



Nativity scene
Holiday tradition
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OP-ED
Scott Ludwig
• Page 5A



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WEEKEND

Saturday, December 21, 2024

Wednesday death of Albany employee is second in 2024 for city workforce



Staff Photo: Alan Mauldin

A work site near the intersection of North Harding Street and West Society Avenue in Albany was the location of a workplace tragedy that claimed the life of one city employee and injured a second.

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ALBANY – The city of Albany is mourning the loss of a second employee who died on the job in 2024 after a Wednesday-afternoon accident at a work site left one dead and a second employee injured.

Dougherty County Coroner Michael Fowler identified the deceased employee as Sebastian Dykes Jr.

Dykes and other employees were working at the site of a

sewer collapse near the intersection of North Harding Street and West Society Avenue, according to information released by the city. City officials refused to identify the injured employee on Thursday.

An autopsy for the deceased employee is scheduled for Monday, Fowler said. The suspected cause of death is asphyxiation.

North Harding Street resident Shanice Anthony had a front-row seat to the tragedy as the rescue operation un-

folded. It appeared to her that the workers were wrapping up the work at the site at the time and one worker had emerged from underground, she said.

“I was sitting in my car like I’m doing now at around 3:34 (p.m.),” Anthony said. “One utility worker was very distressed. He was on the phone. That’s when I started hearing the sirens.”

Workers have been at the location multiple times, Anthony said. For several years,

residents in the neighborhood have experienced issues and at times water has backed up in sinks and sewage has even seeped up into her yard and into the bathtub.

Lately a large mechanical pump has been working around the clock at the site.

Once word of the accident went out, the street filled with Albany Fire Department personnel, who undertook the res-

See **DEATH**, 2A

Shoes from the HEART provides free sneakers to local students in need

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ALBANY – Students at Radium Springs Elementary School received a surprise gift of brand new shoes Wednesday morning from the Hands Extended Across Reaching Together (HEART) Organization, a local nonprofit.

The students excitedly unboxed brand new, shiny sneakers in their size, gifted as part of the annual Shoes from the HEART initiative. HEART purchased 400 pairs of athletic shoes through donations from local businesses, churches, civic organizations and individuals. HEART has done this each year since 2009.

“It is a strong belief of HEART that when shoes fit properly and are attractive in appearance, the self-esteem and self-confidence of a child will grow, which may help improve school attendance and behavior in the classroom,” Anne Johnson, HEART’s president, wrote in a release.

She wrote that HEART also



Staff Photo: Lucille Lannigan

A HEART board member hands a Radium Springs Elementary student a new pair of shoes.

wants to enable students to participate in physical education and after-school athletic programs, which promote leadership, discipline and good sportsmanship.

One of HEART’s key community partners, Feeding the Valley, helped transport the

shoes to recipients at five local elementary schools: Radium Springs Elementary, Robert Harvey Elementary, Turner Elementary, Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary and North Side Elementary. Radium Springs Elementary students listened Wednes-

day morning as their names were called to receive shoes, which were packaged in brand new boxes and a bright red HEART Organization bag.

Johnson told students the group wanted to make sure

See **SHOES**, 2A

Albany Herald launches new website, publishes first Outdoors magazine

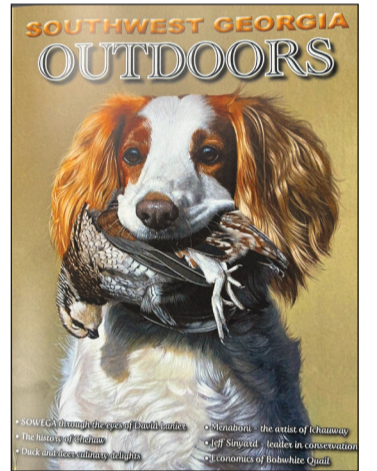
Staff Reports
news@albanyherald.com

ALBANY -- The Albany Herald launched a new website and announced a brand-new digital newsletter Wednesday, delivering dedicated local reporting to a digital audience.

The website will feature work from The Albany Herald newsroom, as well as online-exclusive content and a weekly newsletter to subscribers. Sign up to become a member [/[subscribe](#)]here, and sign up for the free newsletter [/[newsletters](#)]here.

The new website is integral to the ongoing transformation efforts from the Georgia Trust for Local News, which recently acquired The Albany Herald and 18 other newspapers across middle, south and west Georgia. The website will offer new advertising opportunities in Dougherty County and across the Georgia Trust that can reach up to a million Georgians.

“It’s very exciting to expand the reach of our newspaper,” GTLN Executive Director DuBose Porter said. “We will



Special Photo

The Albany Herald has published the initial issue of its Southwest Georgia Outdoor magazine

deliver news in whatever way our readers prefer: online, via newsletters or in print. This is a giant leap forward for The Albany Herald.”

The website was built by Indiegaf, a company that specializes in websites and digital products for independent, local news companies. The Albany Herald will continue to publish three print editions each week.

“The Herald’s new website is much more user-friendly,”

See **LAUNCHES**, 2A

Monroe High student awarded prestigious NROTC scholarship

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ALBANY – Classmates, JROTC peers, family and teachers gathered to celebrate Monroe Comprehensive High School senior Avenn Smith, who was surprised to receive the Marine Option Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps Scholarship, Thursday morning.

Smith was the only Georgia student to receive the \$180,000 scholarship. He competed against

applicants from more than 2,600 high schools across the southeastern U.S. to achieve the high honor. Smith will take this scholarship to attend Tuskegee University and train to become a U.S. Marine Corps Officer and aviator.

Tuskegee University is in Macon County, Ala., and is known as the training ground for the U.S.’s first black military pilots.

The Tuskegee Airmen formed the 332nd Fighter Group and the 477th Bombardment Group

of the U.S. Army Air Corps and fought in World War II as the first African-American military aviators in the nation’s history.

Smith said it was his dream to attend the university.

“My goal was always to join the military, and I’ve always liked aviation and technology,” the scholarship winner said. “This scholarship will help me get to where I want to go ... and encour-

See **NROTC**, 2A



Staff Photo: Lucille Lannigan

Avenn Smith was joined by his grandmother to celebrate receiving an NROTC scholarship.

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Staff Photo: Alan Mauldin

From left, John Hawthorne, director of the Albany Department of Community and Economic Development, Dougherty County Commission Chairman Lorenzo Heard, Leslie Snead, Phillip Blow and Darryl Chatman Sr. were among the participants in a Dec. 16 groundbreaking for a housing project at the Ragsdale Subdivision in south Albany.

Albany leaders eye revitalization of south Albany

By Alan Mauldin
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ALBANY – The planned construction of 19 homes will fill out the Ragsdale Subdivision in south Albany, but the project is planned to do more than that. Participants say the undertaking will signal a sign of revitalization in the area.

The development plans for 19 mixed-income homes at the location near the intersection of Cotton Avenue and South Jefferson Street, with an emphasis on energy efficiency to make the new homes sustainable for the residents.

Since the Flood of 1994, the city has been working to add new homes in south Albany, and the Ragsdale subdivision has been a point of emphasis. The development

includes residences along Cotton and across the street on South Jefferson.

There are also other projects in the works that will see more housing starts in south Albany, Albany Community and Economic Development Director John Hawthorne said.

“This has been a long time coming,” he said. “In 2017, only seven (home construction) permits were pulled for south Albany, as Commissioner Chad Warbington noted. We’ve got to change that. Once this construction begins, this will take on a life of its own.”

“This is the beginning of the revitalization of this community as well as south Albany. Altogether, we’re looking at 50 homes we’re looking to get built within three or

four years.”

The average price for the homes in the Ragsdale subdivision will be about \$137,000, Hawthorne said.

The project is a joint development effort that includes Aevolve Green Solutions and the MP Organization of Atlanta, which is the developer for the Carroll Street Gardens housing project announced earlier this year.

During the recent groundbreaking, Ward VI Albany City Commissioner Demetrius Young recounted growing up in the area where he walked to school. The nearby park is named in honor of his mother, Mary Young-Cummings, who was a former state representative and one of the first two black city commissioners elected

in the city.

“She raised me in what I think is the heart of Albany,” Young said. “This area is near and dear to my heart. It was devastated by the ‘94 flood. This was once a vibrant area. I really think this is an area ripe for development.”

MP founder and CEO Phillip Blow emphasized the transformational aspects of the development.

“These homes will be energy-efficient,” he said. “They’ll have cost savings for the next 15 to 30 years. These homes will have a lot of style. I think it’s important for people to have something to want to come home to.”

Energy efficiency is an important element, speakers said, as many of the city’s houses are aging and have high utility costs.

From 1A

NROTC

age other students of color that they shouldn’t be scared to do what they want to do.”

Smith had no idea upon entering the gymnasium at Monroe High School that he had received the scholarship. He was just thrilled to be accepted into his dream school. Joined by his family, who wore shirts with Smith’s face and Tuskegee University printed on it, the senior teared up and hugged his family as he found out what the celebration was really about.

He was met with rousing

support from his classmates and JROTC peers.

“A lot of this wasn’t just me,” Smith said. “It was a lot of people there who helped me get to where I’m at.”

He gave thanks to many people in his life, choking up at the mention of his late grandfather, for which his classmates and family began to sing “Let it Shine,” to support him through his speech.

“I’ve got to thank my granddad,” Smith said. “He’s not here right now, but he helped me get to where I want to be, and he left me standing where I can do anything I want.”

Recruits from the U.S. Marine Corps were present for

the celebration.

Capt. William Hughes talked to the crowd about how big an accomplishment receiving the scholarship is, calling it very competitive and a very high honor. He said very few made it through the initial vetting process to even get an interview.

“He (Smith) demonstrated not only academic excellence but also leadership potential, discipline and commitment to service that made him stand apart from the rest of his peers,” Hughes said.

Hughes said becoming a Marine officer is no easy task but 100% worth the challenge.

Monroe High School Principal Lawanna Farley-John-

son encouraged the class of 2025 to rise to the occasion as they near graduation in May.

“I made a promise to the class of 2025, if you do it big, we’re gonna do it big for you,” she said. “So whatever your accomplishments are, we’re gonna celebrate you in a grand way.”

She asked each student who’d received a college acceptance to stand and gave them a moment of celebration.

“We’re changing the narrative of 900 Lippitt Drive,” Farley-Johnson said. “Our children are intelligent and doing great things.”

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR CONSUMPTION OF BEER/ WINE / LIQUOR LICENSE

I, La Shannee Frantell Carter, trading as Truth Restaurant, 2800 Old Dawson Rd., Ste. 5 Albany, Georgia 31707, give notice that I have applied for a transfer Alcohol License to be considered.
Albany Herald
Run Dates:
December 17, 19 & 21



Staff Photo: Lucille Lannigan

Radium Springs Elementary students were all smiles after receiving a pair of athletic shoes.

From 1A

SHOES

they had a quality pair of shoes that fit them.

“With these shoes from the HEART, we want you to put your best foot forward, making sure you’re doing what you’re supposed to be doing in school, at home and in your community,” Johnson said. Carmen Harrell, the instruc-

tional coach at Radium Springs Elementary, said she appreciates that HEART recognized and met this need for the students who may come to school with shoes that are too small or not adequate.

The organization worked with school administration and teachers who gave the names of students who posed a need.

“Because we are a school with a high population of students in poverty, this means

a lot,” Harrell said.

The new shoes were a surprise for students, whose faces shone with excitement as Johnson explained to them what was about to happen. They cheered for their friends and showed off their new shoes to each other.

“Students are getting the shoes just in time for the holidays,” Harrell said. “It’s like a bonus Christmas gift. It’s just an amazing gesture.”

Renaye Lewis, a HEART

From 1A DEATH

cue efforts, and police and public safety officials. Neighbors were also out watching and taking video as the work unfolded, and at some point firefighters placed a screen around the site where they were working, Anthony said.

“There were three ambulances,” she said. “It was a lot of commotion.”

One of the employees was pulled from the work site not long after work began.

“There was another person they pulled out around 10:15 (p.m.), 10:20,” she said.

Another tragedy struck the city’s workforce when employee Darrious Stephens went into the Flint River while taking water samples on Feb. 12. Stephens’ body was found downstream about three weeks later.

City Commissioner Chad Warbington said that he expects that a safety review will be undertaken following the passage of time after Dykes’ death.

“I think that any time an accident happens, even if it’s a minor injury, we need to step back and review safety protocols,” he said. “It’s natural to do that. We’re grieving now,

and we want the other employees to recover and hopefully we’ll have a discussion about that situation.

“I’d say the safety of our employees is (priority) No. 1. That has been a focus and will be our focus as an employer.”

When the public thinks about city employees, the safety of first responders is the first to come to mind, but all employees face risk every day, the commissioner said.

“It just shows you, whether you’re on the back of a garbage truck or you’re sweeping the streets or you’re in a sewer, there is a certain amount of risk every day for what they do,” Warbington said. “This is just absolutely tragic. Our thoughts and prayers go out.”

Dykes’ family is in the thoughts and prayers of the city, as are city employees, Mayor Bo Dorrough said.

“They were replacing a collapsed sewer and nobody expedited this,” he said. “His co-workers were there. We understand that in public safety, these are occupations that pose risk, but lest we forget this is the second employee we have lost this year.

“It’s hard to express in words the impact not only on his family but his co-workers and the whole organization.”

From 1A

LAUNCHES

GTLN Executive Editor Caleb Slinkard said. “We intentionally made it easier for our readers to access the great local reporting that our newsroom produces.”

Any subscriber who has had trouble accessing the website is asked to contact Rodney Gibbs at rodney@ntln.org.

The Georgia Trust for Local News is part of the National Trust for Local News, a nonprofit dedicated to strengthening community news by working with communities to make the at-scale, transformational changes needed for established community news organizations to thrive and remain deeply grounded in their communities.

The Georgia Trust for Local News is supported by partners such as the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, the Robert W. Woodruff Foundation, and the Marguerite Casey Foundation. NTLN operates state-level trusts in Colorado and Maine, in addition to Georgia.

ALBANY -- The Albany Herald has published the first edition of what will initially be a twice-yearly magazine, Southwest Georgia Outdoors. The glossy magazine, whose

cover is a painting of a bird dog by renowned Albany outdoors artist David Lanier, includes stories and photographs featuring individuals and items that will be of interest to the thousands of outdoors lovers in the region. Articles for each edition will be written by Albany Herald staff writers and other outdoors writers in the region.

“We are very proud of this first issue of Southwest Georgia Outdoors,” DuBose Porter, the executive director of the Georgia Trust for Local News -- the Herald’s parent company -- and an avid outdoorsman, said. “The stories contained in the inaugural edition of this magazine are good examples of what is to come in future Southwest Georgia Outdoors publication.”

The inaugural issue includes stories about Lanier, the history of Chehaw Park, the economics of Bobwhite Quail in the region, and a look at Albany businessman Jeff Sinyard’s work as part of the state’s Department of Natural Resources Board of Directors.

The magazine is free, supported by sponsors and area businesses, and copies are available at the 306 W. Broad Ave. office of The Albany Herald. Initial plans are to release spring and fall editions of Southwest Georgia Outdoors.

board member, said this was her second year participating in the Shoes from the HEART program. She said it feels good to recognize and give to a true need in the community.

“The children who are receiving these shoes are just so happy to get them,” she said. “They can’t wait to open their boxes, and I just love to see them happy.”

The HEART Organization was formed 45 years ago when

a group of concerned employees of Albany’s Procter & Gamble Paper Products combined their efforts to keep the dream of Martin Luther King Jr. alive by assisting underprivileged community members.

Much of the board today is made up of retirees from Procter & Gamble.

“We did not retire,” Johnson said. “We got rewired to go out into the community to make it a better place.”

Horoscopes

Take nothing for granted. Strategize, reorganize and define the lifestyle that suits your needs. Putting your desires, time and energy into what makes you happy will allow you to embrace what you feel passionate about and make a difference. This year, your choices will be challenging.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Don't step into an emotional trap. Be a good listener, keep your cards close to your chest, and don't assume anything. Leave yourself open to take advantage of an opportunity.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Take the path that promises the most memorable journey. Your experiences will change your perspective on earning, spending and saving money. Nurturing is the way to win affection.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- A little charm mixed with living up to your promises will pay off. Completing your tasks will give you more downtime with someone you love. Get out there and get things done.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- Put a budget in place before leaving home. Indecisiveness will lead to costly emotional mistakes. Overreacting and expecting too much from others will isolate you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- Pay attention to the sidelines. A social event or fundraiser will bring you in contact with someone who piques your interest. Connect the dots and consider the potential outcomes before you make a move.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- Force your way

forward and finish what you start. Time is of the essence, and wasting it on petty disagreements won't calm your nerves. Choose compromise over stubbornness.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Spruce up your surroundings and update your look. A new look will attract attention and give you the confidence to impress someone you'd like to get to know better.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- Consider what you want to do next. A look at what's trending professionally will offer insight into how to redirect your energy. Use intelligence and experience to pursue your goal.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- You'll need an outlet for pent-up energy. Whether you are still playing catch up and trying to take care of business or enjoying all the festive events, doing so with gusto will satisfy your soul.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- A unique conversation with an elder will help you gain insight into possibilities you need to be aware of; however, verify information first to avoid overspending. A commitment will change how or where you live.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- Get into the spirit of the season and take advantage of any downtime. Communication and travel will encourage you to consider new possibilities or potential moves.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Take a step back and observe. Discipline, focusing on something or someone you feel passionate about, or closing one door while opening another is in your best interest.

DO JUST ONE THING

by Danny Seo

If you love to craft with kids, it's important to stock up on supplies that are free of harsh chemicals. Many products like ink pads, markers and craft paints can contain asthma-triggering chemicals or have high levels of volatile organic compounds. The basic rule of thumb is, if the product has a smell, it's likely chemical-based. How do you avoid these products? Look for labels that say "nontoxic" or "water-based" for the cleanest options. And search online for ways to make DIY paints, play dough and even slime using all-natural ingredients.

Today in History

Today is the 356th day of 2024 and the first day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY:

In 1620, the Pilgrims went ashore at Plymouth Rock.

In 1913, the New York World newspaper published Arthur Wynne's "Word-Cross Puzzle," the first crossword puzzle.

In 1937, Disney's "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs," the first feature-length animated film, premiered.

In 2012, the Walt Disney Company completed its \$4.06 billion purchase of Lucasfilm Ltd.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Benjamin Disraeli (1804-1881), British prime minister; Josh Gibson (1911-1947), baseball player; Joe Paterno (1926-2012), football coach; Jane Fonda (1937-), actress; Frank Zappa (1940-1993), musician; Samuel L. Jackson (1948-), actor; Chris Evert (1954-), tennis player; Ray Romano (1957-), actor/comedian; Florence Griffith Joyner (1959-1998), Olympic track athlete; Kiefer Sutherland (1966-), actor;

Julie Delpy (1969-), actress/filmmaker; Steven Yeun (1983-), actor.

TODAY'S FACT: "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs," derided by Hollywood insiders as "Disney's Folly" while it was in production, cost Disney Studios an estimated \$1.5 million to create. Walt Disney mortgaged his home to help cover the unanticipated expenses.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 2010, the University of Connecticut Huskies women's basketball team won its 89th consecutive game, setting a new Division I record for consecutive wins.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "I still feel like an immature idiot inside, but I look in the mirror and -- as a friend of mine once said -- this old guy keeps getting in the way." -- Ray Romano

TODAY'S NUMBER: 41 -- adult male passengers on the Mayflower who signed the Mayflower Compact before disembarking on Plymouth Rock.

TODAY'S MOON: Between full moon (Dec. 15) and last quarter moon (Dec. 22).

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Virtue is choked with foul ambition."

William Shakespeare,
playwright (1564-1616)

CORRECTION

This newspaper is committed to publishing fair and accurate information. Errors should be brought to the attention of Editor Carlton Fletcher at (229) 888-9300. Corrections or clarifications will appear in this space.

SQUAWKBOX

squawkbox@albanyherald.com

I hope all you squawkers -- the good, bad and indifferent -- have a great Christmas. May there be happy things to squawk about in the new year.

The guy that jumped into the Flint River this week and was later arrested on sexual assault had spent time in prison for the same crimes and some judge let him out of jail on \$1,000 bond. Wouldn't you think this guy is a danger to the public and to himself? Which judge set that small bond amount?

Oh, I defiantly pay tribute to the "Real" President at least once a day, squawker, but I always remember to flush afterwards.

Aaron Lewis' country music is way better than the likes of Luke Bryan and others like that, but I liked him a whole lot better when he was with Staind. I still plan to go see him at the Civic Center, though.

Unofficial President Musk decided he did not like the budget bill. So he called his underboss Trump, and now we have no bill and the reminiscent chaos that brings. The job cost Musk \$270 million. His net worth since November's election has increased by \$256 billion. And they say crime and politics don't pay.

Wrong, wrong, squawker. Trump and his minions stole the election by changing votes in several key states. It's being proven more every day. Before we let this evil, lecherous man take over the nation's highest office, his and his worshippers' illegal actions must be addressed.

Having earned a paycheck since I was 14, it is hard to comprehend someone not willing to work to repay what they borrowed.

So the county folks are saying they don't really care if families with children are endangered, they just want to offer opportunities to their friends. How much money changed hands before this vote?

The Democrat Party has become an anti-American domestic terrorist organization. They censor, loot, burn, bruise, kill, silence, imprison, deny, defile, denigrate, litigate and terrorize.

The True President is laying the groundwork to make this country great again, bringing in the best and brightest to serve in his cabinet. There will be dramatic changes in the government of our country, and they will be changes for the better.

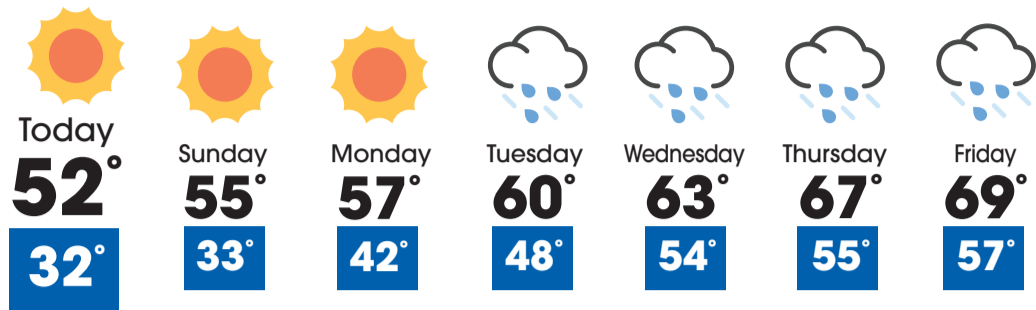
There's a reason, squawker, that when Republicans take some kind of action, their actions are usually branded "racist." It's because they are. This group may very well succeed in overthrowing our government. They are incompetent and unable to make reasonable decisions.

All this drone mystery leaves me to believe that whoever is flying them knows to fly them up in New England. Those things would not last 5 minutes flying down in Baker County; every one of them would be shot down.

As gun violence and deaths mount in Georgia, Brian Kemp and the Republicans in the state Legislature are complicit. They basically have said anyone who wants a gun -- for whatever reason -- can have one, no questions asked.

We hurt our own feelings by making the mistake of believing we mean more to other people than we really do. I learned that the hard way. That Man Without a Family

Weather Forecast



BRIDGE ■ PHILLIP ALDER

THE OPPONENTS GAIN FROM NO CONVENTION



Stephen Sondheim said, "I played the organ when I went to military school, when I was 10. I loved all the buttons and the gadgets. I've always been a gadget man."

Many bridge partnerships are gadgeteers, loving to use conventions. However, sometimes these give free information to the defense. And, strangely, not having a gadget available occasionally helps the defenders -- as in this deal.

Against three no-trump, West led a fourth-highest club four and East won with his king. What happened next?

With three 10s, North might have jumped to three no-trump. When he only invited game, though, South continued with three hearts. Since North-

South were not using New Minor Forcing, North could have had five hearts, and a 5-3 heart fit could have been best.

Many Easts would have led back the club eight in less time than it takes to read this sentence. Then, though, South would have had nine top tricks: one spade, two hearts, four diamonds and two clubs. This East paused to work out South's hand shape.

West's lead marked him with five clubs and South with four. So South had to have started with 2-3-4-4 distribution. Since East had hearts held, there was no rush to play West for five clubs to the A-Q-10. In case South had ace-low-doubleton of spades, East shifted to the

spade two. West won with his queen and returned the three (lowest from a remaining odd number). When East played low, South had to win with his ace. Now there was no way to make the contract.

North 12-21-24			
♠ J 10 8			
♥ K 10 7 2			
♦ A Q 10 5			
♣ J 2			
West		East	
♠ Q 6 4 3		♠ K 9 5 2	
♥ 9 4		♥ Q J 6 5	
♦ 8 3		♦ 7 4 2	
♠ A 7 6 4 3		♠ K 8	
South			
♠ A 7			
♥ A 8 3			
♦ K J 9 6			
♣ Q 10 9 5			
Dealer: South			
Vulnerable: Both			
South	West	North	East
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
1 NT	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	3 NT	All pass
Opening lead: ♠ 4			

ADVICE COLUMNIST ■ ERIC THOMAS

Friend takes too many leftovers after holiday meals



Dear Eric: I have been sharing Thanksgiving with dear friends for decades. About three years ago, they learned a friend of mine, with whom they are acquainted, had no plans for the day. So she has been invited and now attends annually.

These are kind and generous friends, so they offer their guests the opportunity to take home doggie bags. My friend is first in line and often takes enough for two to three people, regardless of the amount of food remaining and the number of people there.

She then freezes the bounty, since she will be gone (her family does Thanksgiving the weekend after).

My hosting friends are too nice to say anything to her. She is financially stable, so it's not that she isn't sure where her next meal is coming from. Also, the hosts provide the entire meal, so she brings nothing to the mix. Although tone-deaf, my friend is extremely sensitive, so I am reluctant to say anything. Do you have any advice? Do I just accept that this is how my friend is (she has taken advantage of other situations in the past) or say something?

— Embarrassed Friend

Dear Friend: Some might call this greedy; some might call it prudent. Some might say it's a metaphor for the ills of society. But if the hosts don't have a problem with it, neither should you.

I understand the feeling of second-hand embarrassment, since she's someone that you know better than they do. You may want to ask them if her habit with the leftovers is something they've noticed or are bothered

by. But, as the hosts, they're setting the table and the parameters. They're not asking anyone to bring anything, and they're encouraging their guests to take food home. If they wanted to set a limit on the number or size of doggie bags, they could.

Dear Eric: My husband and I have been married for 15 years. He has one daughter. He and her mother divorced when she was 8, and it was rancorous. Sadly, her mother died suddenly when she was 19, just before my husband and I started dating.

When we married, she refused to acknowledge it or attend the wedding/birthday party held later to celebrate the wedding and her father's 50th birthday. I was completely ghosted apart from her cruel jibes such as posting on social media pictures of her past family to mark our first anniversary. When she was married, I attended but was treated as a pariah.

No amount of trying to talk about it got through to her. I decided it was best for me to stop trying to connect with her.

A few years go by, and she and her husband are having a baby. She suddenly appears for a visit and acts as if none of her ugly behavior had ever happened. I chose to embrace her and really put my all into it, but it has been a struggle.

As I've gotten to know her, I realize I don't like her very much. She's manipulative and selfish and opens up to me only when she wants something. I've been the sucker who has showered money and expensive items on her and her family over the years. Her father was recently very sick,

and I spent months nursing him to health. She didn't contact him much and never once checked in with me. This is a person who doesn't like me either, just the perks. Realizing this, I've once again moved on emotionally. I feel liberated from this effort, but also guilty. Any advice?

— Dad's Wife

Dear Wife: There's the relationship you'd like to have with her, the relationship she wants to have with you and the relationship you both currently have. None of those seems to be aligning. The guilt you're feeling may stem from the belief that maybe if you did something differently or gave her more time or more patience, you'd get the relationship you want. That's understandable but it's not guaranteed.

It also doesn't take into account the kind of relationship her actions indicate she wants. One thing I'm not seeing here is a conversation about the harm done in the past. It's OK to say, "I understand that you were grieving, but some things happened that weren't right, and we should talk about them so we can move forward."

But she and you have to be open to the vulnerability and the rebuilding that is required. It sounds like that's just not where either of you is. Mostly what you're being liberated from is your unmet expectations. Acknowledge the reality that the semi-distant relationship you have may be what's best for both of you right now. You can remain open to the possibility of more, but remember that more requires effort on both sides.

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'Tis the Season ...

By Heather Melton
news@albanyherald.com

Freelance photographer Heather Melton took her camera out searching for impressive Christmas decorations in and around Dawson, where she lives. The following display is a portion of the sights she discovered.



DCSS

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SATURDAY SQUAWKBOX ■
SQUAWKBOX@ALBANYHERALD.COM

Since our governor did not include Dougherty/Albany as one of the six cities to get some of the \$9 million he handed out for business development, I bet preacher Lorenzo could give the county \$2 or \$3 million of the \$5 million preacher Warnock gave him to remodel 40 apartments. Is anyone listening?

Magnitudes of providence: It took the magnitude of Biden's and Harris' ineptness and mental incompetence, to get such an incorrigible as Trump elected, to bring to ruin a nation once of such promise, to humble a people so lost in their depravity.

Stolen election? No way, squawker. Democrats in D.C., the media, big-city DAs, leftie governors and the moronic Biden Administration gave Trump his victory on a platter. Countless lies and persistent persecution broke the "camel's back" of American voters' tolerance for idiots.

Although bought under seemingly spurious plans, Phoebe has paid tax on Bruno's property since 2017. In 2024, \$63K tax on FMV of \$3.3 million. The salient question is why buy and hold property not needed?

Let me get this straight: A county official wants to give himself even more power to manage KADB, yet our county commissioners haven't addressed litter as an issue in years, our recycling centers are poorly maintained, and community clean-up events have become few and far between. Might he be looking for a pay raise, or am I missing something?

Joe Biden's Pentagon can't tell you what those drones are doing flying over New Jersey or where they come from, yet they tell you they are not from foreign countries. Don't trust them for a minute.

The Rails to Trails fiasco shows what you get when you've got groups that don't communicate with each other and self-important (local) politicians who unilaterally decide that they know what's best for the community. The people voted for a trail; city officials, you owe a trail. Your integrity is zero.

The city/county sure wasted a lot of taxpayer money and risked first responders for someone who was nothing more than another low-life. I know that's not how they roll, but if the guy wanted to off himself, wouldn't it be better to lend a hand?

Wynfield Park, please improve your housekeeping. Rooms are not being cleaned; bathrooms are smelling bad.

Man, we need an injection of Christmas spirit around these parts. It seems the majority of people are simply going through the motions with no deep concerns about Jesus or Santa Claus. Do we not have reason to celebrate here?

Tee Taylor is Albany's "Superwoman." She is a dynamic advocate for the area's seniors and just a wonderful person. Thank you, Miss Tee.

We have a new Christmas tradition we plan to add from this day forward: It won't be Christmas in our family until the Allens light their leg lamp. Still one of the coolest stories of this year.

Another lab-produced bioweapon but worse than COVID. Be prepared. It will probably arrive soon. The bird flu vaccine will kill just like the COVID vaccines did.

COLUMNIST ■ T. GAMBLE

Bedroom slipper menagerie on display

The world continues to spin and new trends emerge each day that baffle my poor, small, fragile brain. One trend that is not particularly new, but baffling nonetheless, is the need for seemingly normal human beings to go out in public wearing bedroom slippers. They are everywhere.

I have seen folks, in the middle of the day, wearing bedroom slippers in court, at Disney World and even once at a funeral. I guess the person was just so bereaved they could not even manage to put on shoes. Or maybe their mother made them go and they said, "Well, OK, but damn if I'm putting on good shoes just for Uncle Sam's funeral."

Nowhere is this trend more evident than the grocery store. You would think all grocery stores were running a special. "The person with

the cutest bedroom shoes will get a free ham and a 64-ounce Orange Crush."

Most of my life, people made sure they looked at least half-decent before going to the grocery store. Women would wear dresses. My mother would make me take a bath as a child and then wear decent clothes. The thought was you might see someone you know and you wanted to look presentable. I guess bedroom slippers now qualify as presentable.

Trust me, I've no room to talk. I now often go to the grocery store and get mistaken for a homeless man. I'll wear a 20-year-old T-shirt, tennis shoes with the bottoms coming apart and sweat pants. Of course, then I run into my old sixth-grade teacher who says, "I knew he wouldn't amount to a thing." I probably should just go ahead and put a pint of Early

Times liquor in my back pocket to complete the picture.

You know if I were to wear bedroom slippers to the grocery store, I think I would try to hide the fact and probably go at an off hour, like right before closing in hopes no one would notice. But let me tell you, folks today go at rush hour central, 5:15, and wear not only bedroom slippers and the required head wrap/bedroom cap, but the slippers also have large animal figures at the toes just in case you might otherwise miss the fact they came to the store in their slippers.

You know, "Look at me in my slippers. Yes, that is a giraffe head bouncing from my toes in front of my belly but not much in front of my belly." Because, you see, bedroom

slipper wearers must also have a belly that protrudes from under a too short T-shirt, or the ensemble is declared null and void. No self-respecting bedroom slipper wearer would ever fail to flash the gut.

I am now surrounded in a sea of bedroom slippers that resemble Noah's Ark. I can only wish that Noah had left a few of them off the ark. Wolves, elephants, dogs, cats, leopards, tigers ... on and on it goes. What is next I don't know. On the positive side, it does help to curb my appetite so I don't buy too much when I go. Unfortunately, at the liquor store it has the opposite effect. But, I guess, to each his on.



T. Gamble

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COLUMNIST ■ WILL THAULT

Is objective journalism an oxymoron?

Essentially, Rolling Stone "gonzo" journalist Hunter S. Thompson famously observed back in the '70s, "... (T)here's no such thing as objective journalism. The phrase itself is a pompous contradiction in terms." Actually, speaking from first-hand experience, I'm afraid I have to agree with Thompson.

I began my early broadcasting career as a morning news reporter on a Talk Radio station, landing a job as an evening news anchor on a local cable TV channel a few months later. Confident in my natural talent for gathering and reporting the news, I was sure that I'd soon be on my way to becoming the next Walter Cronkite. And, in recognizing my special gift, I was duty-bound to objectively "interpret" the news events of the day, in service to my grateful unenlightened masses.

If you sense a touch of pomposity in my youthful self-assurance, you'd be right. I was convinced that it was my journalistic duty to redirect misguided thinking.

Although laughable today, my self-important delusions of grandeur matched perfectly with Thompson's observations. Having a mass media platform from which to inform is heady stuff. It takes someone with confident restraint to resist the temptation to deliver a straight news story without cloaking one's bias in context or analysis.

To convey the complete idea of a story, the lead line in newspapers has traditionally relied on the five Ws: who, what, where, when and why. This ironclad rule persisted for more than a century. But sometime

around the 1960s, journalists began embellishing the five Ws with interpretation beyond "just the facts."

In the early days of CNN, I philosophized over lunch in Atlanta with one of the network heads. I asked him for his definition of news. He responded with an eloquent, if not lengthy, discourse on its meaning. After exhausting the topic, I countered with my own simple definition: News is the dissemination of information. End of story.

Ah, but here's the rub. The world is overrun with an avalanche of unfiltered news coming at us from all directions in all shapes and sizes every second. The human mind can't comprehend this information overload, so someone has to disseminate it. In the social media world, you have to be the disseminator through the choices of the influencers you follow and the podcasts you listen to. In the professional journalism world, an editorial decision is made on the most important news stories to assign to Page 1, A Block or during the hourly update. No matter how objective that decision-maker is, their opinion on what's most newsworthy influences what you read, see or hear in the mainstream news.

So there you have it. Even with impartial, balanced reporting without the spin, one has to admit that there's no such thing as truly objective journalism, nor can there ever be.

This brings us to the most honest section of your newspaper — the editorial page. Here you will find opinions from the left, right and

sometimes from the center. There's no hidden agenda or bias disguised as news. You usually know which way the columnists lean. It's their job to express their opinion, and it's the reader's job to agree, disagree or be persuaded to change their minds on a given subject. It may make you mad, sad, happy or thoughtful, but if you have that "ah-ha" moment, it makes the work of a columnist all worthwhile. Regardless, it promotes that stimulating experience called critical thinking.

Since objectivity in the news is truly an oxymoron, the challenge then lies in what to do with the Op-Eds. Here, a balance of opinions on the editorial page becomes the crucial test of a paper's true commitment to objectivity — something many will argue has been lost to even the oldest legacy newspaper companies in America.

Today, controversy is swirling around the editorial staffs and the owners of the New York Times, the Washington Post and the L.A. Times. Breaking precedent with a decades-long tradition, all three were prevented from endorsing a presidential candidate this election year. Some staffers even resigned in protest over this decision.

Jeff Bezos, Amazon founder, owner of the Washington Post and a self-described centrist when it comes to political ideology, angered many when he prevented his editorial board from releasing their endorsement days before the election.

Even more sensational, Patrick Soon-Shiong, owner of the L.A. Times, took the endorsement ban one

step further recently by announcing a soon-to-be implemented artificial-intelligence (AI) feature that will act as a "bias meter" for both news and opinion. Quoted in "thewrap.com" Soon-Shiong said, "... (Y)ou have a bias meter so that someone could understand as a reader that the source of the article has some level of bias." He went on to say, "The reader can press a button and get both sides of that exact same story, based on that story, and then give comments. It is our obligation to ensure that our readers can tell what is news versus just opinion."

On X (formerly known as Twitter), Soon-Shiong wrote, "Every American's views should be heard, and we will label opinion as 'Voices' ... Voices of California and of the USA."

Is this the beginning of a new trend in news reporting? Will other media follow? Can AI be more trusted than all the disinformation, misinformation, malinformation, fake news, fact-checkers out there?

I wonder ... Perhaps objective journalism will return after biased reporting starts getting the flag. We'll still have to rely on managing editors to disseminate the news, but maybe there's still hope yet for journalism to return to its once respected status.

Maybe. To echo the words of the Great Communicator, "Trust, but verify."

Will Thault, who recently moved from Albany to be closer to family, is a retired businessman who has long been a regular contributor to The Albany Herald.

COLUMNIST ■ SCOTT LUDWIG

The forever gift of Christmas

This year, I will be celebrating my first Christmas. What I mean to say is that I'll be celebrating my first real Christmas, a Christmas in which I believe in goodwill toward men.

And how I got there is a true Christmas miracle.

First, let me introduce myself. My name is Roxy. Well, at least that's what it's been for the last few months. Prior to then, I never really had a name. That's because no one ever cared enough to give me one.

One day last August, the last person who didn't care enough to give me a name threw me out of the window of their truck somewhere along the side of the road. I only suffered a few cuts and bruises, so I guess I was pretty lucky. As bad as it was, it was still better than the alternative.

Getting thrown out of a moving truck wasn't even the worst thing that happened. Suddenly, I was alone in the woods, leaving me to fend for myself. Not only did I not know where I was, I also didn't know the first thing about living off the land.

But I did what I had to do. I ate scraps of food from discarded trash and drank from whatever puddles of

water I could find. It wasn't much, but it was enough to keep me going.

The man whose house I was sleeping behind at the time put out a tarp for me to use for shelter. He jokingly called me "Flea-letia." You can probably guess why.

It wasn't long before another man started showing up every day in his truck. He was kind enough to give me food and water for a week or so. I could tell he wanted to pick me up and hold me in his arms. And he could tell I didn't want him to. So we always kept our distance.

I was pretty skittish around humans at the time. I guess I had a right to be. Humans had never been very nice to me before.

One day, the man tempted me with some of his roast beef sandwich. I was so hungry that I couldn't resist. I lunged for a bite, and that's when the man wrapped his arms around me. He carried me to his truck, put me in the front seat and took me for a ride.

I had never been so afraid in my life. The man took me to his house and introduced me to his wife. Her name is Kylee. Her husband's name is Josh. I didn't know it at the time,

but I certainly know it now.

Josh had taken me into his home ... so it could be mine. Forever. So I could live with my forever family. In what is now my forever life.

It's funny how things work out sometimes. I was tossed out of one window at sunset one day and watching the sunrise from a different window the next. Fortunately, that second window is in a house, not part of a moving vehicle like the first.

My new family truly cares for me, that much I know. They named me Roxy because when they were children, Kylee and Josh both had dogs by that name. I guess that makes me a legacy of some kind.

I have a sister and a brother now as well: Rain and Blue. They're both big Dobermanns. Me, I'm a rather small Schnauzer-Terrier mix. I didn't weigh much when Josh found me, but I still need to take it easy over the holidays. I'm already up to 13 (and pushing 14) pounds.

I love my life now. I play outside with my siblings most of the day and chase them all over the backyard. Then we all take a nap. Some

days, if I'm not too tired, I chase after the chickens.

I even taught mom and dad a trick. If they pat themselves on the chest and call my name, I jump high enough for them to catch me. They seem impressed I can jump that high, but after what I've been through, I guess anything is possible.

My parents take me everywhere with them. In fact, I went to my first family holiday party recently. They even dressed me up in a Christmas sweater for the occasion.

I live such a quiet, simple life now. A quiet, simple life that's full of love. I couldn't have ever imagined a better Christmas present.

But I have to admit, my gingerbread man chew toy was a pretty great gift, too. At least it was before Rain and Blue chewed through whatever made it squeak.

Scott Ludwig is an Albany Herald columnist, a University of Florida alumnus and an independent writer/author who lives in Senoia. All of his books can be found on Amazon.



Scott Ludwig

PERSPECTIVES

The Albany Herald

Carlton Fletcher, Editor

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COLUMNIST ■ GENE LYONS

Is Irish American history woke?

EDITOR'S NOTE: This column originally ran on Sept. 6, 2023.

Being something of a smart aleck, I've sometimes joked that while I may look white, actually I'm Irish. All eight of my great-grandparents were born there. Indeed, there was a time during the Great Potato Famine of 1845-'52 when my ancestors endured conditions similar to black enslaved people in America. Millions of Irish peasants starved even as the country exported plentiful foodstuffs guarded by British soldiers. Had they been enslaved, they might have been fed.

So the Irish fled to America in "coffin ships," so-called because many thousands failed to survive the journey. The best way I know to understand this historical tragedy is to read Joseph O'Connor's terrific novel "Star of the Sea."

(Joseph is the older brother of Sinéad O'Connor, the singer whose recent death was mourned all over Ireland. A talented family, the O'Connors of Glenageary.)

Nor were the Irish, being Catholic, particularly welcome in America. But so what? None of that has affected my own life in any practical way. Nor have I noticed that Irish Americans behave better than anybody else when it comes to race.

(In the old country, of course, they've only recently quit murdering each other over what's basically a 17th-century religious quarrel. I once asked a correspondent in Belfast how they could tell each other apart, as on TV they all looked like my uncles and cousins. The shoes, she responded. The shoes.)

My first great literary hero was the immortal Irish satirist Jonathan Swift. The first time my wife saw tears in my eyes was visiting his tomb in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin. He'd died in 1745, author of perhaps the most penetrating antiracist essay in the English language. An Anglican clergyman marooned for life in his native Ireland, Swift thought of himself as an Englishman.

But the appalling poverty of the native Irish troubled him, so he wrote "A Modest Proposal," a pseudonymous essay proposing a useful reform: "I have been assured by a very knowing American of my acquaintance in London, that a young healthy child well nursed, is, at a year old, a most delicious, nourishing and wholesome food, whether stewed, roasted, baked or boiled; and I make no doubt that it will equally serve in a fricassee or a ragout."

The author expressed confidence that his proposal would be well-received by absentee English "landlords, who, as they have already devoured most of the parents, seem to have the best title to the children."

The 1729 pamphlet was published anonymously, because had its authorship been proven — although pretty much every-

body in Ireland could guess who'd written it — Swift could have been imprisoned, or worse.

Anyway, here's where I'm going with all this: Because I am, in fact, white, and because Irish history threatens no vested American interests, nobody has ever suggested that my studying it is in any way improper. Nor, certainly, tried to ban it. Had Swift been a black man, I'm sure his works would be illegal in Florida. Arkansas too.

Consider the scene in "Gulliver's Travels" where the gigantic hero extinguishes a fire in the Lilliputian queen's chambers by pissing on it (the author's response to Queen Anne's ingratitude for services done the crown). Not to mention the scene where enormous teenaged Brobdingnagian girls perch tiny Gulliver on their nipples. Whoa, Nelly!

Moms for Liberty, which is what they're calling the United Daughters of the Confederacy these days, would banish the novel from every library in the land.

I think my favorite moment during the absurd controversy over Florida's and Arkansas' efforts to ban Advanced Placement African American history classes from being taught in public schools was when Gov. Ron DeSantis' Department of Education published a letter claiming, "The content of this course is inexplicably contrary to Florida law."

Meaning they can't explain it. Not what they intended to say, I suspect. This is what happens when you enlist semiliterate ideologues to defend us white folks from ...

Well, from what?

As near as I can tell, from history itself, and from the idea that black citizens of a state — where chattel slavery was legal until 1865 and Jim Crow segregation laws replaced it right up to the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and where race riots and lynchings were not uncommon — just might have a perspective on its history different from the white majority's.

DeSantis' slogan is literally "Florida is where woke goes to die."

In Arkansas, Gov. Sarah Sanders, too, derides the very idea of an African American perspective as "critical race theory" and "indoctrination." Black people have no legitimate point of view, and it's literally illegal to say otherwise in a public-school classroom. Here in the United States of America.

So where does that leave somebody like me, an aging white man whose education in these matters has been sadly neglected?

Thinking maybe I need to take that African American history course.

Arkansas Times columnist Gene Lyons is a National Magazine Award winner and co-author of "The Hunting of the President" (St. Martin's Press, 2000). Email Lyons at eugenelyons2@yahoo.com.



Gene Lyons



Carlton Fletcher

FROM THE EDITOR ■ CARLTON FLETCHER

A man's lasting impact is in the eye of the beholder

"I am no better, and neither are you. We are the same in whatever we do."

— Sly & the Family Stone

The funeral was an elaborate affair, one befitting the legacy of the departed.

He'd become something of a local titan of industry, wealthy beyond most people's capacity to imagine, his name known far and wide. There were those, yes, who called him names like "skinflint," "tightwad" "Scrooge" and other similar sobriquets for those who refused to help the less fortunate. But most in the community gave him the respect of his position.

Several prominent people — many of them well-known in the state — spoke at the funeral service, lauding the departed for "pulling himself up by his bootstraps" and making himself a success. The community's elite packed the sanctuary of the church that the late businessman had attended, and church officials made certain the occasion was one "befitting such an important man."

Traffic in the community was held up for a lengthy period while a funeral procession several blocks long wound its way to the cemetery selected to be the great man's final resting place. Most who attended the funeral service came to the gravesite to see the honoree off.

The local news media offered any number of special articles and features to pay fitting tribute to the departed. Local and state dignitaries were quoted, and the gist of most such tributes was that this community would most likely see few the likes of this man in coming years.

Local government officials talked of putting together some kind of suitable tribute to the great man; there remain ongoing discussions about some kind of "naming ceremony" that might pay suitable homage to the legacy of the great man.

Meanwhile ...

Across town, in the parts of the city where residents usually lock themselves in their homes once the sun goes down and where

the only people who concerned themselves with the community's loss of the great man were those who worked for him, wondering if their jobs were safe, a man not well-known outside his neighborhood was laid to rest on the same day.

The man was not, by general standards, any kind of "prominent citizen." He had a nice home that he kept in pristine condition, and he and his wife raised four children to be professionals, all college graduates who'd built successful careers and families. He did not donate funds to local charities — such would not fit in his budget — but he supported his church, and he volunteered to serve on his Neighborhood Watch group, and he helped coach youth sports teams while his kids were playing.

Friends described this humble citizen as a "giant, gentle man," noting that he was "as devoted a family man as there is in the community."

Friends and neighbors dropped by the departed's home to bring food to the man's wife and family members who came to town for the funeral, and many of the people who knew the man attended his funeral. Unlike the procession that came to honor the businessman, there was sparse attendance at this humble man's funeral. His family and close neighbors were there, and so were a few of his co-workers and church members.

But it was a Saturday, and folks had things to do.

The services for these two men were as dissimilar as possible, and that's one of the vagaries of life. But the fact that their final services were held at virtually the same time underscores the truth that, in the end, the humble and the exalted are the same. And while the wealth of one far surpassed that of the other, neither was able to buy nor talk his way into one more second of life.

And, although the crowds that flocked to the first funeral and sang the great man's praises probably would not agree, neither man left this earth any better than the other.

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COLUMNIST ■ SEAN DIETRICH

Doing my time in Facebook jail

I've been receiving lots of urgent emails. "Where are your stories on Facebook, Sean?" one email reads.

"Sean, you're not on Facebook, are you in a coma?" "Sean, our pills are guaranteed to enhance your love life, call today."

People on Facebook have theories about where I've gone. Some are asking whether I am ill, whether I'm on vacation, or whether I am still, technically, alive.

Like this Facebook message: "I recently heard Sean is not on Facebook because he is dead. I was heartbroken, is this true? Will someone please let us know if there is an estate sale?"

The truth is, I did not quit Facebook. I am in Facebook jail. This means that, among other things, whatever I post on Facebook is either deleted or suppressed so that only my uncle sees it.

It's unclear why Facebook banned me, since I never talk politics, I don't use foul language and I do not post naked pictures very often.

But the truth is, since I was booted off Facebook, I've found enormous freedom without it. I still write every day, and I still share my work on my website and via email. But I feel less restrained.

I've been posting on Facebook every day since this column started 10 years ago. That's 10 years of posts, never missing a day, like a clinically insane person.

What I didn't realize was how the platform, over time, has molded me in its own image. Facebook trains its users with rewards and punishments. If you post something Facebook agrees with, the algorithm awards you with tons of likes. It's exactly like playing slot machines, only no free drinks.

This is why at one point hundreds of thousands of Facebook users started making videos of things they knew the algorithm would like. Things like cute puppies. Because it was a well-known fact that the Facebook algorithm once rewarded pictures of puppies. At one point, the dog-posts got so weird that mega-corporations began using puppies to advertise their products.

You'd be scrolling your newsfeed and you'd see dogs wearing Home Depot aprons, or

drinking from Coca-Cola bottles, or purchasing life insurance, etc.

But God help you if you ever wrote something Facebook didn't like. You were punished immediately. If you wrote, for example, about religion, they suppressed you. If you even mentioned the word "immigrant," bye bye. Canadian wildfires? Suppression. If you typed the word Ukraine or Israel? See you later. If you referenced — even casually — a competing social media platform such as "TikTok," game over.

And if you so much as mention the Civil War, may heaven have mercy on your soul.

I once wrote a column about visiting Chickamauga National Park, where a pivotal Civil War battle was fought. A sacred place where thousands of Americans died. Within minutes, my post was removed, informing me that I was in violation of "community standards."

Meantime, Facebook's "community standards" allowed millions of video clips depicting an actual beheading to circulate on newsfeeds.

Another instance — I am not making this up — I wrote a column during the pandemic about Santa Claus, visiting the children of the world. The column was promptly removed because of "false information."

I could do this all day.

Once, I wrote about visiting the Coonhound Cemetery in Cherokee, Alabama, a place where more than 300 hunters have buried their coonhounds. The post was removed. Facebook threatened to cancel my account because "coonhound" was considered "hate speech."

And don't even get me started on what Facebook did when I wrote about visiting Sugar Tit, South Carolina.

But today, I don't have to worry about these things anymore. I can write freely, without worrying whether I'm going to offend the Facebook gods. I can be myself. I still refuse to talk politics, and I still do not use cuss words.

But I might show you some naked pictures of my dog.

Sean Dietrich is a columnist and novelist known for his commentary on life in the American South.

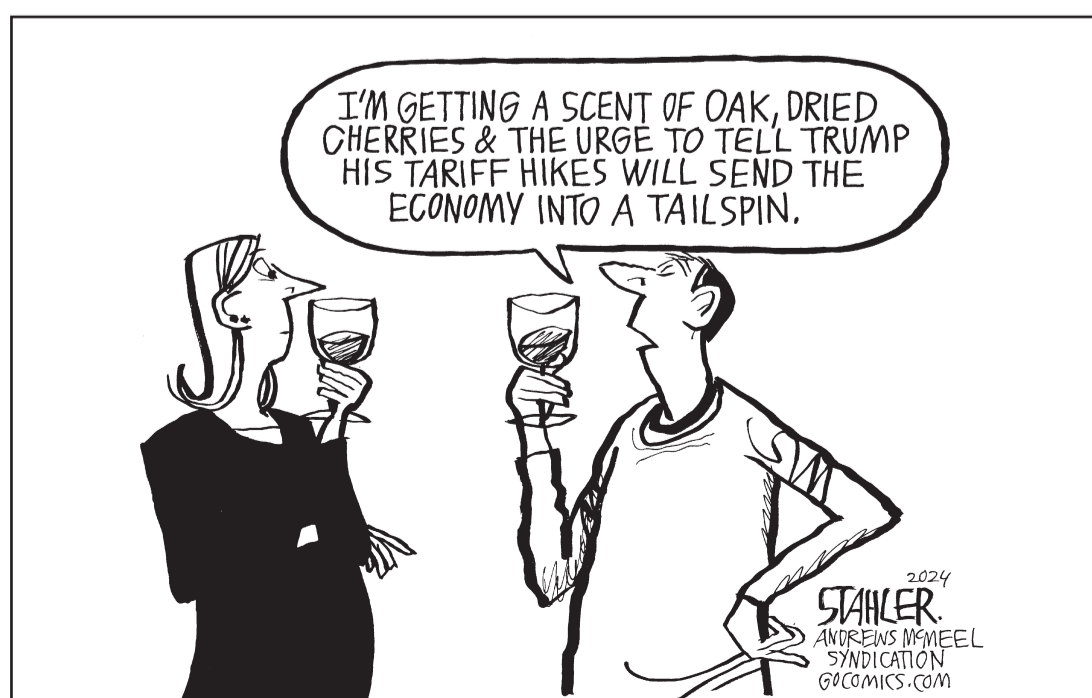
"He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son."

Revelation 21:7

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS

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Georgia Power rate hikes start in January

By Dave Williams
Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA – Georgia energy regulators have signed off on a 3.5% rate increase for customers of Georgia Power.

Members of the state Public Service Commission unanimously approved the increase, which will raise average residential customer bills by \$5.48 per month.

The rate hike is the latest of

a series of increases the PSC has granted Georgia Power during the last couple of years that have raised monthly bills by more than \$40.

Two of those rate hikes were associated with the completion of two new nuclear reactors at Georgia Power's Plant Vogtle. The second of those new units went into full commercial operation last spring.

Another rate increase the commission approved in May

of last year was to help offset rising fuel costs.

While Commissioner Lauren "Bubba" McDonald voted for the latest rate increase, he questioned the timing of Georgia Power's request, just as inflated food and gasoline prices are beginning to come down.

"We need (to do) everything we can to hold down rate increases ... and give America a chance to breathe again," Mc-

Donald said when the proposed rate hike came before the PSC's Energy Committee last week.

Brandon Marzo, a lawyer representing Georgia Power, told commissioners the Atlanta-based utility sympathizes with McDonald's position but that the rate hike is necessary.

"The investments related to this ... are being made and have been made," Marzo said.

The rate increase will take effect Jan. 1.

Nativity set has become centerpiece of local Christmas celebration

Donna Anderson
Citizen Journalist

ALBANY – We have many Christmas decorations, but one of my favorites is a treasure, our first Nativity set. In 1984, my young son, Levi, and I went to a yard sale on Lincoln Avenue. How did I know about it? By seeing it advertised in the want ads of The Albany Herald. Someone was selling a Nativity set for \$30.

Back then, we didn't have a lot of extra money, but I knew where I could get some cash. You see, I had been saving S&H Green Stamps that I had gotten from shopping at the Piggly Wiggly. When you bought groceries, you got these stamps and you pasted them in the S&H booklets. You could then go to the S&H Store and redeem them for cash or other items. I had been saving them up, so we went to the store and redeemed them for \$30, just enough to buy that Nativity set.

On a crisp December morning, we hit the yard sale, and there it was! It had not been sold yet. There was Jesus in a manger with Mary and Joseph. There were animals,



This Nativity set is the centerpiece for decorations during the Christmas season for the author and her family.

a shepherd boy, and three kings. They were all characters that symbolize the birth of Christ. The figurines were hand-painted and had Italy on the bottom of each one. They were all placed in and around a stable made of wood, moss, and straw.

I knew that this Nativity scene would become a part of our family's Christmas traditions. We went home and placed it in the living room, and Levi set the figurines out. He would do this every year until he got older and had a family of his own.

Now, I set it on the dining room table each Christmas. It's the table that I grew up with at my parents' house. It has large pine planks that have nails hammered in them. The legs are ornate with glass balls at the bottom for support. My father and grandfather had built it. It is a prized possession of mine. What a grand setting for our Nativity set!

How I love Christmas and bringing out our treasures that have memories so dear. Our Nativity scene is the star of our home at Christmas. Matthew 2:10 says, "When they saw the star they were overjoyed." It led the three wise men to Jesus. They presented Him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Just as they were overjoyed, I am filled with joy to bring out the Nativity set each year.

We now have several Nativity scenes. Each one is grand in its own way, but none can compare to our first Nativity set that we bought that beautiful day in December 1984.

May you be blessed this Christmas and enjoy this special time of year. When you look at a star, revel in its beauty and remember that Christmas of long ago.



Special Photo: Phoebe

Brandi Calhoun, an NICU nurse at Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital, has been awarded the prestigious DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses for her exceptional care and compassion.

Phoebe nurse honored with DAISY Award for compassionate NICU care

Staff Reports
news@albanyherald.com

ALBANY – Brandi Calhoun, an NICU nurse at Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital, has been awarded the prestigious DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses for her exceptional care and compassion.

A recent patient's family shared their heart-felt story, describing how Calhoun provided support during a challenging time. The patient's newborn, born via C-section at another hospital in southwest Georgia, was transferred to Phoebe's NICU due to breathing issues. From their first conversation to the day their newborn was discharged, the family says Calhoun's compassionate care left a lasting impact.

"Her compassion for the babies in the NICU and her love for her job is very easy to see," the family wrote in their nomination. "We cannot thank her enough for easing our minds during such a difficult time. She was amazing."

Calhoun is recognized for her ability to make families feel at ease, greeting them with a smile, answering their questions without judgment, and demonstrating extraordinary dedication to her patients.

The DAISY Award, presented in memory of J. Patrick Barnes, honors nurses who go above and beyond in providing excellent care. Calhoun's commitment to her patients and families exemplifies the very best in nursing, Phoebe officials said.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Lanier Engineering Inc (24-081) has submitted an application to the Albany Dougherty Planning Commission requesting that the Official Zoning Map of Dougherty County, Georgia, be amended to rezone a 4.095-acre portion of a 59.05-acre parcel from AG (Agricultural District) to C-R (Community Residential Multiple Dwelling District) property is at 1021 Cordele Road, (00136/00001/007). The rezoning request aims to operate a recovery residence for women. The applicant is Lanier Engineering Inc., and the Owner is Emory Keith Griffis Sr. **District 6**

Lanier Engineering Inc (24-080) has submitted an application to the Albany Dougherty Planning Commission requesting Special Approval to operate a Recovery Residence for Women on a 4.095-acre portion of a 59.05-acre parcel at 1021 Cordele Road (00136/00001/007), if rezoned to C-R (Community Residential Multiple Dwelling District). The applicant is Lanier Engineering Inc., and the Owner is Emory Keith Griffis Sr. **District 6**

The Albany Dougherty Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing on these requests on **Thursday, January 2, 2025, at 2:00 p.m.** at the Government Center, 222 Pine Avenue, Room 100, Albany, GA. Based on the information presented at the public meeting, the Planning Commission will forward its recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners.

The Dougherty County Board of Commissioners will conduct a public hearing on **Monday, January 27, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.** in the Government Center, 222 Pine Avenue, Room 100, Albany, GA 31701.

Meetings of the Albany Dougherty Planning Commission and the Dougherty County Board of Commissioners are open to the public. Those wishing to speak or provide comments should contact the Planning & Development Services Department at (229) 438-3901, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., before the meeting for additional information.

As set forth in the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Dougherty County does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to or treatment or employment in its programs or activities. The Human Resources Department has been designated to coordinate compliance with the non-discrimination requirements contained in section 35.107 of the Department of Justice Regulations. Information concerning the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act and the rights provided there is available at the Office of Human Resources. Dougherty County will assist citizens with special needs given proper notice (7 working days). Any requests for reasonable accommodations required by individuals to fully participate in an open meeting, program, or activity of the City of Albany, Georgia, should be directed to Paul Forgey, AICP, 240 Pine Avenue, Suite 300, Albany, Georgia, 31701, (229) 438-3901.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Lanier Engineering Inc (24-079) has submitted an application to the Albany Dougherty Planning Commission requesting that the Official Zoning Map of Dougherty County, Georgia, be amended to rezone a 43.895-Acre parcel from M-2 (Heavy Industrial District) to R-2 (Single-Family Residential District). The property is at 826 Lockett Station (00329/00003/001). The purpose of the rezoning is to construct single-family residential uses. The property owner is Coleson LLC, and the applicant is Lanier Engineering Inc. **Ward 4**

The Albany Dougherty Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing on this request on **Thursday, January 2, 2025, at 2:00 p.m.** at the Government Center, 222 Pine Avenue, Room 100, Albany, GA. Based on the information presented at the public meeting, the Planning Commission will forward its recommendations to the Board of City Commissioners.

The City of Albany Board of Commissioners will conduct a public hearing on **Tuesday, January 21, 2025, at 8:30 a.m.** in the Government Center, 222 Pine Avenue, Room 100, Albany, GA 31701.

Meetings of the Albany Dougherty Planning Commission and the City of Albany Board of Commissioners are open to the public.

Those wishing to speak or provide comments should contact the Planning & Development Services Department before the meeting at (229) 438-3901, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

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ABAC's Newberry nominated for prestigious poetry prize

Staff Reports

news@albanyherald.com

TIFTON — Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College's Jeff Newberry, a Writing and Communication professor, has been nominated for the prestigious Pushcart Prize for a poem in his most recent book or poetry, "How to Talk about the Dead."

The book, dedicated to the author's parents, delves into the

complexities of the past and draws inspiration from their childhoods as sharecroppers' kids in rural south Georgia. Through these poems, Newberry explores the ways in which we remember, honor, and preserve our personal histories.

The nominated poem, "The Dead Father Speaks," has been nominated for the prize by the



Jeff Newberry

editors at Redhawk Publications, who published his book.

The Pushcart Prize: Best of the Small Presses series, published every year since 1976, is the most honored literary project in America

-- including Highest Honors from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. Hundreds of presses and thousands of

writers of short stories, poetry and essays have been represented in this annual collection, which is one of the last surviving literary co-ops from the '60s and '70s.

"The Dead Father Speaks" was an inversion of what I usually do," Newberry said. "So much of 'How to Talk about the Dead' is about trying to connect with the past. I wanted to write from the other side, so

to speak, and I asked myself what a father might say to a son who spends his life constantly seeking a lost dad. 'The Dead Father Speaks' is an attempt at empathy. I wanted to try to understand the gruff, distant fathers that I often write about. I think that the poem gave me a new understanding of my dad."

"Dr. Newberry's poetry is both profound and accessible,

and none more so than the 'The Dead Father Speaks,'" Cyndy Hall, ABAC's head of the Department of English and Communication, said. "This nomination reflects what our department has known all along, that Dr. Newberry is a premier poet. We are certainly fortunate to have him teaching ABAC's students."

Award winners are expected to be named in early 2025.



Special Photo: GSW

GSW President Michelle Johnston, right, presents a posthumous degree to Shey Bass, wife of the late Charlie Bass.

GSW awards posthumous degree at fall commencement

Staff Reports

news@albanyherald.com

AMERICUS — The late Charlie Bass of Albany was awarded a posthumous degree at Georgia Southwestern State University's recent fall commencement ceremony. His widow, Shey Bass, accepted the framed degree onstage, drawing a standing ovation from the crowd.

A designated seat, where Bass would have sat, was adorned with a photo of him. Bass was pursuing his specialist degree in Teacher Leadership and was set to graduate this December alongside several of his close friends. However, he passed away in April 2024, just two classes shy of completing his degree.

"This moment is a testa-

ment to his unyielding determination and passion for learning," Shey Bass wrote in a Facebook post. "[He] was the epitome of perseverance — whatever he set his mind to, he accomplished with unwavering focus and commitment. His dedication to his education and his drive to better himself inspire me every day.

"I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to Georgia Southwestern for their kindness, support, and for recognizing [his] hard work and achievements. This degree is more than just a milestone; it is a reflection of his incredible spirit and a legacy that will continue to motivate us all."

The two ceremonies recognized 587 fall graduates earning bachelor's, master's and specialist degrees from

the College of Arts and Sciences, College of Business and Computing, College of Education, and College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

Among the diverse graduate population were students from 23 states and 12 countries, ranging in age from 19 to 66. Some fully online students, stepping foot on campus for the first time, traveled from as far as Germany, Canada, and California.

Additionally, 94 graduates earned their second degrees from GSW, becoming Double Canes, while 33 earned their third, becoming Triple Canes.

Teresa MacCartney, chief operating officer at the University System of Georgia and former interim president at GSW, delivered

the keynote address. She shared three important life lessons: embrace opportunities, take up space, and be present in the moment.

"Georgia Southwestern State University is a world-class institution," MacCartney said. "[It is] one of the most affordable in the country and, more importantly, it sits within the community of Americus, which is an asset to this institution."

The Macebearer was Jamie MacLennan, president of Faculty Senate and professor of sociology, and the Grand Marshal was Sam Peavy, professor of geology.

The ceremony was livestreamed and recorded on GSW's YouTube channel. Pictures from the day can be found in GSW's Graduation Fall 2024 Facebook album.

Man who advertised machine guns, ghost guns on social media pleads guilty

Staff Reports

news@albanyherald.com

COLUMBUS — A Columbus resident who was advertising the sale of fully automatic weapons on social media — including ghost guns and machine guns — has pleaded guilty to trafficking firearms resulting from a Project Safe Neighborhoods investigation.

Matthew Azor, 19, pleaded guilty to firearms trafficking before U.S. District Judge Clay Land on Dec. 17. Azor faces a maximum of 15 years in prison to be followed by at least three years of supervised release and a maximum \$250,000 fine. Sentencing will be determined by the court. There is no parole in the federal system.

"Matthew Azor illegally sold machine guns and ghost guns on social media, making the deadliest of weapons readily available to dangerous individuals," U.S. Attorney Peter D. Leary said.

"Our office and law enforcement partners continue to prioritize prosecutions against those responsible for gun violence in Columbus and across the Middle District of Georgia."

"The illegal trafficking of machine guns and ghost guns poses an unacceptable threat to the safety of our neighborhoods," Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives Assistant Special Agent in Charge Beau Kolodka said. "ATF will not waver in its mission to stop dangerous weapons from falling into the hands of criminals and will relentlessly pursue those who profit from this lawlessness."

"Illegal firearms, especially machine guns and ghost guns, are a direct threat to public safety," Columbus Police Chief

Stoney Mathis said. "We remain committed to working alongside our federal partners to remove these dangerous weapons from the streets and hold those responsible accountable."

According to plea agreement and other statements referenced in court, on Jan. 18, investigators with the Columbus Police Department's Gang Unit contacted Azor, who was advertising Glock switches and firearms equipped with machine gun conversion devices for sale on social media. On Jan. 26, an undercover agent with ATF contacted Azor and arranged for the purchase of machine guns. Azor confirmed with the UC that he had firearms that functioned as machine guns available; specifically, an AR pistol and a Glock.

The UC met Azor in Columbus and paid \$1,100 for the following: a Glock model 17 9x19mm caliber firearm with an attached switch to convert the semi-automatic pistol to a rapid-fire machine gun; a privately made AR-styled pistol also known as a ghost gun; and three rounds of assorted 9mm ammunition.

ATF agents examined the firearms and determined the Glock model 17 was able to fire fully automatic and the ghost gun was semi-automatic. A few weeks later, the UC arranged for the purchase of a fully automatic firearm and a Glock machine gun conversion device that Azor claimed he had for sale. On Feb. 29, the UC met Azor and purchased the following: a PA-15 AR-pistol with a loaded magazine and a purported Glock MCD. ATF agents later examined those firearms and determined both were not machine guns.

Feds sue city of Brunswick over homeless shelter

By Dave Williams

Capitol Beat News Service

AMERICUS — The Justice Department is suing the city of Brunswick for trying to close a homeless shelter.

The federal suit charges the city with violating the federal Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act through its efforts to interfere with and permanently close The Well, a faith-based shelter affiliated with the United Methodist Church.

"Federal law protects the right of religious groups such as The Well to use their land to help others," Assistant U.S. Attorney General Kristen Clarke of the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division said. "The division will continue to vindicate the rights of groups to exercise their religion and fight

local laws that unlawfully restrict those rights."

The city began working to close the shelter after city officials blamed The Well in connection with unrelated criminal activity. Although The Well adopted safety and security measures suggested by the Brunswick Police Department, the city filed suit in state court seeking to close the shelter.

"We will take the steps necessary, including filing suit, to protect religious exercise against unreasonable and improper restrictions," Jill Steinberg, U.S. attorney for the Southern District of Georgia, said. "This office will steadfastly defend against unlawful local action the right of institutions like The Well to lawfully use their land to help their community as an expression of their religious beliefs."

State to lift ban on new irrigation wells

By Dave Williams

Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA — The state is lifting a moratorium on drilling new irrigation wells in parts of southwest Georgia that has been in effect for more than a decade.

Gov. Brian Kemp announced Wednesday that the Georgia Environmental Protection Division will begin accepting applications for groundwater withdrawal permits from farmers on April 1. Applications must include drought-related measures aimed at ensuring the long-term viability of water supplies along the Lower Flint and Chattahoochee river basins.

"As Georgia farmers continue to recover from the devastating impacts of Hurricane Helene, I could not be more proud to deliver this good news," Kemp said. "I am grateful to the EPD



File Photo: Alan Mauldin

The state is lifting a moratorium on drilling new irrigation wells in parts of southwest Georgia that has been in effect for more than a decade.

for their diligent and hard work in ensuring that our state is on a path that protects both Georgia farmers and our water resources."

The EPD imposed the moratorium on new irrigation wells in 2012 in response to a two-year drought that dried up one stream and significantly

decreased flows in others.

The agency eased the ban last year by lifting it during periods when frost threatened crops. But farmers complained that lifting the ban only for the limited time of the year when freezes are a concern didn't go far enough.

Wednesday's announcement

cited extensive scientific research conducted since 2012 that has left the EPD confident the time is right to lift the moratorium completely.

"Our metering program has gathered extensive data strengthening our technical understanding of surface water and groundwater in the Lower Flint," EPD Director Jeff Cown said. "We look forward to working with all water users as they obtain these newly developed permits."

Technological improvements during the last decade are allowing farmers to better track the amount of water they're using to irrigate their crops.

That ability to measure groundwater use was among the arguments lawyers for the state used to prevail in a long-running legal battle over water allocation against Florida and Alabama.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL PLAYOFF

Georgia QB out for quarterfinals

Field Level Media

Georgia quarterback Carson Beck (elbow) is expected to miss the team's College Football Playoff quarterfinal game at the Sugar Bowl on Jan. 1, On3 reported Thursday.

That means backup Gunner Stockton is in line to start the knockout round game, when the Bulldogs face either No. 7 seed Notre Dame or No. 10 seed Indiana.

Beck, the Bulldogs' starter all year, missed most of the second half of the Southeastern Conference title game with an injury to the UCL in his right (throwing) elbow. Stockton helped guide the Bulldogs to a 22-19 overtime win over Texas and clinch a first-round bye in the first 12-team playoff.

On3 reported that Beck has not practiced or been with the team since it returned to workouts late last week.

It is unknown whether Beck would be ready to return for the semifinal round if the Bulldogs make it that far.

Beck has thrown for 3,485 yards, 28 touchdowns and 12 interceptions this season, his second as Georgia's starting quarterback.



Photo Courtesy of Field Level Media

Georgia starting quarterback Carson Beck will not play in the Sugar Bowl on New Year's Day, according to a report from On3 Sports. Beck suffered an elbow injury during the SEC Championship game against Texas and will miss Georgia's game against the winner of Notre Dame and Indiana.



Staff Photo: Joe Whitfield

Celebrating two local cheerleaders at Chick-fil-A this week were, from left, Mark Lane of Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Chick-fil-A Assistant General Manager Christi Priest, cheerleader Alex Collins, cheer coach Tiffany Carter, cheerleader Jordyn Gibson, Sherwood Christian Athletic Director Jay Flynt and Chick-fil-a Talent Manager Dustin Walker.

Sherwood Christian cheerleaders selected for Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl

By Joe Whitfield

Sports Editor

ALBANY — Two Sherwood Christian Academy seniors will take the field as cheerleaders at the Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl on New Year's Day in Atlanta's Mercedes-Benz Stadium after being

selected during summer camp tryouts hosted by the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Alex Collins and Jordyn Gibson earned their spots after competing with more than 150 other

SEE CHEER, 10A



Staff Photo: Joe Whitfield

Westover's Sydney Donaldson puts in two of her 20 points against Liberty County during Thursday's game in the Girl Power Classic at Lee County High School. Donaldson and the Lady Patriots won 47-33.

GIRL POWER

By Joe Whitfield

Sports Editor

LEESBURG — A relentless fourth-quarter full-court press, spearheaded by the Simmons sisters, lifted the Dougherty Lady Trojans to a 59-53 victory over Thomas County Central in the opening game of the Lee County Girl Power Classic on Thursday afternoon at Lee County High School.

D'Asia Simmons ignited the rally with a key defensive play, stealing the ball and racing for a layup to tie the game at 50-50 with 2:14 remaining. Moments later, teammate Jatiana Chambers swiped another steal and delivered a perfect

assist to Dariona Simmons, who scored to give Dougherty a lead it would not relinquish.

The Lady Trojans dominated the first half, building a 29-19 advantage by halftime. However, the Lady Jackets roared back in the third quarter, outscoring Dougherty 21-11 to tie the game heading into the final period. Thomas County Central briefly grabbed the lead early in the fourth, but Dougherty's smothering defense and timely scoring secured the win.

Chambers led the Lady Trojans with 17 points, followed by D'Asia Simmons with 15 and Grace Smith with nine.

Jaden Crews paced the Lady Jackets with a game-high 18 points.

Westover 47, Liberty County 33
LEESBURG — Sophomore Sydney Donaldson scored 15 second-half points to power the Westover Lady Patriots to a 47-33 victory over Liberty County in Thursday evening's Girl Power Classic at Lee County High School.

The game began with a flurry of turnovers, as both teams struggled with visibility while wearing dark jerseys. Despite the miscues, Westover ended the

SEE GIRLS, 10A



Submitted Photo

Westover offensive lineman Kyson Mallard is a sophomore and is rated as a four-star recruit by 247sports.com. He is spending the weekend playing football in the Army All-American Bowl played in Texas in the Dallas Cowboys' stadium.

Westover player in Texas for Army All-American Bowl

Staff Reports

ALBANY — Westover sophomore Kyson Mallard was headed to Texas Thursday to compete in the Army All-American Combine and Bowl in Frisco, Texas, where the Dallas Cowboys play.

Mallard, a 6-foot-6, 300-pound offensive tackle, helped Westover to a 9-2 overall record this season.

The Army All-American Bowl has a scouting network that reviews approximately 50,000 athletes annually.

Yankees 'just felt right' to \$218 million man Max Fried

Field Level Media

Max Fried signed a \$218 million contract with the Yankees to be part of the winning tradition in a moment he never expected.

Fried, who spent eight seasons with the Atlanta Braves and was 73-36 with a 3.07 ERA, jumped to New York to co-anchor a pitching staff with right-hander Gerrit Cole and attempt to defend the American League pennant.

"He's definitely going to add to what is already a strength or perceived strength. You can never have enough pitching," Yankees president Brian Cashman said. "Strike-thrower, five-pitch mix, obviously handles lefties,

handles righties and continued to evolve if you've followed his career since he's been a pro. ... It's been an art form for him."

Fried suspected others would be more willing to pay top dollar to acquire him in free agency. But Cashman said after a Zoom meeting with Fried it became clear to the Yankees' brass that dollars weren't going to detract from their view Fried was a "safe bet."

Not long after that meeting, it was evident the genuine mutual interest ran deep.

"When the Yankees say they're interested in you, you perk up and you listen," Fried said Wednesday, his first day in pinstripes

SEE FRIED, 10A

Atlanta's Penix Jr. begins initiation against Giants

Field Level Media

With their playoff hopes fading fast, the Atlanta Falcons benched \$180 million quarterback Kirk Cousins in favor of rookie Michael Penix Jr. ahead of a Sunday meeting with the visiting New York Giants.

Atlanta (7-7) looked to be a shoo-in six weeks ago to appear in the post-season for the first time since 2017. After a Week 9 home win over the Dallas Cowboys, the Falcons, with a 6-3 record, sat atop the NFC South with a two-game lead. With three weeks left, Atlanta is on the outside looking in as the Tampa Bay Buccaneers lead the division by a game.

Hoping Cousins would be the answer to the franchise's playoff drought, Atlanta signed the veteran to a four-year contract in March, with \$100 million guaranteed. The two sides looked to be a match, until weeks 10-15, when Cousins averaged just 236 yards per game and totaled one touchdown pass and nine interceptions.

Following an ugly 15-9 win against the Las Vegas Raiders on Monday, when Cousins completed 11 of 17 passes for 112 yards, a touchdown and a pick, Atlanta coach Raheem

Morris announced the team was going in a different direction.

Penix, the eighth overall pick out of Washington, will start for the first time in his professional career on Sunday. The 24-year-old has completed 3 of 5 passes for 38 yards in garbage time during two losses.

"Obviously, we've got to play better at that position and we want to play better at that position, so that's why we made that decision," Morris said. "Michael's been the number two, he's been one snap away all year. He's been grinding away, learning from Kirk, being around the coaches. ... This definitely has some financial implications for us, but we're always going to make football decisions in order to win football games."

Cousins, who passed for 3,508 yards, 18 touchdowns and 16 interceptions this year, knows that he hasn't lived up to expectations so far.

"There's a standard that I have for myself and the team has for me that unfortunately I wasn't playing up to consistently," Cousins said. "Now you just support Michael and try to help this team be able to find a way to win these last three and get in the playoffs. That's what it's all about."



Photo Courtesy of Field Level Media

Atlanta Falcons rookie quarterback Michael Penix Jr. is the Falcons' QB moving forward. The team made an announcement this week after the Falcons won their Monday night game against the Las Vegas Raiders.

The Giants certainly aren't looking at any playoff scenarios, as they are firmly in the hunt for the No. 1 pick in the 2025 draft. New York (2-12) holds the NFC's worst record and is tied with the Raiders in the league basement.

Losers of a franchise-tying nine straight games, the Giants also have had their fair share of problems under center.

After releasing Daniel Jones in November, New York has plugged in Tommy DeVito, Tim Boyle and Drew Lock as it limps to the finish line. Lock (heel/elbow) missed the team's 35-14 home loss to the Baltimore Ravens last week, but Giants coach Brian Daboll said the Missouri product "should be OK to start this week."

Daboll, who is 17-30-1 over three

years on the job, was asked about the possibility of owner John Mara firing him and general manager Joe Schoen at the conclusion of the season.

"I just focus on things that I can control," Daboll said. "(John) and I have good conversations every week. We have a number of conversations about a lot of different things that I'll keep private. ... We're just getting ready here for the Falcons."

Atlanta placed kicker Younghoe Koo, who was 25-for-34 on field-goal attempts this year, on injured reserve Wednesday due to a hip injury. The club signed Riley Patterson off the Browns' practice squad to replace him.

Falcons wide receiver KhaDarel Hodge (ribs), who block a punts and got his hand on another in the Monday win at Las Vegas, was a limited participant in practice on Wednesday, as were tight ends Ross Dwelley (ankle) and Charlie Woerner (quad).

For New York, linebackers Brian Burns (ankle/neck), Patrick Johnson (knee) and Bobby Okereke (back) each missed the Wednesday practice. Guard Aaron Stinnie (concussion) and cornerback Greg Stroman (shoulder/shin) were also out.



Special Image

Undefeated Georgia Tech women whip Rice, 88-57

Staff Reports

THE FLATS — A career-high seven three-pointers from Rusne Augustinaite helped lift Georgia Tech women's basketball past Rice on Wednesday afternoon, 88-57, in McCamish Pavilion. Augustinaite finished with a game-high 23 points, leading four Yellow Jackets in double-figures, and pushing Tech to 12-0 with the win.

Georgia Tech shot 50.0 percent in the first half, fueled by 14 points from Augustinaite as the Yellow Jackets held the halftime lead, 37-18. The teams kept a close hold in the early going before Augustinaite and a triple from Dani Carnegie opened a seven-point lead late in the first. Augustinaite came out in the second on fire, draining three consecutive triples to open the period and extend Tech's lead into double-digits. Tech would lead by as many as 20 points in the half, 37-17, following a Carnegie bucket at the 2:24 mark of the second quarter.

The Jackets continued to dominate in the second half, breaking open a 40-point lead, 80-40, on a Zoeha Smith bucket in the final period. Tech led by as many as 42 points in the win and trailed for less than two minutes in the outing.

Augustinaite led a quartet of Jackets in double-figures with 23 points. She is the second current Yellow Jacket to hit seven three-pointers in a game, as teammate Kara Dunn hit seven last season at NC State. Augustinaite tied

the second-highest record in three-pointers made in a game with seven.

Dunn added 17 points in the victory, while Smith tallied a double-double with 11 points and 11 rebounds, and Tonie Morgan chipped in 10 points. Tech dominated on the glass, winning the battle, 48-31, fueled by Smith's 11 rebounds, including five offensive boards. Smith's double-double was her first as a Yellow Jacket and third in her career.

For the fifth time this season, Tech connected on 10-plus three-pointers, hitting 13 with five Jackets recording a triple. Tech also tallied 22 assists in the win led by seven from Chazadi Wright.

The Owls had two in double-figures, paced by 12 points from Hailey Adams and 10 points from Dominique Ennis. Turnovers plagued both teams with a combined 36 made in the game. Georgia Tech used 17 Rice miscues for 36 points, while the Jackets had 19.

Tech, off to the best start in program history, remains one of only nine teams undefeated in the country. With the win today, head coach Nell Fortner recorded her 100th career victory at Georgia Tech. Since her arrival on The Flats, Fortner has led the Jackets to three postseason appearances, including the program's second NCAA Tournament Sweet 16 in 2021.

The Yellow Jackets continues this homestand today welcoming No. 23 Nebraska to McCamish Pavilion. Tip is slated for 5:30 p.m. on ACC Network Extra.

and the winner of Clemson vs. Texas, a semifinal matchup in the inaugural 12-team College Football Playoff.

Local Chick-fil-A leaders expressed excitement about the selection of two Albany students.

"It's exciting that we have Albany girls included," Dustin Walker, Albany Chick-fil-A Talent Director, said. "We are happy to support local students and be part of this event and our community."

Alex is the daughter of Kathy Collins, and Jordyn is the daughter of Chinary Jordan.

From 9A CHEER

cheerleaders at an FCA camp this past summer at Valdosta State University. The duo from Albany are among just 12 cheerleaders selected nationwide.

"They went through the full tryout — cheer, dance, everything," Sherwood Christian head cheer coach Tiffany Carter said. "It's really special to have two of our girls chosen."

Collins and Gibson will perform during the game featuring Arizona State

Cubs, Sammy Sosa reconcile after former player issues apology

Field Level Media

The Chicago Cubs on Thursday invited Sammy Sosa to the team's offseason convention, a sign that the organization has repaired its relationship with the former star slugger.

Sosa, beloved among Cub fans during his 13 years with Chicago, has remained distant from the team since his final season with the club in 2004.

Steroid allegations — a reported positive test in 2003 — soured Sosa's reputation within the organization, and current owner Tom Ricketts said the Cubs would not welcome back Sosa until he apologized for his alleged wrongdoing.

Sosa did so on Thursday, to an extent.

While he never directly mentioned steroids, the seven-time All-Star apologized for his "mistakes" and hopes he, the Cubs and their fans can "come together again and move forward."

"I left it all on the field for the Cubs and Cubs fans because I wanted to win and make the fans happy," Sosa, 56, wrote in a letter to the organization.

"... There were times I did whatever I could to recover from injuries in an effort to keep my strength up to perform over 162 games. I never broke any laws, but in hindsight, I made mistakes and I apologize."

Ricketts responded minutes later,

inviting Sosa to the team's annual convention, which will be held Jan. 17-19 in Chicago.

"We appreciate Sammy releasing his statement and for reaching out. No one played harder or wanted to win more. Nobody's perfect but we never doubted his passion for the game and the Cubs," Ricketts said in a statement.

"It is an understatement to say that Sammy is a fan favorite. We plan on inviting him to the 2025 Cubs Convention and, while it is short notice, we hope that he can attend. We are all ready to move forward together."

Sosa has not said whether or not he'll attend the convention, but his letter suggests a reunion is imminent.

From 9A GIRLS

first quarter with an 8-2 lead. Liberty County responded in the second quarter, fueled by four three-pointers — three of which came from sharpshooting guard Maritza Troche. The Lady Panthers briefly seized a 17-16 lead before Westover's Savannah Donaldson sank two clutch free throws just before halftime, putting the Lady Patriots ahead 18-17.

Westover took control in the third quarter, outscoring Liberty County 14-6 to build a 32-23 advantage. Sydney Donaldson was dominant during the run, scoring eight points, while Kaiya Conway contributed six.

Liberty County attempted a spirited comeback in the fourth quarter, implementing a full-court press that disrupted Westover's rhythm and generated multiple steals. However, the Lady Panthers' shooting



Staff Photo: Joe Whitfield

Dougherty senior D'Asia Simmons finished with 15 points Thursday against Thomas County Central in the opening game of the Lee County Girl Power Classic at Lee County High School. D'Asia teamed with her sister, Dariona, to help the Lady Patriots take a late lead and win the game. D'Asia finished with 15 points.

woes prevented them from closing the gap.

Sydney Donaldson finished with a game-high 20 points, while Con-

way added 12 and Savannah Donaldson chipped in seven.

Troche led Liberty County with 19 points, including four three-pointers.

From 9A FRIED

at Yankee Stadium.

The 30-year-old lefty received a \$20 million signing bonus as part of a deal that will pay him an average of \$27.5 million per season until 2032. He said leaving Atlanta was emotional. The Braves boldly acquired Fried, the seventh pick in the 2012 draft by the Padres, four months after he underwent Tommy John surgery in 2014 in the swap that sent Justin Upton to San Diego. He wouldn't debut until 2017.

Fried was Atlanta's Opening Day starter three consecutive years until Spencer Strider started the opener in 2024. Fried finished the season 11-10 in 29 starts, striking out 166.

But the pull of the fourth-largest contract ever and the biggest deal ever signed by a left-handed start-



Photo Courtesy of Field Level Media

Former Braves' ace Max Fried is headed to the Big Apple to play with the Yankees after signing a record-setting contract that will play him \$218 million.

er in MLB history, coupled with a tradition of winning, helped Fried decide to relocate.

"A lot of people have worn these pinstripes, even if there is a certain

feel, and I'm excited about being able to put the pinstripes on in Yankee Stadium for the Yankees," Fried said. "When it came down to it, it just felt right."

OBITUARIES



Ethelyn Butler (Powell)

Ethelyn Powell Butler, age 99, of Camilla, GA, passed away peacefully on Tuesday morning, December 17, 2024.

Ethelyn was born in Houston County, Georgia on November 2, 1925 to loving parents, Mr. Johnnie Howard Powell and Mrs. Ethel Duke Powell. Her childhood was split between Ft. Valley and Perry, Georgia, moving to Albany, Georgia with her mother as a young teen soon after the death of her father. She went on to graduate from Albany High in 1942 and Valdosta State College thereafter. She took her first job as the secretary to the adjutant of Turner Field, later working for the secretary to the CEO of the International Paper Company in Albany, Georgia.

In 1947, Ethelyn married William Henry Butler, better known as Bill, and settled into a life together in Camilla, GA. Ethelyn quickly took an active role in the Camilla United Methodist Church, serving as a Sunday School teacher, Circle Leader, and President of the United Methodist Women. She received the Quiet Disciple Award from the United Methodist Women and was chairman of the committee for furnishings for the new church after the former church burned. Ethelyn was on the team to visit the sick, bringing flowers from the prior Sunday services with her. She was also on the bereavement committee to serve meals and the chair of the memorial committee. Her role in the community was carried out in tandem with her role in her marriage to Bill, the family farm, and many other ventures together. Theirs was a love for the story books and continued well beyond the passing of Bill in 1996. During the following years, Ethelyn enjoyed countless visits with her daughter and granddaughters to Destin, FL - a place near and dear to all their hearts, including and thanks to her loving husband Bill. Between the farm, the beach, the church, and visiting family, she lived out the rest of her years surrounded by priceless memories and a love that ran deeper than most. She was the pillar of this family, holding true to her strength and values in all her daily actions and words.

She is survived by her daughter, Janet Butler Stallings (Tom), four grandchildren, Megan R. Cassidy (Dick) of Brentwood, TN, Emory Paige Slocum (Ben) of Franklin, TN, Erica L. Stallings (Walker Jamison) of Auburn, AL, and Jonathan Stallings of Thomasville, GA; four great grandchildren, Addison Cassidy, Charles Cassidy, Jon Thomas Stallings, Ella Stallings - soon to be 5 - Liam Jamison; One nephew David Wright (Linda) of Camilla, Georgia, along with their children Lindsay Boatright Lauren Rutland (Tim), Lanier Clark (Vaiden), and grandchild Jordan Gracen Buser (Will), Perrin Boatright, Camryn Boatright, Bridges Rutland, Wright Rutland, Butler Clark, and Laura Vaiden Clark; Helen Wright (of the late nephew Paul Wright, III) of Tifton, Georgia, their children Helen Ball (Joe), Paul Wright IV, their grandchildren Jordan Durham (Gary) and Carson McCabe (Mike), and their great grandchildren June Rigsby Durham, Jovi Louise Durham and Genova Rae McCabe.

Service will be 3:00 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 21, 2024 at Camilla United Methodist Church with private interment in Oakview Cemetery.

Parker-Bramlett Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Elaine L. Hodges

Elaine Laverta Hodges of Leesburg, GA, died Monday, December 16, 2024 at her residence. Funeral services will be held Saturday, December 21, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. at Mathews Funeral Home. Rev. Johnny Rogers and Mr. Scott Price will officiate. Interment will follow at Thundering Springs Cemetery. Mrs. Hodges was born in Albany, GA., to the late James and Pauline Trotman. She married the love of her life at the age of fifteen. Mrs. Hodges then went on to school for bookkeeping and managed the books for their company Bennett Supply Company. After working there for many years, she left the workforce and became a true homemaker. She was a genuine Southern Belle and loved to cook. Mrs. Hodges was like a mother and grandmother to countless kids in the community. If you came to her house, she made sure you left with a full stomach. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a daughter, Sherrie Hodges Wiggins, three brothers and one sister. Survivors include her husband of sixty-two years, B.F. Hodges, a son, Billy Hodges (Joel White), a son in law, John Eubanks, three grandchildren, Colby Eubanks, Landon Wiggins (Trista) and Payton Eubanks, four great grandchildren, Emmet, Bella, Ethan and Edge and two sisters, Cathy Ritter (Ronnie) and Barbara Jean Vines (Steve). The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in memory of Mrs. Hodges to No Child Hungry 530 Cooper Commerce Drive, Apopka, FL 32703 or the Samaritans Purse, P.O. Box 3000 Boone, NC 28607.

To sign our online registry, or to send condolences to the family, you may visit Mathews' website at www.mathewsfuneralhome.com

Moultrie native promoted to crime lab assistant manager

Staff Reports

news@albanyherald.com

MOULTRIE – The Georgia Bureau of Investigation has announced the promotion of Lori Clayton to assistant manager of the GBI's Southwestern Regional Crime Lab here. Clayton will be responsible for assisting the manager with the supervision of staff and others within the Southwestern Regional Crime Lab.

"Lori Clayton has exempli-

fied excellence and dedication throughout her career here at the GBI," GBI Director Chris Hosey said. "Her skills and experience will serve her well in her new role as assistant manager of the GBI's Southwestern Crime Lab."

"Lori Clayton is a phenom-

enal choice to join the leadership team at our Southwestern Crime Lab as Assistant Manager," GBI Crime Lab Division Director Cleveland Miles said. "Lori has invested her entire GBI career into the Southwestern Crime Lab. Her experience as both a forensic scientist and long-time member of the lab will serve her well in this new role."

Clayton graduated from Valdosta State University with a bachelor's degree in chemistry.

She has served her entire GBI career in the Southwestern Regional Crime Lab in Moultrie.

Clayton is from Moultrie, where she still resides.

The Georgia Bureau of Investigation comprises three primary divisions: the Georgia Crime Information Center, the Crime Laboratory, and the Investigative Division. The GBI has more than 900 employees and a current budget of \$147,482,036.



Lori Clayton

ABAC has best residence halls in state

Staff Reports

news@albanyherald.com

TIFTON – More than 1,300 Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College students call ABAC Place and ABAC Lakeside their home away from home. According to University Magazine, they have chosen the top-ranked residence halls in Georgia.

The magazine's recent ranking of the Best College Dorms in Georgia for 2025 ranked ABAC the best among 30 colleges and universities in the state. The article cited the facilities' spacious rooms, study lounges, and recreational areas, stating that ABAC "sets the standard for excellent student housing in Georgia and making it a top choice for prospective students."

Trent Hester, ABAC's Director of Residence Life and Housing, said living on campus offers some obvious advantages for students.

"It allows our students to immerse themselves in the college experience fully," he said. "We are proud to offer a residential environment that fosters personal, professional and academic growth. We actively seek opportunities to engage students with our facilities through events."

"We take pride in seeing our students flourish while living



Special Photo: ABAC

University Magazine has named Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College's residence halls the state's best.

on campus."

The article also noted the priority ABAC places on student safety and the dorms' convenient access to campus resources.

ABAC Place opened in 2004 and consists primarily of four-bedroom, two-bath units with some two- and three-bedroom units as well. Each resident has a private bedroom and furnished living room. It is also connected to the John Hunt Town Hall Center, which contains administrative offices, recreational facilities, a group meeting space, a computer lab, and a convenience store.

ABAC Lakeside, which opened in 2007, is reserved for first-

year students and features two-bedroom units. It also offers a 24-hour computer lab, game rooms, lounges, laundry, and outdoor grills.

"This recognizes that we are succeeding in our mission to make ABAC a destination college," ABAC President Tracy Brundage said. "Our students enjoy all the amenities our residence halls offer and are comfortable and safe on campus, which plays a significant role in their success. Offering that at an affordable price is another reason our enrollment continues to grow."

Nikki Ooley, a resident assistant at ABAC Place, commuted

to ABAC for a year before moving to campus. She said that decision made a difference in her college experience.

"I have loved making life-long friendships with my roommates and hosting 'family dinners' and movie nights," she said. "I've always felt safe living on campus, and the distance to class is a huge bonus."

"ABAC is committed to providing a top-tier residential experience," Amy Willis, ABAC's vice president of academic and student affairs, said. "From facilities to programming, we're always looking for ways to improve the student experience."



Photo Courtesy of GFB

Georgia Farm Bureau President Tom McCall, left, presents Dougherty County Farm Bureau Office Manager Cindy Drew and DCFB President Laney Wooten a GFB Rewarding Excellence in Ag Program Cultivator Award in the organization's medium membership division.

Dougherty Farm Bureau receives state REAP award

Staff Reports

news@albanyherald.com

MACON – Dougherty County Farm Bureau was recognized for its outstanding member programs and agricultural advocacy activities at the 87th annual Georgia Farm Bureau Convention held Dec. 8-10 on Jekyll Island. Laney Wooten is the DCFB president. Cindy Drew is the DCFB office manager.

DCFB received the GFB Rewarding Excellence in Ag Program (REAP) Cultivator Award in the organization's medium membership division. GFB's REAP award honors county Farm Bureaus for their organization/membership, advocacy, leadership development, education and outreach activities between Sept. 1, 2023, and Aug. 31, 2024. The REAP Awards are divided into three tiers – Harvester (1st), Planter (2nd) and Cultivator (3rd) with tier winners in each of GFB's three membership categories: small, medium and large.

"No grassroots organization succeeds without its volunteer leaders, and we are extremely blessed at Georgia Farm Bureau to have dedicated volunteers all over the state supporting Georgia agriculture," GFB President Tom McCall said. "We're proud of all of them, and we're honored to recognize Dougherty County for the work they have done to promote agriculture in the local community this past year."

As a REAP Cultivator Award winner, DCFB received a plaque and Wooten received an embroidered Farm Bureau shirt. Drew received a \$300 gift card.

CAES student's contagious enthusiasm inspired others

Jordan Powers

UGA/CAES

ATHENS – When Miriam Edelkind-Vealey applied for a summer role at a University of Georgia pollinator biodiversity lab in 2020, the junior undergrad didn't quite know what to expect.

"It looked like a cool opportunity to study bees. I didn't really know what that entailed, but it was a wonderful interview, you know?" Edelkind-Vealey said. "It was one of those interviews where it felt like a conversation, not like you were being interviewed for a job."

After being told she got the position, Edelkind-Vealey didn't hear anything for a few weeks. It was only then that she learned a collaborator on the project, second-year master's degree student Amy Joy Janvier, had passed away.

"Honestly, I wouldn't be in this field today if it weren't for Amy, which is weird — to have that kind of relationship with someone you've only met once on Zoom," Edelkind-Vealey said.

After Janvier's passing, Edelkind-Vealey processed all of Janvier's samples — nearly three carloads of pollinators. Now a doctoral candidate in the Department of Entomology at the UGA College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, Edelkind-Vealey is studying the conservation value of forests, trying to learn what local characteristics influence bee diversity.

"(Janvier's) master's project was quite a cool initiative. She was looking at the effects of land use on bee diversity in residential landscapes," Edelkind-Vealey said. "That project is what inspired my Ph.D."

Even as a child, Janvier was a go-getter — a trait that served



Special Photo: UGA/CAES

After Amy Janvier's passing, her family established the Amy Joy Janvier Study Abroad Scholarship Fund, providing study-abroad scholarship support for junior or senior undergraduate entomology students

her well later in life as a researcher, her mom, Ali Janvier, said. Teachers used phrases like "organized" and "strong work ethic" to describe a child who not only started neighborhood lemonade stands but recruited other children to work for her.

Amy Janvier's passion and drive resulted in good grades, scholarships and, finally, admission to UGA to major in ecology — a path that would enable her to support her greatest passion: caring for the environment.

"She was always very happy, full of energy. I had no idea until we had her celebration of life how many lives she touched," Ali Janvier said. "She just loved people — she was just a really sweet, caring, loving person."

After completing her undergraduate work in ecology and working for an environmental engineering company, Amy Janvier's interest in the environment — and being out in the field — led her to pursue graduate studies in entomology at UGA.

"Amy was something of a force of nature, a serious student," Kris Braman, professor and head of the

CAES Department of Entomology, said. "She was a commanding presence but also someone who embraced life. She was passionate about many things, and she became focused on pollinator protection."

She had a big personality, Braman added, and was dedicated to making the world a better place.

"Her work lives; she has a living legacy," Braman said, referring to Amy Janvier's research on how mixed land use — such as developments interspersed with forest patches — improves bee diversity and is leading to new solutions for bee conservation. The research led to an invite for Braman to take the stage for TEDx Talks, something she said she would never have accepted without thinking of Amy Janvier and her passion for pollinators.

After Janvier's passing during the data-collection phase of the project, Braman, Edelkind-Vealey and research collaborator Clayton Traylor chose to honor her by listing her as first author.

To contribute to the Amy Joy Janvier Study Abroad Scholarship Fund, visit gail.uga.edu.

This week's *Feature Home*



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What to know about investing in real estate

Metro Creative Connection
Investors look for various opportunities they hope will

help them grow their wealth. Some invest in the stock market directly by buying stocks and bonds, while others choose a more passive form of investing like index funds. Certain investors prefer to back enterprising entrepreneurs, and some people determine that real estate is the avenue to pursue.

There are several different ways to invest in real estate, including buying a home. Investing in real estate can be lucrative, although the return on such investments can be affected by high interest rates. When interest rates fall, investors often come out of the woodwork. According to a 2022 Bankrate survey, 29 percent of Americans said that real estate was their prime pick for investing money they won't need for at least 10 years. Investors considering real estate have

many options to choose from.

Become a landlord

NerdWallet says buying a property with the intention of renting it out is one of the most common ways to invest in real estate. However, this could be one of the more labor-intensive real estate investment options, as it requires property owners to field calls from renters and always be available to tackle issues that inevitably arise. Plus, if renters are not properly vetted, landlords may end up with less-than-ideal tenants. While there are management services that can offset some of the work, farming out tasks comes with expenses that can cut into profits. Still, when a successful renter-landlord dynamic is established, this option can provide significant long-term income.

Flipping properties

Buying a property and "flipping it," which means renovating and putting it up for sale shortly after, is another real estate investment venture. Flipping requires a lot of work and perhaps even some extraordinary skills. First, it involves finding up-and-coming neighborhoods and then renovating within a reasonable budget so that you can sell the home at a premium. Remodeling costs can run high, and the time involved in flipping may be longer than investors anticipated.

Buying your own home

Building equity in a home creates a nest egg that homeowners can tap into at a later time, particularly when they choose to sell. Bankrate says

banks treat owner-occupied properties more favorably, giving borrowers lower mortgage rates and requiring lower down payments.

Purchase REITs

REITs are real estate investment trusts that enable investors to invest in real estate without actually touching physical real estate properties, advises NerdWallet. REITs are like the mutual funds of the real estate realm, and include companies that own commercial real estate. REITs can pay out high dividends, making them popular retirement investments. Dividends can be reinvested to grow your money further.

Investing in real estate can be a worthwhile option for people who want a tried-and-true vehicle for seeing their money grow.

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Variety is spice of life for shotgun owners

By Tom Seegmueller
news@albanyherald.com

ALBANY — If you could only have one firearm it would be hard not to choose a shotgun. In its simplest form as a single-shot break action firearm, it has the capability to successfully harvest any game species on the North American continent. At the same time, it is an excellent choice as a reliable and effective home defense weapon.

However, the very versatility that makes having a shotgun a no-brainer can present many challenges to the buyer. The variables of gauge, choke, action, finish and cost provide the shooter with an immeasurable variety of combinations.

The first variable — gauge — refers to the diameter of the shotgun's bore using a rather unique system of measurement developed in Europe even before the French began shooting flying birds with fowling pieces in the early 1600s. Gauge is determined by the number of lead balls that fit the bore of the firearm that can be produced from a pound of lead. Using this scale, 16 one-ounce lead balls fitting the bore of a 16-gauge gun can be made from a pound of lead. With a larger bore gun, like the 12-gauge, only 12 balls can be produced to fit from a pound of lead. Whereas, with a smaller-bore gun like the 20-gauge, as the term implies, will allow 20 balls to be made from the same pound of lead. Kind of a backwards system, considering the larger the number gets, the smaller the bore gets.

Internationally, shotgun production is currently focused on six primary bore measurements — the 10, 12, 16, 20 and 28 gauge — variants, and just to make things interesting, the American gun manufacturers decided to invent the .410 shotgun, bypassing the process of seeing how many lead balls fit the barrel and determined by simply measuring its bore, which is .410 inch in diameter. To put this into perspective, it would be a 67-gauge compared to the 12-gauge having a .729-inch bore. This makes the .410 shotgun somewhat of a specialty item, although it can serve a variety of purposes very well. Especially if you like showing off your shooting abilities.

When the purpose of a firearm is to fire multiple projectiles at a target with each pull of the trigger, the number of projectiles fired with each shot would obviously be a primary consideration when selecting a shotgun. However, like so many other important things in life, it's not that simple. Obviously, larger-gauge shotguns have the capacity to hold more shot, but that in and of itself is not an overriding factor.

Although a 12-gauge shell has the capacity to hold more shot and powder than a 20-gauge shell of the same length, it is not necessarily going to be loaded that way. Therefore, learning to read a box of shells is important. The information stamped on a box of shells

will tell you the gauge, shell length Dram Equivalent, payload, shot size and, recently, the velocity of the combination. This information is generally found on the top flap of the box and may also frequently be found stamped on each shell.

We have already reviewed the various gauges. The choices in shell length are generally going to be either 2 3/4-inch, 3-inch or even 3 1/2-inch. It is important not to attempt to fire a longer length shell in a gun that is chambered for a shorter length, as the gun is not designed for the higher pressures produced by these "Magnum" loads. The longer length allows the shells to be loaded with larger dram equivalents and payloads. However, it is generally safe to fire shorter length shells in a gun chambered for those that are longer.

The dram equivalent is a century-old measure used for black powder. The term was held over after the advent of smokeless powder to allow for a safe transition using the existing black-powder shotguns. Because of the multitude of powders available today, it is basically a comparative term. The advent and popularity of 3-inch shells made it possible for a 20-gauge gun to have a load comparable to a 12-gauge gun and led to the decline in popularity of the 16- and 28-gauge shotguns. Some shells may be marked "Max" or "Mag," indicating they are loaded near the upper safety limit for most guns.

The payload is the measure of the total weight of the shot charge in ounces for most shot sizes other than buckshot, which uses an actual pellet count. Obviously, the smaller the shot size, the more pellets per payload. As an example, one ounce of No. 8 shot contains 410 pellets compared to a similar weight of No. 6 shot containing 225 pellets. An ounce of 00 buck shot would be eight pellets.

A heavier payload of the same shot size should provide a denser pattern of shot, all other things being equal. If this payload is made possible by its inclusion in a longer shell, it may provide the added benefit of a longer shot string.

Since the pellets are forced to leave the shotgun barrel in a column, the resulting pattern is "strung out" in a horizontal spray. The longer this column, the greater the difference in the time it takes the individual pellets to reach the target. This provides a three-dimensional field of shot that a target must pass through with less chance of being a "missed bird."

As a rule of thumb, the smaller and faster the game you are targeting, the smaller your shot size selection. The bigger the game, the bigger the shot size. Without oversimplifying clay targets, dove, quail and squirrels are generally shot with 8 to 7 shot. For rabbits, small duck, pheasant and turkey, 6 to 4 shot is the typical choice. Larger ducks, turkey and geese generally call for 4 to 2 shot, while the

call for buck shot is relegated to home defense, hogs or its namesake.

Like most variables related to shotgun performance, barrel length can be a topic of debate. However, since modern shotshell powders have been measured to burn completely in the first 16 inches of the barrel, and the pressure forcing the load down the barrel may build for a split-second longer, it is generally determined that the maximum velocity of the load will be achieved at 20 inches of barrel length. Others contend that extra barrel length does increase velocity; whether the increase is significant or not is where the debate takes place. Typical ballistics of shotgun loads show that velocity measured in feet per second ranges between 1,100 fps to 1,500 fps. Depending on the dram equivalent in the shell.

For those shooters concerned with felt recoil, your choice of shells can have a direct correlation to what your shoulder feels when you pull the trigger. As a rule of thumb, increasing to heavier payloads and dram equivalents of powder will result in greater felt recoil, with all other factors remaining equal.

For a shotgun to be effective, it needs to produce a good shot pattern. Pattern is the term used to describe the distribution of the shotshell pellets once they leave the shotgun's muzzle. The measurement of the spread of the shot as well as the density of the shot within this circle is the best way to evaluate the best combination of gauge and shell.

Contrary to popular belief, the length of the barrel has no discernible impact on how a shotgun patterns. Pattern is related to the choke. During the course of the shotgun's development, a few things have proven to hold true. Surprisingly, shotguns with equal choke regardless of gauge will have equal spread. A full choke with lead shot will spread approximately 1 inch per yard. The same stands true for an improved cylinder choke where the shot will spread 1.75 inches per yard.

The choke of the shotgun functions like the spray nozzle on the end of a garden hose. Consider the barrel of a shotgun as a garden hose with the choke being at the muzzle, where the shot leaves the barrel. A shotgun with no choke will shoot the widest pattern. As the choke is restricted or tightened, the pattern's diameter will be confined to a smaller diameter therefore having a greater density of shot within that area.

A shotgun with no choke is referred to as having a cylinder bore. The gradual process of choking or restriction has four other designations as the restriction increase, ranging from improved cylinder, modified, improved modified and the tightest being a full choke. There are other specialized chokes for competitive shooting and hunting if these do not provide the desired results. These choke restrictions also can increase



Special Photo: Tom Seegmueller

The very versatility that makes having a shotgun a no-brainer for gun owners can present many challenges to the buyer. The variables of gauge, choke, action, finish and cost provide the shooter with an immeasurable variety of combinations.

the felt recoil to the shooter.

Many shooters falsely believe that the tighter a shotgun is choked the farther the shot from it will travel. This is not the case, it just gets to a specific distance in a hopefully tighter and more effective pattern.

I previously stated that the .410 was for showoffs because as you can see by now, its limitations in regard to bore size, dram equivalent and payload offer an immense handicap to the shooter compared to the 12-gauge. Although the .410 is often thought to be a good "first gun" for a young or diminutive shooter, I would caution against that in favor of the .20 gauge.

For this reason, youth models in the smaller gauges are generally a good choice as a starting point in the world of wing shooting. However, this does not mean that merely choosing a small-gauge shotgun will remove the impact of felt recoil or "kick" on the shooter. Years ago, I teased a young shooter that his single-shot 20-gauge could not be kicking as hard as he was complaining about. In my mood of superiority, I took the gun and shouldered it, only to discover when I pulled the trigger that its short, thin stock and light weight caused it to kick like the proverbial mule.

I currently have a gas-operated .28 gauge, which I purchased for my wife and eventually granddaughter to shoot that is in the same category and will soon be on the auction block. Fit and weight are critical in reducing felt recoil.

Practicality dictates that there is a trade-off when it comes to a shotgun's weight. If you are going to use it primarily for competitive shooting, sporting clays or on the dove field, the heavier weight is a benefit in many ways. However, if you are going to carry it all day while quail hunting, you will want to seek a balance in regard to weight.

The other major consideration in choosing a shotgun is to determine what kind of action is best for your purpose. A shotgun has three major components combining into the often-used adage of "lock, stock and barrel." Today, the lock is known as the action of the gun, and this is an apt name as it is where most of the moving parts required for the firearm to function can be found. This is where the shells are loaded and chambered, as well as the trigger and safety needed for firing. The three most common shotgun actions are the break action, pump action and semi-automatic action. If you want to be a little different, lever and revolver actions are available.

The simplest action is the "break action" found in the most basic single- and double-barrel shotguns. As the name implies you unlock the action and "break" the shotgun open to load and unload the chambers. This simplicity and the fact that the shotgun has to be manually loaded with each shot is one reason it is often chosen as a "first gun."

The pump action uses the forearm as the handle of a slide that operates the shot-

gun's action, feeding shells into the chamber to be fired as well as ejecting the fired shell each time the action is cycled. This is one of the most reliable actions due to the fact that the force required to operate the action is the shooter's arm and is not affected by other mechanical factors found in the semi-automatic. It is also a good first-gun choice as it can be used as a single-shot with an extended plug preventing the loading of any additional rounds of ammunition. As the shooter's proficiency and skill increase, this plug can be modified so it can fire a second round or the full capacity of the magazine.

The other, and currently most popular, shotgun action is the semi-automatic, which uses either the inertia of the fired shell or the gas from it to automatically cycle the shotguns action each time the trigger is pulled. The fact that the shotgun reloads itself requires a much more judicious behavior of the shooter in regard to the manual safety and trigger discipline. For many shooters, it allows for a faster and easier second and even third shot as might be required. However, a pump shotgun in the hands of a seasoned shooter will give it a run for its money in the speed of fire.

Interestingly, it has been more than a century since the shotgun made any significant change in form. In 1893, John Browning designed the first commercially successful pump shotgun, which quickly transitioned into the Model 1912 pump and established the shape and parameters of the pump gun. It is still considered the gold standard pump shotgun by collectors today. I currently shoot one that is more than 80 years old, and it operates flawlessly. Then again, so does my Remington 870 of an almost equal vintage.

The Browning Automatic 5, or A-5 as it is commonly known, also was designed by Browning in 1898 and went into production from 1900 until 1998, setting the standard for semi-automatic recoil-operated shotguns. In the mid-1900s, Remington would begin production of the first commercially successful gas-operated semi-automatic shotguns. In 1931, John Browning introduced the first over-under shotgun with the first single select trigger as well. Although there have been no major changes in the modern form of these shotguns, there have been dynamic changes in the methods and material used to manufacture them and the countless refinements in their operating systems.

These classic shotguns are still functional and highly sought-after by collectors and are just another option for today's shotgunner to choose from in conjunction with the myriad modern choices now available. Therefore, it should not be hard to find a shotgun to meet your needs. However, if it turns out to not be the perfect choice, nothing says you can't own more than one.

Classifieds



Scan QR Code
to view classifieds online

Announcements

CLASSIFIED DEADLINES
Tuesday - 3 pm Fri.
Thursday - 4 pm Mon.
Saturday - 4 pm Wed.

LEGAL LINE ADS RUN ONLY ON SATURDAY DEADLINE IS 4 pm WED.

Houses for rent

STUDIO APARTMENT FOR RENT!

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Accounting/Bookeeping

Accounting Technician
The City of Leesburg is accepting applications for the position of Accounting Technician. The City of Leesburg is an equal opportunity Employer. Under the general direction of the Finance Director, this position is to perform work in maintaining all governmental financial records. Balance books and compiles reports to show such information as cash receipts and expenditures and accounts payable receivable. Support and process information/documentation relating to Departments and City Manager requirements. The salary range is \$32,899.53 to \$50,994.30. Minimum qualification requires a high school diploma; supplemented by college level course work or vocational training in office administration and personal computer operations; supplemented by three (3) years previous experience and/or training that includes office administration. More information is available on our website www.cityofleesburgga.com. Send Resumes to City of Leesburg, P.O. Box 890, Leesburg, GA 31763 or email to cheryl.alison@cityofleesburgga.com or bob.alexander@cityofleesburgga.com.

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Garage Sale

1 Day Only- December 21st at 7:30am. Furniture, clothing, dishes, etc...142 Leland Ferrell Drive, Leesburg, GA

Full-Time

Arlington Police Department
Chief of Police
Deadline Tuesday,
January 14, 2025

The City of Arlington has a police chief position opening. Anyone interested in this opportunity should submit a city employment application, copy of a resume, and three work references to the city, City of Arlington, P.O. Box 126, Arlington, Georgia, 39813. Applications must be received by 4:00 p.m., **Tuesday, January 14, 2025**

Southwest Georgia United, Inc. in Cordele, GA is seeking an experienced Controller (Accountant). The Controller will assist in the efficiency and accuracy of the day-today management and oversight of all financial operation and monetary funds of the company. A Master's degree in Accounting or CPA, and federal grant experience is preferred. Salary is \$55,000 - \$70,000 depending on qualifications. Send resume to joseph.brown@swgau.org. Southwest GA United is an equal employment opportunity company.

Vehicles

1973 FORD PICKUP
LWB 2 Door.,
in good shape,
re-manufactured 302
engine, all new parts, 4
new tires with chrome
wheels. 229-296-1888

Adoptions

Notice is given that a Notice of Intent to Dissolve Graeway Recovery Residence, Inc., a Georgia non-profit corporation with its registered office at 126 N. Westover Boulevard, Albany, Dougherty County, Georgia 31707, (the "Corporation") will be delivered to the Secretary of State for filing in accordance with the Georgia Nonprofit Corporation Code. All persons with claims against the Corporation shall submit their claims, with all supporting documentation, to Blake Edwin Lisenby, Esq., of Lisenby & Associates, L.L.C., at Post Office Box 4101, Macon, Georgia 31208. Except for claims that are contingent at the time of the filing of the Notice of Intent to Dissolve or that arise after the filing of the Notice of Intent to Dissolve, a claim against the Corporation not otherwise barred will be barred unless a proceeding to enforce the claim is commenced within two years after publication of this Notice.

Construction/Service Bids

INVITATION TO BID
Demolition and Site Cleanup
BID REF. 25-032

Sealed bids will be received by the City of Albany, Procurement Division, 222 Pine Avenue, Suite 260, Albany, Georgia, 31701, until 2:30 PM, on January 9, 2025. A Pre-Bid Conference will be held on December 20, at the Procurement division office. Documents can be obtained from the Procurement Division, the Georgia Procurement Registry, and at www.albanyga.gov. For additional information, contact Takeshia Martin, Buyer I, at tmartin@albanyga.gov.

by\ Derrick L. Brown, Chief Financial Officer

Alcoholic Beverages

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
FOR BEER BREWERY LICENSE

I, Joe Harris Morgan, trading as Pretoria Fields Farm at 5626 Walker Ducker Station Rd., Albany, Georgia 31721, give notice that I have applied for an Alcohol License to be considered by the Dougherty County Commission at 10 a.m. on January 6, 2025, at 222 Pine Avenue, Room 100, Albany, GA. 31702
Albany Herald Run Dates:
December 14, 2024
December 21, 2024
December 28, 2024
January 4, 2025

Corporations

NOTICE OF INCORPORATION
Notice is given that articles of incorporation that will incorporate Ladies Auxiliary KofC 3607, Inc. have been delivered to the Secretary of State for filing in accordance with the Georgia Business Corporation Code. The initial registered office of the corporation is located at 421 Edgewood Lane, Albany, GA 31707, and its initial registered agent at such address is Lisa T. Myler

Debtors & Creditors

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY. All creditors of the Estate of Alexandria Solberry, late of Dougherty County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to us. This 12th day of December, 2024.
Lauren H. Williamson, Administrator of the Estate of Alexandria Solberry
216 N. Westover Blvd.
Albany, GA 31707
December 21, 28, 2024 January 4, 11, 2024

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

All creditors of the Estate of Joyce H. Owens, late of Dougherty County, deceased, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said Estate are required to make immediate payment.
This 4th day of December 2024.
ROBIN OWENS
Executrix of the Estate of Joyce H. Owens
%DIVINE FINNEY DAVIS, PC
600 N. Jackson Street
Albany, GA 31701

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to all creditors of the Estate of PRISCILLA DIANNE MARTIN, Deceased, to submit an account of their demands to the undersigned within the time frame prescribed by law, and all persons indebted to said Estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned.
VICTOR N. MARTIN, Pettitioner
120 Amacola Court
Leesburg, GA 31762

NOTICE TO DEBTORS & CREDITORS

All creditors of the Estate of Harold Portes Roper, late of Dougherty County, deceased, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said Estate are required to make immediate payment.
This 4th day of December, 2024.
MARION WEBB
Executrix of the Estate of Harold Portes Roper
%DIVINE FINNEY DAVIS, PC
600 N. Jackson Street
Albany, GA 31701

NOTICE TO CREDITORS/DEBTORS
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY
IN RE: ESTATE OF MARY ANN JONES

All creditors/debtors of the Estate of Mary Ann Jones, deceased, late of Dougherty County are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to the law, and all persons indebted to said Estate are required to make immediate payment to Jimmie Lee Jones, Jr., Administrator of the Estate of Mary Ann Jones, deceased, c/o Attorney Valerie Brown-Williams, P.O. Box 681, Albany, Georgia 31702.
This 16th day of December, 2024.

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY
All creditors of the Estate of Jesse Clyde Hampton II, deceased, late of Dougherty County, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to me.
This 15th day of November, 2024.
J. Enrique Morales, Esq.
Attorney to the Administrator of the Estate of Jesse Clyde Hampton, II, Deceased
Rodriguez Hampton
3326 Hidden Trail Road Southeast
Smyrna, GA 30082
December 7, 14, 21, 28, 2024

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY
NOTICE is hereby given to all debtors and creditors of the Estate of Brenda Lavada Bradley late of said county, deceased, to render an account of their demands to the undersigned within the time prescribed by the law. All persons indebted to the estate are hereby requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned.
This 19th day of November, 2024.
William Douglas Bradley, Executor of the Estate of Brenda Lavada Bradley c/o Moorhead Law Firm, LLC
314 W. Residence Avenue
Albany, Georgia 31701
December 7, 14, 21, 28, 2024

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY
NOTICE is hereby given to all debtors and creditors of the Estate of Bland Newcomb Cleesattle of said county, deceased, to render an account of their demands to the undersigned within the time prescribed by law. All persons indebted to the estate are hereby requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned.
This 22nd day of November 2024.
Donald A. Cleesattle Jr., Executor of the Estate of Bland Newcomb Cleesattle
c/o John M. Moorhead, Esq.
314 W. Residence Ave
Albany, GA 31701
November 30, December 7, 14, 21, 2024

NOTICE

DOUGHERTY COUNTY
Notice is hereby given to all creditors of the Estate of Christine Chambless Brooks, deceased, to present an account of their demands to the undersigned within the time prescribed by law, and all persons indebted to the said estate are hereby requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned.
Terry Brooks, Administrator of the Estate of Christine Chambless Brooks
c/o Larry B. Owens, LLC
P.O. Box 352
Albany, GA 31702
229-430-9989
November 30, December 7, 14, 21, 2024

NOTICE

DOUGHERTY COUNTY
Notice is hereby given to all creditors of the Estate of Johnny Mack Thomas, deceased, to present an account of their demands to the undersigned within the time prescribed by law, and all persons indebted to the said estate are hereby requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned.
Lonnie Ruth Thomas
Executrix of the Estate of Johnny Mack Thomas
c/o Larry B. Owens, LLC
P.O. Box 352
Albany, GA 31702
229-430-9989
November 30, December 7, 14, 21, 2024

NOTICE TO DEBTORS & CREDITORS

All creditors of the Estate of Rebekah Fowler Griffin, late of Lee County, deceased, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said Estate are required to make immediate payment.
This 21st day of November, 2024.
JASON G. GRIFFIN
Executor of the Estate of Rebekah Fowler Griffin
% DIVINE FINNEY DAVIS, PC
600 N. Jackson Street
Albany, GA 31707
November 30, Dec 7, 14, 21, 2024

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY
IN RE: ESTATE OF ELIZABETH GALVIN BRAMBLE, DECEASED
All creditors of the estate of Elizabeth Galvin Bramble, deceased, late of Dougherty County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned Administrator of the Estate of Elizabeth Galvin Bramble.
This 10th day of December, 2024.
Beth Ann Bramble-Lansman, Administrator of the Elizabeth Galvin Bramble Estate
1802 West Lakeridge Drive
Albany, Georgia 31707
or
MOORE, CLARKE, DuVALL & RODGERS, P.C.
2829 Old Dawson Road
Post Office Drawer 71727
Albany, Georgia 31708-1727
229-888-3338

NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

STATE OF GEORGIA,
COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY.
All creditors of the Estate of GUSSIE PEARL SMITH deceased, late of Dougherty County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to us.
This 5th day of November, 2024.
Lauren H. Williamson
Administrator of the Estate of Gussie Pearl Smith
216 N. Westover Blvd.
Albany, GA 31707

Divorces

DOUGHERTY COUNTY
SUPERIOR COURT
STATE OF GEORGIA

Petitioner: Clarence L. Jackson vs.
Respondent: Minnie L. Jackson

Civil Action Case Number:
24CV-1045-3

NOTICE OF SUMMONS

TO: Minnie L. Jackson, Respondent
Named Above:
This notice has been published to let you know that a Divorce case was filed against you in the Superior Court on Nov. 20, 2024. The court issued an order for service of summons by publication on Nov. 22, 2024. You must file an Answer to the Petition with the clerk of Superior Court and serve the Petitioner with a copy of the Answer. The Petitioner's address is 1002 Saint Andrews Dr., Albany, GA 31707. You must file your Answer within sixty (60) days of the date of the order for service by publication. If you fail to file an Answer, then a judgment by default will be taken against you, and the Petitioner will get everything he asked for in the Petition for Divorce.

This the 22nd day of November, 2024.

Samantha Sebastian, Deputy Clerk
Dougherty County Superior Court
State of Georgia

DOUGHERTY COUNTY
SUPERIOR COURT
STATE OF GEORGIA

Petitioner: Zion Malone vs.
Respondent: Deshawn Waite, Jr.

Civil Action Case Number:
24CV-1050-4

NOTICE OF SUMMONS

TO: Deshawn Waite, Jr., Respondent
Named Above:
This notice has been published to let you know that a Divorce case was filed against you in the Superior Court on Nov. 20, 2024. The court issued an order for service of summons by publication on Nov. 25, 2024. You must file an Answer to the Petition with the clerk of Superior Court and serve the Petitioner with a copy of the Answer. The Petitioner's address is 2014 Kirkwood Rd., Albany, GA 31721. You must file your Answer within sixty (60) days of the date of the order for service by publication. If you fail to file an Answer, then a judgment by default will be taken against you, and the Petitioner will get everything he asked for in the Petition for Divorce.

This the 25th day of November, 2024.

Joseph W. Dent, Judge
Dougherty County Superior Court
State of Georgia

Juvenile Court

PUBLICATION

DOUGHERTY COUNTY JUVENILE COURT

IN THE MATTER OF: A.G. B/F
04/20/2016; Z.G. B/M 10/28/2013

To: Kevian Latrezz Green all unknown biological fathers, putative fathers, legal fathers, or any other individuals alleging custody or any other individuals who might be the father of A.G. B/F 04/20/2016; Z.G. B/M 10/28/2013 children born to Adijah Rainey mother on the aforementioned dates
A petition was filed in this Court by Social Services Supervisor, September 16, 2024. The Petition alleges the above-referenced child to be dependent according to Georgia law and seeks termination of your parental rights, if any. You may obtain a copy of the Petition, which sets forth the specific allegations in detail, from the Clerk of Juvenile Court of Dougherty County, 225 Pine Avenue, Room G-7, Ground Floor, Albany, Georgia, 31701, phone 229-431-2162.

By authority of an Order for Service by Publication by the Judge of said Court on or about the 12th day of December 2024, you are commanded to be an appear in the Juvenile Court of Dougherty County, Georgia, located at 225 Pine Avenue, Room G-7, Ground Floor, Albany, Georgia, 31701, within sixty (60) days of said Order for Service by Publication and on the 25th day of February, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. to then and there make defense to allegations of the petition, and to show cause why the prayers of the petition should not be granted, and why the said child and all parties named herein should not be dealt with according to the provisions of the law. The hearing is for the purpose of terminating your parental rights.

You or any other interested party may file a written objection or answer on or before the date and time for the hearing stated above by filing the same at the office of the Clerk of Juvenile Court of Dougherty County, Georgia, at the Dougherty County Courthouse located at 225 Pine Avenue, Basement, Juvenile Court, Albany, Georgia, phone is 229-431-2162.

By authority of an Order for Service by Publication by the Judge of said Court on the 19th day of November, 2024, you are commanded to be an appear in the Juvenile Court of Dougherty County, Georgia, at the Dougherty County Courthouse located at 225 Pine Avenue, Basement, Juvenile Court, Albany, Georgia, within sixty (60) days of said Order for Service by Publication and on the 21st day of January, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. to then and there make defense to allegations of the petition, and to show cause why the prayers of the petition should not be granted, and why the said child and all parties named herein should not be dealt with according to the

legitimate the child pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 19-7-22 and (2) notice of the filing of the Petition to legitimate with the Dougherty County Juvenile Court.

Witness the Honorable Herbie L. Solomon, Judge of said Court this ____ day of _____, 2024.

Tequila B. Woods, Clerk
Dougherty County Juvenile Court
Dougherty Judicial Circuit
William Godfrey
Special Assistant Attorney General
Post Office Box 2321
Albany, Georgia 31702
Phone (229) 573-7225
wjgodfrey@wjgodfrey.com

PUBLICATION

DOUGHERTY COUNTY JUVENILE COURT

IN THE MATTER OF: K.I. B/F
04/20/2012; T.M. B/F 08/21/2013; A.I. B/F 01/01/2015

To: Tasia Lashe Isaac a.k.a. Tasia Isaac Jackson mother or any other individuals alleging custody of K.I. 04/20/2012; T.M. 08/21/2013; A.I. 01/01/2015 children born to Tasia Lashe Isaac a.k.a. Tasia Isaac Jackson mother on the aforementioned date

To: Richard Molden all unknown biological fathers, putative fathers, legal fathers, or any other individuals alleging custody or any other individuals who might be the father of T.M. 08/21/2013; A.I. 01/01/2015 children born to Tasia Lashe Isaac a.k.a. Tasia Isaac Jackson mother on the aforementioned date

To: Eric Thomas all unknown biological fathers, putative fathers, legal fathers, or any other individuals alleging custody or any other individuals who might be the father of K.I. 04/20/2012; child born to Tasia Lashe Isaac a.k.a. Tasia Isaac Jackson mother on the aforementioned date
A petition was filed in this Court by Social Services Supervisor Windy Abraham, on the 16th day of September 2024. The Petition alleges the above-referenced child to be dependent according to Georgia law and seeks termination of your parental rights, if any. You may obtain a copy of the Petition, which sets forth the specific allegations in detail, from the Clerk of Juvenile Court of Dougherty County, 225 Pine Avenue, Room G-7, Ground Floor, Albany, Georgia, 31701, phone 229-431-2162.

By authority of an Order for Service by Publication by the Judge of said Court on or about the 12th day of December, 2024, you are commanded to be an appear in the Juvenile Court of Dougherty County, Georgia, located at 225 Pine Avenue, Room G-7, Ground Floor, Albany, Georgia, 31701, within sixty (60) days of said Order for Service by Publication and on the 25th day of February, 2025 at 1:30 p.m. to then and there make defense to allegations of the petition, and to show cause why the prayers of the petition should not be granted, and why the said child and all parties named herein should not be dealt with according to the provisions of the law. The hearing is for the purpose of terminating your parental rights.

You or any other interested party may file a written objection or answer on or before the date and time for the hearing stated above by filing the same at the office of the Clerk of Juvenile Court of Dougherty County, Georgia, and the Petitioner's Attorney, William Godfrey
Be advised that any biological father who is not the legal father of this child shall lose all rights to this child and shall not be entitled to object to the termination of his rights unless within thirty (30) days of receipt of this notice, he files a petition to legitimate the child pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 19-7-22 and (2) notice of the filing of the Petition to legitimate with the Dougherty County Juvenile Court.

Witness the Honorable Herbie L. Solomon, Judge of said Court this ____ day of _____, 2024.

Tequila B. Woods, Clerk
Dougherty County Juvenile Court
Dougherty Judicial Circuit
William Godfrey
Special Assistant Attorney General
Post Office Box 2321
Albany, Georgia 31702
Phone (229) 573-7225
wjgodfrey@wjgodfrey.com

PUBLICATION

DOUGHERTY COUNTY JUVENILE COURT

IN THE MATTER OF: F.T., W/M,
DOB: 08/01/2016

To: Lisa Daniel, Jarrod Taylor or any other individual who might be the biological father of one male child born to Lisa Daniel on August 1, 2016.

A petition was filed in this Court by Social Services Case Supervisor Treena White, on the 11th day of September, 2024. The Petition alleges the above-referenced child to be dependent according to Georgia law and seeks termination of your parental rights, if any. You may obtain a copy of the Petition, which sets forth the specific allegations in detail, from the Clerk of Juvenile Court of Dougherty County, 225 Pine Avenue, Basement, Juvenile Court, Albany, Georgia, phone is 229-431-2162.

By authority of an Order for Service by Publication by the Judge of said Court on the 19th day of November, 2024, you are commanded to be an appear in the Juvenile Court of Dougherty County, Georgia, at the Dougherty County Courthouse located at 225 Pine Avenue, Basement, Juvenile Court, Albany, Georgia, within sixty (60) days of said Order for Service by Publication and on the 21st day of January, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. to then and there make defense to allegations of the petition, and to show cause why the prayers of the petition should not be granted, and why the said child and all parties named herein should not be dealt with according to the

provisions of the law. The hearing is for the purpose of terminating your parental rights.

You or any other interested party may file a written objection or answer on or before the date and time for the hearing stated above by filing the same at the office of the Clerk of Juvenile Court of Dougherty County, Georgia, and the Petitioner's Attorney, Gregory T. Williams
Be advised that any biological father who is not the legal father of this child shall lose all rights to this child and shall not be entitled to object to the termination of his rights unless within thirty (30) days of receipt of this notice, he files (1) a petition to legitimate the child pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 19-7-22 and (2) notice of the filing of the Petition to legitimate with the Dougherty County Juvenile Court.

Witness the Honorable Herbie L. Solomon, Judge of said Court this 19th day of November, 2024.
Tequila Woods
Clerk of Dougherty County Juvenile Court
Gregory T. Williams
Special Assistant Attorney General
Post Office Box 1113, Camilla, Georgia 31708
Phone (229) 330-0614, Georgia Bar Number 443607

Miscellaneous

CASE NAME: BENJAMIN PRYMUS LEWIS

CASE NO: 2024-ES-445
GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY
PROBATE COURT

IN RE: The Petition to Probate Will in Solemn Form in the above-referenced estate having been duly filed,
TO: JACQUELINE HENDERSON and ALL OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES

This is to notify you to file objection, if there is any, to the Petition to Probate Will in Solemn Form, in this Court on or before **December 30, 2024.**

Be notified further: All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a Probate Court Clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
December 7, 14, 21, 28, 2024

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 Dougherty 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: PAINT PRO TOWING, LLC
Anyone with an ownership interest in a vehicle listed herein may file an answer to the petition on or before:
1/2/25
Answer forms may be found in the Magistrate Court Clerk's Office or online at:
www.georgiamagistratecouncil.com.

Vehicle Make: PONTIAC
Year: 2003
Model: SUNFIRE
VIN #: 1G2JB12FX37128140
Tag #: RBG0604
State: GA
Magistrate Court Case No.: 2024-391AV

Vehicle Make: JEEP
Year: 2019
Model: GRAND CHEROKEE
VIN #: 1C4RJFAG3K819122
Tag #: SHH2610
State: GA
Magistrate Court Case No.: 2024-383AV

Vehicle Make: HONDA
Year: 2013
Model: FIESTA
VIN #: 3FADP4BJ3DM191819
Tag #: TGVW0517
State: GA
Magistrate Court Case No.: 2024-388AV

Vehicle Make: HONDA
Year: 2008
Model: ACCORD
VIN #: JHMCP26328C027649
Tag #: RET0015
State: GA
Magistrate Court Case No.: 2024-385AV

Vehicle Make: CHEVROLET
Year: 2012
Model: MALIBU
VIN #: 1G1ZA5EU3CF215394
Tag #: TAV6465
State: GA
Magistrate Court Case No.: 2024-386AV

Vehicle Make: TOYOTA
Year: 2005
Model: 4-RUNNER
VIN #: JTEZU14R450048873
Tag #: RRR8987
State: GA
Magistrate Court Case No.: 2024-387AV

Vehicle Make: HYUNDAI
Year: 2005
Model: ELANTRA
VIN #: KMHDN46DXU193869
Tag #: SFQ3961
State: GA
Magistrate Court Case No.: 2024-384AV

Vehicle Make: NISSAN
Year: 2013
Model: SENTRA
VIN #: 3N1AB7AP4DL620591
Tag #: CQQ6940
State: GA
Magistrate Court Case No.: 2024-390AV

Vehicle Make: NISSAN
Year

53-12-261, and waiver of bond/reports/statements.) All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds for any such objections, and must be filed with the court on or before **January 6, 2025**.

All pleadings/objections must be signed before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your pleadings/objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel at the following address/telephone number for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.

Leisa G. Blount
Judge, Probate Court
Dougherty County, GA
P.O. Box 1827
Albany, GA 31702
(229) 431-2102

Citation dates: December 14, 21, and 28, 2024
January 4, 2025

GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY PROBATE COURT
IN RE: ESTATE OF: TEODOSIO HERNANDEZ
ESTATE FILE NO: 2024-ES-450
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Robert Hernandez has petitioned to be appointed administrator of the estate of TEODOSIO HERNANDEZ, Deceased, of said County. (The Petitioner has also applied for certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. 53-12-261, and waiver of bond/reports/statements.) All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds for any such objections, and must be filed with the court on or before January 6, 2025.

All pleadings/objections must be signed before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your pleadings/objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel at the following address/telephone number for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.

Leisa G. Blount
Judge, Probate Court
Dougherty County, GA
P.O. Box 1827
Albany, GA 31702
(229) 431-2102

Citation dates: December 14, 21, and 28, 2024
January 4, 2025

Probate Court 12 mth Support

GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY PROBATE COURT

IN RE: ESTATE OF
JERRY ROGER GRIFFIN
ESTATE FILE NO: 2024-ES-355

NOTICE OF PETITION TO FILE FOR YEAR'S SUPPORT

The Petition of **Carolyn Kidd Griffin** for a year's support from the estate of **JERRY ROGER GRIFFIN**, Deceased, for Decedent's surviving spouse having been duly filed, all interested persons are hereby notified to show cause, if any, on or before **December 30, 2024**, why said petition should not be granted.

All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds for any such objections, and must be filed on or before the time stated in the preceding sentence. All pleadings/objections must be signed before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your pleadings/objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel at the following address/telephone number for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.

Leisa G. Blount
Judge, Probate Court
Dougherty County, GA
P.O. Box 1827
Albany, GA 31702
(229) 431-2102

Citation dates: December 7, 14, 21, and 28, 2024

GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY PROBATE COURT

IN RE: ESTATE OF
ARTHUR JAMES JOHNSON
ESTATE FILE NO: 2024-ES-213

NOTICE OF PETITION TO FILE FOR YEAR'S SUPPORT

The Petition of **Nettie W. Johnson** for a year's support from the estate of **ARTHUR JAMES JOHNSON**, Deceased, for Decedent's surviving spouse having been duly filed, all interested persons are hereby notified to show cause, if any, on or before **December 23, 2024**, why said petition should not be granted.

All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds for any such objections, and must be filed on or before the time stated in the preceding sentence. All pleadings/objections must be signed before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your pleadings/objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel at the following address/telephone number for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.

Leisa G. Blount
Judge, Probate Court
Dougherty County, GA
P.O. Box 1827
Albany, GA 31702
(229) 431-2102

Citation dates: November 30, 2024
December 7, 14 and 21, 2024

GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY PROBATE COURT

IN RE: ESTATE OF
JERRY E. PETERMAN
ESTATE FILE NO: 2024-ES-442

NOTICE OF PETITION TO FILE FOR YEAR'S SUPPORT

The Petition of **Margaret Peterman** for a year's support from the estate of **JERRY E. PETERMAN**, Deceased, for Decedent's surviving spouse having been duly filed, all interested persons are hereby notified to show cause, if any, on or before **December 30, 2024**, why said petition should not be granted.

All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds for any such objections, and must be filed on or before the time stated in the preceding sentence. All pleadings/objections must be signed before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your pleadings/objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel at the following address/telephone number for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.

Leisa G. Blount
Judge, Probate Court
Dougherty County, GA
P.O. Box 1827
Albany, GA 31702
(229) 431-2102

Citation dates: November 30, 2024
December 7, 14, and 21, 2024

Probate Court Discharge

NOTICE
(For Discharge from Office and all Liability)

PROBATE COURT OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY
ESTATE NO: 2022-ES-119
PETITION OF MARY LYNDON DELOATCH
FOR DISCHARGE AS PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE ESTATE OF: MARY LONG RAY FOSTER BOATRIGHT
TO: ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

This is to notify you to file objection, if there is any, to the above referenced petition, in this Court on or before January 3, 2025. BE NOTIFIED FURTHER: All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All pleadings/objections must be signed before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your pleadings/objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.

Leisa G. Blount, Probate Judge
Dougherty County Probate Court
Post Office Box 1827
Albany, Georgia 31702-1827
(229)-431-2102

Public Sales/ Auctions

Hook Em Towing & Wrecker Service

Public Auction:12.23.2024 at 10:00 AM

IN ACCORDANCE WITH O.C.G.A. SECTION 40-11-02, FOURTEEN (14) ABANDONED, WRECKED, AND/OR STOLEN VEHICLES ARE TO BE AUCTIONED TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER. TERMS OF PAYMENT: CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK, DEBIT or CREDIT CARDS (ALL Credit/Debit Card payments will have a 3.5% CC fee added). (There is also a \$35.00 Administrative Fee added to each sell.) LOCATION: 204 Poplar Street, Albany, Ga 31707

Please note, all vehicles must be removed from the property by 1 PM on the date of the sell. No vehicles can be driven off the property.

The vehicles available for auction as stated above are identified as:

Vehicle Make: Honda
Year: 2013
Model: Accord
Vehicle ID #: 1HGCR2F30DA248511
Case No.: 2024-96AV

Vehicle Make: Toyota
Year: 2008
Model: Camry
Vehicle ID #: 4T1BE46K78U766124
Case No.: 2024-357AV

Vehicle Make: Kia
Year: 2015
Model: Soul
Vehicle ID #: KNDJP3A56F7792330
Case No.: 2024-277AV

Vehicle Make: Kia
Year: 2019
Model: Sorento LXL
Vehicle ID #: 5XYPGA430KG507987
Case No.: 2024-274AV

Vehicle Make: Dodge
Year: 2014
Model: Journey
Vehicle ID #: 3C4PDCGB7ET292882
Case No.: 2024-276AV

Vehicle Make: Nissan
Year: 2019
Model: Sentra
Vehicle ID #: 3N1AB7AP3KY208050
Case No.: 2024-273AV

Vehicle Make: Honda
Year: 2008
Model: Civic US LX
Vehicle ID #: 2HGFA16588H349075
Case No.: 2024-146AV

Vehicle Make: GMC
Year: 2003
Model: Yukon
Vehicle ID #: 1GKEC13Z8J255818
Case No.: 2024-247AV

Vehicle Make: Cadillac
Year: 2008
Model: CTS
Vehicle ID #: 1G6DV57V580189843
Case No.: 2024-248AV

Vehicle Make: Honda
Year: 2005
Model: Accord
Vehicle ID #: 1HJGCM56435A074394
Case No.: 2024-95AV

Vehicle Make: Kia
Year: 2014
Model: Forte
Vehicle ID #: KNAFX4A83E5051727
Case No.: 2024-249AV

Vehicle Make: Ford
Year: 2008
Model: Crown Victoria
Vehicle ID #: 2FAFP71V78X142812
Case No.: 2024-371AV

Paint Pro Towing,LLC
2804 Wilmar Lane
Albany, Ga.31707
January 15,2025
Wed.10:00 A.M. -2: P.M.

1.) 2001 Dodge Ram 1500
Vin # 1B7HC16X51S745188
Case # 2024-347AV

2.) 2017 Nissan Sentra
Vin # 3N1AB7AP2HY278003
Case # 2024-349AV

3.) 2014 Buick Verano
Vin # 1G4PR5SK0E4155224
Case # 2024-345AV

4.) 2014 Dodge Caravan
Vin # 2C4RDGBGXER260627
Case # 2024-345AV

5.) 2012 Toyota Camry
Vin # 4T1BF1FK6CU089913
Case # 2024-342AV

6.) 2019 Nissan Sentra
Vin # 3N1AB7AP5KY440181
Case # 2024-350AV

7.) 2006 Buick Rendezvous
Vin # 3G5DA03L86S565433
Case # 2024-351AV

8.) 2008 Chevrolet Avalanche
Vin # 3GNEC12078G163209
Case # 2024-348AV

9.) 2018 Mitsubishi Outlander
Vin # JA4AP4AW9JZ018563
Case # 2024-352AV

10.) 2007 Ford Edge
Vin # 2FMDK48C37BA81890
Case # 2024-344AV

11.) 2007 Mercedes Benz CLS550
Vin # WDDJ7Z1X17A096393
Case # 2024-346AV

12.) 2018 Nissan Sentra
Vin # 3N1AB7AP1J6550756
Case # 2024-117AV

13.) 2013 Dodge Charger
Vin # 2C3CDXBG9DH587697

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 Professional Locators and Recovery, Inc. 1107 Centennial Ave. Albany, GA 31707.

The vehicle(s) subject to liens as stated above are identified as:

2022 TOYOTA PRIUS
JTDKAMFU3N3160399
COLOR: SILVER
TAG: DAW5040 GA

2022 HYUNDAI ELANTRA
COLOR: BLUE
5NPLM4AG7NH070223
TAG: SFC0452 GA

2007 NISSAN FRONTIER
1N6AD09W87C458682
COLOR: GRAY
TAG: NONE GA

2016 NISSAN ALTIMA
1N4AL3AP0GC214249
COLOR: SILVER
TAG: NO TAG GA

2009 DODGE JOURNEY
3D4GG47B59T201808
COLOR: SILVER
TAG: RYV9280 GA

Bush Self Storage, units located at Bush Self Storage, 2421 Stuart Avenue, Albany, GA 31707, hereby gives notice of sale of contents in storage belonging to the following people:

M72 - Michael McConnell - miscellaneous
M76 - Michael McConnell - miscellaneous

The company reserves the right to accept or reject any bids and withdraw any item from this sale. The contents will be sold for cash only to the highest bidder by sealed bids, on the date of the sale - January 10, 2025 at 9 am. Successful bidders will remove all contents in the unit by the end of the day of the sale and broom sweep the unit.

If there are any questions, please call Jane at (229) 299-4407.

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 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: Hook Em Towing and Wrecker Service - 204 Poplar Street Albany, Ga 31707. Anyone with an ownership interest in a vehicle listed herein may file an answer to the petition on or before: 12-30-2024 . Answer forms may be found in the Magistrate Court Clerk's office located at: 225 Pine Ave - Albany, Ga 31701

Forms may also be obtained online at www.georgiamagistratecouncil.com.

Vehicle Make: Nissan
Year: 1996
Model: Maxima
Vehicle ID #: JN1CA21D0TT736174
Vehicle License #: RXC4965
State: GA
Magistrate Court Case No.: 2024-367AV

Vehicle Make: Ford
Year: 2011
Model: Crown Victoria
Vehicle ID #: 2FABP7BV6BX162804
Vehicle License #: SGK9582
State: GA
Magistrate Court Case No.: 2024-368AV

Vehicle Make: Nissan
Year: 2015
Model: Nissan
Vehicle ID #: 3N1AB7AP9FY327369
Year: 2015
Make: Nissan
Model: Sentra

Vehicle Make: Nissan
Year: 2015
Model: Nissan
Vehicle ID #: 3N1AB7AP9FY327369
Year: 2015
Make: Nissan
Model: Sentra

Vehicle Make: Nissan
Year: 2015
Model: Nissan
Vehicle ID #: 3N1AB7AP9FY327369
Year: 2015
Make: Nissan
Model: Sentra

Vehicle Make: Nissan
Year: 2015
Model: Nissan
Vehicle ID #: 3N1AB7AP9FY327369
Year: 2015
Make: Nissan
Model: Sentra

Vehicle Make: Nissan
Year: 2015
Model: Nissan
Vehicle ID #: 3N1AB7AP9FY327369
Year: 2015
Make: Nissan
Model: Sentra

Vehicle Make: Nissan
Year: 2015
Model: Nissan
Vehicle ID #: 3N1AB7AP9FY327369
Year: 2015
Make: Nissan
Model: Sentra

Vehicle Make: Nissan
Year: 2015
Model: Nissan
Vehicle ID #: 3N1AB7AP9FY327369
Year: 2015
Make: Nissan
Model: Sentra

Vehicle Make: Nissan
Year: 2015
Model: Nissan
Vehicle ID #: 3N1AB7AP9FY327369
Year: 2015
Make: Nissan
Model: Sentra

Vehicle Make: Honda
Year: 2007
Model: Accord
Vehicle ID #: 1HGCM665X7A077438
Vehicle License #: SEU1277
State: GA
Magistrate Court Case No.: 2024-371AV

Vehicle Make: Toyota
Year: 2001
Model: Camry
Vehicle ID #: 4T1BTG2K51U839114
Vehicle License #: TBU1522
State: GA
Magistrate Court Case No.: 2024-372AV

STRUMS ELITE CAR AUCTION
TIME: 10:00 AM
DATE: TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2025

LOCATION: Strums Elite Towing & Recovery 2800 Phillips Dr ALBANY, GA 31721

IN ACCORDANCE WITH O.C.G.A. SECTION 40-11-02, FIFTY-FOUR (54) ABANDONED, WRECKED AND STOLEN VEHICLES ARE TO BE AUCTIONED TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER.

TERMS OF PAYMENT: CASH, CHASHIERS CHECK OR PERSONAL CHECK WITH LETTER OF CREDIT FROM YOUR BANK. 10% CAR PREMIUM CHARGE ON EACH PURCHASE.

YEAR:2010
MAKE:FORD
MODEL:FLEX
VIN: 2FMGK5BCXABA77192

YEAR:2008
MAKE:FORD
MODEL:ESCAPE
VIN: 1FMCU93108KA99506

YEAR:2015
MAKE:GMC
MODEL:SIERRA
VIN: 3GTUGC3FG534815

YEAR:2016
MAKE:HYUNDAI
MODEL:SONATA
VIN: 5NPE34AF9GH276794

YEAR:2016
MAKE:CHEVROLET
MODEL:SILVERADO
VIN: 3GCUKREC3GG369895

YEAR:2004
MAKE:BMW
MODEL:3 SERIES 330i
VIN:WBABW5343PL41597

YEAR:2012
MAKE:HYUNDAI
MODEL:SONATA
VIN: 5NPEC4AB7CH361009

YEAR:2011
MAKE:HYUNDAI
MODEL:ELANTRA
VIN: KMHDH4AE3BU106977

YEAR:2008
MAKE:ACCORD
MODEL:HONDA
VIN: 1HGCP26878A132360

YEAR:2011
MAKE:CHEVROLET
MODEL:EQINOX
VIN: 2GNALPEC5B1325670

YEAR:2016
MAKE:HYUNDAI
MODEL:SONATA
VIN: 5NPE24AF36H358832

YEAR:2015
MAKE:CHRYSLER
MODEL:300
VIN: 2C3CCAAG1FH828962

YEAR:2007
MAKE:KW
MODEL:T200-SERIES
VIN: 1XKTD89X27J185013

YEAR:2008
MAKE:NISSAN
MODEL:ALTIMA
VIN: 1N4AL21E18N44832

YEAR:2014
MAKE:MERCEDES
MODEL:E CLASS
VIN: WDDHFBJ6E8019010

YEAR:2009
MAKE:HONDA
MODEL:ACCORD
VIN: 1HGCP26879A156966

YEAR:2012
MAKE:KIA
MODEL:FORTE
VIN: KNAFU4A27C5516995

YEAR:2012
MAKE:TOYOTA
MODEL:COROLLA BASE/E
VIN: 2T1BU4EEXCC838491

YEAR:2002
MAKE:HONDA
MODEL:CR-V
VIN: SHSRD78882U004034

Year: 2016
Make: FORD
Model:FUSION 2.

Vin: 5NPDH4AE3FH558027
Year:2015
Make:HYUNDAI
Model:ELANTRA

Vin:3N1AB7APXFY236000
Year: 2015
Make:NISSAN
Model:SENTRFA

Vin:3C6UR4CJ2HG684504
Year:2017
Make:Ram
Model:2500

Vin:ML32FUFJ3JPHF01979
Year:2023
Make:Mitsubishi
Model:Mirage

Vin:3N1AB7AP9FY327369
Year:2015
Make:Nissan
Model:Sentra

Vin:2GTEC13V161250175
Year:2006
Make:GMC
Model:SIERRA C1500

Vin:1C4NJCBAHXDD186428
Year:2013
Make:Jeep
Model:Compass

Vin:3N1AB7AP3EY278037
Year:2014
Make:Nissan
Model:Sentra

229-319-5924
Strums Elite Towing & Recovery

Service by Publication

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

Petitioner: Trevor Cook v Respondent: Angela Cook

Civil Action Case Number 2024-SUCV-979

ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBICATION

Petitioner having moved the Court for an order directing service to be made upon Respondent Angela Cook in the case named above, and it appearing to the Court from the verified Complaint and Affidavit in support of such motion that Respondent is a nonresident and that the action is an action in which a Respondent may be served by publication pursuant to O.C.G.A. 9-10-71, it is ORDERED, that service upon Respondent be made by publication as provided by law.

This 17th day of December, 2024

Denise Marshall, JUDGE,
Dougherty County Superior Court
State of Georgia

Foreclosures

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE OF RIGHT OF REDEMPTION

TO: HENRY CARTER ESTATE AND ALL HEIRS KNOWN AND UNKNOWN
1207 Creamer Street, Albany, Georgia 31705
and all persons who can claim any interest in and to said property:

Take Notice that:

The right to redeem the following described property, to wit: All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in the City of Albany, Dougherty County, Georgia, and being part of Lot 48 of Dixie Heights Subdivision, according to map or plat of said subdivision as same is recorded in Plat Book 1, Page 73, in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia, and according to a redivision of aid Lot as same is recorded in Plat Book 5, Page18, Dougherty County Land Records, and is the same property that is more fully and specifically described in a Deed of Recorded in Deed Book 681, Page 247, aforesaid Records. Subject to easements, restrictions and assessments as set forth in the above mention Deed.

Parcel No. 00001/00031/24B will expire and be forever foreclosed and barred on and after the 7th day of February 2025.

The Tax Deed to which this notice relates is dated the 1st day of August 2023, and is recorded in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia, in Deed Book 5122, Page 161. The property may be redeemed at any time before the 7th day of February 2025, by payment of the redemption price as fixed and provided by law to the undersigned at the following address:

MONTREAL ROBINSON
% Divine Finney Davis, PC
600 N. Jackson Street
Albany, GA 31701

PLEASE GOVERN YOURSELF ACCORDINGLY.
By: TIMOTHY O. DAVIS
Attorney for Montreal Robinson

BOOK 1, PAGE 104 (PLAT CABINET 1, SLIDE A 13); IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT, DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA. 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. 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 Deed to Secure Debt and by law, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given). WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. holds the duly endorsed Note and is the current assignee of the Security Deed to the property. WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., acting on behalf of and, as necessary, in consultation with FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION, A/K/A FANNIE MAE (the current investor on the loan), 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, WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. may be contacted at: WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., 3476 STATEVIEW BLVD., FORT MILL, SC 29715, 800 288 3212. 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 1301 EAGER ST, ALBANY, GEORGIA 31707 is/are: SHAWN JATARIA JENKINS, A MARRIED PERSON 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 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. WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. as Attorney in Fact for SHAWN JATARIA JENKINS, A MARRIED PERSON. THIS LAW FIRM IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. 0000010296317 BARRETT DAFFIN FRAPPIER TURNER & ENGEL, LLP 4004 Belt Line Road, Suite 100 Addison, Texas 75001 Telephone: (972) 341 5398. December 14, 21, 28, 2024 January 4, 2025

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

By virtue of a Power of Sale contained in that certain Security Deed from Dorothy N. Washington and Willie James Washington to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Countrywide Home Loans, Inc., dated November 20, 2006 and recorded on February 21, 2007 in Deed Book 3292, Page 106, in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia, said Security Deed having been given to secure a Note of even date, in the original principal amount of One Hundred Twenty-Two Thousand Six Hundred Forty and 00/100 dollars (\$122,640.00) with interest thereon as provided therein, as last transferred to The Bank of New York Mellon FKA The Bank of New York, as Trustee for the Certificateholders of the CWABS, Inc., Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2006-26, recorded in Deed Book 4220, Page 175, aforesaid records, will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the courthouse door of Dougherty County, Georgia, or at such place as has or may be lawfully designated as an alternative location, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in January, 2025, all property described in said Security Deed including but not limited to the following described property: All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in Dougherty County, Georgia, being lot 39, Branch Road Subdivision, as per plat recorded in Plat Book 4, Page 153, Dougherty County, Georgia records, which recorded plat is incorporated herein by this reference and made a part of this description. Said property being known as 904 Branch Road according to the present system of numbering houses in Dougherty County, Georgia. Said property may more commonly be known as 904 Branch Rd, Albany, GA 31705. The debt secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of default, non-payment of the monthly installments on said loan. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this

sale, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given). The individual or entity that has full authority to negotiate, amend and modify all terms of the loan is The Bank of New York Mellon FKA The Bank of New York, as Trustee for the Certificateholders of the CWABS, Inc., Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2006-26, Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing, 75 Beattie Place, Greenville, SC 29601, 1-800-365-7107. Notwithstanding the prior sentence, the Creditor is not required to negotiate, amend or modify the terms of the Security Deed. Said property will be sold on an "as-is" basis without any representation, warranty or recourse against the above-named or the undersigned. The sale will also be subject to the following items which may affect the title: a) zoning ordinances; b) matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or by an inspection of the property; c) any outstanding ad valorem taxes,

including taxes, which constitute liens upon said property whether or not now due and payable; d) special assessments; e) the right of redemption of any taxing authority; f) all outstanding bills for public utilities which constitute liens upon said property; g) all restrictive covenants, easements, rights-of-way and any other matters of record superior to said Security Deed. To the best of the knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the owners and party in possession of the property are Dorothy N. Washington and Willie James Washington and or tenant(s). 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. The Bank of New York Mellon FKA The Bank of New York, as Trustee for the Certificateholders of the CWABS, Inc., Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2006-26 as Attorney-in-Fact for Dorothy N. Washington and Willie James Washington. Contact: Padgett Law Group: 6267 Old Water Oak Road, Suite 203, Tallahassee, FL 32312; (850) 422-2520 Ad Run Dates: 12/14/2024, 12/21/2024, 12/28/2024, 01/04/2025

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER STATE OF GEORGIA DOUGHERTY COUNTY WHEREAS, Tiffany McCullough, a married woman, as borrower(s), executed a SECURITY DEED to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., acting solely as a Nominee for Household Realty Corporation., Lender which was dated 3/28/2007, and recorded on 4/3/2007, in Instrument No. , Deed Book 3311, Page 140, securing the payment of a Note in the amount of \$127,075.00 in Dougherty County, Georgia Register of Deeds. NOW, THEREFORE, notice is hereby given that the entire indebtedness has been declared due and payable as provided in said Security Deed by the Holder, and by virtue of the power of sale and authority vested in it, will on 2/4/2025 sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash During the legal hours of sale before the door of the courthouse of Dougherty County, Georgia. of Dougherty, the following described property situated in Dougherty County, Georgia, to wit: ALL OF LOT 229 OF SPRINGFIELD SUBDIVISION, SECTION 2, ACCORDING TO A MAP OR PLAT OF SAID SUBDIVISION AS THE SAME IS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 5, PAGE 89 (PLAT CABINET 1, SLIDE B-57), IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT, DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA. Tax Parcel ID: 00336-00001-024 Being real property commonly known as 502 CREEKSIDE CT ALBANY, GA 31721 The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the debt and all expenses of this sale including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given). Said sale will be made subject to the following items which may affect the title to said property: All restrictive covenants, easements and rights-of-way appearing of record, if any; all zoning ordinances; matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or by an inspection of the property; all outstanding or unpaid bills and assessments for street improvements, curbing, garbage, water, sewage and public utilities which may be liens upon said property; and any outstanding taxes, assessments and other liens superior to the security deed being foreclosed hereby. To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the above-described property is in the possession of the borrower and/or other persons with the consent and acquiescence of the borrower. Except to the extent that the Holder may bind and obligate Mortgagors to warrant title to the Property under the terms of the Security Deed, conveyance of the Property shall be made without any representations or warranties whatsoever express or implied. All sales are "as is", "where is". The entire purchase price is due and payable at the conclusion of the auction in the form of certified funds. Insufficient funds will not be accepted. Amounts received in excess of the winning bid will be refunded to the successful purchaser. This property is being sold with express reservation that the sale is subject to confirmation by lender or Substitute Trustee. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 44-14-162.2, the name, address and telephone number of the person or entity who shall have full authority to negotiate, amend, or modify all terms of the above-described mortgage is as follows: Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC, 1600 S. Douglas Road, Suite 200 A Anaheim, CA 92806, Telephone No.: 800-561-4567 The foregoing notwithstanding, nothing in O.C.G.A. Section 44-14-162.2 shall be construed to require THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON, F/K/A The Bank of New York as trustee for registered Holders of CWABS, Inc., Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2007-BC3 to negotiate, amend, or modify the terms of the Security Deed described herein. Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC as Attorney in Fact for Tiffany McCullough Attorney Contact: Miller, George and Suggs, PLLC 3000 Langford Road, Building 100 Peachtree Corners, GA 30071 Phone: 404-793-1447 Fax: 404-738-1558 TS # 24-32624 THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. A-4830787 12/21/24 12/28/24 1/4/25 1/11/25 1/18/25 1/25/25 2/1/25

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

By virtue of a Power of Sale contained in that certain Security Deed from Dorothy N. Washington and Willie James Washington to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Countrywide Home Loans, Inc., dated November 20, 2006 and recorded on February 21, 2007 in Deed Book 3292, Page 106, in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia, said Security Deed having been given to secure a Note of even date, in the original principal amount of One Hundred Twenty-Two Thousand Six Hundred Forty and 00/100 dollars (\$122,640.00) with interest thereon as provided therein, as last transferred to The Bank of New York Mellon FKA The Bank of New York, as Trustee for the Certificateholders of the CWABS, Inc., Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2006-26, recorded in Deed Book 4220, Page 175, aforesaid records, will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the courthouse door of Dougherty County, Georgia, or at such place as has or may be lawfully designated as an alternative location, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in January, 2025, all property described in said Security Deed including but not limited to the following described property: All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in Dougherty County, Georgia, being lot 39, Branch Road Subdivision, as per plat recorded in Plat Book 4, Page 153, Dougherty County, Georgia records, which recorded plat is incorporated herein by this reference and made a part of this description. Said property being known as 904 Branch Road according to the present system of numbering houses in Dougherty County, Georgia. Said property may more commonly be known as 904 Branch Rd, Albany, GA 31705. The debt secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of default, non-payment of the monthly installments on said loan. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER STATE OF GEORGIA DOUGHERTY COUNTY

By virtue of a power of sale contained in a certain security deed from Ethel Thorne-Manning to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for Transland Financial Services, Inc., its successors and assigns and recorded in Deed Book 2726, Page 23, Dougherty County, Georgia records given to secure a note in the original amount of \$56,525.00 with interest on the unpaid balance until paid, as last assigned to Nationstar Mortgage LLC by virtue of the assignment recorded in Deed Book 5235, Page 317, Dougherty County, Georgia records, the following described property will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash at the courthouse door of DOUGHERTY COUNTY, Georgia, or such other

location within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in January, 2025, to wit: January 07, 2025, the following described property: ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOT 378 OF THE 1ST LAND DISTRICT, IN THE CITY OF ALBANY, DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA, AND BEING ALL OF LOT 25 IN BLOCK "A" OF COLONIAL PLACE, ACCORDING TO A MAP OR PLAT OF SAID SUBDIVISION AS SAME IS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 1, PAGE 273, (PLAT CABINET 1, SLIDE A-35) IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA.

PARCEL ID NUMBER: TAX MAP 54, PARCEL 25

Being real property commonly known as 3507 Habersham Road, Albany, GA 31701.

The debt secured by the above-referenced security deed has been declared due because of the default in the payment of said debt per the terms of the note and other possible defaults by the borrower or the successor thereto. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the debt and all expenses of this sale including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given).

Said sale will be made subject to the following items which may affect the title to said property: All restrictive covenants, easements and rights-of-way appearing of record, if any; all zoning ordinances; matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or by an inspection of the property; all outstanding or unpaid bills and assessments for street improvements, curbing, garbage, water, sewage and public utilities which may be liens upon said property; and any outstanding taxes, assessments and other liens superior to the security deed being foreclosed hereby. To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the above-described property is in the possession of the borrower and/or other persons with the consent and acquiescence of the borrower.

Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2, the name, address and telephone number of the person or entity who shall have full authority to negotiate, amend, or modify all terms of the above-described mortgage is as follows: Nationstar Mortgage LLC 8950 Cypress Waters Blvd. Coppell, TX 75019 214-756-2432

The foregoing notwithstanding, nothing in O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2 shall be construed to require Nationstar Mortgage LLC to negotiate, amend, or modify the terms of the Security Deed described herein.

Nationstar Mortgage LLC as Attorney in Fact for Ethel Thorne-Manning Attorney Contact: Miller, George & Suggs, PLLC 3000 Langford Road, Building 100 Peachtree Corners, GA 30071 Phone: 404-793-1447 Fax: 404-738-1558

24GA935-0319

THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. December 14, 21, 28, 2024 January 4, 2025

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER STATE OF GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY

Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by Helen Boone to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for Wintrust Mortgage, a division of Barrington Bank & Trust Company, N.A., its successors and assigns dated November 15, 2019, recorded in Deed Book 4658, Page 1, Dougherty County, Georgia Records, as last transferred to Wintrust Mortgage, a division of Barrington Bank & Trust Company, N.A. by assignment recorded in Deed Book 5132, Page 86, Dougherty County, Georgia Records, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of THIRTY-THREE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY-FOUR AND 0/100 DOLLARS (\$33,374.00), with interest thereon as set forth therein, there will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the courthouse door of Dougherty County, Georgia, or at such place as may be lawfully designated as an alternative, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in January, 2025, the following described property: SEE EXHIBIT "A" ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF

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

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

Deed to the property in accordance with OCGA § 44-14-162.2.

The entity that has full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the mortgage with the debtor is: Nationstar Mortgage LLC, 8950 Cypress Waters Blvd, Coppell, TX 75019, (888) 480-2432.

Note, however, that such entity is not required by law to negotiate, amend or modify the terms of the loan.

To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party in possession of the property is Estate of Helen

Boone and Helen Boone or a tenant or tenants and said property is more commonly known as 201 Independence Drive,

Albany, GA 31705. Should a conflict arise between the property address and the legal description the legal description will control.

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

Wintrust Mortgage, a division of Barrington Bank & Trust Company, N.A. as Attorney in Fact for Helen Boone

McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLC 1544 Old Alabama Rd Roswell, GA 30076 www.foreclosurehotline.net

23-12781GA EXHIBIT "A"

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN THE CITY OF ALBANY, DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS ALL OF LOT 116 OF EASTGATE SUBDIVISION, ACCORDING TO A PLAT OF THE SUBDIVISION RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGES 329-330 IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA.

THE DESCRIBED TRACT IS KNOWN AS 201 INDEPENDENCE DRIVE ACCORDING TO THE PRESENT SYSTEM OF NUMBERING OF STREETS IN THE CITY OF ALBANY, GEORGIA.

MR/ January 7, 2025 Our file no. 23-12781GA-FT2

23-12781GA December 14, 21, 28, 2024 January 4, 2025

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER, DOUGHERTY COUNTY

Pursuant to the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by Johnny L. Williams and Leola Williams to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for Fidelity Mortgage a division of Delta Funding Corporation, its successors and assigns dated and recorded in Deed Book 3378 Page 312 Dougherty County, Georgia records; as last transferred to or acquired by U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity, but solely as Owner Trustee on behalf of BRAVO Residential Funding Trust 2022-RPL1, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of \$107,100.00, 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 Dougherty County, Georgia (or such other area as designated by Order of the Superior Court of said county), within the legal hours of sale on January 7, 2025 (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 116 in the Second Land District, City of Albany, Dougherty County, Georgia and being all of lot 113 of Indian Creek Subdivision, Phase I, according to map or plat of said subdivision as same is recorded in Plat Book 4, Page 209, (Plat Cabinet 1, Slide B-45), in the office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia.

For informational purposes only; the APN is shown by the county assessor as: 365-6-5; Source of title is book 1193, page 53 (recorded 04/17/92)

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 502 Navajo Ct, Albany, GA 31721 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): Johnny L. Williams or tenant or tenants. Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper is the entity or individual designated, who shall have full authority to negotiate, amend and modify all terms of the mortgage. Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper 8950 Cypress Waters Blvd. Coppell, TX 75019 1-888-480-2432

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 any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), (b) unpaid water or sewage bills that constitute a lien against the property whether due and payable or not yet due and payable and which may not be of record, (c) the right of redemption of any taxing authority, (d) any matters which might be disclosed by an

accurate survey and inspection of the property, and (e) any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above. The sale will be conducted subject to (1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code; and (2) final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 9-13-172.1, which allows for certain procedures regarding the rescission of judicial and non-judicial sales in the State of Georgia, the Deed Under Power and other foreclosure documents may not be provided until final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan as provided immediately above. U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity, but solely as Owner Trustee on behalf of BRAVO Residential Funding Trust 2022-RPL1 as agent and Attorney in Fact for Johnny L. Williams and Leola Williams

Aldridge Pite, LLP, Six Piedmont Center, 3525 Piedmont Road, N.E., Suite 700, Atlanta, Georgia 30305, (404) 994-7400, 1006-423A THIS LAW FIRM MAY BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. 1006-423A December 14, 21, 28, 2024 January 4, 2025

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE OF RIGHT OF REDEMPTION TO: MARTINEZ T. LOWE, SR.

3207 Winterwood Avenue, Albany, Georgia 31721 and all persons who can claim any interest in and to said property: Take Notice that: The right to redeem the following described property, to wit: All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in Land Lot 117, 2nd Land District, Dougherty County, Georgia, and being all of Lot 1 of Winterwood Subdivision, according to map or plat of subdivision as same is recorded in Plat Book 4, Page 21 (Plat Cabinet 1, Slide B-22), in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia. Said property is located at 3207 Winterwood Avenue, Albany, Georgia. Parcel No. 00364/00002/001 will expire and be forever foreclosed and barred on and after the 19th day of January 2025.

The Tax Deed to which this notice relates is dated the 1st day of August 2023, and is recorded in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia, in Deed Book 5122, Page 201. The property may be redeemed at any time before the 19th day of January 2025, by payment of the redemption price as fixed and provided by law to the undersigned at the following address: MONTREAL ROBINSON % Divine Finney Davis, PC 600 N. Jackson Street Albany, GA 31701

PLEASE GOVERN YOURSELF ACCORDINGLY. By: TIMOTHY O. DAVIS Attorney for Montreal Robinson GA State Bar No. 213025 600 N. Jackson Street Albany, GA 31701 229/883-1610 tim@tdfclaw.com

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER, DOUGHERTY COUNTY

By virtue of a Power of Sale contained in that certain Security Deed from JUDGE GILBERT and MARY GILBERT to FIRST FAMILY FINANCIAL SERVICES OF GA INC., dated July 28, 2000, recorded August 1, 2000, in Deed Book 2117, Page 129, Dougherty County, Georgia Records, said Security Deed having been given to secure a Note of even date in the original principal amount of Thirty-One Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty and 77/100 dollars (\$31,920.77), with interest thereon as provided for therein, said Security Deed having been last sold, assigned and transferred to Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB as trustee of WV 2017-1 Grantor Trust, there will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash at the Dougherty County Courthouse, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in January, 2025, all property described in said Security Deed including but not limited to the following described property:

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY

By virtue of a Power of Sale contained in that certain Security Deed from JUDGE GILBERT and MARY GILBERT to FIRST FAMILY FINANCIAL SERVICES OF GA INC., dated July 28, 2000, recorded August 1, 2000, in Deed Book 2117, Page 129, Dougherty County, Georgia Records, said Security Deed having been given to secure a Note of even date in the original principal amount of Thirty-One Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty and 77/100 dollars (\$31,920.77), with interest thereon as provided for therein, said Security Deed having been last sold, assigned and transferred to Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB as trustee of WV 2017-1 Grantor Trust, there will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash at the Dougherty County Courthouse, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in January, 2025, all property described in said Security Deed including but not limited to the following described property:

LAND REFERRED TO IN THIS COMMITMENT IS DESCRIBED AS ALL THAT CERTAIN PROPERTY SITUATED IN ALBANY IN THE COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY, AND STATE OF GEORGIA AND BEING DESCRIBED IN A DEED DATED 12/08/72 AND RECORDED 12/15/72, AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF THE COUNTY AND STATE SET FORTH ABOVE, AND REFERENCED AS FOLLOWS: BOOK 495 PAGE 165 ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN THE CITY OF ALBANY, DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS ALL OF LOT 1 OF MONTGOMERY SUBDIVISION, SECTION II, RESUBDIVISION OF LOTS 8 AND 9, BLOCK "C" OF EMILY G. HENDERSON SUBDIVISION, ACCORDING TO A MAP OR PLAT OF SAME RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE 357, IN THE OFFICE OF CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA.

Said legal description being controlling, however the property is more commonly known as 601 HARMON AVE, ALBANY, GA 31701.

The indebtedness secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of default under the terms of said Security Deed. The indebtedness remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same, all expenses of the sale, including attorneys' fees (notice to collect same having been given) and all other payments provided for under the terms of the Security Deed.

Said property will be sold on an "as-is" basis without any representation, warranty or recourse against the above-named or the undersigned. The sale will also be subject to the following items which may affect the title: any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes

which are a lien, whether or not now due and payable); the right of redemption of any taxing authority; matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or by an inspection of the property; all zoning ordinances; assessments; liens; encumbrances; restrictions; covenants, and any other matters of record superior to said Security Deed.

To the best of the knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the owner and party in possession of the property is JUDGE GILBERT, MARY GILBERT, ESTATE AND/OR HEIRS AT LAW OF JUDGE GILBERT, EARL FLEMING, ESTATE AND/OR HEIRS AT LAW OF MARY GILBERT, or tenants(s).

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

The entity having full authority to negotiate, amend or modify all terms of the loan (although not required by law to do so) is: Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC, Loss Mitigation Dept., 1600 South Douglas Road Suite 200A, Anaheim, CA 92806, Telephone Number: 800-561-4567. Nothing in O.C.G.A. Section 44-14-162.2 shall be construed to require a secured creditor to negotiate, amend, or modify the terms of the mortgage instrument.

WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB AS TRUSTEE OF WV 2017-1 GRANTOR TRUST as Attorney in Fact for JUDGE GILBERT, MARY GILBERT

THE BELOW LAW FIRM MAY BE HELD TO BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR, UNDER FEDERAL LAW. IF SO, ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Attorney Contact: Rubin Lublin, LLC 3145 Avalon Ridge Place, Suite 100, Peachtree Corners, GA 30071 Telephone Number: (877) 813-0992 Case No. CMS-22-07339-4 Ad Run Dates 11/23/2024, 12/14/2024, 12/21/2024, 12/28/2024, 01/04/2025

rselaw.com/property-listing November 23, December 14, 21, 28, 2024 January 4, 2025

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY THIS LAW FIRM IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by Christopher & Marilyn Mathis to 1st Franklin Financial Corporation recorded in Deed Book 4495, Pages 189-193, Dougherty County, Georgia Records, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the amount of \$33,620.13 with interest thereon as set forth therein, there will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the courthouse door of Dougherty County, Georgia, within the legal hours of sale on Tuesday, January 7, 2024 the following described property:

All that tract or parcel of land lying and being lot 10 and part of lot 9 of the Third Street Park Subdivision, Albany, Dougherty County, Georgia and being more particularly described as follows: Commence at the Southwest intersection of Third Avenue and Davis Street run thence West along the South right of way of Third Avenue 143.0 feet to the Northeast corner of Lot 10 and the Point of Beginning; thence continue West along the south right of way of Third Avenue 100 feet to the northwest Corner of Lot 9; thence south along the West line of Lot 9 138.0 feet to a point; thence East and parallel to Third Avenue for a distance of 22.0 feet; thence South and parallel to the West line of Lot 9 for a distance of 62.0 feet to a point on the north right of way of a 20-foot alley; thence along the North right of way of said alley for a distance of 78.0 feet to the Southeast Corner of Lot 10; thence North along the East line of Lot 10, 200 feet to the point of beginning.

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

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

To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party in possession of the property is or a tenant or tenants. Pursuant to O. C. G. A. §44-14-162.2, the name, address and telephone number of the individual or entity who shall have the full authority to negotiate, amend, or modify all terms of the above described mortgage is as follows: Douglas National Bank, or call 912-720-7235. The foregoing notwithstanding, nothing in O. C. G. A. §44-14-162.2 shall be construed to require 1st Franklin Financial Corporation to negotiate, amend or modify the terms of the Deed to Secure Debt described herein. The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the security deed. This 22nd day of November, 2024. 1st Franklin Financial Corporation AS ATTORNEY IN FACT FOR Christopher & Marilyn Mathis Wolfson & Osmus LLC Attorneys at Law P.O. Box 1726 Valdosta, GA 31603 (229) 257-0080 State Bar No. 555129 December 14, 21, 28, 2024 January 4, 2025

Notice of Sale Under Power

Georgia, Dougherty County

Under and by virtue of the Power of

kids' corner

SPORTS FACT:

This popular winter sport is played on ice and involves hitting a puck into a net.

Answer: Ice hockey

How they say that in...

English: Shovel
Spanish: Pala
Italian: Pala
French: Pelle
German: Schaufel

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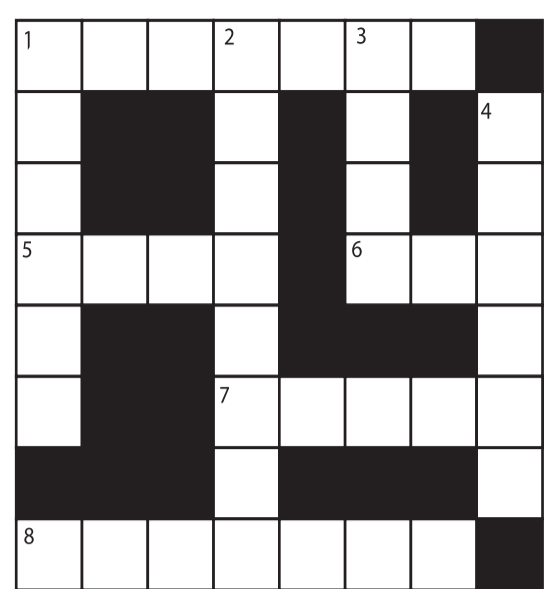
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Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS**
- Unexpected, beautiful things
 - Fluid from eye
 - ___-fi, book type
 - Move on hands and knees
 - Winter yard friend
- DOWN**
- Cold season
 - Animal that provides milk
 - Orderly columns
 - A bit cold

Answers: 1. Winter 2. Dairy cow 3. Rows 4. Chilly Down
 1. Wonder 5. Tear 6. Sci 7. Crawl 8. Snowman Across

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

DECEMBER 19

1783: 24-year-old William Pitt the Younger becomes the youngest Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.

1972: The last crewed lunar flight, Apollo 17, returns to Earth.

1998: Bill Clinton is impeached by the United States House of Representatives.

NEW WORD

MERCURY

a metal used in thermometers and barometers

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CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- Bad Bunny genre
- Maker of Cleansing Melts soap pads
- "There's a storm brewing"
- Traffic sign
- Digs at the beach
- New clothes hangers?
- Yurchenko double ___ vault now called the Biles II
- Stick in the water
- Oaf
- CrossFit moves
- Neither early nor late
- Dark
- Artistic hot spots
- Products of deductive reasoning?
- Study
- Loads
- Yarns
- Exclamation of approval
- Bow wood
- Acts like a gobstopper
- Unspoken
- News segment
- Grapefruit relative
- "Do I look like I care?"
- Word with freeze or fry
- Precursor to getting one's just desserts?
- "Well, that used to be true ..."
- Quarreling
- Lao Gan Ma condiment
- Eerie spray
- One of three in the Girl Scouts logo
- Bridesmaid's accessory
- Entertainment on a carousel, once

DOWN

- Condition whose therapy may include hissing like a snake
- ___ palm
- School house?
- Overexposed?
- George Halas Trophy org.
- Vessel at a teddy bear picnic
- Task on a postseason-to-do list
- High, in Italian
- Some brimless hats
- Deep-ocean mollusks
- Funny bones?
- Perspective
- Party planner's list
- Grants for researchers?
- Contact juggler's props
- ___ Vegas Raiders
- 3 out of 5, say
- ___ Valley sunbird: Middle Eastern species
- Air busses?
- Soda shop treats
- Spoon-fed line
- Profoundly bad
- Gp. with a compass rose emblem on its flag
- Southwest expanses?
- Many "What We Do in the Shadows" characters
- First unsigned artist to record a Billboard No. 1 hit
- Golf club part
- Sort of
- Stopping point
- Rascal
- Grillmaster's domain
- Territory nearly surrounded by Haryana
- Contribute to grass roots movements?
- "___ pleasure!"
- Regarding
- Be effusive
- Prompt

ANSWER TO TODAY'S PUZZLE:

By Stacey Yaruss McCullough & Matthew Stock ©2024 Tribune Content Agency, LLC

Did You Know?

When it snows, hills around many neighborhoods can become ideal spots for sledding. It is important to wear a helmet.

Answer: sledding child

Get the PICTURE?

Answer: sledding child

CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

" J DXKO ROOM CXJG PA YANU YJPD WAHO YAMGONSIE COACEO XMG JP DXW ROOM X DIVO VJSP, PA HO. "

— GAMXEG WIPDONEXMG

Previous Solution: "I like to do something good every day of my life, and I wanna leave the Earth better than I found it." — Chi Chi Rodriguez

TODAY'S CLUE: *M sjenba A*

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7 LITTLE WORDS

Find the 7 words to match the 7 clues. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in each solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.

CLUES

- easily persuaded (8)
- like the Ono Band (7)
- it talks, proverbially (5)
- "Show Boat" composer Kern (6)
- Chinese megalopolis (9)
- the "m" in mRNA (9)
- 1984 "The Cars" hit (5)

SOLUTIONS

MO BI RO PL NGQ
 ING ME AB IVE NEY
 DD GER MES JE AST
 SEN LE CHO IC DR

Friday's Answers: 1. SALTIE 2. TANGELO 3. KEOGHAN 4. PARIS 5. DAFFIEST 6. PINS 7. EVARISTO 12/21

ANSWER TO TODAY'S PUZZLE

12/22/24

Answers: 1. SALTIE 2. TANGELO 3. KEOGHAN 4. PARIS 5. DAFFIEST 6. PINS 7. EVARISTO 12/21

The Best Selection of USED CARS

Los Angeles Times Sunday Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Patti Varol

RELEASE DATE—Sunday, December 22, 2024

"WHEELING AND DEALING" BY ALAN MASSENGILL

ACROSS

- Pilates roll up targets
- Return advice pro
- Emmy winner Uzo
- States with authority
- Public notice
- Use a zoom
- Go over exam notes, e.g.
- Shopping for a Kia subcompact SUV?
- Check one's math again
- "I could go on"
- Clay mineral
- French café partner?
- Ryan Gosling and Kingsley Ben-Adir in "Barbie"
- Coastal concern
- No longer keen on that Ford crossover SUV?
- 37-Across+Y
- PC shortcut key
- Collaborators
- "Yikes!"
- Figure on the shelf at Christmas
- Genesis figure
- "Sorry, impossible"
- Flamenco star José
- "The Witch Elm" novelist French
- Choosing the Nissan with the all-wheel drive?
- "Love the new Ford crossover?"
- Rabbit
- Pans with patinas
- Munich Olympics star Mark
- Asian mushroom
- "Get Smart" crime org.
- Bring home
- NBA great Curry
- "Goosebumps" series writer
- "Julie & Julia" actor Stanley
- President's advisory gp.
- Skateboarding trick spot
- Drum kit piece
- Really irritated
- Tiny amount
- Commit a faux pas

DOWN

- Semicircular recess in a cathedral
- Dabs at
- Béarnaise, e.g.
- Windsor ___
- Lead
- "___ Twist, Scientist": kid-hit bestseller
- Class for a mathlete, informally
- Arlene of the silver screen
- Last Nissan truck off the assembly line?
- Past-post wager
- Guitar-playing "Glee" kid
- Disney film whose opening song is "The Family Madrigal"
- Fixers of fixer-uppers
- Temps for bundling up
- Low grade
- Retired jet, briefly
- Billion-dollar start-up show
- British trash can
- Viewpoint
- 7UP competitor
- "Think" singer Franklin
- Up to this point
- "Eat Mor Chikin" sloganeer, e.g.
- Completely full
- Red-haired primate
- Crystal ___
- "What ___ can I do?"
- GPS directive
- Class with smocks
- Electric fence measures
- Daily Insta post
- Arab honorific
- Steep places?
- Half a zygote
- Miscalculates
- Stays cool
- Turn toward
- Weep noisily
- Argumentative
- Zap in the microwave
- Doctor's order
- "I Am ___": Jenner reality show
- Kelp forest dweller
- Mums' mums
- Rankle
- "How cool!"
- Curmudgeon
- Convenience that may take a toll?
- Squeezing (by)
- No longer even
- Benchwarmer
- Sword handle
- Gad with magical arrows
- Pet protector
- Good place to pick up a cab?
- Commotion
- Lucy who played Watson
- Petrol provider
- Angry Birds owner
- Thingamabob
- "See attached" attachment
- Singer Mel
- Sales
- Gillette brand
- Tie together
- Slow and steady, musically
- "First ..."
- Radiologist
- Options at Ruth's Chris
- "So is that ___?"
- Cases for Mulder and Scully
- Hurried look
- "That's not totally wrong"
- Dial up
- "The Song of Achilles" inspiration
- Starbucks order
- Skim, as homemade
- chicken stock
- Zebra on a field
- Claude of "B.J. and the Bear"
- Pescatarian and vegetarian
- Course opener?
- Bouncy gait
- Actor Vigoda
- Indignation
- ___ velvet

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What to watch SATURDAY

December 21, 2024

All times Eastern. Start times can vary based on cable/satellite provider. Confirm times on your on-screen guide.

College Football Playoff: First Round

ABC, ESPN & TNT, beginning at noon Live

The College Football Playoff first round concludes today with SMU at Penn State and Clemson at Texas on TNT and Tennessee at Ohio State on ABC/ESPN. Winners advance to the quarterfinal round Dec. 31 and Jan. 1 on ESPN.

NFL Football

NBC & FOX, beginning at 1 p.m. Live

A special Saturday afternoon twin bill of Week 16 NFL games has the Houston Texans at the Kansas City Chiefs on NBC, followed by the Pittsburgh Steelers at the Baltimore Ravens on FOX.

A Country Music Christmas

UPtv, 7 p.m. ■ Original Film

Songwriter Brooke (Alexandra Harris) has



'Happy Howlidays'

HALLMARK MEDIA

the decision of a lifetime to make when a charming executive makes promises of fortune and glory that require leaving her best friend and writing partner behind.

Christmas in Scotland

Great American Family, 8 p.m. ■ Original Film

On a trip to Scotland, an installation designer finds herself helping a small community

create a festive light display despite the interventions of a wealthy heir. Forced to work together, they unite to bring seasonal magic to the town. Jill Winternitz and Dominic Watters star.

The Walton's Homecoming

The CW, 8 p.m.

John-Boy (Logan Shroyer) embarks on a life-altering journey to find his father on Christmas Eve in this 2021 TV movie.

Happy Howlidays

Hallmark Channel, 8 p.m. ■ Original Film

Mia (Jessica Lowndes), an editor for the Seattle Tourism Board website, finds herself unexpectedly navigating the holidays alone when she encounters a stray dog. After meeting Max (played by the to-be-announced winner of Finding Mr. Christmas), a dog-shelter owner, she agrees to let his ailing dog find solace with her newfound companion in exchange for him showing her some hidden gems in Seattle, forcing her to discover new perspectives while forming a meaningful connection.

Saturday Night Live

NBC, 11:30 p.m. Live; also livestreams on Peacock

Martin Short returns for his third individual SNL hosting appearance, his fifth time overall. He is joined by Hozier, making his second appearance as musical guest. SNL will return with new episodes starting Jan. 18.

MOVIES YOU'LL LOVE



'Blockers'

UNIVERSAL

A Reason for the Season (2024, Drama) Taylor Cole, Kevin McGarry **Hallmark, 6 p.m.**

The Holiday Junkie (2024, Romance) Jennifer Love Hewitt, Brian Hallisay **Lifetime, 6 p.m.**

Blockers (2018, Comedy) Leslie Mann, Ike Barinholtz **USA, 7:30 p.m.**

Billy Madison (1995, Comedy) Adam Sandler, Darren McGavin **E!, 8 p.m.**

Black Panther (2018, Action) Chadwick Boseman, Michael B. Jordan **TBS, 8 p.m.**

Footloose (1984, Drama) Kevin Bacon, Lori Singer **VH1, 8 p.m.**

Living With My Mother's Killer (2024, Suspense) Rhiannon Fish, Greyston Holt **LMN, 8 p.m.**

Nutty Professor II: The Klumps (2000, Comedy) Eddie Murphy, Janet Jackson **BET, 8 p.m.**

National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation (1989, Comedy) Chevy Chase, Beverly D'Angelo **AMC, 9 p.m.**

Die Hard With a Vengeance (1995, Action) Bruce Willis, Jeremy Irons **TNT, 10 p.m.**

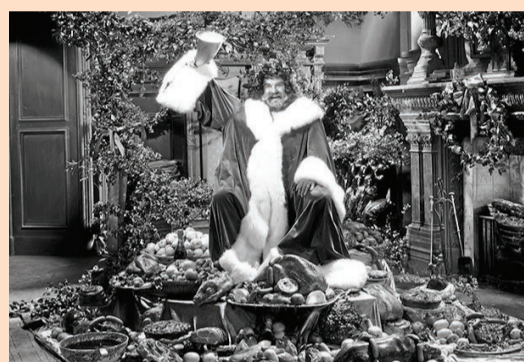
CATCH A CLASSIC

A Christmas Carol (1938)

TCM, 10:30 a.m.

Among the countless film and television adaptations of Charles Dickens' classic 1843 novella *A Christmas Carol* that have been produced, this MGM release from 1938 has been among the most beloved and among the ones most frequently seen on television. Given how familiar the tale has become, and how most adaptations hit a good number of the basic story points known and loved by readers and viewers, when it comes to watching different interpretations of

A Christmas Carol, what usually matters most is what the various actors bring to the legendary characters. The cast in this relatively brief (only 69 minutes long) version — which is one of the more family-friendly adaptations, generally excising most of the darker and bleaker aspects of Dickens' story — is fun, led by Reginald Owen as the miser Ebenezer Scrooge; real-life spouses Gene and Kathleen Lockhart as Bob Cratchit and his wife (with their real-life 13-year-old daughter June Lockhart, making her screen debut, in an uncredited role as a Cratchit daughter); Terry Kilburn as Tiny Tim Cratchit; Leo G. Carroll as the ghost of Jacob Marley; Ann Rutherford as the Spirit of



WARNER BROS.

Christmas Past; Lionel Braham as the Spirit of Christmas Present; and D'Arcy Corrigan as the Spirit of Christmas Future.

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What to watch SUNDAY

December 22, 2024

All times Eastern. Start times can vary based on cable/satellite provider. Confirm times on your on-screen guide.

What If ...?

Disney+ ■ Season Premiere

The animated Marvel series returns for its third and final season, featuring one new episode daily beginning today and continuing through Dec. 29. Once again, The Watcher (voiced by Jeffrey Wright) guides viewers through alternate versions of the Marvel Cinematic Universe, traversing new genres, bigger spectacles and fan-favorite characters like Captain America/Sam Wilson, The Winter Soldier/Bucky Barnes, Hulk/Bruce Banner, Red Guardian, Captain Peggy Carter, Agatha Harkness, Shang-Chi, Storm the Goddess of Thunder and others. A host of stars will be reprising their roles from the live-action films with voice-overs.

North by North Pole: A Dial 5 Mystery

UPtv, 7 p.m. ■ Original Film

Santa is back to help a new couple solve a mystery and find romance. Zoey (Abby Ross) has one Christmas wish — to produce the perfect holiday festival for her hometown of Willow Creek. That wish becomes more difficult when Dalton (Joe Scarpellino), the sponsor's handsome but aggravating son, becomes her partner and his modern ideas clash with Zoey's more traditional vision. However, when suspicious things start hap-



'Dune: Prophecy'

ATTILA SZVACSEK, HBO

pening, they realize someone is trying to stop the festival, and they must team up to save it.

Tyler Perry's A Madea Christmas

The CW, 7 p.m. ■ Network Premiere

In this 2013 comedy, Madea (Tyler Perry) dishes out her own brand of Christmas spirit when she accompanies her niece Eileen (Anna Maria Horsford) to a small rural town to pay a surprise visit to Eileen's daughter (Tika Sumpter), who has refused to come home for the holiday.

Lucy Worsley's Holmes vs. Doyle

PBS, 8 p.m. ■ Series Finale

In the final episode, "Shadows and Sleuths," historian Lucy Worsley investigates how World War I and the reality of author Arthur Conan Doyle's life shaped the darkness of later Sherlock Holmes stories. Worsley also looks at how Holmes' legacy would grow on

stage and screen into the 21st century.

The Simpsons

FOX, 8 p.m.

In the new episode "The Man Who Flew Too Much," the new and improved Pin Pals travel to Capital City for their first-ever state bowling championship.

NFL Football: Tampa Bay at Dallas

NBC, 8:15 p.m. Live

AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas, is the site of this Week 16 *Sunday Night Football* game between the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and the Dallas Cowboys.

The 47th Annual Kennedy Center Honors

CBS, 8:30 p.m.

This year's national celebration of the arts in Washington, D.C., lauds acclaimed filmmaker Francis Ford Coppola; legendary American rock band The Grateful Dead; blues-rock singer-songwriter and guitarist Bonnie Raitt; jazz trumpeter, pianist and composer Arturo Sandoval; and the Apollo, which will receive special Honors as an iconic American institution.

The Great North

FOX, 9 p.m.

While Beef (voice of Nick Offerman) is away, the family's fishing boat goes missing, leading the Tobin siblings to wildly speculate on what could have happened, in the new episode "The Lies Aquatic Adventure."

Dune: Prophecy

HBO, 9 p.m. ■ Season Finale

This *Dune* prequel series telling the story of two Harkonnen sisters as they combat forces that threaten the future of humankind concludes its first season. Emily Watson, Olivia Williams and Travis Fimmel star.

MOVIES YOU'LL LOVE



'Toy Story 4'

DISNEY / PIXAR

A Carpenter Christmas Romance (2024, Romance) Sasha Pieterse, Mitchell Slaggert **Lifetime, 6 p.m.**

Toy Story 4 (2019, Children) Tom Hanks, Tim Allen **FX, 6 p.m.**

Edge of Tomorrow (2014, Science fiction) Tom Cruise, Emily Blunt **E!, 6:30 p.m.**

National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation (1989, Comedy) Chevy Chase, Beverly D'Angelo **AMC, 7 p.m.**

Tyler Perry's Madea's Family Reunion (2006, Comedy) Tyler Perry, Blair Underwood **VH1, 7 p.m.**

The Best Man Holiday (2013, Comedy-drama) Morris Chestnut, Taye Diggs **BET, 7:30 p.m.**

A Christmas Melody (2015, Comedy) Lacey Chabert, Brennan Elliott **Hallmark Mystery, 8 p.m.**

Be Careful What You Say (2024, Suspense) Skye Coyne, Jason Tobias **LMN, 8 p.m.**

The Santa Clause (1994, Family) Tim Allen, Judge Reinhold **ABC, 8 p.m.**

Gladiator (2000, Historical drama) Russell Crowe, Joaquin Phoenix **E!, 9 p.m.**

Trading Up Christmas (2024, Drama) Italia Ricci, Michael Xavier **Hallmark Mystery, 10 p.m.**

Die Hard (1988, Action) Bruce Willis, Alan Rickman **TNT, 10:30 p.m.**

This Christmas (2007, Comedy-drama) Delroy Lindo, Idris Elba **BET, 10:30 p.m.**

CATCH A CLASSIC

Christmas in Connecticut (1945)

TCM, 8 p.m.

This beloved 1945 holiday farce stars Barbara Stanwyck as single New Yorker Elizabeth Lane, who in her job as a food writer has been pretending to live the life of a perfect farmer's wife and mother,

earning the admiration of real housewives nationwide under false pretenses. But when Elizabeth's editor (Sydney Greenstreet), who is unaware she is lying, insists that she host a Christmas dinner for returning war hero Jefferson Jones (Dennis Morgan), a big fan of Elizabeth's recipes (which she has been getting from someone else), she needs to scramble and cobble together both a farm and a "family" to pull off the dinner. Things get even more complicated when she meets Jones and it's love at first sight.



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From the editors of **tv** Weekly and **tvinsider.com**

What to watch

MONDAY

December 23, 2024

All times Eastern. Start times can vary based on cable/satellite provider. Confirm times on your on-screen guide.

College Football

ESPN, beginning at 11 a.m. Live

Today's college football bowl games are Coastal Carolina vs. UTSA in the Myrtle Beach Bowl in South Carolina and Northern Illinois vs. Fresno State in the Famous Idaho Potato Bowl in Boise.

NFL Football: New Orleans at Green Bay

ESPN, 8 p.m. Live

The New Orleans Saints try for an upset win on the road at Lambeau Field when they take on Jordan Love and the Green Bay Packers on *Monday Night Football*.

Christmas at Graceland

NBC, 8 p.m.

The legacy of Elvis Presley and the spirit of the holiday season come together in this one-hour live music special that first aired in 2023. It features music's biggest stars celebrating the King of Rock 'n' Roll, his music and his favorite time of year, and it is filmed from all corners of the estate, which is guaranteed to excite the millions of people who have visited Graceland as well as those who have not.

Get Millie Black

HBO, 9 p.m. ■ Season Finale

This noir crime thriller following ex-Scotland Yard detective Millie-Jean Black (Tamara Lawrance) as she tries to crack missing-persons cases concludes Season 1.

A 'Saturday Night Live' Christmas

NBC, 9 p.m.

Enjoy two hours of the most memorable Christmas-themed sketches from SNL's long history.



DES WILLIE, HBO

CATCH A CLASSIC

Holiday Affair (1949)

TCM, 8 p.m.

Robert Mitchum may be better known for his tough-guy roles in films noir, Westerns and dramas, but he displays a nice comic touch with a change-of-pace role for him in this 1949 Yuletide-flavored romantic comedy. Mitchum plays department-store clerk Steve Mason, who ends up getting fired after he lets war widow Connie Ennis (Janet Leigh), who is also a comparison shopper for a rival store, off the hook for returning



TURNER ENTERTAINMENT CO.

a pricey train set. But Steve is determined to make a Christmas gift of the toy to give to Connie's young son — and to go to war for her affections against her sort-of steady (Wendell Corey). Harry Morgan, Henry O'Neill and Esther Dale also star.

MOVIES YOU'LL LOVE



GLEN WILSON

A Very Merry Beauty Salon (2024, Romance) Tia Mowry, RonReaco Lee **Lifetime, 6 p.m.**

Four Christmases (2008, Romance-comedy) Vince Vaughn, Reese Witherspoon **AMC, 6 p.m.**

This Christmas (2007, Comedy-drama) Delroy Lindo, Idris Elba **BET, 6:30 p.m.**

Elf (2003, Children) Will Ferrell, James Caan **AMC, 8 p.m.**

One Royal Holiday (2020, Romance) Laura Osnes, Aaron Tveit **Hallmark, 8 p.m.**

The Holiday Junkie (2024, Romance) Jennifer Love Hewitt, Brian Hallisay **Lifetime, 8 p.m.**

Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory (1971, Children) Gene Wilder, Jack Albertson **TNT, 8 p.m.**

Pacific Rim (2013, Science fiction) Charlie Hunnam, Diego Klattenhoff **SVFY, 8:30 p.m.**

You've Got Mail (1998, Romance-comedy) Tom Hanks, Meg Ryan **E!, 9:30 p.m.**

Devil on Campus: The Larry Ray Story (2024, Docudrama) Billy Zane, Tedra Rogers **LMN, 10 p.m.**

Office Christmas Party (2016, Comedy) Jason Bateman, Olivia Munn **TNT, 10 p.m.**

Cloverfield (2008, Science fiction) Michael Stahl-David, Mike Vogel **SVFY, 11:30 p.m.**

From the editors of

TV Weekly and tvinsider.com



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MOVIES
24/7 GRIDS
BEST BETS

TIPS FOR A SAFE AND FESTIVE HOLIDAY SEASON

FAMILY FEATURES

As people prepare to gather with family and friends this holiday season, it's important to think about health and safety.

"With the holidays just around the corner, now is the perfect time to think about how you can help protect yourself from serious illness from flu, COVID-19 and RSV — and support your loved ones in doing the same," said Dr. Rachel Levine, assistant secretary for health at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). "Vaccination is an important step in having a happy and healthy celebration."

While preparing for holiday festivities, keep these recommendations in mind to help protect yourself from severe flu, COVID-19 and RSV.

Flu: Flu season usually peaks during the winter months, so now is a great time to get the 2024-25 flu vaccine. It's recommended for people 6 months and older to lower their risk of infection or serious illness from the flu. In fact, people who skipped their flu shot last year were twice as likely to need medical help for the flu. The best time to get vaccinated is at least a couple of weeks before a holiday gathering. But getting vaccinated later in the season can still help. Encourage your family and friends to get the flu vaccine, too. Together you can create safer holiday celebrations.

COVID-19: Getting vaccinated against COVID-19 is also important for everyone ages 6 months and older. The updated COVID-19 vaccines offer the best protection against serious illness from the virus, especially for those at higher risk. This includes people with certain health conditions or older adults, which may include parents, grandparents and great aunts or uncles. By getting vaccinated, people of all ages can lower their risk of getting severely sick. In fact, young adults are at higher risk of developing Long COVID than older adults. However, staying up to date on your COVID-19 vaccines lowers your risk of Long COVID, too.

RSV: RSV can be especially risky for older adults and babies. That's why everyone 75 and older, people 60-74 with certain health conditions or who live in a nursing home and pregnant people should get the RSV vaccine. Pregnant people should get the RSV vaccine at 32-36 weeks of pregnancy to help protect their newborns from severe RSV during their first six months of life.

As you prepare for the holidays, remember that prevention is the best way to keep from getting seriously sick from flu, COVID-19 and RSV. By getting vaccinated now, you can enjoy the holiday season with greater confidence and less risk of missing time together. Being vaccinated helps keep your symptoms milder if you get infected after vaccination so you can do the things you want to do with less risk of spreading infection.

Talk with your doctor about which vaccines are right for you as well as for any loved ones you help care for. Visit cdc.gov/RiskLessDoMore for more information on vaccines, or visit vaccines.gov to get started.



Photos courtesy of Shutterstock



THE EFFECTS OF FLU, COVID-19 AND RSV ON DIFFERENT POPULATIONS

People who are Black, Hispanic or who live in rural areas may be at higher risk of severe illness from flu, COVID-19 and RSV than others. Getting vaccinated is the best protection from getting seriously sick from these viruses. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):

- Last flu season, Black adults were more than twice as likely as white adults to be hospitalized for flu.
- Last flu season, Hispanic adults were more likely than white adults to be hospitalized for flu.
- One in 3 adults living in rural areas have never been vaccinated against COVID-19. For people living in rural areas, health services may be far away. That can mean it takes some planning to get vaccinated. But being far from medical care also means it's even more important to lower your risk of serious illness by getting vaccinated.

CLOSE TO HOME John McPherson



"Your favorite holiday catalog just arrived."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS Bill Keane



12-16

"Daddy says no toys that hafta be put together 'cause we have four kids and only one father."

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Patti Varol

ACROSS

- 1 Words to a bride and groom
- 6 Actress Ferris
- 9 "All I Want for Christmas Is You" singer Mariah
- 14 Mole sauce chile
- 15 Short "As I see it"
- 16 Urgent
- 17 Ross who ran for president twice
- 18 Petty peeve
- 19 Downton Abbey staffers
- 20 Above-the-street rumberls
- 23 Younger "ManningCast" brother
- 24 Team's adjective
- 25 Govt. ID issuer
- 28 Stool supports
- 31 Surf shop array
- 36 Possibly unattainable entry on a bucket list
- 39 Goopy campfire treat
- 40 Crafts partner
- 41 Draped garments in Hindi films
- 43 Boo-boo
- 44 Stand in good
- 46 Really big ask
- 48 Vice president Kamala
- 50 Horse's foot
- 51 Golf hole meas.
- 52 "Cheers" bartender
- 54 Nonprofit org. with a Directors Series
- 56 Like most televisions, and what can be found at the start of 20-, 36-, or 46-Across
- 64 Greek fable writer
- 65 Party bowlful
- 66 See 68-Across
- 67 Airline based in Atlanta
- 68 With 66-Across, like some menus
- 69 Fill with joy
- 70 Classic theater name
- 71 Young chap
- 72 Church council

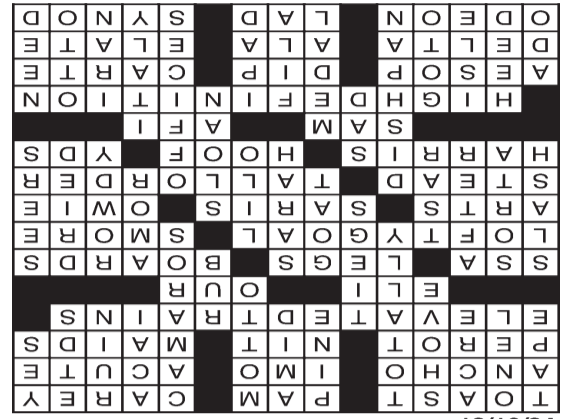
DOWN

- 1 Scotch
- 2 Law school newbie
- 3 Land measure
- 4 Push rudely
- 5 In all respects
- 6 Cone-bearing tree
- 7 Bundled in with
- 8 Inspirational slogan
- 9 Chevy muscle cars
- 10 Berry in some purple smoothies
- 11 Wreckage
- 12 Takeoff guesses: Abbr.
- 13 "Absolutely!"
- 21 Supermodel Cheryl
- 22 Barbecue chef's spice blend
- 25 Reduce, as prices
- 26 "More or less"
- 27 Photo caption following a makeover
- 29 Farm animal with horns
- 30 Comedian Silverman
- 32 Love, in Spanish

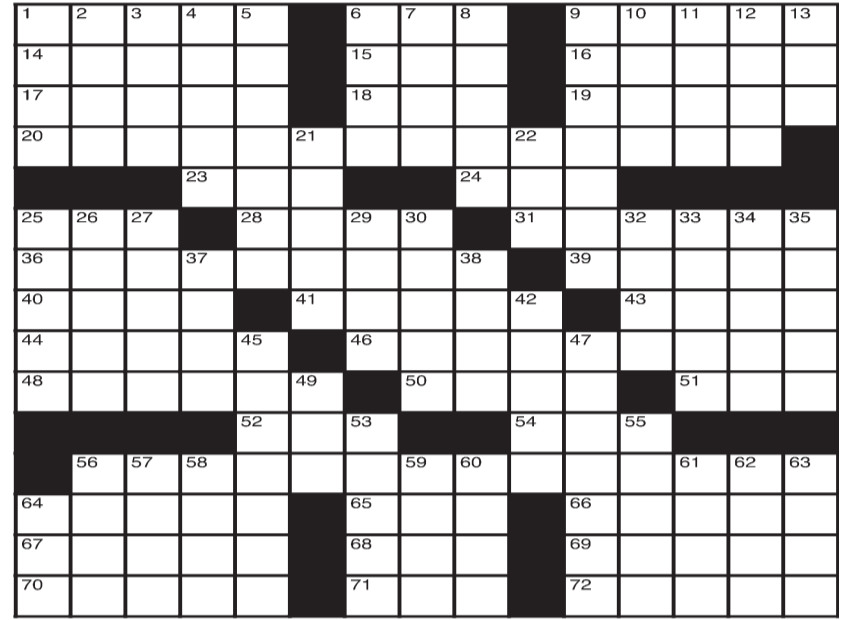
- 33 Loud and disorderly
- 34 Toweled (off)
- 35 Clairvoyants
- 37 Former Russian ruler
- 38 Stitch's pal
- 42 Memorial
- 45 Portable washing receptacle
- 47 Workplaces
- 49 Bummed out

- 53 Olympian's prize
- 55 Country shaped like a boot
- 56 Pay attention to
- 57 Cruise stop
- 58 Attend, as a party
- 59 Sportswear brand
- 60 Apple tablet
- 61 Tehran's country
- 62 the Orange: Syracuse mascot
- 63 "I go on?"
- 64 Hubbub

TODAY'S SOLUTION:



12/16/24



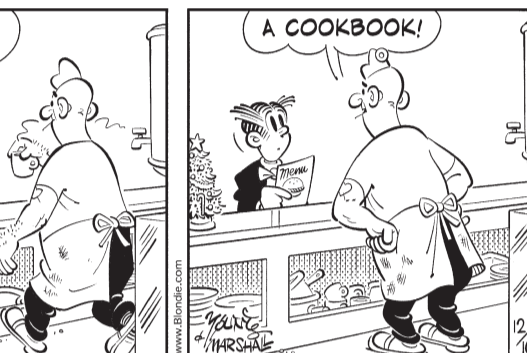
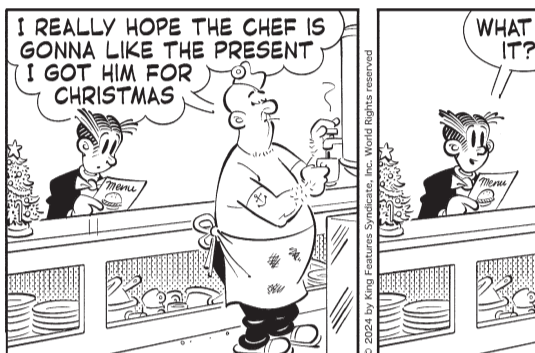
By Janice Luttrell ©2024 Tribune Content Agency, LLC

12/16/24

BEETLE BAILEY Mort & Greg Walker



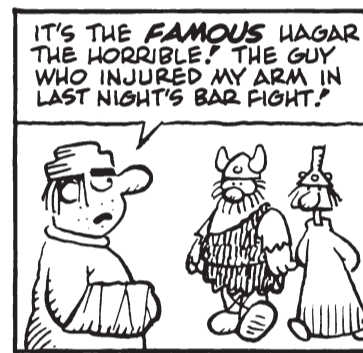
BLONDIE Dean Young & John Marshall



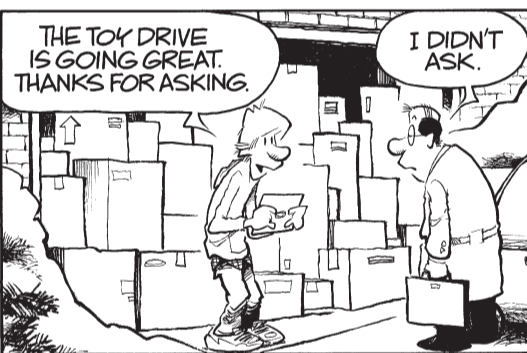
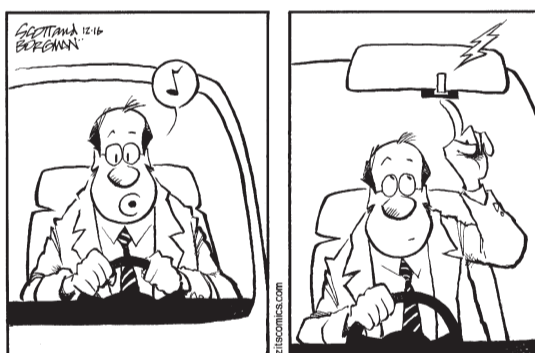
THE BORN LOSER Art & Chip Sansom



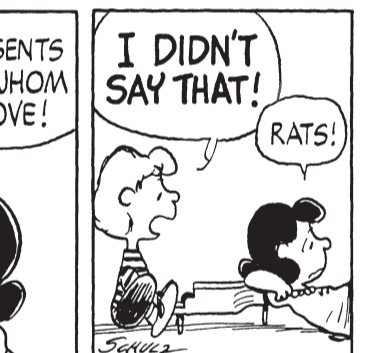
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE Chris Browne



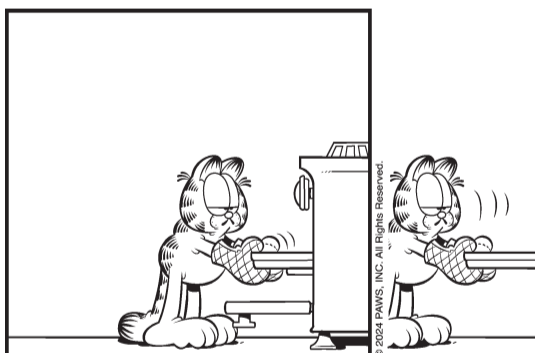
ZITS Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



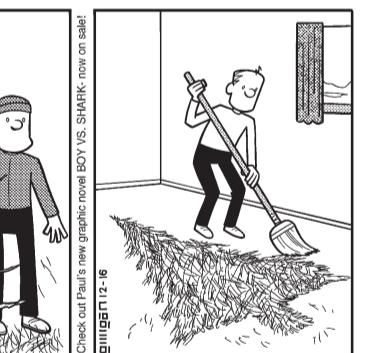
PEANUTS Charles M. Schulz



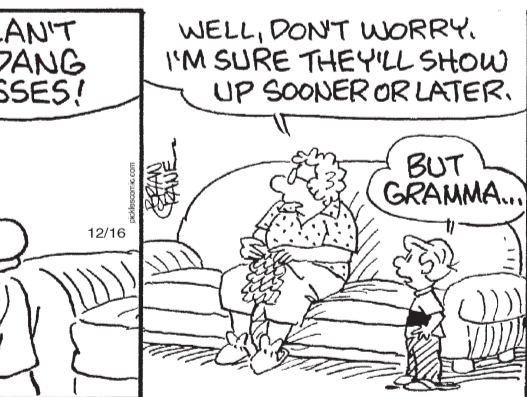
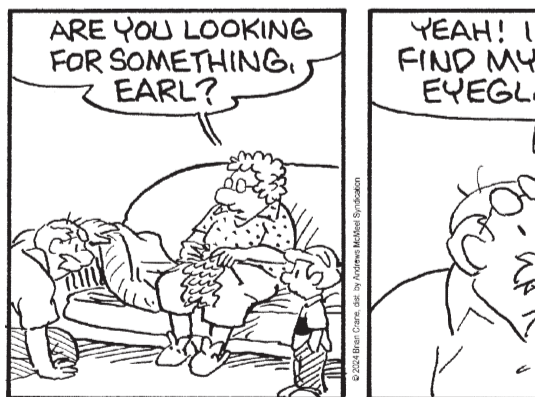
GARFIELD Jim Davis



POOCH CAFE Paul Gilligan



PICKLES Brian Crane



WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

SYNTHETIC MOTOR OIL Solution: 10 letters

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

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12/16

Additive, Automobile, Blend, Carbon, Cars, Clean, Cold, Construction, Diesel, Drive, Filter, Flash, Fluid, Formula, Friction, Fuel, Full, Gallon, Gas Station, Kits, Laboratory, Lawn Mower, Manufacture, Mileage, Molecule, Motorcycle, Petroleum, Piston, Plane, Pure, Speed, Temperature, Titanium, Truck, Turbo, Type, Valve, Vehicle, Wagon

TODAY'S ANSWER: Lubricants

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

1	9	8	2					
3		4			8	7		
	5	7	3		9	2	6	
8	9	5			4		2	
		5	2		6			
6	4			9		7	8	
9	3	1		5	8		6	
2	4			9				3
			4	6		2		1

WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

CONTRACT

SUDOKU INSTRUCTIONS: Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

TODAY'S SUDOKU SOLUTION:

1	6	2	3	9	7	4	8	5
3	5	8	7	6	1	9	4	2
4	9	7	8	5	2	1	3	6
8	7	5	6	1	3	4	2	9
6	9	4	2	8	5	1	7	3
2	1	4	9	7	5	3	6	8
9	2	1	3	5	8	6	7	4
2	7	1	8	7	4	5	2	9
7	8	1	7	4	4	4	2	3
4	5	8	2	3	9	6	7	1

TODAY'S WHATZIT SOLUTION:

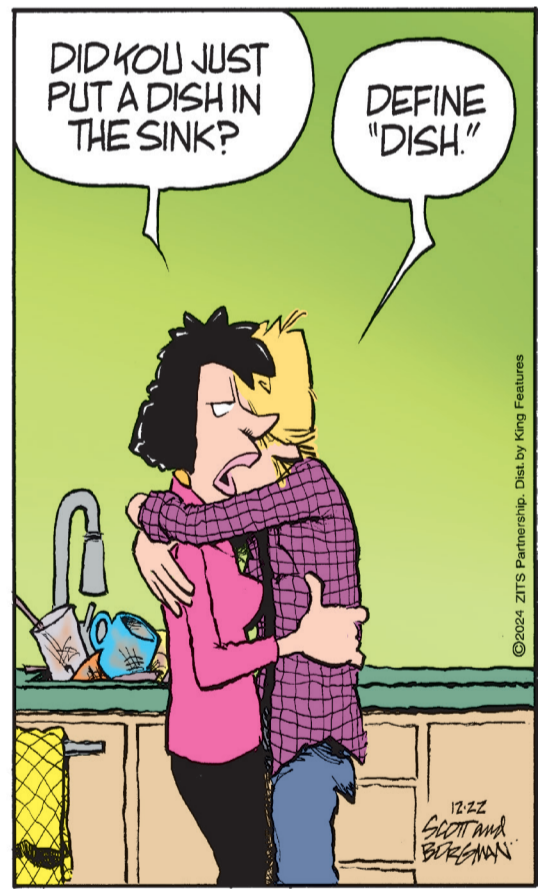
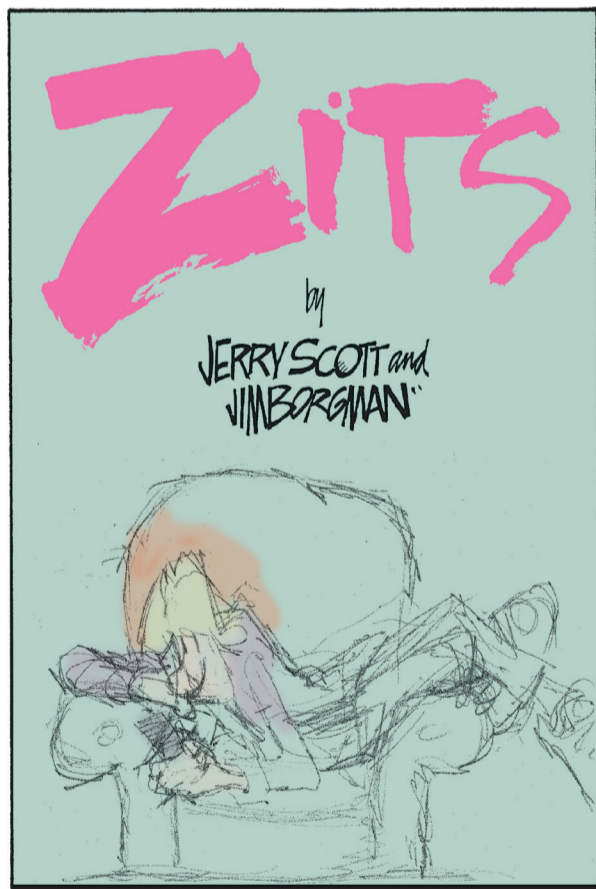
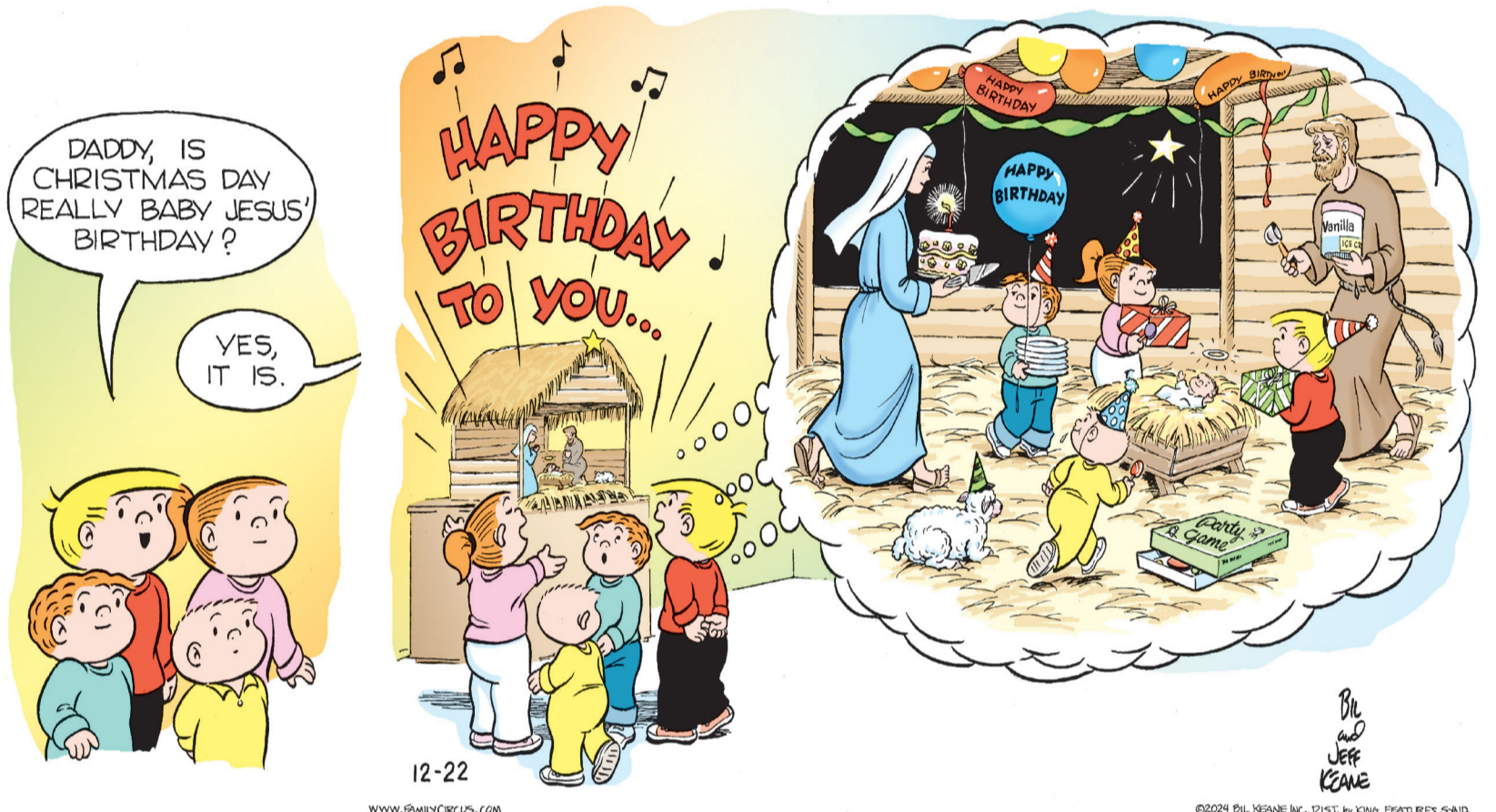
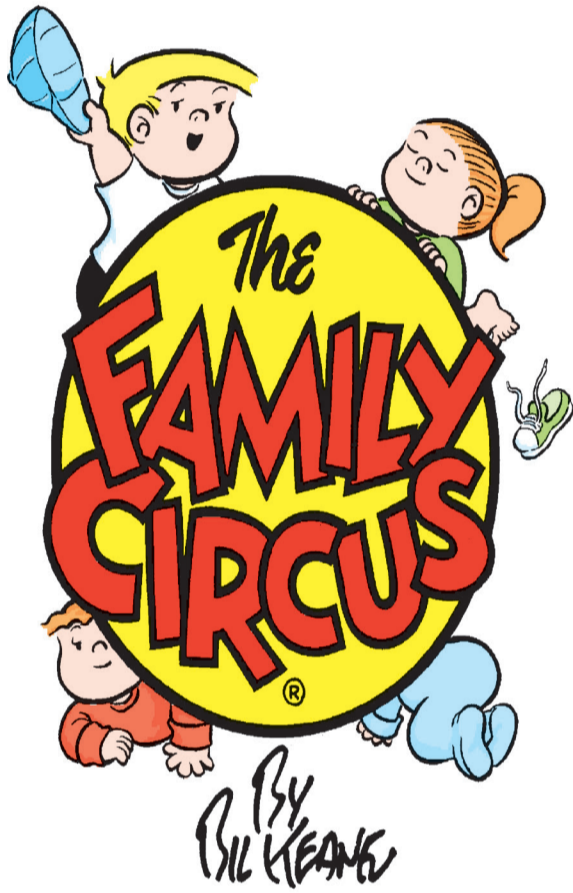
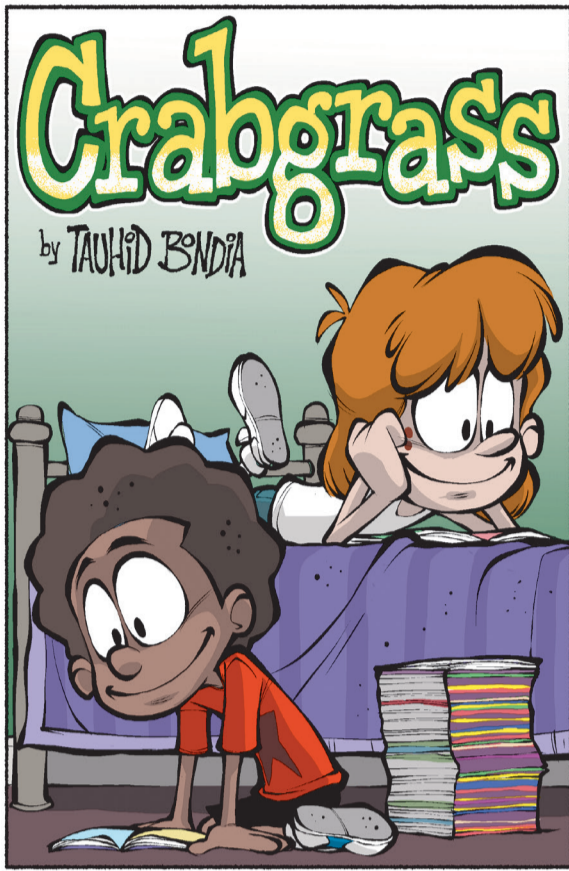
Breach of contract

The Albany HERALD

ALBANYHERALD.COM

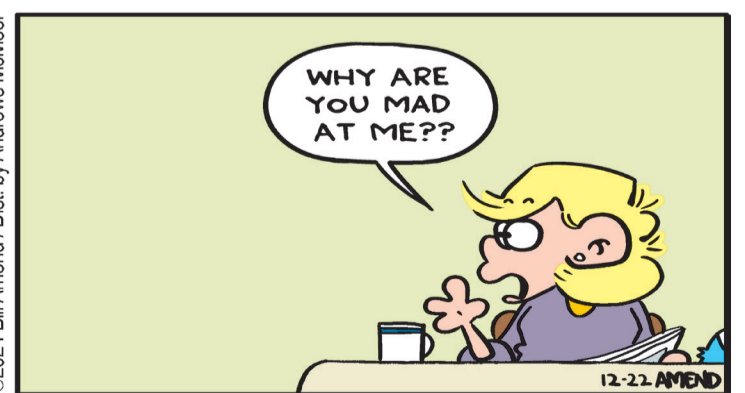
Weekend Comics

December 21-22, 2024



FoxTrot

by Bill Amend



ADAM@HOME

BY ROB HARRELL

I THINK KATY'S BUZZING OUT.

YOU MEAN "BUGGING OUT"?

NO. BUZZING. IT'S SO CLOSE TO CHRISTMAS.

I-I'M SO EXCITED.

SEE? SHE'S, LIKE, VIBRATING.

YEAH, I SEE. KATY, ARE YOU OKAY?

I-I'M G-GREAT! THIS IS P-PURE HOLIDAY EXCITEMENT!

B-BUT I KEEP B-BUZZING MY H-HAT OFF MY HEAD.

SHE NEEDS THE OPPOSITE OF COFFEE.

SO, LIKE, TEA?

CLOSE TO HOME

BY JOHN McPHERSON

"SEE HOW INDUSTRIOUS THEY CAN BE WHEN WE LIMIT THEIR SCREEN TIME?!"

THE BORN LOSER

by Art & Chip Sansom

GUESS WHAT CAME IN THE MAIL?

THE BERWALDS SENT US A CHRISTMAS CARD!

WHAT'S THAT?

IT'S A WONDERFUL CHRISTMAS TRADITION THAT MANY PEOPLE USED TO DO BACK IN THE LAST CENTURY...

UNFORTUNATELY, A LOT OF PEOPLE STOPPED SENDING THEM BECAUSE IT HAD BECOME VERY COSTLY AND TIME-CONSUMING!

DO YOU UNDERSTAND?

I THINK SO.

HEY, LET'S START OUR OWN TRADITION- WE'LL TEXT ALL OUR FRIENDS A PICTURE OF OUR TREE AND WISH THEM A MERRY CHRISTMAS!

OH!

By Ben Lansing & Susie MacNelly

IF I COULD ASK FOR ANYTHING, IT WOULD BE PEACE ON EARTH AND GOOD WILL TOWARD EVERYONE.

YOU WANT FRIES WITH THAT?

LOZZER & ZAZER

ERNIE, ARE YOU... CRYING?

TEARS OF JOY, FRANK.

I MEAN, YOU GO YOUR WHOLE LIFE WITHOUT IT HAPPENING, AND THEN ONE DAY IT DOES.

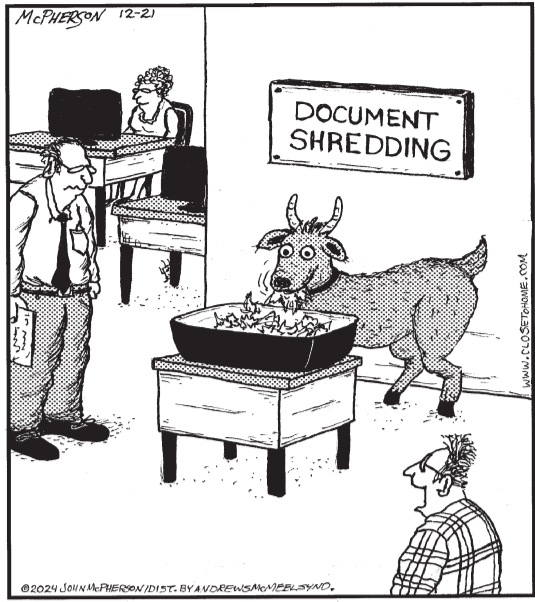
YOU THINK, "THAT'LL NEVER BE ME, THAT'S JUST FOR THE SUPER LUCKY... LIKE LOTTERY WINNERS."

IT REALLY DOES RESTORE YOUR FAITH IN HUMANITY.

SEEMS THAT YOUR FRIEND EXPERIENCED SOME SORT OF MIRACLE.

HIS BAG WAS THE FIRST DOWN THE CHUTE!

CLOSE TO HOME John McPherson



"It's part of the company's focus on being more eco-friendly."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS Bil Keane



"Do I say 'Dear Santa Claus' or should I just call him by his first name — 'Santa'?"

BEETLE BAILEY Mort & Greg Walker



BLONDIE Dean Young & John Marshall



THE BORN LOSER Art & Chip Sansom



CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Fairy Godmother's rod
 - 5 Poem
 - 8 Suet
 - 11 In a different way
 - 12 Arctic ocean hazard
 - 14 Fire remains
 - 15 — avis
 - 16 Birthright seller
 - 17 Links peg
 - 18 Tempestuous
 - 20 Girder (Hyph.)
 - 22 In sight
 - 25 Blazer part
 - 28 Interfered
 - 32 Blame
 - 33 Health resort
 - 34 Cakes and —
 - 35 Sine qua —
 - 36 Simple dwelling
 - 37 Flooring material
- DOWN**
- 1 Conflicts
 - 2 Bodily structure (Abbr.)
 - 3 Detective — Wolfe
 - 4 Snow White's friends

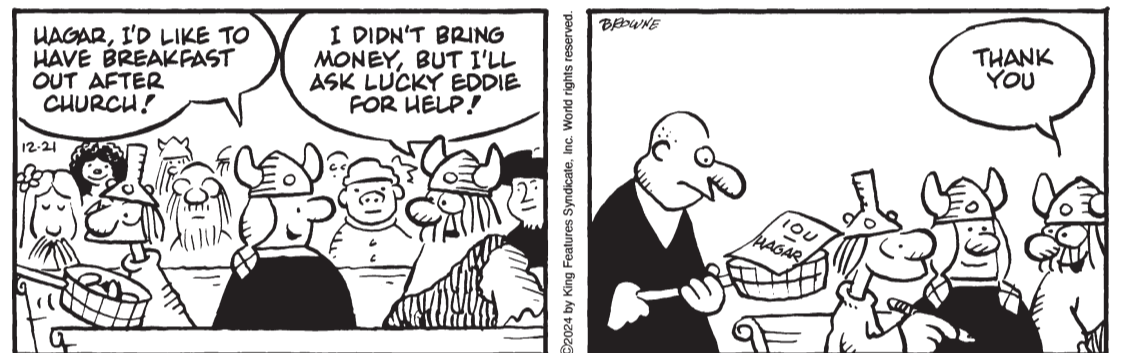
TODAY'S SOLUTION:

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

- 5 Complies
- 6 — Plaines, Illinois
- 7 Baseball stat.
- 8 Kismet
- 9 Lost
- 10 The ones over there
- 13 Trade alliance
- 19 A thousand thou
- 21 Cot
- 23 Tainted
- 24 Do better than
- 25 Actress — Anderson
- 26 Soon
- 27 Plays on words
- 29 Den
- 30 Actress — Fanning
- 31 Ownership proof
- 33 Molt
- 37 Pertaining to heat
- 39 Sorbet
- 40 Arrow cousins
- 41 Chem. or biol.
- 43 Pearly stuff
- 44 Popular pets
- 45 Ersatz butter
- 46 Gale
- 48 Expose
- 49 "Do — others ..."
- 50 Perceived
- 53 Zoo denizen
- 54 Place

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
11				12			13		14	
15				16				17		
18			19			20	21			
25	26	27		28			29	30	31	
32				33				34		
35				36				37		
38			39	40			41			
44	45	46				47		48	49	50
51				52	53	54		55		
56				57				58		
59				60				61		

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE Chris Browne



ZITS Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



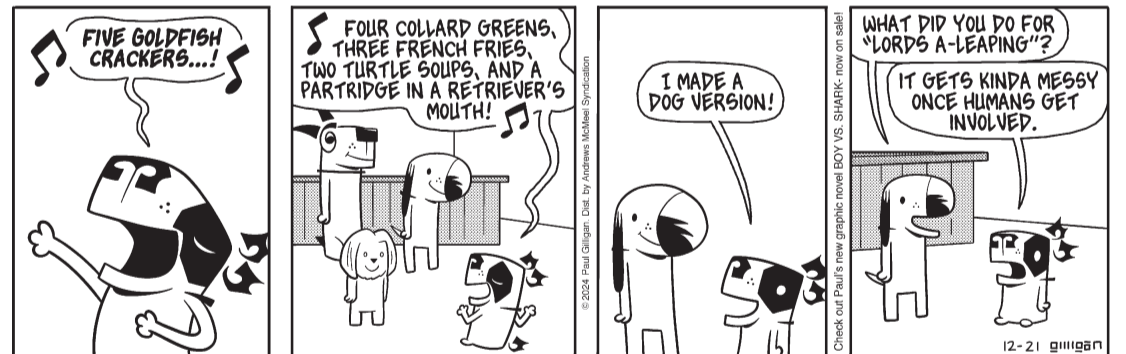
PEANUTS Charles M. Schulz



GARFIELD Jim Davis



POOCH CAFE Paul Gilligan



PICKLES Brian Crane



WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

DECORATING A GINGERBREAD HOUSE Solution: 10 letters

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

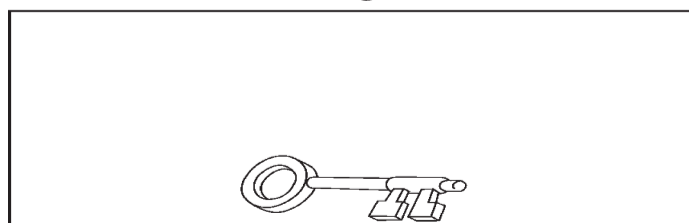
SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

4	1	9	2					
5	3	2	1	6				
			8	5				
6		9			8	5		
2	1		3		8			9
	7		4					
	5		6	2	8		7	
	6		7		9	4		

WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



SUDOKU INSTRUCTIONS: Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

TODAY'S SUDOKU SOLUTION:

2	4	6	1	7	5	9	8	3
7	1	8	2	9	3	5	6	4
9	5	3	6	4	8	2	1	7
3	9	4	8	5	2	6	1	7
6	2	7	4	8	1	9	5	3
5	8	1	9	2	6	4	7	3
4	6	9	7	1	2	3	8	5
1	7	5	2	3	6	9	4	8
8	3	2	5	6	9	1	7	4

TODAY'S WHATZIT SOLUTION:

Low-key

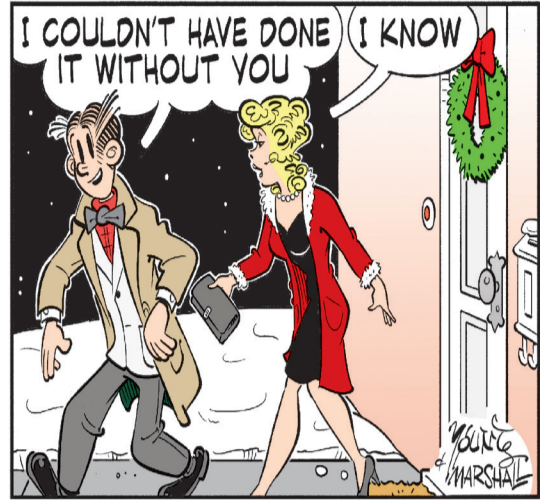
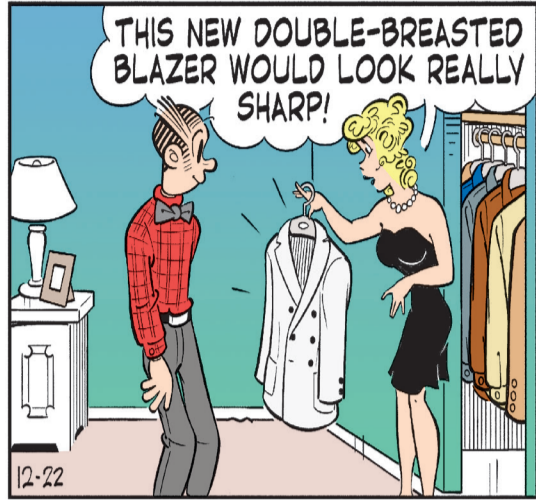
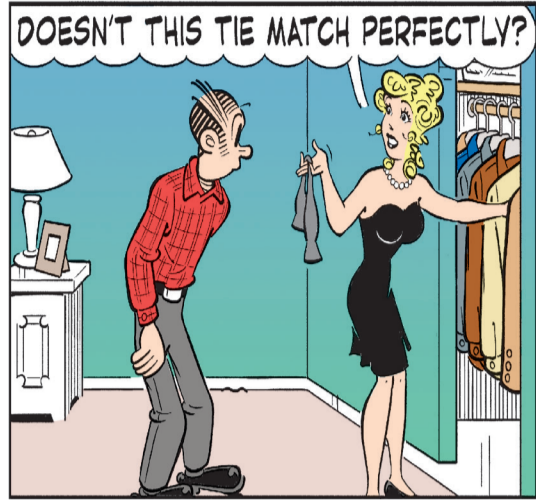
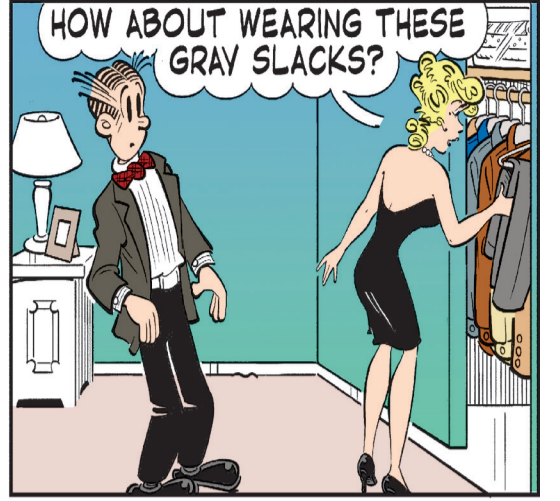
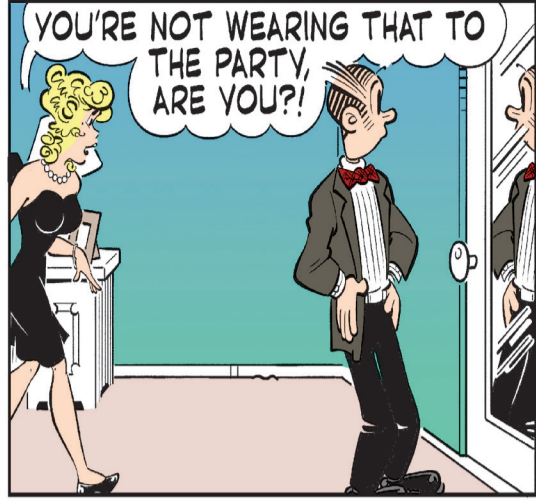
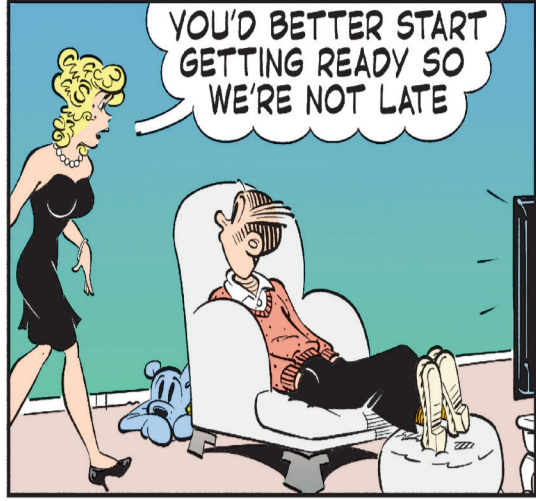
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Barn, Cabin, Cereal, Chimney, Clothes, Coconut, Colorful, Cream, December, Dough, Family, Festive, Flour, Frosting, Garland, Gifts, Glaze, Holiday, Holly, Icicles, Icing, Light, Marshmallows, Milk, Mini, Nutmeg, Pastel, Platter, Pretzels, Snow, Star, Sweet, Swirl, Taste, Tiles, Treat, Truffle, Vanilla, Wafer, Waffle, Walls, Window, Wreath, Yard

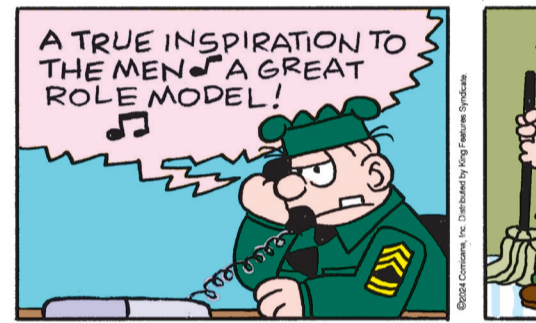
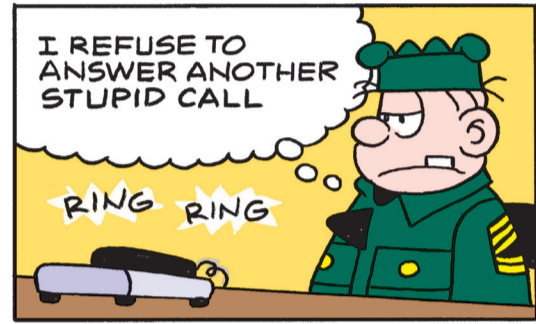
TODAY'S ANSWER: Candy canes

BLONDIE

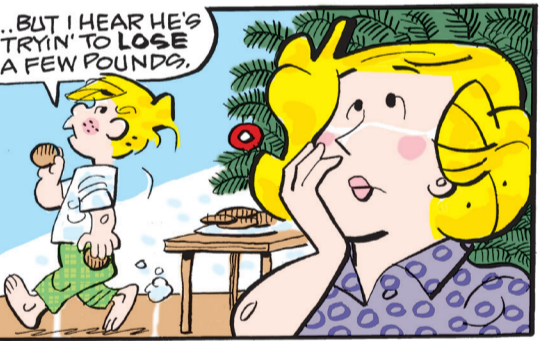
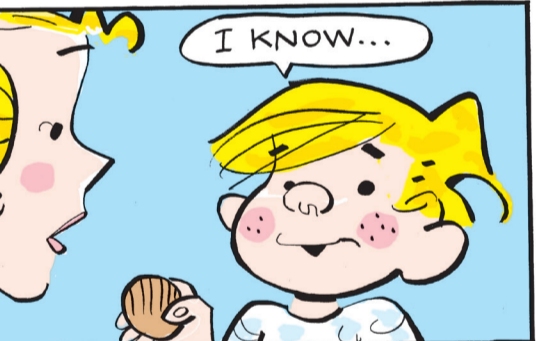
BY DEAN KROGER & JOHN MARSHALL



Mort Walker's beetle bailey

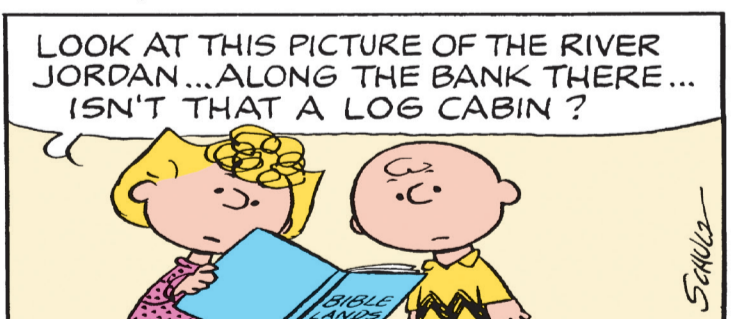
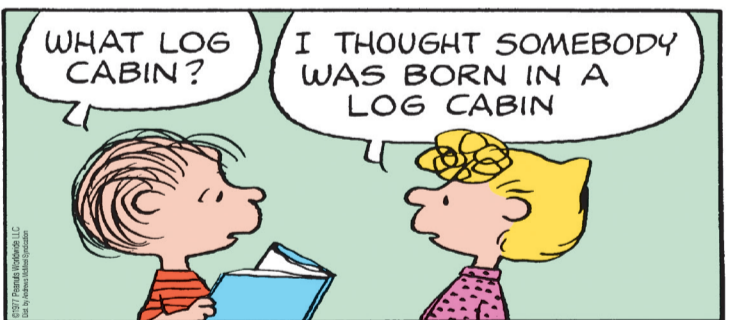
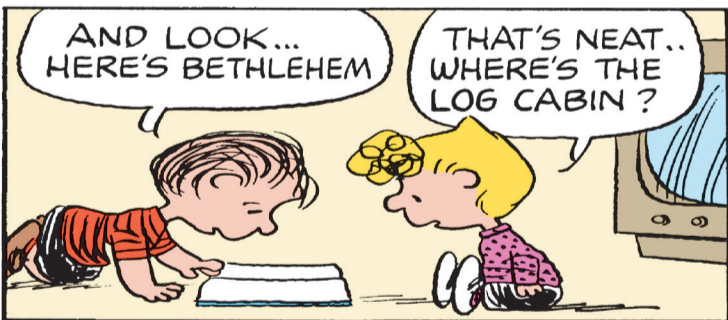
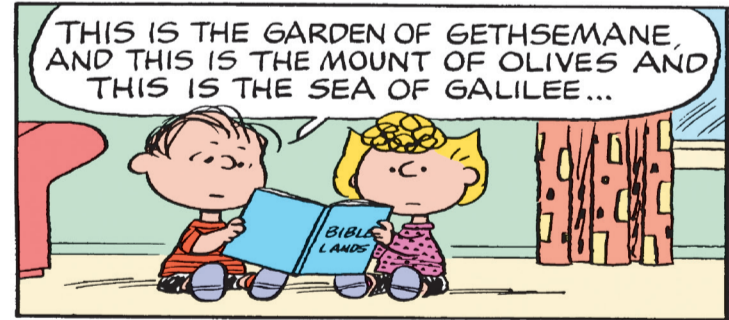


Hank Ketchum's Dennis the Menace ST. NICKED



CLASSIC PEANUTS

BY CHARLES SCHULZ



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

BY STEPHAN PASTIS

