help offset the rise in assessed property values that increased the city’s tax digest from \$13.6 million in 2020 to \$15.3 million this year.

Davis said Mansfield is a “very conservative area” and the council wanted to lower the rate after reassessments left home values “way higher than” 2020.

“As soon as that happened we were going to roll it back,” he said.

The new property tax rate will be used to help generate revenue for the town’s 2022 budget, which increased by about 10% from 2021.

Davis said the decreased tax rate lowered the revenues to the 2022 budget by only about \$600 compared to 2021.

Its 2022 Gener-

al Fund budget is \$477,314, compared to \$437,865 in 2021.

One council member wrote on his Facebook page that that action “only keeps the city portion of your upcoming tax from increasing” and does not affect county government and school tax rates.

The Newton County Board of Commissioners is considering a 14% decrease in the property tax rate to fund county government.

The county school board is also considering lowering its tax rate.

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Nominations sought for Newton County Bicentennial Awards

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS
news@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — Newton County is celebrating its 200th anniversary all year long and the Newton County Bicentennial Committee is marking the occasion by recognizing local residents and businesses.

The Newton County Bicentennial Awards will be given to Newton County residents or businesses in 22 categories as nominated by their peers, neighbors, friends and fellow county residents.

Nominations are open for the awards, which will be presented to the winners during the Newton County



Bicentennial Birthday Celebration scheduled for December. Once the honorees are nominated, public voting will run from Sept. 20 through Oct. 15.

Honorees can be nominated by visiting <https://sites.google.com/co.newton.ga.us/newtoncobicentennialawards> through Sept. 10.

The Awards are designed to “commemorate and recognize the work and legacy of local residents and Newton County businesses who reflect a high level of integrity, character, ethics, longevity in service and community commitment,” a news release stated.

To nominate a person or business for a Bicentennial Award, the following criteria must be met:

- An application form, found at <https://sites.google.com/co.newton.ga.us/newtoncobicentennialawards> must be completed;
- The nominee must be a Newton County resident or business;
- Each nominee must have three letters of recommendation;
- A brief description of why the applicant should receive an award must be included;
- Any minor must have parental consent.

All documents unable to be submitted through the online voting portal can be submitted to the Bicentennial Committee at newton200@co.newton.ga.us.

The Bicentennial Award winners will be

notified in writing and the winners will be announced after all votes are tallied in December. Learn more by visiting co.newton.ga.us.

SERVICE:

Continued from A2

platform. Armed with tactical missiles and equipped with superior communications capabilities, SSGNs are capable of directly supporting combatant commander’s strike and Special Operations Forces requirements. Each SSGN is capable of carrying 154 Tomahawk cruise missiles, plus a complement of heavyweight torpedoes to be fired through four torpedo tubes.

Serving in the Navy means Evans is part of a world that is taking on new importance in America’s focus on rebuilding military

readiness, strengthening alliances and reforming business practices in support of the National Defense Strategy.

“National security is important because America is the world’s superpower, and this takes commitment to our nation from all sides,” said Evans.

With more than 90% of all trade traveling by sea, and 95% of the world’s international phone and internet traffic carried through fiber optic cables lying on the ocean floor, Navy officials continue to emphasize that the prosperity and security

of the U.S. is directly linked to a strong and ready Navy.

“What our undersea forces accomplish every day is vitally important to our nation’s defense,” said Vice Adm. Daryl Caudle, commander of Submarine Forces. “Our Submarine Force is a critical part of global maritime security and the nation’s nuclear triad. Every day, our submariners are at the tip of the spear, forward deployed and ready — from the depths, we strike!”

As a member of the Navy, Evans, as well as

other sailors, know they are a part of a service tradition providing unforgettable experiences through leadership development, world affairs and humanitarian assistance. Their efforts will have a lasting effect around the globe and for generations of sailors who will follow.

“A submariner is one of the elite in the Navy,” added Evans. “It’s not for everybody, the pace and lifestyle is nothing normal. You have to be a strong-minded person to deal with everyday tasks and challenges.”

DENIED:

Continued from A2

it was “clear” Johnson was not satisfied with the “outcome” of his case and his legal representation and deserved to be able to appeal his conviction.

She said his trial attorney in 2018, Chief Assistant Public Defender Jennifer Arndt, did not consult with him about potentially appealing his guilty plea. Johnson then proceeded on his own and sent paperwork indicating he was changing his trial attorney to the Newton County Clerk of Courts office.

Arndt testified that she could not recall if Johnson indicated he wanted to appeal if found guilty.

She said she discussed the prison sentence he could face if he pleaded guilty. He then said he wanted to plead guilty, Arndt said.

Chief Assistant District Attorney Amber Dally said Arndt could not have known there was any indication Johnson wanted to appeal.

She said Johnson voluntarily pleaded guilty shortly before he was to go to trial and then got a sentence he wanted.

After agreeing to plead guilty, Johnson also did not indicate he would want to appeal so Arndt did not have the duty to talk with him about appealing a guilty plea, Dally said.

He then sent the paperwork to the Clerk of Courts office more than a month after he entered his plea, which is past the specified time

for doing so. However, he never sent the same paperwork to his trial attorney, Dally said.

“If he didn’t send her the motion for substitution or other pro se filings she clearly can’t know that he was considering appealing and wouldn’t know to go speak with him about it,” Dally said.

“Therefore, she can’t be providing deficient service for, essentially, not reading his mind when all of the obvious indications pointed to the fact that he wanted to enter this plea on his own accord.”

“Pro se” is a legal term meaning he was acting on his own without an attorney.

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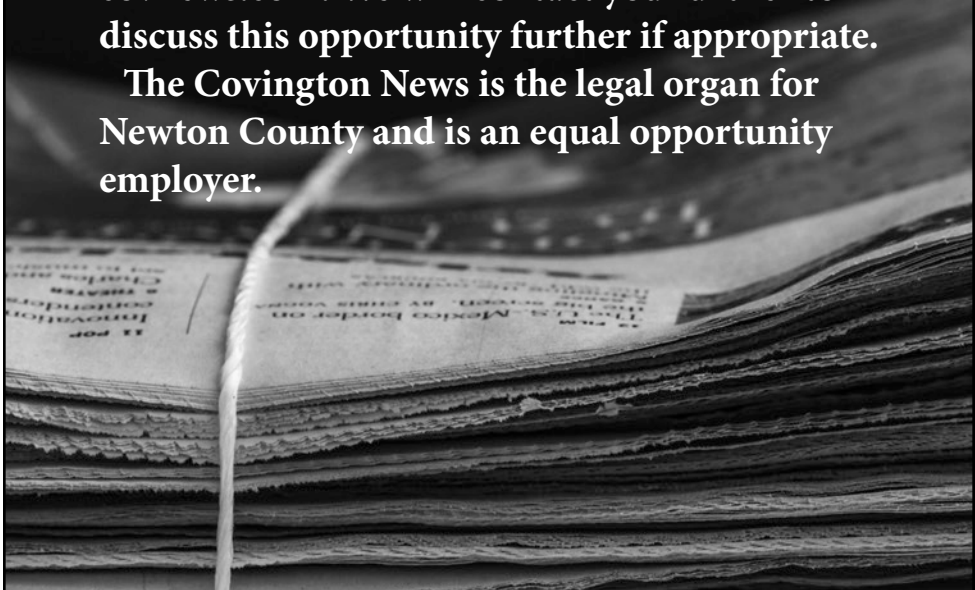
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TREE:

Continued from A1

He said the “surprise” for him was his tree winning despite cypress being more popular as Christmas trees in the South than in other parts of the U.S.

The NCTA’s 2021 and 2022 Grand Champion and Reserve Champion Grower award winners will continue a 56-year

tradition of delivering farm-grown Christmas trees to the White House and Vice President’s residence, a news release stated.

The award allows Berry to place his winning tree in the residence at Number One Observatory Circle on the grounds of the U.S. Naval Observatory

in Washington, D.C., in late November, Berry said.

Vice President Kamala Harris’ staff also likely will buy additional trees from Berry’s farm for decorating the residence, he said.

“We will also receive an invitation to visit the residence for photos with the trees and to meet the (vice president),” he said.

“That is the plan — we don’t know how it will go with the (pandemic),” he said. “We’ve got our fingers crossed.”

He said he is sure the tree farm can spare him for a couple days in the middle of its peak sales season when he travels to D.C.

“I got plenty of good people to pick up the slack,” he said.

The awards were part

of the NCTA’s 2021 National Christmas Tree and Wreath contest that was organized in conjunction with the North Carolina Christmas Tree Association summer meeting at Shatley Farms in Jefferson, North Carolina.

Berry, a fifth-generation Newton County farmer, said he had never entered a national competition because his trees likely would not retain a competitive appearance after a long trip.

He said he decided to enter this year’s competition because it was relatively close by in northwestern North Carolina.

Berry’s family has farmed the same site in the Almon community of Newton County near I-20 since 1894.

The farm was a row

crop and dairy farm until 1969. Berry’s father converted the operation to a Christmas tree farm in 1977 and the first trees were sold in 1983.

It now sells more than 3,000 Christmas trees annually and offers a train ride, petting zoo and concession stand during its prime sales season.

Berry also is a board member of the Newton County Farm Bureau, Georgia director for the National Christmas Tree Association, and a board member of the national Christmas Tree Promotion Board.

Other NCTA award winners were Peak Farms in Jefferson, North Carolina, and Evergreen Acres Tree Farm in Auburn, Pennsylvania, who were named Grand Champion Growers whose trees

will be placed in the White House.

Reserve Grand Champion Grower Cline Church Nursery Inc. in Fleetwood, North Carolina, will join Berry’s in placing a tree in the Vice President’s residence.

“The huge amount of publicity for farm-grown Christmas trees generated by this high-profile NCTA program is priceless to our industry,” the release stated.



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COUNCIL:

Continued from A1

coordinator for local city governments including the city of Conyers and city of Lilburn.

Minnoia is a Georgia native and a graduate of Avondale High School in Avondale Estates.

She told the council that she had seen the city “move forward” and wanted to see it do the same in the future.

Councilman Lowell Chambers urged city officials to have Minnoia legally sworn in as soon as

possible.

A fifth member is needed to make sure the council had enough to comprise a quorum so it could set the city’s property tax rate as scheduled Thursday, Aug. 19, he said.

Chambers previously announced he would be absent from the Aug. 19 meeting, while Councilwoman Kay Piper was absent from the Thursday meeting because of illness.

If Chambers and Piper are absent and Minnoia not sworn in by Aug. 19, only two council members would be left. Three members must be present to constitute a quorum to conduct city business.

Minnoia has announced she planned to qualify next week to seek election to the Post 4 seat for a full four-year term in the Nov. 2 election.

MOURN:

Continued from A1

Kristen Parzych, said on a Mansfield Facebook group page that, “If you knew Kenny Anderson you knew he was always about having a good time, his wife Michele Anderson and his restaurant, Roosters Drive Inn.”

“He will be missed by so many and Roosters will never be the same without his smiling face and his jokes,” Parzych wrote.

Anderson was a native of Macon and a Navy veteran, according to an obituary from J.C. Harwell and Son Funeral Home.

In addition to owning Roosters, he worked as an insurance adjuster for Rain and Hail Insurance and Pilot Catastrophe Services.

Riley recalled the first time Anderson talked with him about converting the former Main

Street gas station building into a restaurant.

“He came and talked to me about what he wanted to do. He was full of excitement and had a plan. I had never met Kenny but I liked his energy and the fire he had in his belly to follow his dream of owning a restaurant.

“I was very excited for our community that we would have a new business in town. He did a great job of renovating the building and making it into a walk-up restaurant.

“He never slowed down. He approached me about a patio, which he did (build). Then to enclose the patio, then to add another patio, then to enclose that patio.

“I absolutely loved seeing Kenny’s energy towards fully implementing his dream. He

constantly added to his menu and came up with unique and creative meals to offer his customers.

“He always asked me to try his new concoction. I never had a meal that wasn’t great. Then he added a bar and never slowed down.

“He was fun to talk to and made every visit seem like a party. He loved his customers and made everyone feel special.”

Mansfield City Councilman Blair Northen said he had a brief financial interest in the building that became Roosters. He and Anderson later became good friends after the Roosters owner began operating his business there.

Northen’s daughter even helped spread gravel and mulch on the site to help Anderson.

“He took that place and took risks,” Northen said. “He was one of the hardest working men I ever met, and he played as hard as he worked.”

He said he has discussed with other council members the possibility of honoring Anderson posthumously in some way.

Singer and musician April Allen occasionally took time away from being lead singer of the jazz-pop band Drive Time to perform solo acoustic sets at Roosters.

Allen, who lives near Mansfield, said she recalled when Roosters operated as a walk-up eatery with outdoor seating.

She said she told Anderson she was a musician and he offered to hire her for solo gigs. He eventually endeared himself to her family.

“He meant so much to me and my family,” Allen said.

She said Anderson treated her with more “respect” than the typical venue owner would give a female musician.

“He always paid what he said he would and, if I drew a crowd, would pay me a little extra,” she said.

Allen said he treated his employees well and “made all who walked in feel welcome.”

“He’s got such a kind and giving heart,” she said, fighting back tears. “He lived life to the fullest, which is how we all should live.”

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P-CARD:

Continued from A1

investigation,” he said. “However, in circumstances where it is already publicly known, including by potential parties being investigated, there is not much purpose served by me not at least confirming that there is an investigation.”

Who or how many of Newton County’s 50 P-card users could be investigated is unknown.

The district attorney said initial contact with state authorities was made prior to The Covington News series on P-cards, which began in late July. Within the series, The News has explained what P-cards are and analyzed the spending records of P-card holders dated June 2020-June 2021.

The District Attorney’s Office handles all state criminal offenses in Newton County, but McGinley said the “vast majority” of cases come to the office after an arrest is made.

“While we are the prosecuting agency, we are rarely the initiating investigative agency,” McGinley said. “However, that does not mean my office cannot and will not investigate matters when it is just not being done by a local law enforcement agency. We have done so and will continue to do so when necessary.”

McGinley said the District Attorney’s Office did this in 2016 when it “essentially” led the investigation of

former Newton County Fire Chief Kevin O’Brien. O’Brien pleaded guilty on four counts of Theft By Taking after using his county-issued P-card to spend \$16,991 on home improvement items.

“He was stealing, not to put bread on the table, but for luxury items,” then-District Attorney Layla Zon said.

During O’Brien’s October 2016 sentencing, Zon presented 24 photos that showed screen doors, fencing material, bathroom and kitchen tiles, kitchen cabinets, recreational and camping equipment, a hammock, plantation shutters and outdoor lighting, among other items, that he paid for with his P-card. Zon said the thefts happened within a four-year period, between 2012 and 2015.

“Public confidence in the integrity of government officials and particularly public safety officials is very important,” she said.

O’Brien was sentenced to 20 years of probation with the first year spent in prison, and he was fined \$4,000.

RESIDENTS DEMAND CHANGE

In recent weeks, residents have seen the P-card policy and procedures, been presented past spending records and even heard from Newton County Chairman Marcello Banes

and County Manager Lloyd Kerr on the subject of spending.

Not only do residents want an investigation into the county’s spending records, but many are calling for major change to the P-card program.

“It is sad that there is a need for The News to examine/audit these charges by the highest officials in the county,” wrote resident Felton Hudson, “which means the person or persons in HR are not doing their job and revoking all these P cards and mandating that all these bogus charges, and most are bogus, be reimbursed . . . Time to call in all the cards no matter how well they were intended nor how convenient and efficient they might be. Too much sloppiness and room for fudging. Some of the excuses offered up for policy non compliance and non valid charges, rank with the dog eating the homework . . . This waste and flippancy regarding fiduciary duty should have ALL citizens, regardless of power, position, wealth or race, in an uproar.”

Oxford native Bryan Hays also suggested the county make changes, starting with finding ways to “tighten” the P-card policy and procedures.

“Throughout my time in business, I have witnessed folks in industry as well as government use the P-card system

to ‘bypass and or avoid appropriate procedures’ as well as make questionable expenditures,” Hays said. “The scrutiny and criticism that will follow the expose will be expected and healthy. What is reasonable and customary isn’t always ethical or acceptable. Especially at the expense of the taxpayers. In the business world, lack of adherence to P-card policy, like use for personal expense or nonessential for continued operation would certainly result in termination of the privilege and often times termination of the associate. In the public sector, this same type of misuse creates major heartburn, division and mistrust among the taxpayers that fund this privilege. The same should certainly apply for those entrusted with our taxpayer dollars. Tighten the policies and procedures and make them public. Educate those entrusted with taxpayer dollars. Provide transparent oversight and eliminate the privilege and/or the position for those that abuse.”

Larry McSwain, also a Newton County resident, believed the solution to P-card misuse was simple. It starts with tightening the policy, restricting the number of users and then “really hold up to the ethical provisions that they advertise.”

“If you really want your employees to be

ethical and give their best, then there has to be a standard set by the manager,” he said. “They ain’t going to be any better than you are. That’s just a fact. And that’s where we are. We really need ethical standard set by the chairman and the county manager, we need a tighter P-card policy, and we need fewer P-cards.”

Many residents also want a “full, forensic” audit to be conducted.

McGinley told The Covington News that his office had no control or authority to be involved in a decision to revoke P-cards or abolishing the program altogether, as some residents have suggested, and an audit can be conducted by the county, which could then be outsourced to an outside firm or business.

“[To clarify,] I am responsible for the ethical behavior and fiscal responsibility of my department, not any other department,” McGinley said. “My office is not a fiscal responsibility watchdog. Now, clearly, when there is criminal activity, it is usually unethical and can be a breach of a fiduciary obligation. But if it is determined that something is not criminal or that we cannot prove criminal activity beyond a reasonable doubt, it is not appropriate for my office to decide whether it is ethical or fiscally

responsible.

“Personally, I believe that tight control, a strong written and clear policy, and regular review of expenses is a better way to address concerns with P-cards than outright abolishing them,” he said.

The county’s current policy states, “The Cardholder shall use the Purchasing Card for legitimate business purposes only. The Purchasing Card shall not be used for entertainment, cash, or personal use.” However, there is no further explanation or definition as to what is “necessary” or what is a “legitimate business purpose.” There are also no examples or guidelines as to what would be prohibited uses of a P-card, other than it cannot be used for “entertainment, cash, or personal use.” McGinley said many other entities, including the State of Georgia, have a more detailed policy, which includes examples and further defines terms in the policy.

Any proposed changes made by residents could be hard to come by, unless a majority of the governing Board of Commissioners can be convinced a change is necessary. Only the commissioners hold the power to make changes to the policy, as it was the commissioners who originally enacted the framework in 2013.

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Alcovy student named to prestigious NSHSS


SPECIAL TO THE NEWS
news@covnews.com

The National Society of High School Scholars (NSHSS) has announced Omari R. Wilborn of Covington has been selected to become a member of the esteemed organization.

Wilborn, the son of Alicia Goolsby, is a junior at Alcovy High School.

The Society recognizes

top scholars who have demonstrated outstanding leadership, scholarship and community commitment. The announcement was made by NSHSS Co-founder and President James W.



Omari R. Wilborn

Lewis.

“On behalf of NSHSS and our co-founder Claes Nobel, a member of the family that established the Nobel Prizes, I am honored to recognize the hard work, passion and commitment that Omari has demonstrated to achieve this exceptional level of academic excellence,” said Lewis.

“Omari is now a member of a unique community of

scholars – a community that represents our very best hope for the future.”

“We are proud to provide lifetime membership to young scholars to support their growth and development,” stated Lewis. “We help students like Omari build on their academic success by connecting them with learning experiences and resources to help prepare

them for college and meaningful careers.”

NSHSS members automatically become lifetime members at the time of their initial membership. Each step along the way — from high school to college to career — NSHSS connects outstanding young scholars with the resources they need to develop their strengths and pursue their passions.

Newton parents can use My Stop app to track child’s school bus



The My Stop school bus tracking app is accessible on any internet accessible computer or available for download via iPad, iPhone, Tablet, or Android mobile device.

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS
news@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga. — Parents of Newton County School System (NCSS) students can now track their child’s school bus right from their smartphone to quickly determine its current location and projected arrival time. The NCSS Pupil Transportation Department is offering the Versatrans My Stop app for free to parents of children in the district. By simply logging on to the app, a parent can see if the bus is on the way or has already passed their child’s assigned stop. (The My Stop app only tracks a student’s schedule bus route to and from school; it does not track field trip buses.) And the program updates

the current location of the school bus automatically, every five seconds. As a result, estimated arrival times are quickly recalculated should the bus experience a traffic delay or other issue.

My Stop is accessible on any internet accessible computer or available for download via iPad, iPhone, Tablet, or Android mobile device. See flyer below for instructions.

- Download PDF of My Stop App Instructions
- MyStop App Instructions-Spanish

If you have any questions regarding transportation or E-Link, please email MyStop@newton.k12.ga.us or contact the pupil transportation department at 770-784-2909.

University System of Georgia set record for degrees awarded despite COVID-19

By DAVE WILLIAMS
Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA — The University System of Georgia (USG) awarded a record 72,929 degrees during the last fiscal year despite the disruptions caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

That’s 2,050 degrees more than the system awarded in fiscal 2020, representing a 3% increase.

“Students continue to show incredible fortitude despite the challenges of the pandemic, and I am incredibly grateful for their hard work and the support given to them by USG’s 26 public colleges and universities,” Acting Chancellor Teresa MacCartney said Tuesday.

“Institutions understand how critical it is for Georgians to complete their degrees and join the state’s highly skilled workforce. As we look forward to a new academic year on campus, USG remains focused on fulfilling that mission and helping students succeed.”

The number of degrees awarded annually has increased every year since the university system joined the Complete College America program in 2011 and refocused efforts on raising educational attainment in Georgia.

As a result, the number of degrees awarded annually has increased nearly 33% during the last decade.

In her first report to the university system’s Board of Regents since taking on the role of acting chancellor last month, MacCartney

supported Gov. Brian Kemp’s position of recommending that students and faculty wear masks to discourage the spread of COVID-19 without imposing a government mandate.

MacCartney said wearing masks and getting vaccinated against the virus will help the system provide in-person instruction during the school year beginning this month, which she said is important “for the mental health of our students.”

MacCartney said some campuses are doing their part to combat COVID-19 by setting up vaccine sites.

MacCartney took over as acting chancellor with the retirement of former Chancellor Steve Wrigley.

ed·u·ca·tion
(ějē-kā’shən) *n.*

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

At Snapping Shoals EMC, we’re always looking for ways to define our role in the communities we serve. To that end, we aim at giving more meaning to education by offering Bright Ideas grants to teachers with innovative ideas, shaping young lives with scholarships and building brighter futures for all students through Operation Round Up. Please visit us at www.ssemc.com or call us at 770-786-3484.

Pause on student loan payments extended

By COLLIN BINKLEY
Associated Press

The Biden administration on Friday, Aug. 6, issued what it says will be the final extension to a student loan moratorium that has allowed millions of Americans to put off debt payments during the pandemic.

Under the action, payments on federal student loans will remain paused through Jan. 31, 2022. Interest rates will remain at 0% during that period, and debt collection efforts will be suspended. Those measures have been in place since early in the pandemic but were set to expire Sept. 30.

In announcing the

decision, President Joe Biden said the economy is recovering “at a record rate.” But he said the road to recovery will be longer for some Americans, especially those with student loans.


“This will give the Department of Education and borrowers more time and more certainty as they prepare to restart student loan payments,” Biden said in a statement.

“It will also ensure a smoother transition that minimizes loan defaults and delinquencies that hurt families and undermine our economic recovery.”

The policy applies to more than 36 million

Americans who have student loans that are held by the federal government. Their collective debt totals more than \$1.3 trillion, according to the latest Education Department data.

Questions about the moratorium had been swirling in recent weeks as its expiration date approached. Even as the economy improves, there have been concerns that borrowers are not ready to start payments again. Once the moratorium ends, those who were already behind on payments could have wages and benefits taken away as part of debt collection efforts.



SPORTS

The Covington News

State of the Program



File | The Covington News

Jay Cawthon's first game as head football coach of Eastside is Aug. 27 at Winder Barrow.

Eagles AD hopes for normal seasons

Eastside athletics welcomes new head coaches to lead programs

By PHILLIP B. HUBBARD
phubbard@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga.

— It is no secret that all athletic seasons were drastically altered due to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. This year, however, it's been business as usual — for the most part.

The same is true for the Eastside High School Eagles.

Athletic Director Phil Davidson highlighted that it's been "nice to get back to normal" over the off-season.

"We're looking forward to filling the stands this season," Davidson said. "We want to play regular sports and compete the best we can. We're ready to get back to normal."

Though it's been a short offseason, the Eagles have continued to make progress in their sports.

There'll be a couple of changes to expect, too.

Football has a new head coach in Jay Cawthon. He was the offensive coordinator under former head coach Troy Huff. Baseball made a change at its helm with Brandon Davis as its

new head coach. Davis comes from Locust Grove.

For the most part, though, things will be the same for Eagles athletics.

Eastside returns a lot of veteran coaches who've invested lots of time as Eagles. According to Davidson, that's what the program plans to hang its hat on this year.

"Our principal Jeff Cher has hired some good teachers and good coaches," Davidson said. "I think that's why these coaches have stayed here."

A few programs had great success last year. For instance, the football team advanced to the Elite Eight and basketball had a stellar year under first-year head coach Dorrian Randolph.

Even so, there's still some looming uncertainty surrounding the program as a result of COVID-19.

Davidson said he still can't estimate where each team is at heading into the school year.

"It's hard to guess where we'll be," Davidson said. "Last year was such a strange

See EAGLES, B6

Prep Softball

Lady Rams blank Heritage

Lindsey leads Newton to 5-0 win in home opener



Phillip B. Hubbard | The Covington News

Lady Rams celebrate Tuesday, Aug. 10, after catcher Sydney Lindsey drills a solo home run in Newton's home opener against Heritage.

By PHILLIP B. HUBBARD
phubbard@covnews.com

COVINGTON, Ga.

— On Aug. 10, the Newton High School Lady Rams defeated Heritage High School 5-0. This was the first game of 2021 that Newton played at home.

The Lady Rams were led by their catcher, Sydney Lindsey who drove in two of the team's five runs.

Coincidentally, it was the final two runs that Newton scored in the contest.

One of the runs she drove in came in the bottom of the fourth inning. Lindsey was facing a 1-2 count with no outs. Then, on the fourth pitch of the at-bat, Lindsey drilled a line drive to left field for a solo home run.

Lindsey delivered the final blow, too, with a sacrifice fly that brought Chasidah Parker home from third base in the bottom of the sixth inning.

Head coach Virginia Tucker-Smith was pleased to see her catcher hit the ball with such power.

"Sydney's strong," Smith said. "She likes the high ones and she just got on top of the high one to hit [the home run]. And, once she's able to get a hold of it, she obviously can hit it a long way."

On the other side, the Lady Rams held

Heritage scoreless. The biggest reason was because of Elle Standard's performance on the mound.

Standard threw a complete game while striking out six and only surrendering three hits. She also didn't walk a single player.

To help her out, the defense behind Standard made some impressive plays, too, to preserve the shutout.

Smith couldn't overlook her team's defensive performance Tuesday night.

"With the exception of a few situations, everything I called was pitched exactly where it should've gone," Smith said. "We had a solid performance defensively, too, except for the one error we had. But,

overall, we played solid on defense."

Tuesday's win, at the time, brought the Lady Rams' record back to .500 at 2-2.

The game followed a weekend spent at Pike County High School where Newton faced three opponents. It won its first game against Lamar County 8-2 and lost back-to-back games 9-4 and 15-2 against Upson-Lee High School and Pike County, respectively.

On Thursday, the Lady Rams faced Brookwood in their region opener and lost 9-1. So now they have a 2-3 record.

Even though it's early in the season, Smith is still optimistic of her team's chances for a high postseason rank-

ing at season's end. Smith just hopes her team gets on board with the vision she has and the goals they aspire to achieve this year.

"This is just as much of a mental game as it is a physical game," Smith said. "Our girls have to learn to be mentally tough. We also preach to them that you have to forget the last pitch, the last at-bat, the last play and we have to move forward."

PREP SOFTBALL SCOREBOARD

Social Circle
8/9 vs. Franklin 9-1 L

Newton
8/7 vs. Lamar County (Game 1) 8-2 W

See SOFTBALL, B6

JEDT

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Angela Tillson is now a part of our Covington Team so give us a call if you are looking for an independent insurance agency with access to A+ companies such as Auto Owners, Travelers, Liberty Mutual, Southern Trust, Donegal, Columbia, Safeco and others. We have been in the Covington area for 60 years and would appreciate a chance to quote your insurance needs. We can provide insurance for:

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THE COVINGTON NEWS' PET OF THE WEEK

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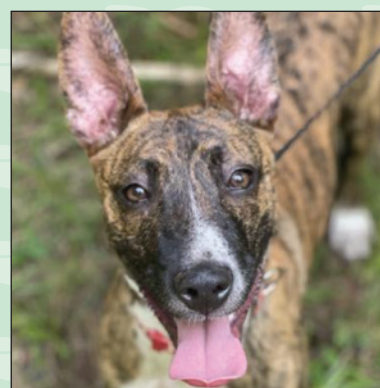


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CLASSIFIEDS & LEGALS

The Covington News

CLASSIFIEDS

Jobs

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

SOUTHERN PIPELINE, INC. Looking to hire Pipeline & Gas Utility Workers. All positions available: Foreman, Machine Operator, General Labor. Work Mondays through Fridays, weekends off. Pay varies with experience and skillset, starting pay at least \$12/hr. Get paid every Friday. Must have a valid driver's license and pass a drug test. Insurance offered after 30 days. Call Jhonny at (678) 472-4172 or Email jphommaly@southernpipeline.org

2002 FORD EXPLORER
1FMZU62E8ZC02246

2004 HONDA CRV
JHLPD78824C008106

Public Notices

Abandoned Vehicles

ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE

K-2 TOWING LLC.

2002 FORD EXPLORER
1FMZU62E8ZC02246

2004 HONDA CRV
JHLPD78824C008106

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

THE VEHICLE is currently located at: 9179 AARON DR. COVINGTON, GA 30014.

ANYONE WITH an ownership interest in this vehicle should contact the following business immediately:

K-2 TOWING LLC
9179 AARON DR.
COVINGTON, GA 30014 / 770-786-3323

PUBLIC NOTICE #200705
8/15,22

ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE

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

THE 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: Genuine Scooter Co. Year: 2020 Model: Buddy 50
VEHICLE ID #: RFVPA5A8L1125998
Vehicle License #: N/A

VEHICLE MAKE: MONGOOSE Year: 0000 Model: BACKPACK
VEHICLE ID #: N/A Vehicle License #: N/A

VEHICLE MAKE: FLEETWOOD Year: 2004 Model: TRAVEL TRAILER
VEHICLE ID #: 1EA1R292242808468
Vehicle License #:N/A

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 #200699
8/15,22

ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE PETITION ADVERTISEMENT

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

ANYONE WITH an ownership interest in a vehicle listed herein may file an answer to the petition on or before: 9-10-2021

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

FORMS MAY also be obtained online at www.georgiamagistratecouncil.com.

2004 CHEVROLET CLASSIC
1G1ND52F04M585663
21-627AV

2000 FORD F350
1FDSX34L7YEE18592
12-1001AV

2001 HONDA ACCORD
1HGCG16581A075740
21-999AV

2000 CHEVROLET CAVALIER
1G1JC124EY7231737
21-2384AV

2006 FORD TAURUS
1FAFP53UX6A233619
21-2390AV

1999 BUICK PARK AVE
1G4CU5210X4640969
21-2389AV

PUBLIC NOTICE #200704
8/15,22

ABANDONED VEHICLES

KING'S 24 Hour Towing and Repair LLC.

3195 HWY 81 South
COVINGTON, GA. 30016
770-787-6243

2005 HONDA Odyssey
5FNRL38745B063144

2002 SUZUKI DR-Z 400E
JS1DK433822100695

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:

4122 TIFFANY PARK LLC
DBA TIFFANY'S Hometown Buffet
4122 Emory Street

APPLICANT'S NAME: Daniel Park
THE APPLICATION will be heard on August 16th, 2021 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 #200718
8/15

Bids

THE CITY of Covington is seeking bids for the purchase of one (1) Compact Mini Excavator as specified in exhibit "A" of the bid packet

SEALED BIDS must be delivered to City Hall, 2194 Emory Street NW, Covington, GA 30014, Attn: Scott Cromer no later than 10:00am on Thursday, August 19, 2021.

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

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

PUBLIC NOTICE #200675
8/8,15

Citations

ANTHONY LAVEL BANKS has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **EVELYN BANKS** 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 SEPTEMBER 13, 2021, 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 #200595
8/15,22,29-9/5

CITATION

DENNIS RICHARD THOMAS has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **DONALD W. THOMAS** 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 SEPTEMBER 13, 2021, 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 #200595
8/15,22,29-9/5

CITATION

JANICE VONNER has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **DEKINA OLIVER** 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 SEPTEMBER 13, 2021, 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 #200652
8/15,22,29-9/5

CITATION

JENNIFER DEE ESPINOZA has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **LARRY DEIMEL** 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 SEPTEMBER 13, 2021, 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 #200622
8/15,22,29-9/5

CITATION

NANCY KIRBO SILLS has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **JACOB A. SILLS** 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 SEPTEMBER 13, 2021, 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 #200621
8/15,22,29-9/5

CITATION

MICHAEL HARRIS EARL has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **JOHN FRANKLIN EARL, JR** deceased. (The applicant has also applied for waiver of bond and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. 53-12-232). All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said application should not be granted. All objection must be in writing, and filed with this Court on or before SEPTEMBER 13, 2021, 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 #200621
8/15,22,29-9/5

CITATION

MICHAEL HARRIS EARL has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **JOHN FRANKLIN EARL, JR** deceased. (The applicant has also applied for waiver of bond and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. 53-12-232). All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said application should not be granted. All objection must be in writing, and filed with this Court on or before SEPTEMBER 13, 2021, 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 #200621
8/15,22,29-9/5

CITATION

MICHAEL HARRIS EARL has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **JOHN FRANKLIN EARL, JR** deceased. (The applicant has also applied for waiver of bond and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. 53-12-232). All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said application should not be granted. All objection must be in writing, and filed with this Court on or before SEPTEMBER 13, 2021, 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 #200621
8/15,22,29-9/5

CITATION

MICHAEL HARRIS EARL has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **JOHN FRANKLIN EARL, JR** deceased. (The applicant has also applied for waiver of bond and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. 53-12-232). All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said application should not be granted. All objection must be in writing, and filed with this Court on or before SEPTEMBER 13, 2021, 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

COURT
1132 USHER STREET-148
COVINGTON, GA 30014

PUBLIC NOTICE #200682
8/15,22,29-9/5

CITATION

KEVIN MICHAEL FRAZER has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **KURT DAVID FRAZER** 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 SEPTEMBER 13, 2021, 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 #200654
8/15,22,29-9/5

CITATION

LANE BRITT has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **PATSY ANN BRITT** 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 SEPTEMBER 13, 2021, 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 #200654
8/15,22,29-9/5

CITATION

LANE BRITT has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **PATSY ANN BRITT** 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 SEPTEMBER 13, 2021, 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 #200684
8/15,22,29-9/5

CITATION

LINDA COKER has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **THOMAS ROBINSON COKER** 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 SEPTEMBER 13, 2021, 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 #200684
8/15,22,29-9/5

CITATION

MICHAEL ANTHONY THOMAS has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **LIZZIE R. THOMAS** 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 SEPTEMBER 13, 2021, 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 #200650
8/15,22,29-9/5

CITATION

MICHAEL ANTHONY THOMAS has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **LIZZIE R. THOMAS** 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 SEPTEMBER 13, 2021, 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 #200650
8/15,22,29-9/5

CITATION

MICHAEL ANTHONY THOMAS has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **LIZZIE R. THOMAS** 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 SEPTEMBER 13, 2021, 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 #200621
8/15,22,29-9/5

CITATION

MICHAEL ANTHONY THOMAS has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **LIZZIE R. THOMAS** 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 SEPTEMBER 13, 2021, 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 #200621
8/15,22,29-9/5

CITATION

MICHAEL ANTHONY THOMAS has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **LIZZIE R. THOMAS** 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 SEPTEMBER 13, 2021, 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 #200621
8/15,22,29-9/5

CITATION

MICHAEL ANTHONY THOMAS has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **LIZZIE R. THOMAS** 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 SEPTEMBER 13, 2021, next, at ten o'clock a.m.

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

LEGALS:

Continued from B2

GEORGIA
NEWTON COUNTY PROBATE COURT
1132 USHER STREET-148 COVINGTON, GA 30014

PUBLIC NOTICE #200649
8/15,22,29-9/5

CITATION

NATASHA LETRICE JONES has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **VIVIAN JONES** 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 **SEPTEMBER 13, 2021**, 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 #200619
8/15,22,29-9/5

CITATION

NIKOLE SHEMAYNE BROOKS has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **ERNEST DUWAYNE BROOKS, III** 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 **SEPTEMBER 13, 2021**, 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 #200653
8/15,22,29-9/5

CITATION

NORMAN GLOVER has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **MORDEAN GLOVER** 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 **SEPTEMBER 13, 2021**, 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 #200620
8/15,22,29-9/5

CITATION

RISHAUNA S. KING has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **PHYMECCA L. KING** 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 **SEPTEMBER 13, 2021**, 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 #200685
8/15,22,29-9/5

CITATION

ROBERT LEE BLASINGAME, II has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **HOLLY ANN BAUMSTARK** 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 **SEPTEMBER 13 2021**, 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 #200594
8/15,22,29-9/5

CITATION

TELIS JUSTICE has petitioned to be appointed Administrator of the Estate of **BUIERELLA BENFORDL** 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 **SEPTEMBER 13, 2021**, 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 #200618
8/15,22,29-9/5

CITATION

THE PETITION of MYRA C. BAKER widow of **WILLARD L. BAKER**, deceased, for Twelve Month's Support for having been duly filed, all interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections must be in writing and filed with this Court on or before September 13. 2021, at ten o'clock a.m.

MELANIE M. BELL, JUDGE By: Marcia Wynne, Clerk
PROBATE COURT NEWTON COUNTY, Georgia

NEWTON COUNTY PROBATE COURT
1132 USHER Street- Room 148 COVINGTON, GA 30014-2435

PUBLIC NOTICE #200573
8/15,22,29-9/5

CITATION

TO: TO UNKNOWN FATHER AND ALL INTRESTED PARTIES

MARIA HARPER has filed for Temporary Letters of Guardianship of the Person(s) **DA'NILA KIETH** minor(s). All objections must be in writing and filed with this Court on or before **AUGUST 25TH**, at ten o'clock, a.m.

MELANIE M. Bell, Judge
BY: DANYELL Thomas, Clerk
Probate Court, Newton, Georgia

NEWTON COUNTY Probate Court
1132 USHER Street, RM 148 COVINGTON, GA 30014

PUBLIC NOTICE #200673
8/8,15

THE PETITION of LUCY B. COURCHAINE widow of **JOSEPH J. COURCHAINE** deceased, for Twelve Month's Support for having been duly filed, all interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections must be in writing and filed with this Court on or before **SEPTEMBER 13.**, 2021, at ten o'clock a.m.

MELANIE M. BELL, JUDGE By: Marcia Wynne, Clerk
PROBATE COURT NEWTON COUNTY, Georgia

NEWTON COUNTY PROBATE COURT
1132 USHER STREET- RM 148 COVINGTON, GA 30014

PUBLIC NOTICE #200651
8/15,22,29-9/5

THE PETITION of SANDRA MARIE MORRIS widow of **JAMES ALAN MORRIS** deceased, for Twelve Month's Support for having been duly filed, all interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections must be in writing and filed with this Court on or before **SEPTEMBER 13.**, 2021, at ten o'clock a.m.

MELANIE M. BELL, JUDGE By: Marcia Wynne, Clerk
PROBATE COURT NEWTON COUNTY, Georgia

NEWTON COUNTY PROBATE COURT
1132 USHER STREET- RM 148 COVINGTON, GA 30014

PUBLIC NOTICE #200709
8/15,22,29-9/5

CITATION

ALL CREDITORS of the estate of **Penny Lynn Carter**, late of 117 Sidney Lanier Dr. Oxford, GA, Newton County, deceased, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, a full itemized statement of their claims and of securities held by them to:

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE: Stephen L. Lott Personal Representative's Address: **6215 HWY 278 NW #142, Covington, GA 30014** This 18th

PUBLIC NOTICE #200674
8/8,15

Debtors Creditors

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

ALL CREDITORS of the estate of **Penny Lynn Carter**, late of 117 Sidney Lanier Dr. Oxford, GA, Newton County, deceased, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, a full itemized statement of their claims and of securities held by them to:

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE: Stephen L. Lott Personal Representative's Address: **6215 HWY 278 NW #142, Covington, GA 30014** This 18th

THIS 18TH day of June, 2021.

PUBLIC NOTICE #200607
7/25-8/1,8,15

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **ALVIN REED MORRISON.**, 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 JULY, 2021.

KIMBERLY LANCASTER
741 BILLUPS AVE
MADISON, GA 30650

PUBLIC NOTICE #200681
8/15,22,29-9/5

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **AUDREY LOU OWENS** deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the

CLUES ACROSS

1. Calls balls and strikes
4. Turkish officer
9. Repaired shoe
14. Grass genus
15. Small, sealed vial
16. Primp
17. Immoral act
18. A tool to communicate
20. Crumbles away
22. Egg-like
23. Districts (abbr.)
24. Dressed
28. Small island (British)
29. Dialect of Chinese
30. Force unit
31. Borderlines
33. Norse gods
37. Morning
38. Fiddler crabs
39. Tell a story
41. Consumed
42. Atomic #58
43. About old Norse poems
44. Fencing swords
46. One-time Tigers third baseman
49. Southpaw (abbr.)
50. Neither
51. Conversations
55. Distinctive manner or pronunciation
58. Cyprinids
59. Appropriate to a festival
60. Pearl Jam frontman
64. Wrath
65. Italian city
66. A way to get there
67. A nose or snout
68. German seaport
69. A horse for riding
70. Airline representative (abbr.)

CLUES DOWN

1. Unhappy
2. Silk fabric
3. Unbroken view of a region
4. Middle Eastern territory
5. ___ and Andy, TV show
6. Central processing unit
7. Department of Housing and Urban Development
8. Midcentury newspaper columnist

undersigned estate representative according to law.

THIS THE 10TH day of **AUGUST**, 2021.

CYNTHIA JESTINGS
607 RICHMOND PL
LOGANVILLE, GA 30052

PUBLIC NOTICE #200713
8/15,22,29-9/5

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **BETTY JO BATES MARKS.**, 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 JULY, 2021.

THOMAS W. MARKS
766 WOODLAWN RD
MANSFIELD, GA 30055

PUBLIC NOTICE #200674
8/15,22,29,-9/5

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **BETTYE GRIER.**, deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law. **THIS THE 22ND** day of JULY, 2021.

RASHONDA SHONDELL JACKSON
3179 TARIAN DR
DECATUR GA 30034

PUBLIC NOTICE #200641
8/1,8,15,22

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **CARLIE BELCHER.**, 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 23RD** day of JULY, 2021.

MARION DRISKELL
40 APPIA WAY
COVIGTON, GA 30014

PUBLIC NOTICE # 200636
8/1,8,15,22

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **CLARA SHEPHERD.**, 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 23RD** day of JULY, 2021.

EARNEST SHEPHERD
10127 LAKEVIEW DR S.W
COVINGTON, GA 30014

PUBLIC NOTICE #200638
8/1,8,15,22

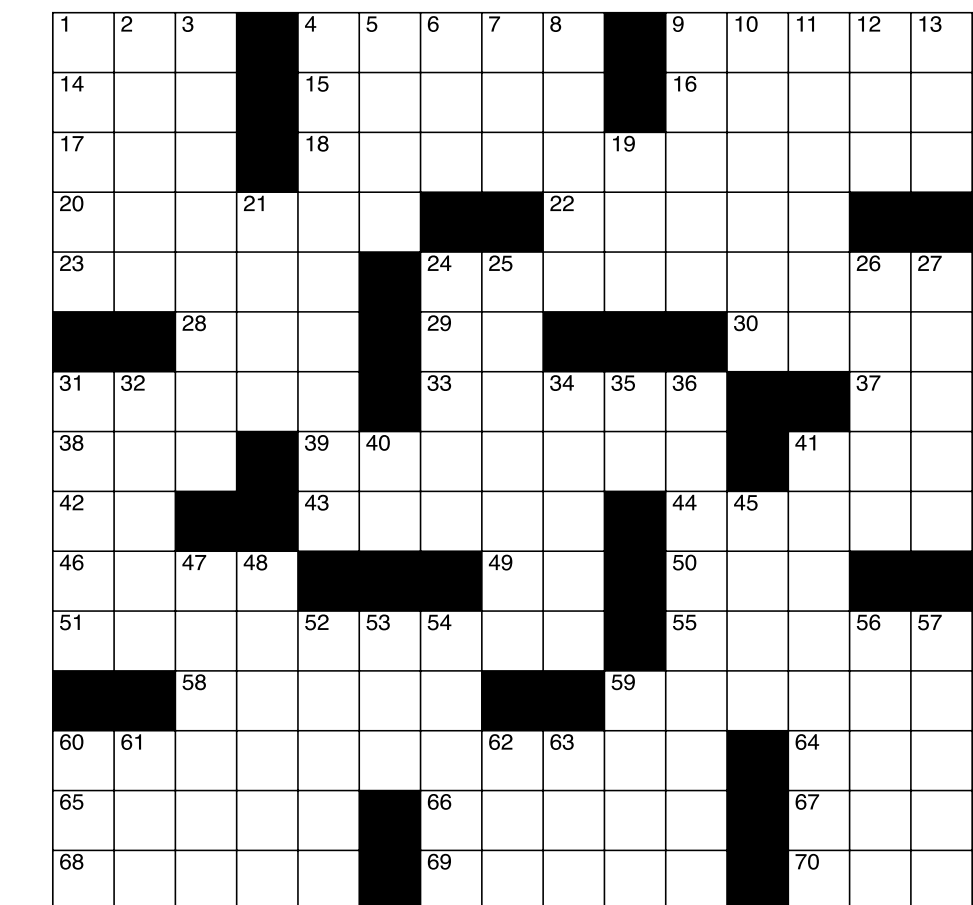
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **COTIS D. WEAVER.**, deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law. **THIS THE 22ND** day of JULY, 2021.

VASHOFANA BAHT-EL
549 CHAUCER WAY
STOCKBRIDGE GA 30281

PUBLIC NOTICE #200643
8/1,8,15,22

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND



9. Weapon
10. Delivered a speech
11. Probably going to happen
12. Midway between northeast and east
13. Danish krone
19. Synthetic resin (abbr.)
21. Fall slowly in drops
24. Bestow an honor upon
25. Childishly silly
26. Related on the mother's side
27. Populations of related plants
31. Coherent
32. Tribe of ancient Britons
34. Financial firm Goldman ___
35. Stephen King thriller
36. Went in again
40. Commercial

CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **DONALD EDWARDS MATHEWS** 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 4TH** day of **AUGUST** , 2021.

ZACHARY V. MATHEWS
50 BERKSHIRE DR
COVINGTON, GA 30016

PUBLIC NOTICE #200712
8/15,22,29-9/5

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **GRACE B. GODDARD.**, 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 JULY, 2021.

RICHARD D. ALLEN
10101 BROWN BRIDGE RD
COVINGTON, GA 30014

PUBLIC NOTICE #200680
8/15,22,29-9/5

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **HARVEY LEE MCCULLERS, 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 23RD** day of JULY, 2021.

SHARA LYNN GREER
25 BRIAR PATCH RD
COVINGTON, GA 30014

PUBLIC NOTICE #200639
8/1,8,15,22

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **JAMES MADDOX.**, 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 23RD** day of JULY, 2021.

VICKI MADDOX
10105 N. DINAH CIR
COVINGTON, GA 30014

PUBLIC NOTICE #200637
8/1,8,15,22

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **JANE WEAVER** 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 6TH** day of **AUGUST**, 2021.

JOHN C. WEAVER
70 COLDWATER WAY
COVINGTON, GA 30016

PUBLIC NOTICE #200710
8/15,22,29-9/5

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **JEFFREY KEITH MITCHELL.**, 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 **JULY**, 2021

BRIDGET L. MITCHELL
30 MILLERS LANE
COVINGTON, GA 30016

PUBLIC NOTICE #200635
8/1,8,15,22

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **KEVIN JAMES LITTELL**, deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law. **THIS THE 10TH** day of **AUGUST**, 2021.

PAMELA LITTELL
386 WESLEY DR
JACKSON, GA 30233

PUBLIC NOTICE #200714
8/15,22,29-9/5

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **MARY JO REYNOLDS** 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 5TH** day of **AUGUST** , 2021.

MELISSA C. NELSON
3155 PONDEROSA DR, SW
COVINGTON, GA 30014

PUBLIC NOTICE #200711
8/15,22,29-9/5

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **MYCELLA MCPHERSON.**, deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law. **THIS THE 22ND** day of JULY, 2021.

MANUEL REID
125 SUMMER WALK DR
COVINGTON, GA 30016

PUBLIC NOTICE #200642
8/1,8,15,22

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **NAKOSHA M. DAVIS.**, 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 JULY, 2021

FRIEDA DAVIS
4255 MOUNT READ BLVD
ROCHESTER, NY 14616

PUBLIC NOTICE #200644
8/1,8,15,22

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

NOTICE IS hereby given to the debtors and creditors of the Estate of **RONALD STEVEN COGGIN.**, deceased, late of Newton County, Georgia. You are required to render your demands and/or make payments to the undersigned estate representative according to law. **THIS THE 22ND** day of JULY, 2021.

KAY COGGIN
1500 RIVER COVE RD

PUBLIC NOTICE #200640
8/1,8,15,22

Divorces

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY STATE OF

LAST WEEK’S SOLUTION:



GEORGIA

JOYCELYN SAUL, PLAINTIFF, VS. ALEXANDER C. JACK DEFENDANT.

CIVIL ACTION NO.: SUCV2021000-971-4

ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

IT APPEARING by Affidavit, that the above named defendant on whom service is to be made in this case resides out of State, or has departed from the State, or cannot after due diligence, be found within the state, or conceals himself or herself to avoid service of the Summons, and it further appearing, either by Affidavit or by verified Complaint on file, that a claim exists against the Respondent in respect to whom service is made, and that he or she is a necessary or proper party to the action. **IT IS** hereby considered, ordered, and decreed that service be made by **PUBLICATION AS** provided by law.

SO ORDERED, this 14th day of July

PUBLIC NOTICE #200611
7/25-8/1,8,15

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF NEWTON COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

JAMES LATHAM PLAINTIFF, V MICHELLE PARHAM, DEFENDANT,

LEGALS:

Continued from B3

IN WRITING within sixty (60) days of the date of the Notice for Publication with the clerk of Superior Court of the Newton County and to serve a copy of the answer upon the plaintiff (if pro se) or upon the plaintiff's attorney (if represented). Witness the Honorable Cheveda D. McCamy, Judge of the Superior Court of Newton County.

THIS, THE 4th day of AUGUST, 2021

PUBLIC NOTICE #200701
8/15,22,29-9/5

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF
NEWTON COUNTY
STATE OF GERORGIA

CLEOPATRA MCKENZIE
PLAINTIFF
V.
DELROY WILSON
DEFENDANT

CIVIL ACTION NUMBER
2021-CV-1486-1

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

TO:
DELROY WILSON
GEORGE REID MANDEVILLE
MANCHESTER, JAMAICA

BY ORDER of the court for service by publication dated JULY 14 2021 you are hereby notified that on 6-25-21 (date of filing) CLEOPATRA MCKENZIE (plaintiff) filed suit against you for Divorce .

YOU ARE required to file an answer in writing within sixty (60) days of the date of the order for publication with the clerk of the Superior Court of Newton County and to serve a copy of the answer upon the plaintiff (if pro se) or upon the plaintiff's attorney (if represented).

WITNESSTHE Honorable JEFFREY L. FOSTER Judge Superior Court of Newton County.

THIS, THE 14th day of JULY 2021.
LINDA D. Hays
CLERK OF Superior

PUBLIC NOTICE #200610
7/25-8/1,8,15

Foreclosures

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
GEORGIA, NEWTON COUNTY

UNDER AND by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Deed to Secure Debt given by **Courtney Burrell** to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS") as nominee for Countrywide Home Loans, Inc., dated April 27, 2006, and recorded in Deed Book 2176, Page 577, Newton County, Georgia records, having been re-recorded at Deed Book 2942, Page 162, aforesaid records, and as last transferred to The Bank of New York Mellon as Trustee for the Certificateholders of CWABS, Inc. Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2006-8, by Assignment recorded in Deed Book 2918, Page 289, Newton County, Georgia records, conveying the after-described property to a secure a Note of even date in the original principal amount of \$171,750.00, with interest at the rate specified therein, there will be sold by the undersigned at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the Courthouse door of Newton County, Georgia, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in September, 2021, to wit: September 7, 2021, the following described property:

ALL THAT tract or parcel of land lying and being in Land Lot 40 of the 10th District of Newton County, Georgia, being Lot 59 of Glen Echo Subdivision, Phase One, as per plat recorded in Plat Book 42, Pages 195-198 (more particularly described in Page 197), Newton County, Georgia records, which plat is incorporated herein by reference and made a part hereof.

THE DEBT secured by said Deed to Secure Debt 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 Deed to Secure Debt. 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 Deed to Secure Debt and by law, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given).

SAID PROPERTY is commonly known as **40 Glen Echo Drive, Covington, GA 30016**, together with all fixtures and personal property attached to and constituting a part of said property. To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party (or parties) in possession of the subject property is (are): Courtney Burrell or tenant or tenants.

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

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

PURSUANT TO O.C.G.A. Section 9-13-172.1, which allows for certain procedures regarding the rescission of judicial and nonjudicial sales

in the State of Georgia, the Deed Under Power and other foreclosure documents may not be provided until final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan as provided in the preceding paragraph.

PURSUANT TO O.C.G.A. Section 44-14-162.2, the entity that has full authority to negotiate, amend and modify all terms of the mortgage with the debtor is:

SELECT PORTFOLIO Servicing, Inc.
ATTENTION: LOSS Mitigation Department
3217 S. Decker Lake Drive
SALT LAKE City, Utah 84119
1-888-818-6032

THE FOREGOING notwithstanding, nothing in O.C.G.A. Section 44-14-162.2 shall be construed to require the secured creditor to negotiate, amend or modify the terms of the Deed to Secure Debt described herein.

THIS SALE is conducted on behalf of the secured creditor under the power of sale granted in the aforementioned security instrument, specifically being **THE BANK** of New York Mellon as Trustee for CWABS, Inc. Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2006-8 **AS ATTORNEY** in fact for **COURTNEY BURRELL** **RICHARD B.** Maner, P.C.
180 INTERSTATE N Parkway, Suite 200
ATLANTA, GA 30339
404.252.6385
THIS LAW FIRM IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

FC21-023

PUBLIC NOTICE #200660
8/8,15,22,29

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
STATE OF GEORGIA,
COUNTY OF NEWTON

UNDER AND by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by **Cynthia Haughton** to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC (the Secured Creditor), dated August 21, 2018, and Recorded on August 28, 2018 as Book No. 3742 and Page No. 611, Newton County, Georgia records, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note of even date in the original principal amount of \$130,494.00, with interest at the rate specified therein, as last assigned to Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC by assignment that is or to be recorded in the Newton County, Georgia Records, there will be sold by the undersigned at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash at the Newton County Courthouse within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in September, 2021, the following described property:

ALL THAT tract or parcel of land lying and being in Land Lot 28 of the 10th District, Newton County, Georgia, being Lot 7 of Windward Way Subdivision, per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 30, Page 269, Newton County, Georgia records, which recorded plat is incorporated herein by reference and made a part of this description.

THE DEBT secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of default, failure to pay the indebtedness as and when due and in the manner provided in the Note and Security Deed. Because the debt remains in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, as provided in the Security Deed and by law, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given). Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC holds the duly endorsed Note and is the current assignee of the Security Deed to the property. Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC is the entity with the full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the loan.

PURSUANT TO O.C.G.A. §44-14-162.2, Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC may be contacted at: 1-800-790-9502 or by writing to 1600 South Douglass Road, Suite 110 and 200-A, Anaheim, CA 92806-5951.

PLEASE NOTE that, pursuant to O.C.G.A. §44-14-162.2, the secured creditor is not required to amend or modify the terms of the loan.

TO THE best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party/parties in possession of the subject property known as **75 WINDWARD DRIVE, COVINGTON, GA** 30016 is/are: Cynthia Haughton or tenant/tenants. Said property will be sold subject to (a) any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), (b) any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, and (c) all matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above, including, but not limited to, assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, easements, restrictions, covenants, etc.

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

PURSUANT TO O.C.G.A. §9-13-172.1, which allows for certain procedures regarding the rescission of judicial and nonjudicial sales

status of the loan as provided in the preceding paragraph.

FUNDS USED at sale shall be in certified funds and payable to "Bell Carrington Price & Gregg, LLC."

CARRINGTON MORTGAGE Services, LLC as Attorney in Fact for Cynthia Haughton.

ANY INFORMATION obtained on this matter may be used by the debt collector to collect the debt. Bell Carrington Price & Gregg, LLC, 339 Heyward Street, 2nd Floor, Columbia, SC 29201 (803)-509-5078. File: 20-41495

PUBLIC NOTICE #200625
8/8,15,22,29

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER
POWER, NEWTON COUNTY

PURSUANT TO the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by **Nancy L. Holloway** to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for COUNTRYWIDE BANK, FSB, its successors and assigns dated 4/25/2008 and recorded in Deed Book 2603 Page 26 and modified at Deed Book 3115 Page 283 and modified at Deed Book 3152 Page 124 and modified at Deed Book 3581 Page 140 Newton County, Georgia records; as last transferred to or acquired by PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of \$201,477.00, with interest at the rate specified therein, there will be sold by the undersigned at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the Courthouse door of Newton County, Georgia (or such other area as designated by Order of the Superior Court of said county), within the legal hours of sale on September 7, 2021 (being the first Tuesday of said month unless said date falls on a Federal Holiday, in which case being the first Wednesday of said month), the following described property: All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in Land Lot 43 of the 10th District, Newton County, Georgia, being Lot 20 of Browning Estates Subdivision, as per plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 43, pages 83-86, Newton County, Georgia Records, which recorded plat is incorporated herein by reference and made a part of this description.

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

SAID PROPERTY is commonly known as **35 Browning Drive, Covington, GA 30016-6216** together with all fixtures and personal property attached to and constituting a part of said property, if any. To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party (or parties) in possession of the subject property is (are): Nancy L. Holloway or tenant or tenants.

PENNYMAC LOAN Services, LLC is the entity or individual designated who shall have full authority to negotiate, amend and modify all terms of the mortgage.

PENNYMAC LOAN Services, LLC

LOSS MITIGATION

3043 TOWNSGATE Road #200,

Westlake Village, CA 91361

1-866-549-3583

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

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

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

PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC as agent and Attorney in Fact for Nancy L. Holloway

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

120-23192A

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

THAT PURPOSE. 1120-23192A

PUBLIC NOTICE #200631
8/8,15,22,29

Name Changes

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF
NEWTON COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE the Name Change of Child(ren):
JORDYN ELIZABETH YATES

VALINCIA A YATES
PETITIONER,
V.
MICHAEL RUE
RESPONDENT.

CIVIL ACTION NUMBER
2021-CV-1717-4

NOTICE OF PETITION TO
CHANGE NAME OF CHILD

VALINCIA YATES filed a petition in the Newton County Superior Court on JULY 28, 2021, to change the name of the following minor child **FROM: JORDYN ELIZABETH YATES** to **JORDYN ELIZABETH RUE** 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).

VALINCIA YATES
4155 N DEARING ST NE
COVINGTON, GA 30014

PUBLIC NOTICE #200663
8/8,15,22,29

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF
NEWTON COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE the Name Change of:
ESSENCE CHENELLE MCCRAY
PETITIONER,

CIVIL ACTION NUMBER
2021-CV-1792-2

NOTICE OF PETITION TO
CHANGE NAME OF ADULT

ESSENCE CHENELLE MCCRAY filed a petition in the Newton County Superior Court on AUGUST 2, 2021, to change the name of the following minor child **FROM: ESSENCE CHENELLE MCCRAY** to **ESSENCE CHENELLE ONI ESEIEH** 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).

ESSENCE CHENELLE MCCRAY
125 CRESTFIELD CIR
COVINGTON, GA 30016

PUBLIC NOTICE #200703
8/15,22,29-9/5

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF
NEWTON COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE the Name Change of:
MORENA G. MENDEZ
PETITIONER,

CIVIL ACTION NUMBER
2021-CV-1791-1

NOTICE OF PETITION TO
CHANGE NAME OF ADULT

MORENA G. MENDEZ filed a petition in the Newton County Superior Court on AUGUST 3, 2021, to change the name of the following minor child **FROM: MORENA G. MENDEZ** to **MORENA G. AGUIRRE** 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).

MORENA G. MENDEZ
130 SADDLEBROOK DR
COVINGTON, GA 30016

PUBLIC NOTICE #200702
8/15,22,29-9/5

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF
NEWTON COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE the name change of
CRISTIAN GODIREZ
PETITIONER

CIVIL ACTION File
2021-CV-1610-2

NOTICE OF PETITION TO
CHANGE NAME OF ADULT

CRISTIAN GODIREZ filed a petition in the Newton County Superior Court on JULY 13, 2021 to change the name from **CRISTIAN GODIREZ** to **KYLIE YOUNG** Any interested party has the right to appear in this case and file objections within 30 days after the Petition was filed
DATE: 7/13/21

CRISTIAN GODINEZ
130 SPRING LAKE TERRACE
COVINGTON, GA 30016

PUBLIC NOTICE #200609
7/25-8/1,8,15

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF
NEWTON COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE the name change of
KAMELL ERNESTO FERGUSON
PETITIONER

CIVIL ACTION File
2021-CV-1709-3

NOTICE OF PETITION TO

CHANGE NAME OF ADULT

KAMELL ERNESTO FERGUSON filed a petition in the Newton County Superior Court on JULY 15, 2021 to change the name from **KAMELL ERNESTO FERGUSON** to **KAMELL ERNESTO SALAS** Any interested party has the right to appear in this case and file objections within 30 days after the Petition was filed
DATE: 7/15/21

KAMELL ERNESTO FERGUSON
100 WYNDMONT WAY
COVINGTON, GA 30014

PUBLIC NOTICE #200662
8/8,15,22,29

Public Notice

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF
NEWTON COUNTY STATE OF
GEORGIA

ANTOMS J. BELL
PLAINTIFF,
V
MIKAELA HODGES,
DEFENDANT,

ACTION NO.2020-CV-399-4

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

TO: MIKAELA Hodges
80 VICTORIA Blvd
OXFORD, GA 30054

BY ORDER of the Court for service by publication dated July 30, 2021you are hereby notified that on May 29, 2021 ,the Plaintiff, Antom Bell , filed suit against you for Legitimation.

YOU ARE required to file an Answer in writing within sixty (60) days of the date of order for publication with the clerk of the Superior Court of Newton County and to serve a copy of the answer upon the plaintiff(if pro se) or upon the plaintiff's attorney (if represented).Witness the Honorable Layla H. Zon ,Judge of the Superior Court of Newton County.

THIS, THE 3rdh day of August 2021

PUBLIC NOTICE #200707
8/15,22,29-9/5

NEWTON COUNTY SCHOOL
SYSTEM NON-DISCRIMINATION
POLICY

FEDERAL LAW prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin (Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964); sex (Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 and the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Act of 2006); or disability (Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990) in educational programs or activities receiving federal financial assistance. Students, parents, employees and the general public are hereby notified that the Newton County Board of Education does not discriminate in any educational programs or activities or in employment policies.

THE FOLLOWING individuals have been designated as the employees responsible for coordinating the school system's effort to implement this nondiscriminatory policy.

- **TITLE II**.—Shundreia Neely, 2109 Newton Dr. NE, Covington, (770) 787-1330 ext. 1122
- **TITLE VI**.—Brooke Dial, 2109 Newton Dr. NE, Covington, (770)787-1330 ext. 1278
- **TITLE IX**.—Dr. Ashante Everett, 2109 Newton Dr. NE, Covington, (770) 787-1330 ext. 1203
- **SECTION 504**.—Dr. Ashante Everett, 2109 Newton Dr. NE, Covington, (770) 787-1330 ext. 1203
- **ADA**.—BROOKE Dial, 2109 Newton Dr. NE, Covington, (770) 787-1330 ext. 1278
- **CARL D.** Perkins Career and Technical Act of 2006.—Dr. Tim Schmitt, 2109 Newton Dr. NE, Covington, (770) 787-1330 ext. 1273

PUBLIC NOTICE #200669
8/8,15

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS hereby given, per the City of Covington's Code of Ordinances Chapter 16.52.270, that the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) will hold a meeting on September 1, 2021 @ 6 PM at the City Hall Council Chambers, 2116 Stallings Street, Covington, GA. Purpose of this meeting is for the HPC to consider the submitted application below for a Certificate of Appropriateness at the following property:

A. COA# - PMOD21-0001
REQUEST: 4' landing addition for front door stairway, siding and window replacement.

LOCATION: 1142 Oak St.

TMP#: C020 0007 002

PROPERTY OWNER(S)/

APPLICANT(S): Dianne

Schwendinger

B. COA# - PMINOR21-0004

thru 0015

REQUEST: **PLAN** book approval for completion of Dorchester Place Location: Dorchester Place CommunityTMP#: C011A 129 / Dorchester Place - Various

PROPERTY OWNER/APPLICANT:

Dorchester Place Atlanta, LLC/D.R. Horton, Inc.

ALL INTERESTED parties are invited to participate, meeting will be held in person. For additional information, contact Renee Criswell, at rcriswell@cityofcovington.org, or

770-385-2178.

PUBLIC NOTICE #200717
8/15

Public Sales Auctions

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY In accordance with the GA Self Service Storage Facilities Act notice is hereby given that the undersigned will be sold at public sale to the highest bidder in order to satisfy lien of the owner. Bidding to take place on lockerfox.com ending Thursday the 26th day of August, 2021 at 10:00 AM. Said property is Space Shop Self Storage, 6177 Jackson Hwy, Covington, GA, 30014 Bell, Cierra O09 Plastic Bins, Clothes, Heater, Bookbag, Suitcase, TV. Garner, James H18 Dressers, microwave, fridge, clock, bins, clothes. Garner, James H08 Dresser, flatscreen tv, mattress, box spring, clothes, stool. The auction will be listed and advertised on lockerfox.com. Space Shop Self Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property

PUBLIC NOTICE #200624
8/8,15

NOTICE OF Public Sale of Personal Property: Notice is hereby given that **Budget Self Storage** of Covington, located at 6217 HWY 278 NE Covington, GA 30014; intends to sell the personal property according to the Georgia Self Storage Act, 10-4-210 through 10-4-215 to satisfy the owner's lien.

ALL BIDS will be accepted online through www.storageauctions.com. The auction will end on or after 8/24/2021 1:00 p.m. Budget Self Storage reserves the right to withdraw units from such a sale and reject any bid. Terms of sale are cash or money order only.

TRACY RHODES, A117, appears to contain; floor tile, ceiling fans, tables, flooring, luggage, lamps, vase, mattress, boxes, chairs, latter, end tables, and household goods
TRACY RHODES, A140, appears to contain; tv, chairs, space heater, flooring, doors, ladder, China cabinet, power tools, outdoor tools, speakers, and boxes

PUBLIC NOTICE #200664
8/8,15

Trade Names

TRADE NAME
REGISTRATION
AFFIDAVIT
GEORGIA, NEWTON COUNTY

TO WHOM It may Concern: **PLEASE BE** advised that **AFFINITY BANK INC** whose address is 3175 HIGHWAY 278, COVINGTON, GA 30014 and the owner(s) of the certain business now being carried on at 3175 HIGHWAY 278 COVINGTON, GA 30014 in the following trade name, to-wit: LEAPFROG MORTGAGE that the nature of said business is: MORTGAGE ORIGINATION AND SERVICING This statement is made in conformity with O.C.G.A. §10-1-490 et seq. requiring the filing of such statement with the Clerk of Superior Court of this county. **THIS THE** 6TH day of AUGUST , 2021.

PUBLIC NOTICE #200706
8/15,22

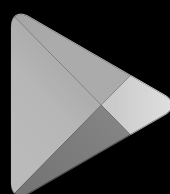
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770-787-6397 (NEWS) | covnews.com

The Covington News

Tokyo 2020
Olympic Games

USA reigns supreme

By PHILLIP B. HUBBARD
phubbard@covnews.com

After collecting 113 total medals, 39 of which were gold, USA finished as the No. 1 overall team in the 2021 Olympics. This year's Olympics were hosted in Tokyo, Japan, from July 25 to Aug. 8.

In the final medal count, though, there were some Georgia-based competitors featured along with Newton County natives, too.

University of Georgia alums earned 11 medals alone — three gold, two silver and six bronze. Their count tied them at No. 23 in the world with Czech Republic and Denmark.

Particularly, Newton native Elija Godwin, who is enrolled at UGA, earned a bronze medal in the 4x400-meter relay to contribute to USA's total.

SOFTBALL:

Continued from B1

8/7 vs. Upson-Lee (Game 2) 9-4 L
8/7 vs. Pike County (Game 3) 15-2 L
8/10 vs. Heritage 5-0 W
8/12 vs. Brookwood 9-1 L

Eastside
No games were played due to a COVID-19 outbreak

Piedmont Academy
8/2 vs. Bulloch Academy (Game 1) 6-1 L
8/2 vs. Bulloch Academy (Game 2) 10-5 W
8/10 vs. Locust Grove 2-0 L

George Walton Academy
8/9 vs. Commerce 8-0 W
8/11 vs. Madison County 7-3 W
8/12 vs. Loganville 4-1 L

Peachtree Academy
No final scores were posted at time of publication

EAGLES:

Continued from B1

year, and we had a good graduating class. So, I'm hoping we'll be

Lady Redskins begin 2021 'process'

By PHILLIP B. HUBBARD
phubbard@covnews.com

SOCIAL CIRCLE, Ga. — Mother Nature hasn't been a friend to the Social Circle softball team this summer. With pop-up thunderstorms and the unbearable heat, the team hasn't practiced as often as first-year head coach Bryan Eades would like.

Heading into the season, that was his No. 1 concern.

The Lady Redskins only had one to two practices and a few scrimmages in June. The latter part of July to the first week of August is when it really seemed things were coming together.

During that two-week stretch is when Eades learned more about this year's squad.

"We have some competition," Eades said. "We've got some girls who can play more than one position. So that gives us a little more flexibility."

Eades highlighted that as his team's biggest strength as they continue to gel together.

Leading the charge to help bring the team together has been the team's three seniors: Morgan Chambers, Gracie Jones and Alexa Wykoff. They also have six juniors in addition to a few sophomores and freshmen who've shown some promise.

However, the leadership of the senior group is the most crucial piece to help bring success in 2021 for the Lady Redskins.

"This is their program," Eades said. "I've tried to impart to the seniors that they need to be leaders, because they're the ones that the other kids look up to."

Social Circle aims to find its harmony on the diamond by the end of September. Eades said that's the biggest obstacle standing in the team's way.

But, if the Lady Redskins can learn to mesh and assemble a dominant lineup, then their head coach is high on their chances in the postseason.



File | The Covington News

First-year head coach Bryan Eades said his team hasn't been able to practice as often as he would have liked due to Mother Nature, but he feels his senior-laden team is ready to compete nonetheless.

"If you can get to Columbus and be one of those eight teams, then anything can happen," Eades said. "But it's a

process and we're not where we want to be yet."

Social Circle started its season with a 9-1 loss to Frank-

lin County. Its next matchup will take place on Saturday, Aug. 13.

Lady Cougars fall 2-0 at home against Locust Grove

By CHRIS BRIDGES
Correspondent

MONTICELLO, Ga. — The Piedmont Academy fast-pitch softball got a strong pitching performance on Tuesday but was not able to generate enough offense to gain a win.

As a result, the Lady Cougars fell 2-0 to Locust Grove in a contest where the two teams combined for only six hits. Piedmont's Averie Camp won the distance and had five strikeouts for coach Joe Johnson.

"It was a tough loss to a really good

team," Johnson said. "We played pretty well, but we just couldn't get it going offensively. We also made a few base running mistakes that really hurt us."

Reece Lewellen and Summer McCranie combined to allow just two hits for visiting Locus Grove.

The Lady Wildcats (1-0) scored a run in the top of the first and fourth innings. The teams also combined for a solid defensive outing as only one error was committed.

"We played great on defense where we are getting better every week," Johnson

said. "There is a lot of softball left to play this season. We are just ready for the season to get rolling and to be able to play games on a consistent basis each week. We have had some games cancelled and that hurts the momentum you are trying to build."

The Lady Cougars (1-2 overall) has multiple games scheduled against GHSA opponents this season to help prepare the team for the playoffs.

Piedmont will travel to Eastside High School in Covington for a 6 p.m. contest on Thursday.



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"We take a lot of pride in everything we do," Davidson said. "We have a few sayings here like 'it's a great day to be an Eagle.' This is a great community. You've got a lot

of people who's been here a long time. We've got a lot of Eagle pride, both academically and athletically."

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