

New skipper
Weiss to lead Braves
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LOCAL MATTERS



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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2025



Staff Photo: Alan Mauldin
Dougherty County poll worker Barbara Concilio assists Albany attorney David Orlowski as he signs in to vote on Tuesday at the Greenbriar Church precinct.

Two of three Albany City Commission incumbents win in Tuesday election

By Alan Mauldin
alan.mauldin@albanyherald.com

ALBANY – The Albany City Commission will have a new face come January with the election on Tuesday of Collette Jenkins in Ward V. Jenkins will replace the second-longest-serving commissioner, Bob Langstaff, whose time in office will end after 24 years. “I want to publicly congratulate her today,” Langstaff said during remarks at a Wednesday

commission meeting. “I got basically the same number of votes I got in 2021. ... But she campaigned to energize the community and received 600 more votes than she did in 2021.” In unofficial results, Jenkins received 1,405 of 2,514 votes cast to win with 55.89% of the vote. Langstaff, whose time on the commission is only exceeded by Ward I Commissioner Jon Howard, received 1,109 votes, or 44.11%. Turnout in Ward V, at almost 31%, was the

heaviest in the three wards up for election on Tuesday. In Ward II, where incumbent Willie Weaver handily won a full four-year term after serving four months of an unexpired term, turnout was 16.85%. In the Ward III contest, turnout 12.46%. Weaver finished with 672 votes, or 57.05% of the votes in Ward II, with Mathis receiving

See **ELECTION**, 2A

Dougherty County students participate in mock elections

By Lucille Lannigan
lucille.lannigan@albanyherald.com

ALBANY – More than 1,200 Dougherty County elementary students cast ballots along with millions of Americans in general elections across the U.S.

Students in nine schools across the Dougherty County School System participated in mock elections, voting for real commission candidates for the city ward their school sits in as well as a mock referendum.

Pre-K students even got to participate, voting on their favorite holiday.

“We want to start them early to understand the voting process,” Sherrie Hubbard, the K-5 Social Studies coordinator, said. “Hopefully, they encourage their parents to get out and vote.”

Hubbard said the school system has been hosting these mock elections for all races – local, state and national – for at least a decade.

“We want them to be able to understand that every vote counts in every single election,” she said. “We want them to understand that it is important for them to be involved in their local branches of government as well as state and national offices. What happens locally is just as important as what happens nationally.”

Burnell Grant’s fifth-grade students were the first to vote Monday. They entered the gymnasium at Sherwood Acres Elementary School where the mock voting booths were set up across from real voting booths that would be used by voters Tuesday, as the school is an official polling site.

On small screens separated by dividers, students voted for either Bob Langstaff, the Albany Ward V incumbent, or Colette Jenkins. They also voted yes or no on whether the city and Dougherty County should form a youth council to help address crime and violence in the community.



Staff Photo: Lucille Lannigan
Sherwood Acres Elementary students voted in mock elections Tuesday, voting for Albany city commission candidates and a mock referendum on the creation of a youth council.

Periodical — Mail Label

See **STUDENTS**, 2A



Special Illustration: ATC
Capital Outlay Request: Criminal Justice Demonstration/VECTR Center.

Albany Tech announces community-funded phase of VECTR Center

Staff Reports
news@albanyherald.com

ALBANY – Albany Technical College announced Wednesday local philanthropic and community partner donations to the Albany Tech Foundation to establish the

Veterans Education Career Transition Resource (VECTR) Center on ATC’s campus.

ATC’s VECTR Center will operate as a comprehensive, one-stop regional hub supporting veterans, active-duty service members, and their families. Services will include

help with VA education benefits, connections to housing and health care, financial and legal resources, academic advising, career counseling, testing, employer linkages, and Department of Defense Skill-

See **VECTR**, 2A

Dougherty County to boost cost to drop off tires at landfill

By Alan Mauldin
alan.mauldin@albanyherald.com

ALBANY – Tired of taking a hit on tires, Dougherty County is increasing the fees for accepting old, worn-out rubber at the county landfill.

Under a measure approved unanimously on Monday, the Dougherty County Commission accepted the recommendation from the Solid Waste Department to boost the prices charged for each scrap tire accepted.

“We’re eating the loss of having to dispose of those tires,” interim Dougherty County Solid Waste Director Melvin Williams said during an interview following the meeting. “We’re not trying to make money. We’re just trying to

See **LANDFILL**, 2A

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File Photo

Dougherty County officials are expected to raise the cost of leaving tires at the county landfill.

From 1A

LANDFILL

break even.”

The county has not increased the amount it charges for each tire accepted in more than 15 years, he said.

The current cost charged for accepting passenger-car/truck tires is \$1 per tire for up to five tires and \$1.60 per tire for six to 10 tires.

That is significantly less than the \$6.50 per tire charged by Lee County’s landfill, \$4 in Tift County and \$5 in Worth County, officials said.

For semi-truck and specialty tires, Dougherty County’s current rate of \$4 per tire is also significantly less than the \$12 charged by Lee County, \$10 by Tift County and \$15 by Worth County. Dougherty County currently charges \$40 per large tractor/farm tire, compared to \$55 in Lee County, \$15 in Tift County and \$30 in Worth County.

Under the fee structure approved by the commission, the cost for passenger-car/truck tires will increase to \$4 each, with the cost of semi-truck and specialty tires increasing to \$15. The fee for each large tractor tire will increase to \$55, with the current per-ton rate of \$225 being boosted to \$275.

The new fees will likely go into effect around the first of December, Williams said.

That means individuals who have old tires sitting in a storage building can save some money over the next few weeks by going ahead and bringing them in before the new fees are in place, Assistant County Manager Barry Brooks said.

“We’re trying to get a handle on this,” he said. “We can’t just continue to let it cost us.”

From 1A

VECTR

Bridge training opportunities in high-demand fields.

“Southwest Georgia’s veterans, service members, and military families bring talent, discipline, and leadership to our region,” Albany Tech President Emmett L. Griswold said. “The VECTR Center allows for their transition and is supported at every step, from benefits and advising to hands-on training that leads directly to high-wage, high-demand careers. We are grateful for our local partners whose generosity will draw us closer to making Phase I possible in 2026.”

“Today’s gifts demonstrate a shared commitment to those who have served,” Foundation Chair Joey Magaddino said. “By investing locally in Phase I, our community is opening doors to education, credentials, and family-sustaining jobs for military-affiliated students.

The foundation is honored to steward these investments to deliver immediate impact.”

ATC also previewed Phase II, a state-funded Criminal Justice and Law Enforcement and VECTR Center to be developed at the former RYDC building on Newton Road. This project will expand hands-on training capacity in public safety disciplines and serve as a regional hub for scenario-based learning tied to work force and community safety needs while expanding support services for the military veteran and ac-

tive-duty populations within southwest Georgia.

Albany Technical College has listed the Phase II project as its No. 1 capital outlay proposal for FY 2027 and will attempt to fund Phase I through a mixture of local community partners and allocated SPLOST funds.

The VECTR model simplifies access to education and careers for military-affiliated soldiers and families. It improves placement outcomes for employers and supports regional economic development.



Special Illustration: ATC

Center at Albany Technical College.

From 1A

STUDENTS

Grant, who teaches fifth-grade social studies, said the students were especially excited to vote this year. Students engaged in a voting and civics curriculum ahead of the election. They went through the process of registering to vote, learned about local government as well as branches of government at different levels.

“We want to make sure our kids actually see the process and put into practice what they learn about voting ... being good citizens and the roles and responsibilities of citizenship,” Hubbard said.

Grant said powerpoints and videos drew his students into election interest. He said he also was more involved in elections locally and was able to pass enthusiasm to his students.

“I just really encouraged them on how important it is to vote,” he said. “I told them about the different city councilmen and the importance of those positions. We watched a video from Nickelodeon about voting, and they got excited to see things they were familiar with connected to voting.”

Local candidates visited the Commodore Conyers College and Career Academy ahead of the election to share their platforms. Students across the elementary schools were shown videos of this visit to better learn about who they were voting for.

Fifth-grader Dustin Craig was one of the first students to line up at the “polling site.” She said she was excited to vote for female leadership – and strong leadership in general.

“I learned that elections are important for a good reason because everybody needs a good president and leader in the state and city,” she said.

Dustin said she was in support of creating a youth council.

“I think it’s a good thing because people would get a chance to talk to the leaders that take care of us,” she said.

The fifth-grader said she wishes elected leaders paid more attention to student behavior and environments inside schools.

When asked why she was focused on a female leader, her answer was simple.

“A female leader would be good at basically more things than a male,” Dustin said.

From 1A

ELECTION

506 votes.

In Ward III, incumbent Vilnis “Dip” Gaines easily won re-election with 606 votes out of 889 votes cast, giving him a margin of 68.17% of the vote compared to 31.83% for Omar Salaam, who received 283 votes.

During an election night phone call, Langstaff said he offered to assist Jenkins in her transition to coming aboard the commission. He said he plans to meet with her and will assist her in getting up to speed on current issues ahead of her swearing in in January.

“I think she’s going to be a champion of public safety, and that’s important to me,” he said. “She brings experience in (areas) that I don’t have. I want to make this transition as smooth as possible.

“I want to be a resource for her and for the rest of the commission. Jon (Howard) and I have

... I don’t know how many years of historical knowledge.”

Langstaff told an Albany Herald reporter after the meeting that two accomplishments that gave him satisfaction during his tenure are increasing the pay for public safety officers to maintain higher numbers of officers on the streets. Another item was the dedication of one-third of the payments made to the city by the Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia to job creation.

One of the grants from those funds helped to facilitate the location of the WebstuarantStore in the city, he said.

“I want to thank everybody who supported me during my campaign, all the employees who have supported me and all of my constituents,” Langstaff said. “People have asked me what I’m going to miss about the job, and it’s the people. If I hadn’t sat here, I wouldn’t have met all the people that I have.”

With a full four years on the

commission, Weaver said, he will have the time to dedicate to pursuing the position.

“It’s a fast learn in four months,” he said of serving out the remainder of former Commissioner Jalen Johnson. “But if you give me four years, that way I can do some research.”

Gaines addressed the election during the commission meeting.

“I want to thank my constituents for electing me for the next four years,” he said. “I appreciate the things this board has done in bringing forward projects.”

Outside the Shiloh Baptist Church precinct on Tuesday, Carlton Christian, who was holding a Gaines campaign sign and waving at passing motorists, said he was out to encourage residents to vote.

At the Greenbriar Church precinct on Gillionville Road, voter Doug Wilson said that doing his civic duty is a regular habit for him.

“They’re (elections) all important,” he said.

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Daily Horoscopes

Aries (March 21 - April 19): Romantic connections are positive. There are opportunities to be bold about desires in romantic or sexual relationships.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20): Partnerships are a focus, with intense feelings. The current dynamic encourages honesty in relationships. Deeper, more meaningful conversations with loved ones may occur.

Gemini (May 21 - June 20): Trust develops in small moments. Curiosity can be an advantage, and there may be courage to address sensitive topics.

Cancer (June 21 - July 22): There is more energy for everyday tasks and projects. Venus in Scorpio brings fun, romance, and chances to tap into creativity. Consider revisiting self-care routines or artistic activities.

Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22): The love life gets a boost with a surge of passion. There is more energy to express affection and allow spontaneity and fun in relationships.

Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22): Venus entering Scorpio enhances networking skills. The current energy allows for important focus on home life and close relationships.

Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22): There is magnetic energy, and harmonious energy amplifies connections. Changes are likely to bring balance in relationships.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21): Venus enters this sign, providing magnetism and depth in personal interactions. Emotions are heightened, and passion surrounds romantic affairs.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21): The current alignments offer the courage to address or confront a difficult issue. This is a time for finding new pathways and exploring what feels right for the future.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19): This day helps manage expectations, especially regarding finances or career. Seeking support from a network can be helpful.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18): Venus entering Scorpio deepens professional collaborations and could lead to a potential raise or promotion. It is encouraged to blend social energy with introspection.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20): Intimacy deepens, and there may be a pull toward a fated connection. The day's energy is great for building trust, and consistency in how others show care is highlighted.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I pay no attention whatever to anybody's praise or blame. I simply follow my own feelings."

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, musician (1756-1791)

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 can understand a lot about the hatred toward Trump. But where would we be if Harris (am I Indian or black?) won. Remember Russia's war was already going on and so was Gaza. Won't ask about immigration.

Why is the demented orange boy and his maggot worshippers so determined to make 20 million Americans lose their health insurance? Do they need the money to give millionaires more tax breaks?

Trump's supporters may be paying to build that ballroom, but who do you think will be stuck with the heating and cooling bills every month?

Why won't Governor Gump use some of the state of Georgia surplus to feed the poor in our state? The surplus is our taxpayer money.

Checking out all the lies Trump spewed during his "60 Minutes" interview, it's a wonder that any decent person could ever support this gas-bag. It's one thing when lies surface over time, but this fool lies without giving it a second thought. We are a lesser nation because of him.

It is wonderful to see some counties standing up against the ridiculous property tax so many Georgians are struggling to pay every year. Colquitt County soon will vote to reduce theirs. Lee has a movement going on now. Seniors should not have to pay any property tax. We have paid it all of our life, and it is time to give us a break. Why won't the Dougherty County Commissioners even bring this up for discussion?

Haven't heard from the Trump Protest Voters lately. They must be in the unemployment line.

Wait to see how deep they dig the ballroom basements: one, two, maybe three levels underground. That's why the project is costing \$350 million. And what's the purpose of those facilities? Something's really fishy. And \$350 million for 90,000 square feet is about \$3,000 per square foot. That buys a lot of gold leaf.

You should actually be saying; "Stop trump before the unemployment rate goes any higher."

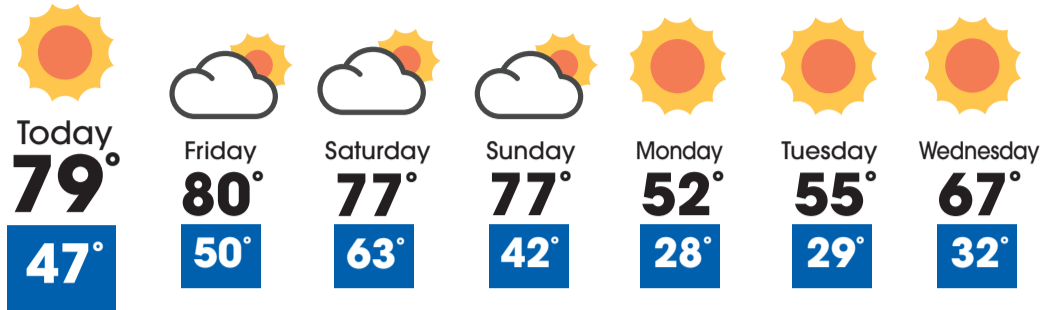
Brian Kemp must be trying to catch up with Trump in the lying department. This man who supposedly "stood up" to Trump when it was either do that or openly break the law then became another in a long line of rear-kissers, even after Trump made fun of his wife. Now he's saying he can't access that \$14 billion in reserves that are, by the way, money we paid in taxes. We'll be so much better off when he's gone.

Yes, the beggars downtown can be annoying, but you can simply ignore them and move on. Something really should be done about the ones who hang out, sleep and curse constantly at the library branches. I don't pay my taxes so that these bums can stink up a place that's supposed to be for educational uses.

Don't worry about the lies, sins and crimes of Donald Trump. No matter what he thinks, there is a much higher power who will one day send him to everlasting torment.

Again with the double dose of B.J. Fletcher? I thought we were finally rid of her. Please, no more.

Weather Forecast



By Frank Stewart
Tribune Content Agency

NORTH			
♠ J 5			
♥ Q 2			
♦ K Q 6 3 2			
♣ J 5 4 2			
WEST		EAST	
♠ K Q 7 2		♠ 8 6 4	
♥ A 10 8 6 3		♥ 9 7 5	
♦ 8		♦ J 10 9 4	
♣ Q 7 3		♣ K 8 6	
SOUTH			
♠ A 10 9 3			
♥ K J 4			
♦ A 7 5			
♣ A 10 9			
South 1 NT	West Pass	North 3 NT	East All Pass
Opening lead - ♠ 6			
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Daily Bridge Club

Positional player

Cy the Cynic says that if at first you don't succeed, try playing left field. As declarer, Cy knows enough to combine his chances for the contract; if one chance fails, he still has others. But Cy was out in left field, or somewhere, at today's 3NT.

Cy won the first heart with the queen and swiftly took the A-K of diamonds. With a 3-2 break, he would have had at least nine tricks, but West threw a spade. Cy next tried a club to his nine.

THIRD HEART

West took the queen and led the ace and a third heart. The Cynic won, went to the queen of diamonds and returned a club to his ten, winning, but he still had only eight tricks: a spade, two hearts, three diamonds and two clubs. West was sure to get in with a high spade to cash hearts, and Cy went down.

Cy was out in left field with a catcher's mitt on. He must lead a club to his ten at Trick

Two. West wins wins and leads a second low heart, but then Cy takes the A-K of diamonds. When West shows out, Cy leads a club to his nine and cashes the ace. East's king falls, and Cy has three clubs and nine tricks in all.

DAILY QUESTION

You hold: S K Q 7 2 H A 10 8 6 3 D 8 C Q 7 3. Your partner opens one diamond, you respond one heart, he bids two clubs and you try 2NT. Partner then rebids three diamonds. The opponents pass. What do you say?

ANSWER: Your partner's sequence is constructive. He appears to have six diamonds and four clubs, but with a minimum hand he would have rebid two diamonds to limit his strength. You must keep going. Bid 3NT. If partner's hand is even more distributional, he is not obliged to accept that contract.

South dealer
E-W vulnerable

ADVICE COLUMNIST ■ ERIC THOMAS

Parent gives daughter's ex free room and board plus a loan



Dear Eric: Over the last 10 years, the father of my grandchildren has been a severe alcoholic. Two years ago, my daughter left him.

After he had been living on the streets, my daughter asked if he could stay in my basement so that he would get sufficient rest and be able to have the children with him; she knows it's important for the children to be with their dad. I agreed. This young man has been unemployed for at least two years. He has been going to AA, and although he has relapsed several times, he has not been violently drunk the way he was in the past. He seems to be working the program.

I lent him \$300 in July to pay part of an open court case he has. At that time, I wrote out that he had to have a job and pay me back the \$300 by a certain date, or he would no longer be living at my house.

He has interviewed for many jobs but is still unemployed. I don't know if he self-sabotages or doesn't follow through. What I do know is that housing him is expensive for me — feeding a 28-year-old male, and the added electricity and other utilities that, of course, he uses.

The due date for the \$300 is looming. Part of me thinks that his children need to be able to see him still, and maybe I should let him stay; the other part of me says that he needs to move out. He's been given ample opportunity to make good on what he owes me and to be employed. What do you think?

— Full House

Dear House: The car may already be out of the driveway

Send questions to R. Eric Thomas at eric@askingeric.com or P.O. Box 22474, Philadelphia, Pa. 19110. Follow him on Instagram and sign up for his weekly newsletter at rericthomas.com.

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TODAY IN HISTORY

1860: Abraham Lincoln is elected the 16th U.S. president.

1861: Jefferson Davis is elected president of the Confederate States of America.

1869: Rutgers defeats Princeton 6-4 in the first official intercollegiate American football game.

1917: Bolsheviks led by Vladimir Lenin launch a coup against Russia's provisional government, beginning the October Revolution.

1917: The Battle of Passchendaele ends with a hard-won victory for British troops.

1947: The news program Meet the Press debuts on NBC.

1984: President Ronald Reagan is reelected in a landslide victory over Walter Mondale.

1991: NBA player Magic Johnson announces he is HIV-positive and is immediately retiring from the sport.

2012: President Barack Obama is reelected to a second term.

2012: Tammy Baldwin becomes the first openly gay person elected to the U.S. Senate.

2018: Ilhan Omar and Rashida Tlaib become the first Muslim women elected to the U.S. House of Representatives.

CALENDAR OF OBSERVANCES

- Finland: Finnish Swedish Heritage Day
- World Paper Free Day
- USA: National Nachos Day
- USA: Saxophone Day
- USA: National Men Make Dinner Day
- Ukraine: Day of Liberation of Kyiv
- United Nations: Environment Conflict Day

Famous Birthdays

Ethan Hawke: 1970
Emma Stone: 1988
Sally Field: 1946
Rebecca Romijn: 1972
Thandiwe Newton: 1972
Maria Shriver: 1955
Lamar Odom: 1979
Bowen Yang: 1990
Patina Miller: 1984
Hero Fiennes Tiffin: 1997
Kelly Rutherford: 1968
Taryn Manning: 1978
Zoe McLellan: 1974
Corey Glover: 1964
June Squibb: 1929
Arturo Sandoval: 1949
Mike Nichols: 1931
Arne Duncan: 1964
Ben Rector: 1986
Lee Dong-wook: 1981

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THE ALBANY HERALD Perspectives

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Carlton Fletcher
EDITOR

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LOCAL NEWS

**TODAY'S
BIBLE
VERSE**

"For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith."
Romans 1:17

COLUMNIST ■ MARC HYDEN

Sewer politics degrade presidential dignity

On a recent flight back from Washington, D.C., I killed some time by watching cable news — something I almost never do unless I am on a plane — and one segment centered around President Trump's questionable use of AI-generated videos. One post in particular grabbed everyone's attention.

Following a wave of "No Kings" events, Trump posted an obviously AI-generated video of him piloting a jet emblazoned with the words "King Trump." In the video, he soared over a "No Kings" march and dumped sewage on protesters. The news outlet I was watching featured pundits who were understandably aghast, but one of their primary complaints entirely missed the real point.

One of the guests criticized Trump for posting these kinds of videos as if they are real, which would make them a form of disinformation, a malicious deepfake. While Trump has undoubtedly peddled misinformation — including false claims about the election being stolen and immigrants eating people's pets — this is not the case. Anybody who has seen the cartoonish video knows that Trump didn't actually fly a jet and drop waste on people. Instead, this is an example of immature behavior that is beneath the presidency.

While this presidential indignity isn't disinformation, it is still disgusting, no matter how hard people try to justify it. "The president uses social media to make the point," U.S. Speaker of the House Mike Johnson said. "You can argue he's probably the most effective person who's ever used social media. [...] He is using satire to make a point."

I don't agree that Trump is the most effective person who has ever used social media. Remember when he posted, "Despite the negative press coverage"? That was probably just an unfinished tweet, but it still has people scratching their heads. Nonetheless, Johnson is at least partially right: Trump's post was clearly satirical, and Vice President J.D. Vance said he thought "it's funny."

It's not my style of humor, but the MAGA wing of the Republican Party apparently thought it was hilarious. To each their own, I guess, but with America's 250th birthday approaching, this is a good time for some introspection. Is this the behavior that our beloved founding fathers would appreciate? I don't think so.

Sure, politics has always been dirty, and the elec-

tion of 1800 pitting Thomas Jefferson against John Adams is proof. Their supporters engaged in all forms of mudslinging. "[An influential journalist] wrote that Adams was a rageful, lying, warmongering fellow; a 'repulsive pedant' and 'gross hypocrite' who 'behaved neither like a man nor like a woman but instead possessed a hideous hermaphroditical character,'" Forbes wrote. Adams' proxies responded in kind.

So how is this different from what Trump is doing? Well neither Adams nor Jefferson was president at the time; their supporters seem to have been the ones who directly engaged in this misbehavior; the attacks were against the candidates, not their supporters; and they didn't resort to toilet — er outhouse — humor. Can you imagine George Washington, Jefferson or Adams handing out leaflets depicting them showering their opposition with feces? That would have been beyond the pale.

I think the founders were above this, and virtually every president before Trump has been, too. I can't even imagine more recent leaders, like former President Ronald Reagan, posting something like this. Trump's trolling, satire or whatever you want to call it casts the standard set by his predecessors aside. The standard is that presidents should publicly act like mature, gentlemanly statesmen, although many of them were critically flawed in myriad other ways.

That aside, I suspect there is a gross double-standard here. Imagine how offended Trump supporters would be if former President Obama posted a video of him soiling them from a plane. They'd be apoplectic and might call for his imprisonment. Or what if Hillary Clinton called them deplorables. Oh, never mind. We know how much that offended people, but I digress.

The point is that the United States presidency is a hallowed institution. Given its power and prestige, it influences how foreign nations view us and drives domestic political debate and discourse. When a president misbehaves, it reflects poorly on all Americans, and with Trump's use of some AI-generated videos, he has acted beneath his station. His detractors, however, will fail time and again to correct his behavior if they do not properly identify his transgressions. In this case, it is not misinformation; it is degrading presidential dignity.



HYDEN

Marc Hyden is the senior director of state governor affairs at the R Street Institute. Follow him on X at @marc_hyden.

COLUMNIST ■ WAYNE FOWLER

Native American's suffering was providential

The Wampanoag people lived in what today is Massachusetts. In the early 1600s, European traders arrived. The traders captured some of the unsuspecting people, transported them to Spain, and sold them into slavery. Among them was a boy named Squanto.

In time, Squanto embraced the Christian faith and learned English. After 10 years, Squanto returned from across the Atlantic only to find his village gone. All had died. One year later, a ship arrived, bringing English families to live in the New World. They must have been shocked to be greeted by someone speaking English.

Squanto became their friend and guide, helping them survive. Squanto lived out the remainder of his life with his new friends.

Here is a human being who suffered at the hands of other people. Through that harsh life experience, Squanto came to believe in the eternal God. In His Providence, God prepared Squanto to sustain the lives of Englishmen, who were members of the same people who had enslaved him.

This is not unlike the Genesis story of Joseph. Mistreated by his brothers, sold into slavery, suffering multiple injustices. Unbeknownst to his family, Joseph became the ruler in Egypt who sustained the people during a famine. His story comes to a climax when his father died and his brothers feared retribution. But no. He told them, "You meant evil against

me, but God meant it for good in order to bring about this present result, to preserve many people alive." (Gen. 50:20)

Joseph looked back at a life of hardship and affliction, but what he saw was the providential hand of a loving God.



FOWLER

Joseph's story taught the people what to expect in their future Messiah. He would be mistreated, misunderstood, and rejected by those who should have loved Him most. He was betrayed unto death. But the Father knew that would happen. It was integral to His divine plan to preserve the souls of those who would repent and believe.

God's Providence has personal implications for you. Not just for eternity, but for now. God knows about all the sparrows, and numbers the hairs of your head. If "you are more valuable than many sparrows," (Matt. 10:31) then God knows the smallest details of your life. He has already considered those in His plan to accomplish His will for you.

If Gos knows the details, He also knows the anxiety, suffering, and injustice you have endured, some of which are due to your own moral failures. Yet He loves you and invites you to come to Him, submitting your will to His, learning to trust His ways.

The early settlers had much to be thankful for. So did Joseph's people. You do, too, by faith in the One who loves you and gave Himself up for you.

Wayne Fowler has been a pastor and columnist in Georgia since 1996. Email mountainchristian@brmcmc.net.

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS:

EMAIL: carlton.fletcher@albanyherald.com
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306 W. Broad Avenue, Albany GA, 31701

COLUMNIST ■ THE REV. RICHARD CIZIK

Good Christians can disagree with Trump

"If I am not for myself, then who will be there for me? And if I am for myself only, who am I? And if not now, when?"



CIZIK

These words from the famous Rabbi Hillel the Elder guided Jewish life at the time of King Herod. Now, they represent a clarion call for people of faith to think beyond themselves at this perilous time for our nation.

More than 80% of born-again Christians voted for Donald Trump in 2024, despite seeing him as having significant, even un-Christian, character flaws.

Why? Because the president of "We, the People" declared himself the most pro-life and pro-religious liberty leader in American history, and most conservative evangelicals and Catholics heartily agreed.

Thus, Rabbi Hillel's encouragement that people of faith be for themselves has been realized by a range of Trump Administration policies intended to "return America to its Christian foundations." This includes establishing an anti-Christian bias task force, encouraging religion in the workplace, supporting parental rights, funding Christian charter schools, rejecting gender ideology and transgender identity, ending taxpayer funding for abortion, and declaring that America is "fundamentally a pro-baby, a pro-life, and a pro-family country."

But what about Rabbi Hillel's entreaty not to be for oneself only? This teaching deeply connects to the Sermon on the Mount where Jesus said, "In everything, do unto others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets." (Matthew 7:12)

There are no polls to measure how many Trump-supporting conservative evangelicals and Catholics now have qualms about government actions that seem so un-Christian — such as deliberately cruel ICE raids in schools, churches, and hospitals and National Guard deployments in large cities.

However, findings from a September Pew Research Center survey provides food for thought. White evangelicals are much more likely (51%) to say religion shapes how they vote than are Americans overall (25%). The same holds true for 37% of all Protestants and 31% of black Protestants. Even more encouraging, when Pew researchers asked respondents whether "good Christians" can disagree about Trump, large majorities agreed across religious traditions and political party lines, ranging from 76% of

Hispanic Catholics to 85% of white evangelicals.

Now, there are signs that some of these "good Christians" are taking action. For example, in February 2025, more than two dozen Christian and Jewish groups filed a federal lawsuit challenging

the policy of allowing ICE agents to make arrests in houses of worship. Additionally, a report supported by the National Association of Evangelicals, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Migration, and the Center for the Study of Global Christianity called directly on churchgoers to recognize that mass deportations have direct consequences for faith communities, especially since 80% of immigrants at risk of deportation are Christian.

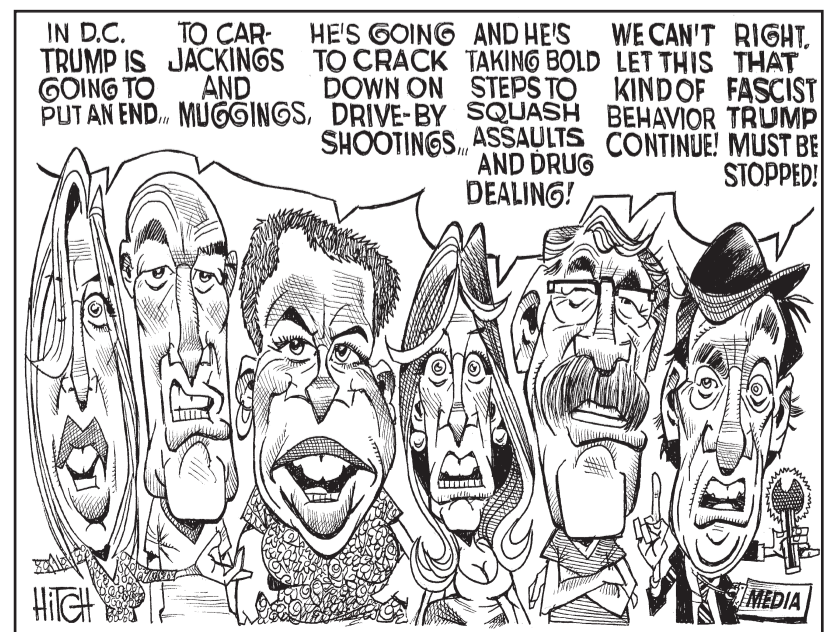
Building on this call, in October, Pope Leo IX, the first American-born pontiff, instructed U.S. bishops to "speak strongly" on behalf of migrants affected by the Trump administration's hardline immigration policies. And a growing movement of faith leaders is responding in cities and towns, championing Jesus's teachings to help "the stranger" and "the least of these" as they "speak strongly" in challenging the Trump administration around mass deportations, civil rights and helping the vulnerable.

Among these efforts, Catholic leaders in Chicago attempted to give holy Communion to immigrants held at a local detention center while pastors of the McCarty Memorial Christian Church in Los Angeles threw their bodies in the middle of an altercation between protesters and the National Guard to halt the violence in the city. Moreover, faith leaders are escorting immigrants to court hearings, praying with ICE agents and National Guard troops to ease tensions, and bearing witness at prayer vigils, marches and in courthouses.

These actions are making a difference. The number of protesters and activists opposing ICE's actions have continued to grow — not top down from political leaders, but from pastors, churchgoers, and members of the community speaking out against potential threats to constitutional checks and balances.

But the need for "good Christians" to speak out for democracy and liberty — from the pulpit, the streets, community centers and even through podcasts — is the moral imperative of this time. In answering Rabbi Hillel's question "and, if not now, when?" the answer can only be from today and going forward.

The Rev. Richard Cizik is executive director of Evangelicals for Democracy, which brings together people of faith — Republicans, Democrats and Independents — who believe that as Americans, we are stronger and more resilient together than when we are divided.



What to watch

THURSDAY

November 6, 2025

All times Eastern. Start times can vary based on cable/satellite provider. Confirm times on your on-screen guide.

The Vince Staples Show

Netflix ■ **Season Premiere**

The satirical comedy series returns for Season 2. In the wake of a tragic death, Vince (Vince Staples) embarks on a wild journey in search of inner peace. However, his path is littered with reminders of his haunted past.

Death by Lightning

Netflix ■ **New Series**

Based on Candice Millard's 2011 bestseller *Destiny of the Republic*, this historical drama follows the parallel paths of President James Garfield (Michael Shannon) and his deranged assassin, Charles Guiteau (Matthew Macfadyen), who shot Garfield in 1881, four months into his term. The series features an all-star cast that also includes Betty Gilpin, Paula Malcomson, Nick Offerman, Shea Whigham and Bradley Whitford.

Georgie & Mandy's First Marriage

CBS, 8 p.m.

In the new episode "Dirty Hands and a Barbed-Wire Fence," Georgie and Ruben (Montana Jordan and Jessie Prez) are forced to get serious when Fred Fagenbacher (returning guest star Matthew Letscher) tries to run them out of business.

Wicked:

One Wonderful Night

NBC, 8 p.m.

Cynthia Erivo and Ariana Grande lead this two-hour special event in celebration of the highly anticipated film *Wicked: For Good*, coming to theaters on Nov. 21. Erivo and Grande are joined by their costars and other surprise guests to perform many songs from the 2024 *Wicked* movie and preview some of the numbers from *For Good*.



LARRY HORRICKS, NETFLIX

Hell's Kitchen

FOX, 8 p.m.

After being surprised by a Mariachi band, the chefs must play a wild game to determine their ingredients for an elevated Mexican dish. Chef Gabriela Cámara makes a guest appearance in the new episode "Guac a Mole in Hell's Kitchen."

Ghosts

CBS, 8:30 p.m.

Trevor (Asher Grodman) finds a way to spend more time with his daughter (returning guest star Gideon Adlon) by getting her a job at the restaurant in the new episode "Bring Your Daughter to Work Day."

Matlock

CBS, 9 p.m.

Matty and Olympia (Kathy Bates and Skye P. Marshall) work on the resentencing case of a teenager sent to prison for life in the new episode "Mousetrap."

Special Forces: World's Toughest Test

FOX, 9 p.m.

In the new episode "Composure," the remaining recruits are paired up to find a vital intelligence package and retrieve a hostage before the compound is filled with deadly gas and explodes.

Love+War

Nat Geo, 9 p.m.

This film is a stirring and intimate portrait of Pulitzer Prize-winning photographer Lynsey Addario, one of the world's most fearless visual journalists, as she captures the raw realities of conflict across multiple war zones while balancing motherhood.

Velvet

PBS, 9 p.m.

When snow arrives in time for Christmas, Ana (Paula Echevarría) organizes a celebration in the new episode "White Christmas."

Grey's Anatomy

ABC, 10 p.m.

Jo (Camilla Luddington) navigates a challenging case with a pregnant woman in the new episode "Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child."

Elsbeth

CBS, 10 p.m.

Elsbeth (Carrie Preston) questions the motives of a prominent poetry journal founder (guest star William Jackson Harper) after the death of his art patron friend in the new episode "Poetic Justice."

CATCH A CLASSIC

Noir to Die For Marathon MOVIES!, beginning at 6 a.m.

As you breakfast, enjoy 1950's **The Breaking Point**, about corrupted charter boat captain Harry Morgan (John Garfield), who is pushed to his limits trying to support his family, in this flick considered a "sunshine noir," aka set during the day. Garfield returns in 1946's **The Postman Always Rings Twice** (pictured) opposite Lana Turner in the steamy affair drama. Later in this all-day marathon, catch the gritty genre masterpiece **The Big Heat** (1953), a mob crime film directed by Fritz Lang that is certainly to die for. And many die in it, too.



METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

MOVIES YOU'LL LOVE



PATTI PERRET

Finding Nemo (2003, Children) Albert Brooks, Ellen DeGeneres **Freeform, 6:30 p.m.**

The Nutty Professor (1996, Comedy) Eddie Murphy, Jada Pinkett **BET, 7 p.m.**

The Da Vinci Code (2006, Mystery) Tom Hanks, Audrey Tautou **BBC America, 7:30 p.m.**

Outlaw Johnny Black (2023, Western) Michael Jai White, Anika Noni Rose **Encore, 7:40 p.m.**

Merry Christmas, Ted Cooper! (2025, Romance) Robert Buckley, Kimberley Sustad **Hallmark, 8 p.m.**

My Mother Looked Just Like You (2025, Suspense) Jenny Heaton, Avery Joy Davis **LMN, 8 p.m.**

Finding Dory (2016, Children) Ellen DeGeneres, Albert Brooks **Freeform, 8:55 p.m.**

Dirty Angels (2024, Action) Eva Green, Maria Bakalova **Starz, 9:05 p.m.**

Green Book (2018, Comedy-drama) Viggo Mortensen, Mahershala Ali **SHO, 10:05 p.m.**

Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom (1984, Adventure) Harrison Ford, Kate Capshaw **Paramount, 10:30 p.m.**

Violent Night (2022, Action) David Harbour, John Leguizamo **SYFY, 11 p.m.**

From the editors of **weekly** TV Weekly and tvinsider.com



What to watch

FRIDAY

November 7, 2025

All times Eastern. Start times can vary based on cable/satellite provider. Confirm times on your on-screen guide.

Sheriff Country

CBS, 8 p.m.

Mickey (Morena Baccarin) is forced to step down when Skye (Amanda Arcuri) becomes the prime suspect in a murder case in the new episode "Out of Office."

Happy's Place

NBC, 8 p.m. ■ **Season Premiere**

Reba McEntire returns as Bobbie, the co-owner of a bar she inherited from her father, where she and her half sister Isabella (Belissa Escobedo) get into plenty of sticky situations navigating the day-to-day of business ownership.

Mistletoe Murders

Hallmark Channel, 8 p.m. ■ **Season Premiere**

Emily Lane (Sarah Drew) is back in Season 2 of this holiday mystery series. Emily, a good-natured Christmas shop owner with a secret past, uses her unique talents to help solve murders in the town of Fletcher's Grove. Peter Mooney also stars.

Power Book IV: Force

Starz, 8 p.m. ■ **Season Premiere**

In the third and final season of this *Power* spinoff, Tommy Egan (Joseph Sikora) has a growing list of enemies, from federal agents to street gangs looking to upend his quest to rule the drug trade in Chicago. With a deepening divide within his coalition and his personal life under threat, Tommy must balance offense and defense to survive and protect everything he's worked for.

Stumble

NBC, 8:30 p.m. ■ **New Series**

This mockumentary-style comedy is set in the outrageously competitive and cutthroat world of junior college cheer. Courteney Potter (Jenn Lyon) is a successful cheer coach who has a fall from grace when a video of her partying with her team surfaces, and



MATT MILLER, NBC

she's forced to take a coaching job with a much less prestigious program. Taran Killam, Ryan Pinkston, Anissa Borrego and Jarrett Austin Brown also star, with Kristin Chenoweth recurring as a longtime assistant coach who is stuck in her late '80s heyday.

Fire Country

CBS, 9 p.m.

Manny (Kevin Alejandro) has a serious conversation with Bode (Max Thieriot) about a troubling discovery in the new episode "Like a Wounded Wildebeest."

The UnBelievable With Dan Aykroyd

History, 9 p.m. ■ **Season Premiere**

In tonight's premiere episode, "Strange Sightings," they say seeing is believing — but these sightings will make you question everything. Each Season 2 hourlong episode will open up the cabinet of curiosities to reveal the strangest true stories in human history.

Ready to Love

OWN, 9 p.m. ■ **Season Premiere**

Dynamic singles from Detroit put their hearts on the line in this new season of the dating series. These men and women are ready to break down walls, build connections, and find lasting love in one of America's most soulful and entrepreneurial cities. Comedian Thomas "Nephew Tommy" Miles hosts.

Boston Blue

CBS, 10 p.m.

The Silver family observes yahrzeit to honor their patriarch on the one-year anniversary of his death in the new episode "Rites of Passage."



EVERETT COLLECTION

romantic comedy adventure **Romancing the Stone**, which found Michael Douglas, Kathleen Turner and Danny DeVito starring, as their characters pursued a priceless gem hidden in the jungle. 1963's fantasy adventure **Jason and the Argonauts**, with Todd Armstrong and Honor Blackman, and 1941's noir classic **The Maltese Falcon** (pictured), with Humphrey Bogart as a smooth detective, finish out the night.

CATCH A CLASSIC

Objects of Desire Marathon

TCM, beginning at 8 p.m.

Beauty is in the eye of the beholder in tonight's collection of films! First up is 1939's **The Wizard of Oz**, which featured Judy Garland's dazzling turn as a farm girl who lands in technicolor Oz and that evil Wicked Witch of the West's (Margaret Hamilton) quest for those ruby slippers. The TCM debut of 1981's **Raiders of the Lost Ark** follows, as Harrison Ford embodies Indiana Jones in this Steven Spielberg-directed masterpiece to obtain a religious relic before a group of Nazis do. Next up? 1984's

MOVIES YOU'LL LOVE



PIXAR

A Dance in the Snow (2024, Drama) Erica Cerra, Mark Ghanimé **Hallmark Mystery, 6 p.m.**

Barbie (2023, Comedy) Margot Robbie, Ryan Gosling **TNT, 6 p.m.**

Brave (2012, Children) Kelly Macdonald, Billy Connolly **Disney, 6:20 p.m.**

Relative Danger (2025, Suspense) Kirsten Comerford, Debra Hale **LMN, 8 p.m.**

Ticket to Paradise (2022, Romance-comedy) George Clooney, Julia Roberts **Bravo, 8 p.m.**

Beverly Hills Cop (1984, Action) Eddie Murphy, Judge Reinhold **IFC, 8:45 p.m.**

The Cut (2024, Suspense) Orlando Bloom, Caitriona Balfe **SHO, 9 p.m.**

Christmas on Duty (2025, Romance) Peter Jacobson, Janel Parrish **Hallmark, 10 p.m.**

Hannibal (2001, Suspense) Anthony Hopkins, Julianne Moore **MGM, 10 p.m.**

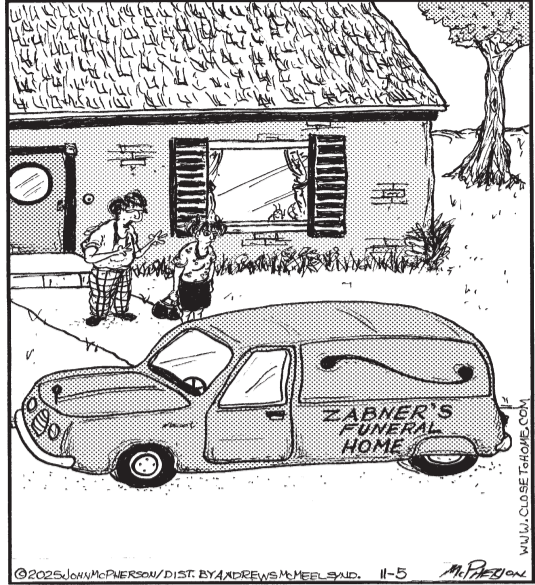
Drumline (2002, Comedy-drama) Nick Cannon, Zoe Saldana **TBS, 10:30 p.m.**

From the World of John Wick: Ballerina (2025, Action) Ana de Armas, Keanu Reeves **Starz, 10:45 p.m.**

From the editors of **weekly** TV Weekly and tvinsider.com

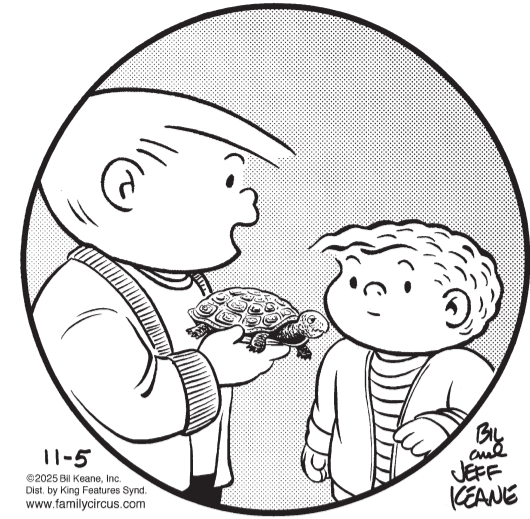


CLOSE TO HOME John McPherson



"I just need to run a quick errand for my dad and drop something off, and then we can head to the movies."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS Bill Keane

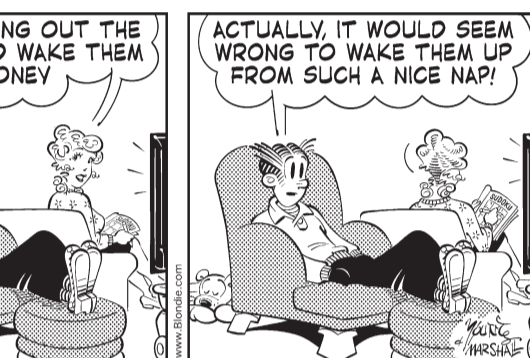
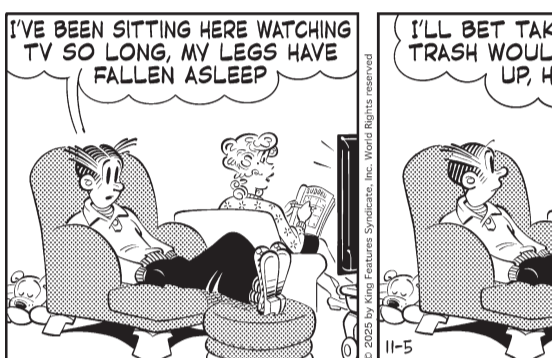


"When he sleeps he takes his head indoors."

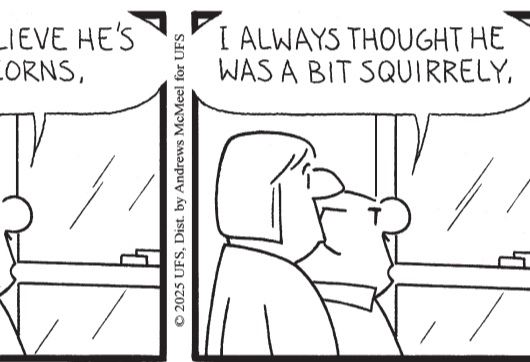
BEETLE BAILEY Mort & Greg Walker



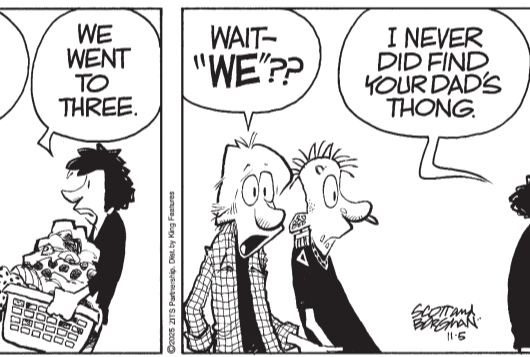
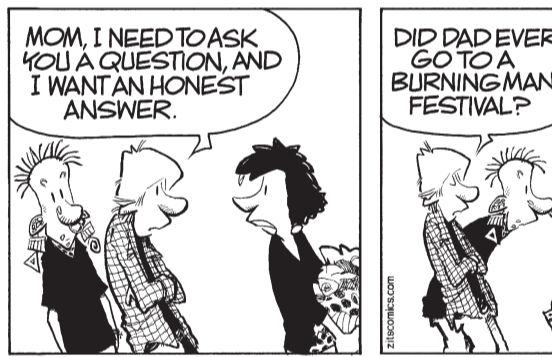
BLONDIE Dean Young & John Marshall



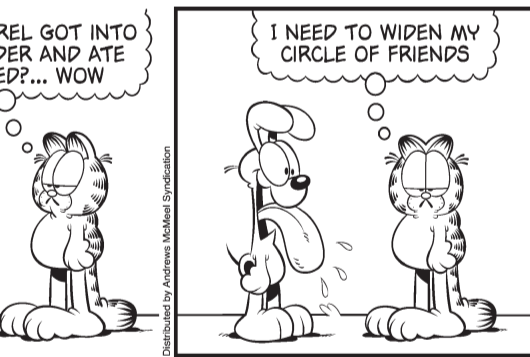
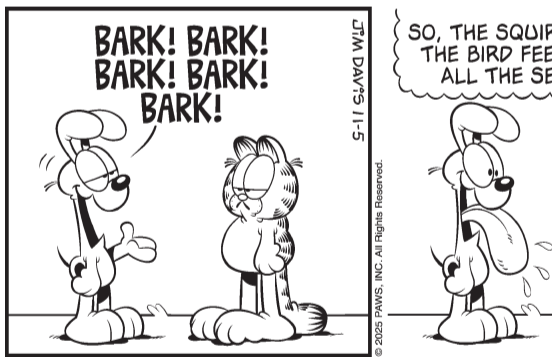
THE BORN LOSER Art & Chip Sansom



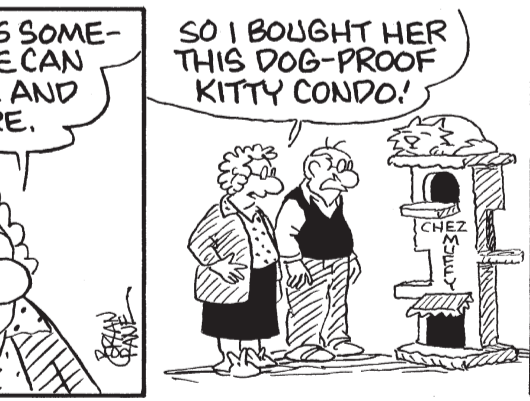
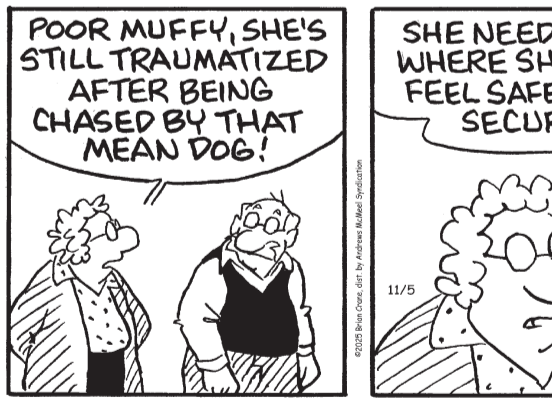
ZITS Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



GARFIELD Jim Davis



PICKLES Brian Crane

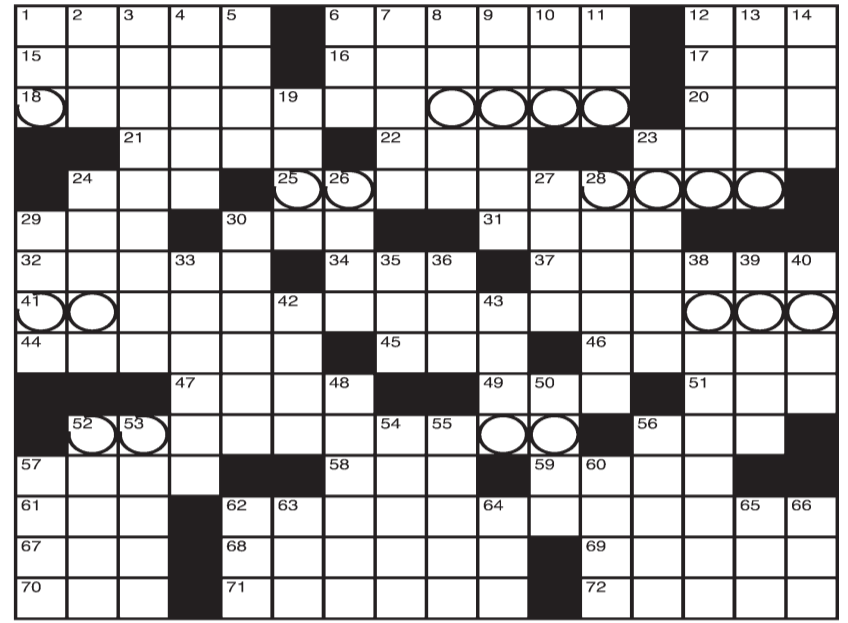
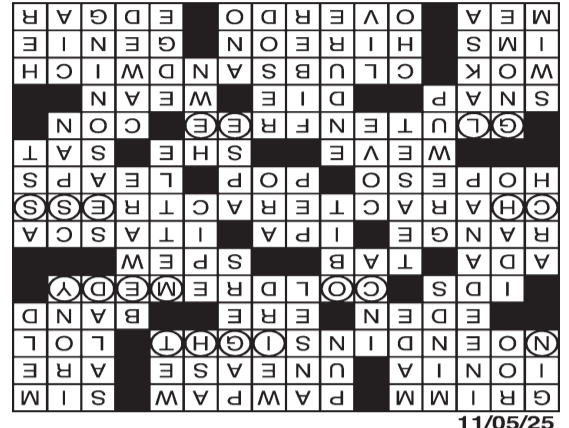


Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Patti Varol

- ACROSS**
- 1 Name in fairy tales
 - 6 Tropical fruit tree
 - 12 Occupant of a virtual city
 - 15 Ancient Greek region of Asia Minor
 - 16 Anxious feeling
 - 17 "Rules ___ rules"
 - 18 "Little chance of finishing soon"
 - 20 "Made me giggle!"
 - 21 First place?
 - 22 Afore
 - 23 Musical group
 - 24 Cards swiped at work
 - 25 Chicken soup or ginger tea
 - 29 Accessibility law, for short
 - 30 Indent key
 - 31 Erupt
 - 32 Line of mountains
 - 34 Hoppy beer
 - 37 Lake that feeds the Mississippi River
 - 41 Performer who often plays a protagonist's best friend
 - 44 "That'd be swell"
 - 45 Burst
 - 46 Jumps
 - 47 "___ got a situation here"
 - 49 With 66-Down, pronoun pair
 - 51 Rested in a chair
 - 52 Without wheat, rye, or barley
 - 56 Café ___ leche
 - 57 Ginger cookie
 - 58 Run out of battery
 - 59 Introduce to solid food, say
 - 61 Stir-fry pan
 - 62 Triple-decker lunch, or what can be found in 18-, 25-, 41-, and 52-Across
 - 67 Contacts on Discord, e.g.
 - 68 Accept a staff position
 - 69 Magic lamp dweller
 - 70 culpa
 - 71 Go too far with
 - 72 Mystery writers' award
- DOWN**
- 1 Negroni liquor
 - 2 Small resident of the Hundred Acre Wood
 - 3 "That was exhausting!"
 - 4 Babysits
 - 5 Whipped up
 - 6 Many a dad joke
 - 7 Photographer Adams
 - 8 Strange
 - 9 Beepers
 - 10 Firepit residue
 - 11 Rainy
 - 12 Light lunch
 - 13 Dramatic device
 - 14 Rummikub action
 - 19 Tawantinsuyu resident
 - 23 Watch out for
 - 24 The Potato State
 - 26 Memorial piece
 - 27 Games: Fortnite developer
 - 28 Guts
 - 29 Eyebrow shape
 - 30 Dishes for a dollhouse social
 - 33 Became an adult
 - 35 ___ squad
 - 36 Preferring platonic relationships, informally
 - 38 Cast iron coat
 - 39 House coverage network
 - 40 Mgr.'s right hand
 - 42 Shoreline recess
 - 43 Church recess
 - 48 Survive
 - 50 Axed
 - 52 Garden figure
 - 53 Coconut milk noodle soup
 - 54 ___-optic cable
 - 55 Patch, as a lawn
 - 56 Spoke like a wren
 - 57 Triathlon part
 - 60 Border
 - 62 Margaret of "Fire Island"
 - 63 Arwen player Tyler
 - 64 "So that's ___?"
 - 65 Spy org.
 - 66 See 49-Across

TODAY'S SOLUTION:

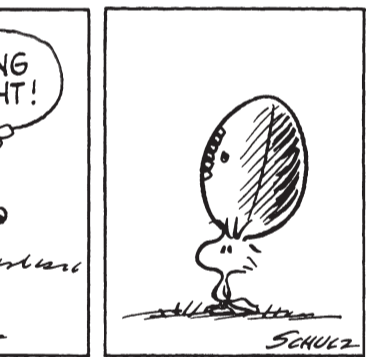


By Terry Sun & Shannon Rapp (c)2025 Tribune Content Agency, LLC 11/05/25

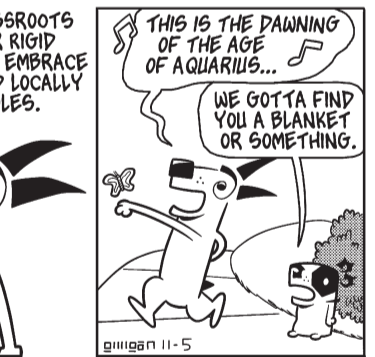
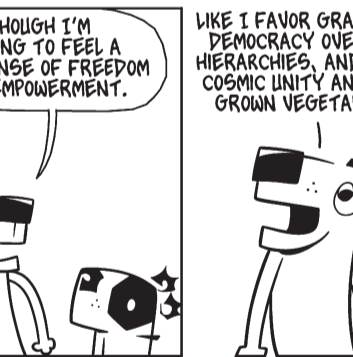
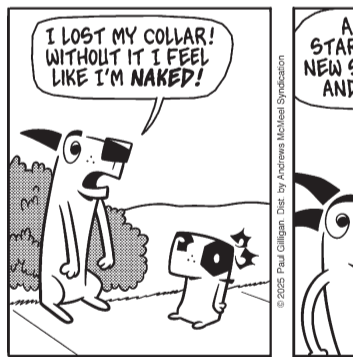
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE Chris Browne



PEANUTS Charles M. Schulz



POOCH CAFE Paul Gilligan



SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

	4	7	5			6		
		8	2		9			
1			4	9			2	
7	8		5	6		4	9	
			8					
	6	4		1	7		3	8
	9		2	5				7
		6		7	8			
3		1		6				5

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 WHATZIT SOLUTION:

Money for Nothing

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.

COTSWOLDS VILLAGES

Solution: 11 letters

W	G	C	N	E	D	R	A	G	O	T	H	I	C	L
L	O	R	O	O	D	N	E	I	K	L	O	T	O	I
L	I	O	E	C	B	O	U	R	T	O	N	W	S	M
E	C	A	L	A	P	M	I	E	H	N	E	L	B	E
V	M	N	E	S	T	W	B	R	D	R	Y	M	U	S
O	E	T	E	T	A	T	N	U	S	R	C	R	P	T
L	D	N	A	L	G	N	E	L	R	D	O	A	C	O
R	I	I	K	E	R	B	A	W	P	F	L	F	F	N
E	E	A	S	N	I	U	R	P	A	A	O	R	X	E
T	V	U	E	B	G	U	R	S	O	P	R	R	O	O
S	A	Q	U	H	O	E	T	A	E	N	E	K	D	W
N	L	R	T	T	S	H	M	E	L	T	D	R	E	H
I	Y	E	L	L	A	V	H	S	U	R	D	N	I	W
M	R	H	I	L	L	S	W	I	N	B	R	O	O	K
E	R	D	L	O	W	E	H	T	N	O	W	O	T	S

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11/5
Asthall, Bibury, Blenheim Palace, Bourton, Burford, Café, Castle, England, Farm, Garden, Gems, Gothic, Great Tew, Herd, Hills, Honey Colored, Limestone, Lower Slaughter, Medieval, Minster Lovell, Nest, Oxford, Park, Pond, Pubs, Quaint, Ruins, Rural, Sheep, Stow-on-the-Wold, Swinbrook, Tolkien Door, Tour, Walk, Windrush Valley, Wool, World

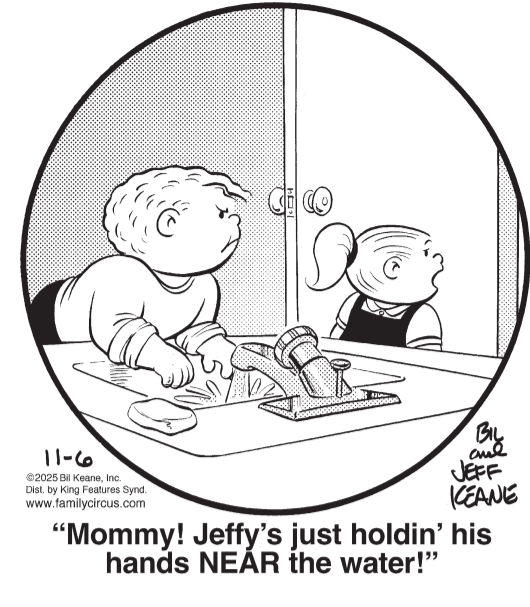
TODAY'S ANSWER: Cirencester

CLOSE TO HOME John McPherson



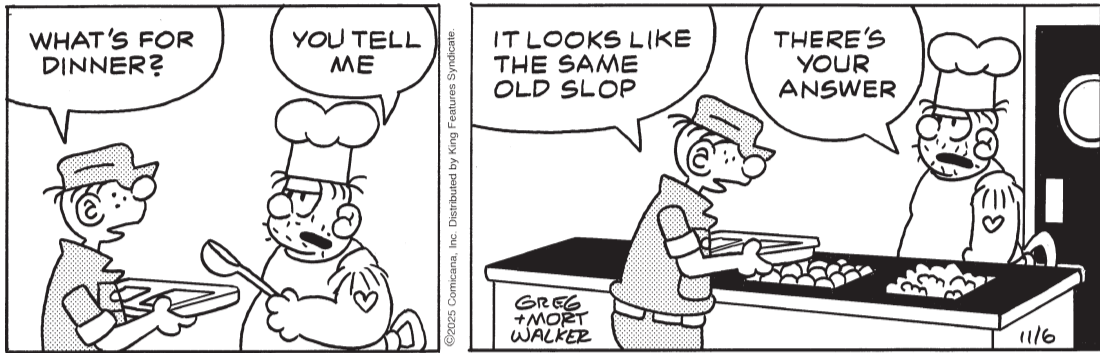
New in household safety: Nerf staircases.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS Bill Keane



"Mommy! Jeffy's just holdin' his hands NEAR the water!"

BEETLE BAILEY Mort & Greg Walker



BLONDIE Dean Young & John Marshall



THE BORN LOSER Art & Chip Sanson



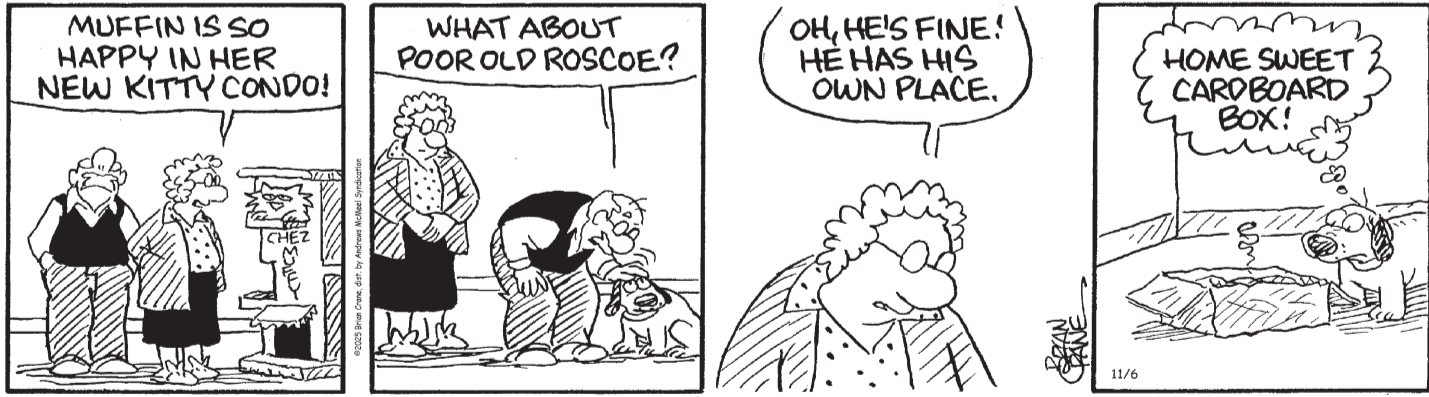
ZITS Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



GARFIELD Jim Davis



PICKLES Brian Crane



CROSSWORD

ACROSS

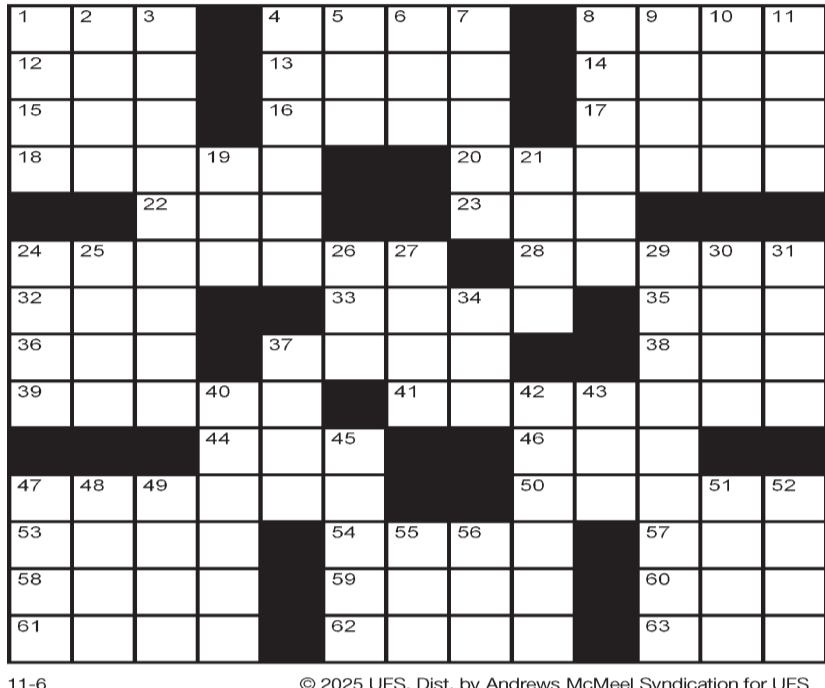
- Sing with closed lips
- Peat —
- avis
- Whichever
- Thought
- Panache
- "— about time!"
- State near Mont. (2 wds.)
- Legal tender
- Penny
- Water lily
- Ousts
- manner of speaking
- Blushing
- Made unclean
- Untamed
- "Exodus" hero
- Tabletop extender
- Stage of life
- Cravat
- Distort

DOWN

- Frozen rain
- "Do — others ..."
- Utterly baffled
- Container for wine
- Turn out (2 wds.)
- Thought to be
- Grande
- Web address
- Condescends
- Go furtively
- Vaulted church area
- Mine's output
- Bride strap
- vera
- Shark feature
- Exam
- Peel
- "Jack Sprat could eat no — ..."

TODAY'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13					14		
15			16					17		
18			19			20	21			
22						23				
24	25			26	27	28	29	30	31	
32				33	34			35		
36				37				38		
39			40		41	42	43			
44				45			46			
47	48	49					50		51	52
53				54	55	56			57	
58				59					60	
61				62					63	



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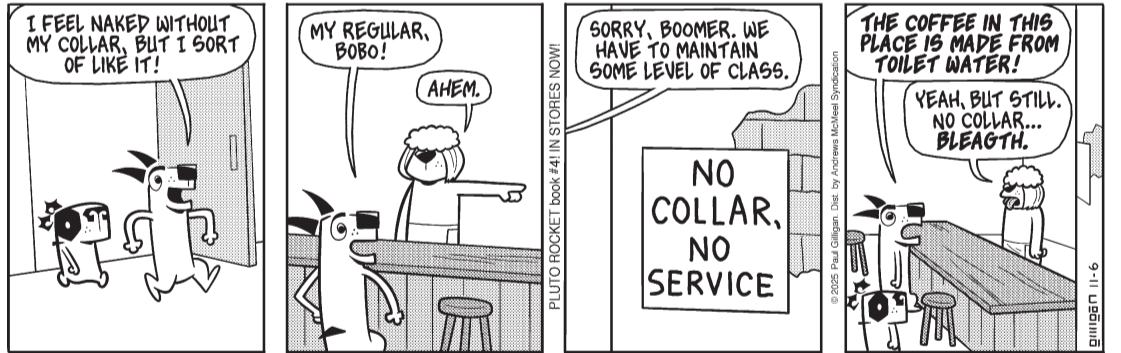
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE Chris Browne



PEANUTS Charles M. Schulz



POOCH CAFE Paul Gilligan



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.

IT'S A REAL BARN BURNER Solution: 9 letters

Y	E	L	L	A	V	S	R	E	H	T	A	E	W	T
G	C	M	E	T	A	T	S	R	E	B	M	A	H	S
R	I	A	A	M	L	A	I	C	O	S	M	G	V	E
E	T	R	G	G	B	B	R	U	G	L	I	E	A	R
N	I	E	E	E	A	L	S	A	R	N	I	C	L	E
E	Z	S	R	N	L	E	T	C	O	A	R	F	U	T
G	E	U	R	I	B	H	B	I	O	H	S	E	N	
N	N	O	G	O	E	A	T	T	P	R	T	C	I	I
I	S	H	N	R	R	I	Y	S	N	S	C	I	E	G
T	T	D	I	B	T	A	G	L	E	E	H	C	N	
I	S	N	E	E	R	I	F	R	I	T	V	T	I	I
C	G	C	P	S	E	P	O	N	S	M	N	E	O	Z
X	U	M	M	R	A	F	L	A	S	H	A	O	H	A
E	O	W	N	E	R	R	E	K	C	I	L	F	C	L
C	O	T	T	A	G	E	D	R	A	Y	K	C	A	B

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11/6
Abner, Amber, Backyard, Barbecue, Base, Blazing, Bond, Char, Choice, Citizens, Competition, Contest, Cottage, Crops, Energy, Ethics, Event, Exciting, Family, Farm, Fire, Flash, Flicker, Forest, Game, Gathering, House, Interest, Legacy, Life, Light, Melt, Night, Owner, Rug, Scorch, Snopes, Social, Stable, State, Valley, Value, Weather

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

			4	1		6		
	2			8	3		7	
3		8		5		9		
7		6		4				
	4						2	
				6		8		4
		2		9		4		5
9		6	2				8	
		5		7	4			

WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

boudoir ii

SUDOKU INSTRUCTIONS: Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

TODAY'S WHATZIT SOLUTION:

Bedroom eyes

Southwest Georgia: Actions speak louder than words

By Michael Ferguson II
news@albanyherald.com

ALBANY — As a follow-up to my recent article “Self-Destruction,” I want to shine a light on something powerful happening right here in our own backyard. While too many headlines focus on what’s going wrong, we’re seeing what it looks like when people stand up, show up, and lead with love.

City on a Hill Faith Ministries, under the leadership of Pastor Darrell Shealy Sr., is making a real impact, one neighborhood at a time. This isn’t about handouts or hollow gestures. This is about presence, commitment, and heart.

The ministry has been faithfully serving our communities through clothing drives, hot meals, and boxes of non-perishable goods. But what sets them apart is something deeper: They bring love. Ev-

ery single time.

Recently at the William Ben Apartments, the atmosphere was different. You could feel it.

Children ran through bouncy houses. They laughed during sack races and pulled with all their might in an old-school tug-of-war. There was no tension, just joy. Just community.

And right in the mix, Albany State University mentors showed up and showed out. Their energy, guidance, and genuine care made a powerful impression, not only on the kids, but on everyone present. Seeing young leaders from our local HBCU pouring back into the neighborhoods was a reminder that we rise together.

This is what healing looks like. This is how we reclaim our spaces, not just physically, but emotionally and spiritually.

The movement continues: Its next top is at Dennis Homes on Nov. 15, from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.



Special Photo

City on a Hill Faith Ministries provides fun things for kids in Albany neighborhoods.

The mission is growing. New partners and expanded resources will be joining in to help “love back” our neighborhoods, one block at a time.

Southwest Georgia ThinkTank will align with Pastor Shealy and provide support to expand the work he and his church family have begun.

As Coach Deion Sanders would say: “We coming.” Also planned is an annual

Thanksgiving Day dinner at 1939 South Jackson St. in Albany on Nov. 27 from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Each year, more than 400 meals are served, and nearly 100 plates are delivered to senior citizens who can’t attend. This is about dignity, care and connection.

Want to help? Get involved. To volunteer for any of these events, contact City on a Hill



Special Photo

A movement has begun in Albany — starting with neighborhood kids — to take back communities.

Faith Ministries. Every set of hands makes a difference.

Stay in the loop and join the conversation on Facebook: Southwest Georgia ThinkTank

That’s where ideas become action, and action becomes transformation.

This is more than outreach—it’s a movement. And thanks to local leaders, passionate volunteers, and community champions like the students of Albany State University—we’re loving our communities back

Colquitt Regional Health System announces medical staff leadership

Staff Reports
news@albanyherald.com

MOULTRIE — Colquitt Regional Health System has announced the appointment of new leadership within its medical staff, following the hospital’s recent medical staff meeting.

The following physicians have been selected to serve in leadership roles on the Medical Executive Committee:

Chief of Staff: Dr. Gary Swartzentruber

Chief of Staff—Elect: Dr. Curt Starling

Chief of Surgery: Dr. Emerson Harrison

Chief of Medicine: Dr. Wittemba Kabange

Surgery Member at Large: Dr. Cory Porteus

Medicine Member at Large: Dr. Sarah Nuzzo

Surgery Member at Large: Dr. William Stembridge

Medicine Member at Large: Dr. Kent Posey

These leadership positions are voted on by members of the medical staff every two years, with one of the medicine and surgery members at large appointed directly by the chief of staff. This structure ensures a balanced representation of medical specialties and fosters collaboration across departments to continually improve

patient outcomes.

The Medical Executive Committee plays a critical role in the overall governance and direction of the hospital’s medical staff. Its members are responsible for providing guidance on clinical policies, supporting quality improvement initiatives, and ensuring that the hospital maintains the highest standards of patient safety and care. The committee also oversees credentialing, continuing education, and peer review processes — key functions that help uphold Colquitt Regional’s reputation for excellence.

“We are proud to welcome these outstanding physicians to the Medical Executive Committee,” Colquitt Regional President and CEO Jim Matney said. “Their clinical expertise, leadership, and commitment to excellence will be instrumental as we continue to expand and enhance the care we provide to our community.

“This group represents some of the finest medical professionals in our region, and their leadership ensures that Colquitt Regional remains a trusted destination for high-quality health care.”

The newly appointed team brings together a diverse range of specialties and experience, reflecting Colquitt Regional’s



Special Photos: Colquitt Regional

Colquitt Regional Health System has announced new medical staff leadership, with eight physicians appointed to key roles on the Medical Executive Committee.

multidisciplinary approach to patient care. From primary care to surgical innovation, these physician leaders will work closely with hospital administration and nursing leadership to drive continued growth and success.

“This continued commitment to strong, physician-led leadership supports our mission of delivering patient-centered care at the highest level,” Hospital Authority Chairman John Griffin said. “We are confident that this team will help lead Colquitt Regional into an even brighter future. Their

collaboration and vision are vital as we look toward new opportunities to serve the people of Colquitt County and beyond.”

Colquitt Regional Health System remains dedicated to fostering physician engagement and empowering medical staff to shape the hospital’s direction. By maintaining a strong partnership between physicians, administration, and the Hospital Authority, Colquitt Regional continues to strengthen its position as a leader in rural health care innovation and community wellness.

Mary Beth Watson graduates from Technical College System of Georgia Leadership Academy

Staff Reports
news@albanyherald.com

MOULTRIE — Mary Beth Watson, the vice president for human resources at Southern Regional Technical College, recently completed the

Technical College System of Georgia’s Senior Leadership Academy, a professional development program aimed at advancing careers within TCSG and its 22 colleges.

Watson was a participant of the program’s third cohort of individuals who have demonstrated exceptional leadership potential. A cohort graduation ceremony was held in Savannah.

“The Senior Leadership Academy represents TCSG’s commitment to cultivating the next generation of leaders within our colleges and system,” TCSG Commissioner Greg Dozier said. “These graduates embody the excellence and dedication that define our system, and they are well-prepared to continue driving Georgia’s reputation as the top state for talent.”

The Senior Leadership Academy is a flagship initiative of TCSG designed to identify, nurture, and equip leaders within the organization with the skills and knowledge required to excel in leadership roles. It is a year-long program divided into eight two-day sessions. The graduates received 160 hours of content, including 18 hours of leadership training through the University of Georgia Carl Vinson Institute of Government.

“The Senior Leadership Academy is about preparing leaders who will continue to strengthen our colleges, inspire our students, and ad-



Special Photo

From left, Technical College System of Georgia Commissioner Greg Dozier, SRTC VP for Human Resources Mary Beth Watson, and TCSG President of Executive Leadership and Talent Initiatives Alvetta Thomas take part in a recent awards ceremony.

vance Georgia’s work force.” Alvetta Thomas, president of Executive Leadership and Talent Initiatives at TCSG, said. “This year’s graduates demonstrated exceptional commitment to growth, collaboration and service. Their leadership will have a lasting impact on their colleges, their communities, and the entire TCSG system.”

The academy is designed to provide participants with a greater understanding of the operation and administrative functions of TCSG and its colleges, such as strategic planning, data-driven decision-making, budgeting, student affairs, compliance, work force development, and legal services, among others.

Southern Regional Technical College offers more than 150 degree, diploma, and certificate programs that are designed to get students quickly into their desired careers, and 38 general education courses that transfer to the University System of Georgia institutions and 19 private colleges and universities in Georgia. SRTC has instructional sites located in 11 counties across southwest Georgia.

For the most up-to-date information on registration, class dates, and program offerings, interested individuals can log on to www.southernregional.edu or call (888) 205-3449.

Spring semester begins Jan. 13.

Albany Area Chamber of Commerce

Cornerstone Coffee

Cornerstone Coffee

100 Pine Avenue
Albany, GA 31701
cornerstonecoffee.com

The Albany Area Chamber of Commerce proudly recognizes Cornerstone Coffee as this week’s Star Business of the Week. Owned by Stan and Ana Franklin, Cornerstone Coffee has been a welcoming hub in Downtown Albany for the past four years. Known for its gourmet coffee, delicious treats, and relaxed atmosphere, it’s become a true cornerstone of the downtown community. The Franklins recently expanded with a second location in Dawson, Georgia, and are investing in a state-of-the-art coffee roaster—one of only four of its kind on the east coast—that will allow them to roast and sell their own beans in-store and online. The Albany Area Chamber celebrates Cornerstone Coffee for its entrepreneurship, innovation, and dedication to community. The Star Business of the Week is presented by WALB News 10 and Fleming & Riles Insurance, with treats provided by Sugar Mama’s Bakery.

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225 W. Broad Ave.
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SOUTHWEST GEORGIA

Change and challenge greet Albany teams at Tip-Off Classic

By Joe Whiffield
Sports Editor

ALBANY — The squeak of sneakers and the echo of basketballs will return to Albany State West on Friday afternoon, ushering in a new high school season that promises fresh faces, new coaches, and plenty of intrigue.

The Dougherty County Tip-Off Classic opens the 2024-25 season with a four-game showcase featuring Dougherty, Monroe, Westover and Lee County — four programs that know each other well and rarely disappoint when they share the same floor.

It all begins at 4 p.m. Friday, when the Dougherty Lady Trojans face the Lee County Lady Trojans, a matchup that reflects the broader storyline of the night: transition on one sideline

and stability on the other.

For Dougherty, it's a season of change. Ervin Josey takes over as head coach after Khadijah Ali moved into her new role as Dougherty County Schools athletic director. The Lady Trojans' roster will look very different, with five seniors from last season signing college scholarships — including All-State guard Jatiana Chambers, now at Fort Valley State University.

Lee County, meanwhile, looks much the same — and that's a good thing for head coach Tondra Davis. The Lady Trojans return nearly their entire lineup from last season and welcome a strong freshman class fresh off a Deep South Middle School Conference championship. Among the returners are two of south Georgia's best: Taliyah Porter and Camya Hutcherson, both named to

the All-South Georgia Preseason Team.

That early matchup will set the tone for a night filled with familiar rivalries and new beginnings. The second game could be the most anticipated of them all — Monroe vs. Westover in the girls' finale.

Monroe enters the year as the clear favorite to win its region and make a run at a state title. The Lady Tornadoes return nearly their entire roster, led by Kie'Aundria Acree, ESPN's No. 17-ranked player in the Class of 2027, and All-State guard Taylor McKinzy. They impressed throughout summer and fall league play, even while Acree recovered from a cross-country injury. Now healthy, she leads a group that has looked like a state contender for



Staff Photo: Joe Whiffield

Lee County freshman Kam Franklin leaps toward the basket for two points during the junior varsity intrasquad game at Tuesday's annual basketball showcase.

See CLASSIC, 10A

Overtime? No — just five quarters of Monday madness in Leesburg

By Joe Whiffield
Sports Editor

LEESBURG — Nobody expected overtime. Nobody even asked for it. But somehow, the Lee West and Merry Acres boys managed to play five quarters of basketball Monday night.

That's not a typo. Five.

After four quarters were done — Merry Acres leading 49-24 and both teams lining up for the customary handshake — somebody decided the math didn't add up. Maybe it was the scoreboard. Maybe it was the officials. Maybe it was just Monday. Either way, word spread that it was only the end of the third quarter.

And just like that, the game kept going.

Lee West coach Kaion Hamilton, sensing a second life, put his starters back on the floor. The Trojans promptly went on a 14-2 run, cutting what had been a blow-out into something that looked, at least briefly, like a miracle in motion. Merry Acres coach Art Anderson wasn't amused. He sent his own starters back out, order was restored, and the Braves finished off the strangest "four-plus-one" win you'll ever see, 53-38.

The Braves had made it clear early that they weren't interested in suspense. They pressed full court from the opening tip, smothering every Trojan attempt at a clean pass or open look. By the time the first quarter horn sounded, it was 14-2 Merry Acres.

But Lee West found its footing in the second. Kingston Neal hit a three from the top of the key, then calmly sank two free throws after an intentional foul. A.J. Bell followed with another three, and suddenly it was a game again. The Trojans trailed just 18-14 at halftime.

Merry Acres adjusted again in the third, toggling between zone and man defense to build a 27-16 lead midway through. Lee West kept grinding, trimming the margin to 29-22 — or so everyone thought — at the end of what we all believed was the



Staff Photo: Joe Whiffield

Merry Acres' Nehemiah Nance shoots for two of his game-leading 12 points over Lee West's Kingston Neal during Monday's five-quarter game in Leesburg.

third quarter.

Neal led the Trojans with seven points. Merry Acres spread the wealth: Nehemiah Nance scored 12, while Chayse Randle, King Leverette and Rashad Bryant each added seven.

Randle also hit the game's final exclamation point — a corner three that sealed the win, no matter which quarter it actually was.

If the boys' game was bizarre, the girls' matchup was simply gritty. Lee West's Lady Trojans outlasted Merry Acres 22-19 in a fast-paced, full-effort contest that looked more like a late-season slugfest than an early-November game.

The Lady Braves jumped ahead early behind Anabelle Spooner's first-quarter three, leading 9-4 after one. But the con-

stant defensive pressure drained them. Lee West, led by Ariel Odefile and Harmony Hutcherson, took advantage, scoring eight straight to lead 12-9 at the half.

Hutcherson hit a jumper to start the third, stretching the margin to five before Merry Acres clawed back. A. Hatcher scored twice under the basket to nudge the Lady Braves ahead 17-16.

That lead didn't last long. Nileah Jefferson buried a three to swing momentum back to the Trojans, who never trailed again. B. Hutson led Lee West with seven points, Hutcherson had five, and Kennedy Faegan paced Merry Acres with six.

It wasn't quite as confusing as five quarters of basketball — but for Lee West fans, it was the one that really mattered.

Deerfield-Windsor to host Pinewood Christian

By Joe Whiffield
Sports Editor

ALBANY — The road to another state title winds right back through Webb Memorial Stadium, where Deerfield-Windsor has made winning feel like ritual.

The defending GIAA Class AAA champions open their 2025 playoff run Friday night at home against Pinewood Christian, with kickoff set for 7:30 p.m. The Knights (10-0) earned a first-round bye and enter riding a 13-game winning streak dating back to last season — a stretch built on balance, precision, and that familiar Deerfield brand of discipline.

Head coach Jake McCrae, though, knows better than to count on history.

"This is a really good football team, especially on offense," McCrae said of the Patriots. "They've got the right guys in the right places, and that helps them be very consistent. Banks Hearn is a difference maker."

Hearn, Pinewood's senior quarterback, returned from injury last week and imme-

diately transformed his team. In a 56-28 first-round win over Terrell Academy, the Patriots rolled up 468 rushing yards — 255 of them coming from senior running back JoJo Tippett, who scored four touchdowns on just seven carries.

"They run the option really well," McCrae said. "If you've got two guys over there and the defense isn't where it needs to be, they can gash you in a hurry."

For McCrae, the solution sounds simple, but it's what Deerfield has built its reputation on. "If we play gap sound and everybody does their individual jobs," he said, "it gives us a chance."

Three hours away in Bellville, the Patriots are working to solve their own problem — how to slow down a Deerfield offense that's been as dangerous as any in Georgia, regardless of classification.

Senior quarterback Lane Sceals has thrown for 2,458 yards and 31 touchdowns, while Gabe Daniel has been his go-to target, pulling in 69 receptions for 1,019 yards and 11 scores. Double Daniel, and Sceals turns to fellow seniors David

Hutchins and Brantley Michlig, both capable of moving the chains and breaking plays open.

The Knights don't just dazzle through the air. When they need to grind, Turner Simmons and Cross Mitchell provide the muscle — the kind of steady, punishing runners who turn short gains into statement drives.

If the Knights take care of business Friday, they'll host the state semifinals against the winner of Tiftarea Academy and The Westfield School, two teams they've already beaten this fall — though both games tested Deerfield's resolve.

McCrae isn't interested in looking ahead, not with a quarterback like Hearn back on the other sideline.

"Every team left is good," he said. "We've got to take care of this one first."

That's been the Knights' way under McCrae — stay grounded, stay sharp, and let the work speak for itself. The colors are navy and red, but the message never changes: championships are won by teams that never stop earning them.



Special Photo: Reginald Christian, Albany State University

Albany State head coach Quinn Gray and the Golden Rams are headed to Columbus for the annual showdown against rival Fort Valley State. The game is scheduled to kick off at 2 p.m.

Albany State looks to "Fight to the Finish"

By Joe Whiffield
Sports Editor

ALBANY — The blue and gold buses are rolling west on Highway 82 again, and that can mean only one thing — Albany State and Fort Valley are about to settle it in the Fountain City Classic.

The Golden Rams have already locked up a berth — and home field — for the SIAC Championship Game, but head coach Quinn Gray isn't interested in cruise control. Rivalry week has a way of sharpening focus, not softening it.

"We still have a lot of our goals in front of us," Gray said. "The guys are motivated because they're playing for each other, because they want to be accountable to each other. It's Fort Valley. We don't like them, and they don't like us. Around here, that's all the motivation you need."

Saturday's 35th annual Fountain City Classic at A.J. McClung Memorial Stadium will mark another chapter in one of Division II's most spirited rivalries. Fort Valley State holds a narrow all-time edge, 45-41-4, but Albany State has won nine of the last eleven, including a 20-15 victory last fall.

Albany State (8-1) enters the showdown unbeaten in SIAC play after a 21-17 victory over Savannah State that clinched the conference's top seed. The "Dirty Blue" defense again set the tone, while quarterback Isaiah Knowles and running back Roderick McCrary found enough rhythm to pull out another late-season win.

The Rams will host the SIAC title game on Nov. 15, though their opponent remains undecided. Benedict College (8-1) and Kentucky State (7-2) each have one conference loss — both to Albany State — and if they both win this weekend, tiebreakers will decide who makes the trip to Albany.

Gray, however, isn't ready to talk about that yet. "We're just closed the door on Saturday's game," he said during his weekly "Chat with Coach Gray." "We spent Sunday correcting the issues we saw. We need to get more push up front. We knew [Savannah State] would be big and physical, and we just have to improve our physicality."

Fort Valley State (4-5) has rebounded with three straight wins, including Saturday's 24-14 decision over Miles College. The Wildcats have found rhythm late, but Gray insists his team won't get caught up in momentum or standings.

"This game means everything to us as a team," he said. "Not just because it's Fort Valley, but because it's the next opponent. There's no way we're going into this game not being ready to play Albany State football."

For Gray, that's reason enough to keep his team sharp. "Our motto this year has been 'fight to the finish,'" he said. "And that's what we intend to do."

Smart, Bulldogs ready for Mississippi State's chaos and cowbells

By Joe Whitfield
Sports Editor

ATHENS — The clang of cowbells will greet Georgia again this weekend, a November soundtrack Kirby Smart knows too well. The Bulldogs' head coach sounded both wary and determined Monday as his team turned its focus toward Mississippi State — a program he insists is more dangerous than its record suggests.

"It's another week in the SEC," Smart said. "We're going to their place, and when you play on the road in this league, trust me, it's a tough place to play. They have a great fan base."

The Bulldogs (7-1) are entering the stretch run with playoff

stakes hovering. Mississippi State (4-4) may not look like a trap, but Smart sees plenty of warning signs. First-year coach Jeff Leiby has injected tempo and confidence into the maroon Bulldogs, and Smart says their film tells the story. "You can see the energy and enthusiasm in the way their kids play," he said. "They've got no quit in them, and they've upgraded the talent since he's been there."

Quarterback Blake Shapen, a transfer from Baylor, is the engine of Leiby's attack. He's mobile, accurate and capable of stressing Georgia's defense in ways few teams have. "He's got great arm talent, quick release, great vision," Smart said. "He understands their system and knows where to go with the ball. He's very

experienced — and he's got great legs."

Georgia's defense remains its backbone but not yet its masterpiece. The Bulldogs allow just under 20 points per game, yet Smart says they haven't reached the level of dominance he demands. Injuries haven't helped. Defensive lineman Jordan Hall will miss time, while linebacker Chris Cole and defensive back Demello Jones may return.

Sophomore Joseph Jonah-Ajonye will see an increased role inside after a gritty performance against Florida. "He's one of the toughest kids we've got," Smart said. "We're not used to leaning on true sophomores, but he's got natural pass-rush ability, and we need that."

Offensively, Georgia con-

tinues to grow under quarterback Gunner Stockton, who threw for 223 yards and two touchdowns against the Gators. His top target, transfer Zachariah Branch, delivered his first 100-yard game in red and black with 10 catches for 112 yards.

Smart has also been encouraged by receivers Anthony Evans and Brenen Thompson, whose speed forces defenses to stretch the field. "Anthony played awesome," he said. "Brenen might be the fastest guy I've seen on tape in years. The package of those two together is really good."

Mississippi State counters with length and aggression on defense and a plus-four turnover margin. "They get after it," Smart said. "They confuse you with different packages.



Special photo: Kameron Taylor
Georgia wide receivers Dillon Bell, left, and Zechariah Branch celebrate during last week's win over Florida in Jacksonville. The Bulldogs travel to Mississippi State on Saturday for another SEC road test.

They're very lengthy and they create havoc."

Georgia knows the drill — handle the noise, handle the moment, handle November. "If

you want to dominate someone," Smart said, "you don't check the scoreboard halfway through. You just go dominate them."

GHSА announces reclassification of schools

By Joe Whitfield
Sports Editor

THOMASTON - The Georgia High School Association announced the reclassification of its 454-member schools Monday, reshaping the state's athletic landscape for the next two years — and some southwest Georgia schools will feel the changes more than others.

The GHSA divides schools into seven classifications, from Class A up to Class 7A, with enrollment determining placement. Class 7A includes Georgia's largest schools. Brookwood High School in Gwinnett County tops the list with 4,098 students, while the largest school in south Georgia is Lowndes (3,153 students). Colquitt County (2,572) and Valdosta (2,422) are the other two south Georgia schools that will compete in 7A.

Lee County, with 1,818 students — including six from outside the district — will move back up to Class 6A after two years in 5A. The Trojans will be joined in 6A by several familiar foes: Houston County, Veterans, Coffee and Thomas County Central are all moving up as well. That means the powerful Region 1-6A lineup that defines some of Georgia's best football and baseball rivalries will continue.

In Albany, Westover, Monroe, and Dougherty are each moving from Class AAA to Class AAAA. Despite the classification change, they will likely remain in a similar regional setup since Cairo and Bainbridge are also moving to 4A.

"With the return of the 7A reclassification, Westover landed exactly where we thought we would be — still in the classification with Peach, Cairo, Bainbridge, Monroe, and Dougherty," Westover principal William Chunn said. "Because of the reclassification, we moved from 3A up to 4A. All of this is based on student enrollment, with

schools having the option to appeal to the GHSA to move up or down.

"The interesting part will be the region alignment, which will be coming up next, but I still anticipate Region 1-4A being the same as Region 1-3A was last year, with the same teams."

That potential continuity should help the city schools maintain local rivalries and manageable travel while still stepping into a higher level of competition.

The local school facing the most dramatic change is Worth County. The Rams are slated to move from Class A Division I to Class AAA — not because of enrollment growth, but due to shifts in statewide numbers.

Worth County could find itself in a region with Crisp County, Sumter County and Cook, and possibly a few Columbus-area schools such as Carver. That could make for intriguing matchups — Carver is currently ranked No. 1 in Class AA, while Worth County sits atop Class A Division I.

Worth County baseball coach Will Smith said it's still too early to draw conclusions. "There is really nothing to talk about yet because everything is preliminary," Smith said. "Schools have nine days to petition to play up or down, so everything could be totally different in nine days."

Schools now have until mid-November to appeal their classifications, and the GHSA is expected to release finalized region alignments near the end of the year. Until then, athletic directors and coaches across southwest Georgia will be watching closely to see what their future regions — and rivalries — will look like.

From 9A CLASSIC

months.

But Westover will not be an easy out. Led by twins Sydney and Savannah Donaldson, the Lady Patriots bring experience, chemistry, and a quiet confidence into the new season. They've made it clear they don't intend to let Monroe be the only Albany team playing for championships come February.

Once the girls finish, the boys' teams take over — starting with Dougherty and Lee County at 7 p.m. Both programs are rebuilding after deep postseason runs last year.

Terrance Neal, the new head coach at Dougherty, inherits a team stripped of experience. Eight seniors —

including standouts Kaleke Singletary-Jinks, Juwan Jinks Jr., and Jaquavus Hallman — graduated from last year's Elite Eight team, leaving the Trojans with a mix of youth and raw potential.

Lee County head coach Kirven Davis faces a similar challenge. After guiding the Trojans to the Class 6A Final Four last season, he returns only a couple of key players, including TJ Williams and Josiah Franklin, from that run. "It's a work in progress," Davis said. "You're likely to see a couple of freshmen starting for us."

The night will close with another rivalry — Monroe vs. Westover on the boys' side — and another round of unknowns. The Tornadoes, semifinalists in Class 3A last year, lost ten seniors, includ-

ing leading scorer Lorenzo Still and guards James Adams, Chase Dixon, Nehemiah Tinch and Leland Seadrow. Still, the return of 6-foot-6 center Braden Burns from football gives Monroe a reliable anchor in the paint.

Westover, on the other hand, looks every bit the area's team to beat. The Patriots, who shined during summer and fall play, enter the season ranked No. 8 in the state and bring back a deep, talented rotation led by Jalen Holmes, Gregory Williams, Tykwavious Johnson and Keyon Brady.

From the opening tip to the final buzzer, Friday's showcase won't just mark the start of another season — it will mark the start of something new. New names. New coaches. Same rivalries. Albany basketball never really starts over; it just reloads.

Walt Weiss named Atlanta Braves' manager

Media Reports

ATLANTA — Walt Weiss, the longtime Braves bench coach and former All-Star shortstop, was named the new manager of the Atlanta Braves on Monday, succeeding Brian Snitker after his nine-year tenure.

The announcement, made at Truist Park, extends the franchise's long tradition of promoting from within. Weiss, 61, has served as Atlanta's bench coach since 2018, helping guide the team to six straight National League East titles (2018-2023) and the 2021 World Series championship. He becomes just the fourth Braves manager since 1991, following Bobby Cox, Fredi González, and Snitker.

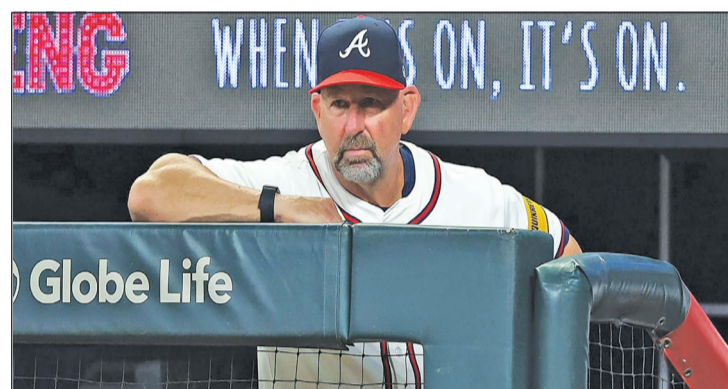
Weiss was formally introduced Tuesday during a press conference at Truist Park, where Snitker and Chipper Jones — both now serving as special assistants — are expected to attend.

A former first-round pick and the 1988 American League Rookie of the Year with the Oakland Athletics, Weiss spent 14 seasons in the majors, including his final three (1998-2000) as Atlanta's shortstop under Cox. His coaching résumé includes a four-year stint managing the Colorado Rockies (2013-16), where he compiled a 283-365 record.

After nearly a decade on Snitker's staff, Weiss inherits a roster stacked with talent but coming off a rare disappointment — missing the postseason in 2025 for the first time in eight years. His promotion reflects the front office's desire for stability and continuity within a clubhouse that already views him as a trusted leader.

"We felt Walt's understanding of this organization, this clubhouse, and what it takes to win here made him the best choice to lead us forward," a team official said.

Players have long praised Weiss's even temperament and communication skills. He's described as approachable but firm — someone who can challenge players while earning



Special Photo: Braves.com
Long-time bench coach Walt Weiss is now the new manager for the Atlanta Braves. Weiss spent eight years with skipper Brian Snitker who is moving into a new position with the Braves.

their respect. Former Brave Charlie Culberson called him "steady, real, and connected," qualities that helped shape the team's identity during its championship run.

While the Braves interviewed several external candidates — including Dodgers bench coach Danny Lehmann and former players Mark DeRosa and David Ross — the decision ultimately stayed in-house. Weiss wasn't informed of the final choice until Monday, after the club concluded a month-long evaluation process.

Weiss's hire continues a managerial lineage tracing back to Cox, who first took over in 1990 and established what many call "The Braves Way." He is now part of that continuum, charged with restoring the team's postseason streak and guiding a championship-caliber roster back to form.

For Weiss, whose 62nd birthday arrives later this month, the moment is both a homecoming and a new beginning. "It's a great honor to lead this team," he said in a statement. "This organization means a lot to me, and I'm excited to build on what we've accomplished."

Georgia Bulldogs: For whom the cowbell tolls

By W. Michael Lawson
Lawson.wm@gmail.com

Resilience is accepting your new reality, even if it's less good than the one you had before. You can fight it, you can do nothing but scream about what you've lost, or you can accept that and try to put together something that's good.

— Elizabeth Edwards

It is in our human nature to cheer a person's triumph over adversity. It is certainly a part of our historical national character as Americans. We look to the character trait

of resiliency with fascination and for inspiration. Partly because not all of us have "it". Whether it is in film like Rocky Balboa or Andy Dufresne in "The Shawshank Redemption", or in great historical figures like Nelson Mandela or Thomas Edison, or in great cultural icons like Helen Keller, Aron Ralston, or Colonel Sanders, those who overcome challenge, disruption, and headwind garner our attention. It is with no surprise, then, that the 2025 edition of the Georgia Bulldogs continues to drive debate and elicit conversation.

Much has been made of the continued challenges the Georgia Bulldogs have had in putting together a "complete game". Old men at the local Hardees all over the state of Georgia have been ruminating over this very issue all season. "How Bout Them Dawgs!" is met with a, "They're going to give me a heart attack" or "Don't know if I can take much more of this.". The "Cardiac Kids" in red and black seem to wait until the penultimate chapter of the book to start fighting back. It's like when the "American Dream" Dusty Rhodes would get off the mat bloodied and splattered, and start dishing out elbows. Why do they have to be bloodied first? Why can't they just come out swinging? What happened to the good ol' Dawg days when our team throttled everyone and our backups played in the 2nd quarter?

There is something to those questions. The late and lethargic starts are a legitimate issue. It is so serious that it

cost them against Bama and will cost them again, if they can't fix it.

But just as legitimate is the fact that these Georgia Bulldogs seem to find a way to win. Tennessee, Ole Miss, and Florida are good football teams. We can debate what pecking order, and we can debate how good they are nationally, but objectively, all have rosters loaded with future NFL talent. Against all of those teams, UGA played bad football at times, good football at times, and then great football at the end to win all of those games.

That brings us to "the other Bulldogs" of Mississippi State and their stupid cowbells. This is not one of those games that anyone would have pointed to at the beginning of the season as one that Georgia fans should be concerned with or about. No one would argue that winning on the road in the SEC is easy, necessarily, but no one would proffer that this game should require extra film room time, either.

Well, count this as a warning bell. A warning cowbell, if you will. These other dogs from "The Magnolia State" sport a (5-4) overall record and are (1-4) in the SEC, but heed this warning: That means about as much as your wife telling you "She's fine" or "nothing's wrong". If you believe that or plan your day around that, you are going to be sorely surprised by how bad things can go. With a quickness. With a fury.

Head Coach Jeff Leiby is a very good football coach, and his dogs throw the ball all over the yard. You might

recall that this has been an issue our true Dawgs all year. This coming game Saturday is going to require our beloved Georgia Bulldogs to find that resilient "it" factor again. Our beat-up defensive line will have to have young guys step up and actually pressure the quarterback and get him "off script". Our young secondary is going to be called upon to play disciplined man coverage against two sub-10.3 wide receivers. We need that kind of quality effort for four quarters to be successful.

As for Coach Bobo and the offense, what can you say? They've found a way, but 24 to 27 points seems like the lid against quality defenses. I'm not sure Mississippi State has a quality defense. Quarterback Gunner Stockton and company need to show out. 175 yards on the ground, 225 yards in the air, and no turnovers might do the trick.

The great American author, Ernest Hemingway, wrote in his great American novel (For Whom the Bell Tolls), "To worry about the future is as foolish as to regret the past. What matters is now, and what we do with the present."

This is where our beloved Dawgs are this week. Grind, get better, and try to put a complete game together Saturday in Starkville. Nothing before and nothing after matters. It will take that to win on the road. Especially with those stupid cowbells.

Michael Lawson returned home to "The Good Life City" in 2023 and is currently Vice President of Commercial Banking at Flint Community Bank.

OBITUARIES

Norma Carol Adkison (Hawkins)

Norma Carol Hawkins Adkison, 90, of Albany, GA passed away peacefully at her home on November 1, 2025. A graveside service will be held at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church Cemetery in Rebecca, Georgia at 11:00 AM Tuesday, November 4, 2025.

Norma was born on October 9, 1935 in Armuchee, GA and grew up in Ashburn, GA. She graduated from Young Harris College and Georgia Teachers College. She then taught 2nd grade for 32 years in the Dougherty County School System retiring in 1992. She was an avid cook and gardener, canning home-grown vegetables and fruits for many years. After retirement she learned to square dance and traveled across the country to many square dance conventions. She was also a member of Daughters of the American Revolution.

In addition to her parents, Norma was preceded in death by her siblings, Billy Hawkins, Betty Jo Pugh, Ann Almand and James Hawkins. Survivors include her son, Hank Adkison of Marietta, GA, her daughter, Sherri (Trig) Burns of Dothan, AL, Henry Milton Adkison and several nieces and nephews. She was a wonderful, caring Mother and will be greatly missed.

The family would like to thank all who showed love, support, and care during Robin's illness- family, friends, his medical team, Our Divine Saviour Church, and the community who rallied around them.

Reflection Cremation & Funeral Service is in charge of arrangements.



Mrs. Carolyn Farris Stevens

Carolyn Farris Stevens, 83, of Albany, Georgia, passed away on October 14, 2025.

A service to celebrate Carolyn's life will be held at First Methodist Church of Albany on Saturday, November 8, 2025, at 11 am with visitation beforehand at 10 am.

Born in Louisville, Kentucky, to John and Nora Farris, Carolyn grew up in Cuthbert, Georgia, where she graduated as valedictorian of the Cuthbert High School Class of 1960. She earned her bachelor's degree from Howard College (now Samford University) in 1963, where she was a member of Delta Zeta sorority.

After college, Carolyn moved to Atlanta, where she worked as a secretary for C&S Bank and later taught business education at Roswell High School. She married Sam Stevens in 1966.

Carolyn and Sam moved to Jacksonville, Florida, in 1969, and then to Albany, Georgia, in 1973, where Sam co-founded Albany Safety Equipment Company with Howard Garwood. Once her children were older, Carolyn joined the business part-time as office manager, a role she held for many years.

Always a lifelong learner, Carolyn earned her master's degree from Georgia Southwestern University in 2002 and then taught classes at Darton College.

Carolyn had been an active member of First Methodist Church in Albany since 1987, previously attending Sherwood Baptist Church. She loved music and shared her talents generously—singing in the church choir, playing handbells, and accompanying the children's choir and her Sunday School class on piano. In her younger years, she played clarinet and tenor saxophone in her high school band.

Carolyn loved spending time at her beach house in St. Augustine, Florida. She was an avid tennis player and member of Pine Forest Racquet Club. She also enjoyed walking, reading, and spending time with family and friends.

Carolyn was preceded in death by her parents, John and Nora Farris; her husband, Sam Stevens; her sister, Lois McLendon; her niece, Denise McLendon; and her nephew, Glenn McLendon.

She is survived by her daughter, Marlene Rinker (Dave) of Seattle, Washington; her son, Paul Stevens (Tonya Egan) of Salt Lake City, Utah; her granddaughters, Maisie and Nora Stevens of Salt Lake City, Utah; her niece, Melanie Sheppard of Edison, Georgia; and her dear friend and companion, John Loomis of Albany, Georgia.

The family would like to extend heartfelt thanks to the staff of Wynfield Park for their compassionate care during Carolyn's time there. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Carolyn's memory to First Methodist Church, Albany, Georgia.

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MERCHANDISE

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YARD SALE
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2304 N. Hilltop Dr.
Shelving, lawn furniture, holiday decorations, chest of drawers and much more.

GARAGE SALE
7:30 am until 2 pm
Saturday, November 8
733 Winifred Road, Leesburg Ga. Clothes, shoes, furniture, unique finds, misc. items, etc.

Estate Sales

Estate Sale by:
Frances Patrick Estate Sales,
363 Church St. NE, Dawson Fri., Nov 7 (8-5), Sat., Nov. 8 (9-4), Sun, Nov. 9 (9-3)

This is a huge, packed estate sale you will enjoy. Something for everyone including nice sofas, beautiful pr. poster twin beds, chests, rugs, lamps, full kitchen, linens, baskets, 4 great "Lloyd Flanders" porch rockers, pine corner cabinet, pine curio, loveseat, 2 leather recliners, pr. French Baroque marble top commodes, French console table, mahogany chest, mahogany breakfront with drop down secretary desk, iron base glass top coffee table and dining table, 2 tall case grandfather clocks, 1930's,

Estate Sales

'40's small toys, antique iron small toys, new red tool chest on casters, small power tools, home music system components to include pr. Genesis speakers, pr. antique gooseneck rockers, dining table and chairs, ironworks foyer table w/matching mirror, iron and wood tall bakers rack, sterling tea/coffee service, Towle "Old Master" flatware, service for 12 "Buttercup" Gorham, vintage Miller clock advertising sign, Budweiser Neon Light sign, antique post office desk, antique 2 person school desk, SOOO much to see, you must join us!

Estatesales.net for photos.

Construction/Service Bids

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Albany Housing Authority will accept Request for Proposals (RFP) for the following:

- Architectural Services for Public Housing Renovations (Dennis Homes)
- Redevelopment of William Binns Homes

RFP packets may be picked up at 521 Pine Avenue, Albany, GA 31701, or requested via e-mail to Douglas Holdridge, Modernization Director at dholdridge@albanyha.com beginning August 12, 2025.

Original responses must be delivered (and sealed) via hard copy by October 1, 2025 to Douglas Holdridge, Modernization Director, at 521 Pine Avenue, Albany, GA 31702, with the titled subject of the proposal

Albany Legals

Construction/Service Bids

Enter property at own risk, we are not responsible for accidents.

No large handbags or totes, children must be with parent. Toys are collectibles.

All sales final, no exchanges or refunds. Check out condition etc before buying.

Bring help to load, workers CAN NOT assist.

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WANTED, working or not, boats, lawn equipment, motorcycles, cars, etc.
229-291-8643

JOBS

Full-Time

Volunteers of America Southeast
The Millennium Center – Cuthbert, GA

Program Manager

Program Manager needed for managing the daily operations of a substance use treatment program in Cuthbert, GA. Minimum requirements include a Bachelor's Degree in a relevant field from an accredited institution, a CAC Level II, one (1) year supervisory experience and five (5) years experience working with chemically dependent individuals. For more information and application instructions, go to www.voase.org/careers. EOE/Drug Free Workplace/E-Verify.

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Bring help to load, workers CAN NOT assist.

Construction/Service Bids

above. Documents must be in a clear, legible, 12-point, 8.5 by 11-inch format.

Respondents are advised to adhere to the submittal requirements. Failure to comply with the instructions of this RFP will be cause for rejection of submittals. Questions regarding this RFP should be submitted in writing via email to dholdridge@albanyha.com or call 229- 434-4505.

Revision 1
Page 1: property Address clarification: William Binn, also known as AMP 2" homes consist of two separate properties. 1) William Binn Homes, actual property, is located at 500 S. Van Buren St Albany GA. 2) Holly Homes is located at 921 Cherry St Albany GA.

Revision 2
Page 1: Submission deadline: Update the date of submission to December 1st, 2025, 1:00 PM.

Revision 3:
Page 5 section 7: Proposal submission Instructions Update to include electronic submission. Please submit to Dnace@albanyha.com

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	SOLUTIONS
1 keep going (8)	_____
2 obstacle (7)	_____
3 incoherence (10)	_____
4 domesticating (6)	_____
5 verb for a guitar (5)	_____
6 sci-fi writer Butler (7)	_____
7 bound like a bunny (6)	_____

ING	CHO	UE	CON	RI
TIN	ESS	LO	PP	ST
ER	RUM	TAM	BAR	TA
OC	OP	VIA	LL	IN

Tuesday's Answers: 1. DIFFICULT 2. FRUITS 3. STROLLING 4. REHASHED 5. KILMER 6. TACKIEST 7. VIGNETTE 11/5

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	SOLUTIONS
1 farmer's harvest (5)	_____
2 swim toys and inner tubes (8)	_____
3 Dodge pickups (4)	_____
4 beyond the pale (10)	_____
5 Huns' ruler (6)	_____
6 Chad's neighbor (8)	_____
7 managed locks (9)	_____

ANG	CR	FL	ILA	OU
GEO	ME	MS	DET	OAT
ON	IES	CA	OPS	ATT
RA	LED	US	TRA	RO

Wednesday's Answers: 1. CONTINUE 2. BARRIER 3. CHOPPINESS 4. TAMING 5. STRUM 6. OCTAVIA 7. LOLLOP 11/6

CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- Bundle of wheat
 - Social media annoyance
 - Endures
 - Accord, for one
 - Dazzle
 - Earthy colour
 - Urgent care specialist, briefly
 - Work of fiction?
 - Was part of a row
 - End of an academic address
 - Start to knock?
 - Actress Noblezada
 - Copycat
 - Copycat
 - Pinged online
 - "Carpe diem" hashtag
 - Like streets in Dickens novels
 - Loebster claw
 - "we meet again"
 - German pronoun
 - Arboreal marsupial
 - Kin of equi-
 - Off-pierced body part
 - fi
 - "The Idol" star Lily-Rose
 - Bread
 - Comics icon Lee
 - "What ___ can I do?"
 - Like some monologues
 - Pom sounds
 - Betray, or what can be found three times in this puzzle
 - Hume for lanternfish
 - Broadcast hour
 - How a detective might work
 - Drew back
 - Motive for a cover-up?
 - Genre portmanteau

- Hustle and bustle
- Copycat
- "The Hunger Games: The ___ of Songbirds & Snakes"
- Scrape covered by a Welly Bravery Bandage, e.g.
- Itty-bitty
- Copycat
- Spanish "here"
- Create ribbons
- Rome's ___ Fountain
- Accord, for one
- "Gangsta Rap" rapper
- Partly removable roof
- Reinhart of "Riverdale"
- Taboo
- Manual
- Adams who photographed
- Down
- Freezes
- Put out of one's mind
- Yosemite summit, informally

- Falls from the sky
- Thatcherism creator, familiarly
- Copycat
- Undisclosed advantage
- "Stick a fork in me!"
- Obstacle
- Third word of the Constitution
- Buddy ___
- Exploits
- Largest member of the dolphin family
- ___ Pérignon
- Musician Brian who used a Mac to compose "The Microsoft Sound"
- Rx order
- Big name in ice cream

ANSWER TO TODAY'S PUZZLE:

A	D	E	W	V	R	D		A	L	S	E	D	O	W					
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S	T	S	V	L				T	O	B				F	A	F	E	H	S

11/06/25

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65																	

By Ilana Levene & Scott Hogan
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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.

" H M W P Y X E B H I S K P Y X W E P Z H M X
H I P E B X G W R X K L J W X P M T P J , E B X I
T P J B L C X Y L A X L I L U G P L K B E P
H Y Y P G E L Z H E T . " — I P G Y L I K P J W H I W

Previous Solution: "This is a frightening statistic. More people vote in 'American Idol' than in any U.S. election." — Rush Limbaugh
TODAY'S CLUE: *9 sjenbe S*
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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.

" D T S ' I O Z T R R W O T Z C D T Z O Y W T ' P
V B X O V H P R B F O P , L S R R W O D ' I O R W O
T Z C D R W H Z M P R W B R D T S E B Z R I S C D
E B C C D T S I T Y Z . " — L H C C D K T O C

Previous Solution: "If something comes to life in others because of you, then you have made an approach to immortality." — Norman Cousins
TODAY'S CLUE: *G sjenbe X*
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File Photo

The 50th annual Capt. Henry Wirz Memorial Service will be held in Andersonville on Saturday at 2 p.m.

Capt. Henry Wirz Memorial scheduled Saturday

Staff Reports
news@albanyherald.com

ANDERSONVILLE – The 50th annual Capt. Henry Wirz Memorial Service will be held here on Saturday at 2 p.m. The memorial service is annually sponsored by the Alexander H. Stephens Sons of Confederate Veterans Camp 78 in Americus. The public is invited to attend. The Service is held each year to honor the memory of Capt. Henry Wirz, Commandant of Andersonville Prison Camp in 1864-65, and to remember the injustice

of his trial and execution. The guest speaker for this year's Service is SCV Commander-in-Chief Walter Donnie Kennedy. National and State officers for the Sons of Confederate Veterans, United Daughters of the Confederacy, Order of the Confederate Rose, and the Military Order of the Stars and Bars are planning to attend. Wirz's great great grandson from Louisiana will attend the service this year. For more information about the memorial, call or text James Gaston at (229) 938-9115.

Americus man builds 'elf-driven' Christmas magic

Staff Reports
news@albanyherald.com

AMERICUS — Christmas magic is being built in Sumter County, where local resident Michael C. Luke has transformed his workshop into a construction hub for custom, professional-grade sleighs. The project began two years ago with an initial build that didn't quite take off. But Luke's vision and perseverance led to the creation of a new, refined sleigh this year. This latest

creation is the breakthrough: It is "elf-driven," meaning it is self-propelled and drives itself, making it one of the most unique and sought-after holiday attractions in the state, with frequent bookings all over Georgia this season. The biggest innovation in this second build is that it doesn't need to be pulled by a vehicle; it is a self-propelled unit designed for easy use and mobility at events. The custom design features lights, music and sounds, and this

technological innovation has led to overwhelming demand. "After the first one, I knew I had to build something truly special," Luke said. "Making it a self-propelled unit — an 'elf-driven' sleigh — made all the difference." "The demand this year is incredible, and the sleigh is booked frequently throughout the season for appearances all across Georgia. God has truly blessed me." While the sleigh is traveling, the work remains rooted

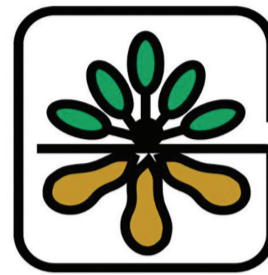
in Americus. This ongoing project showcases the kind of unique craftsmanship and local engineering being done by small builders in the area. Luke already has plans to steadily improve the sleigh for the next holiday season. To find out where one of Luke's custom sleighs will be appearing next, or to inquire about a rental for festivals, parties, or parades, call (229) 815-0881 or visit www.facebook.com/michaelcluke.

49th Georgia Peanut Farm Show scheduled Jan. 15

Staff Reports
news@albanyherald.com

TIFTON — South Georgia growers are encouraged to make plans to attend the 49th annual Georgia Peanut Farm Show and Conference scheduled for Jan. 15, from 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at the University of Georgia Tifton Campus Conference Center here. The one-day show is free and open to all farmers and industry representatives to attend. Attendees will have the opportunity to visit with nearly 100 agribusinesses and orga-

nizations in the peanut and agricultural industry. Farmers will be able to earn private and commercial pesticide applicator certification, as well as learn about cutting-edge research and developments during the University of Georgia Peanut Production Seminar and industrywide-sponsored Peanut Seed Seminar. Farm Show chairman Rodney Dawson is looking forward to the 2026 show. "I encourage farmers to attend this one-day show in Tifton," Dawson said. "The knowledge they will gain from industry representatives and



Georgia Peanut Commission

seminars is an investment in the future of their farm." The Georgia Peanut Commission, in cooperation with OneBlood, will host a blood drive from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. during the show. At the close of Thursday, there will be nearly \$10,000 in door prizes pre-

sent to farmers, as well as a Grand Door Prize, vendor products, certificates and equipment. For more information on the show, contact the Georgia Peanut Commission office at (229) 386-3470 or visit www.gapeanuts.com.

Lloyd Carter Band to perform at Thomasville First Friday

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THOMASVILLE — Those looking for a fun night out can look no farther than Thomasville on Friday for an evening filled with live music, local shopping, delicious food, and family fun. The Lloyd Carter Band will headline the November First Friday event at The Ritz Amphitheater. Festivities kick off at 5 p.m., when downtown shops and boutiques will stay open late for an evening of extended shopping.

Visitors can enjoy the sounds of local favorites Christa Graham and Zack Lambert, performing live along the streets. They can grab a drink from a participating merchant and sip as they stroll through the downtown Entertainment District. Food trucks will be onsite at The Ritz Amphitheater, including S&G's World Famous BBQ and Lasalle's Carnival Food. Many downtown restaurants also will be open for dinner and drinks, making it easy to enjoy a full night out. At 8 p.m., The Lloyd Carter

Band takes the stage, delivering their blend of traditional country classics with upbeat party hits. "First Friday has become one of our community's favorite events," Cassidee Smith, the special events coordinator for the city of Thomasville, said. "It's a great way for friends and families to come together, support our local businesses, and enjoy a fun, relaxed night out in our beautiful downtown." "We're thrilled to welcome The Lloyd Carter Band to the stage this month - it's



Lloyd Carter

going to be a fantastic show." This free, family-friendly event is made possible through the support of the city of Thomasville, Flowers Foods, and Thomasville National Bank. For more information about First Friday, visit Thomasville.org or call (229) 227-4136.



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