



OP-ED
Chad Warbington
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The Albany HERALD

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Sons of Solomon
Bikers fight hunger
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WEEKEND

SATURDAY, JULY 25, 2026

Mitchell County group fights NextEra Energy project

By **Carlton Fletcher**
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CAMILLA — On June 29, the Mitchell County Board of Commissioners voted to approve a rezoning request that would change 300 acres in the northern part of the county from Agriculture to Industrial.

That vote has sparked an outrage that has citizens in the county seeking signatures on a recall petition that would

remove the members of the commission and force another vote on the rezoning request that a citizens group says is a thinly veiled attempt to bring a data center to the county.

“Nobody with the county has used the term ‘data center,’ and when I posted a complaint saying that was the purpose of the vote, I was told to take it down because data centers hadn’t been mentioned,” Lau-

ren Dorminey, who has become the de facto leader of a group of Mitchell County citizens that is fighting to keep a data center from being built on property that is surrounded by residential neighborhoods and farmland.

“But I did my due diligence, and the company that wants to build on that newly rezoned property — NextEra — is a data center giant. They might not



LAUREN DORMINEY

have said ‘data center,’ but that’s what they do.”

See **NEXTERA**, 2A

How Trump’s Endangered Species Act revisions could affect southwest Georgia



Staff Photo: Kathryn Crockett
A striped newt, one of North America’s rarest amphibians, is photographed at the Flint River Quarium. Fewer than a handful of wild breeding populations remain, making the species a powerful example of how the survival of endangered wildlife often depends as much on protecting wetlands and surrounding habitat as the animals themselves.

By **Kathryn Crockett**
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ALBANY — Some of southwest Georgia’s most important wildlife is almost never seen.

Freshwater mussels spend their lives buried beneath the Flint River. Georgia blind salamanders inhabit the dark waters of the Upper Floridan Aquifer beneath the Dougherty Plain. Dougherty Plain cave crayfish live in subterra-

nean waterways, while wood storks, eastern indigo snakes and other protected species depend on wetlands, forests and river corridors that many residents pass every day without realizing the ecological significance beneath their feet.

Their obscurity is precisely what has the potential to place them at the center of one of the nation’s most consequential conservation debates.

Earlier this month, the Trump administration finalized a rule rescinding the long-standing regulatory definition of “harm” under the Endangered Species Act, removing language that had interpreted the law to include significant habitat modification or degradation that actually kills or injures protected wildlife.

The Department of the In-

See **SPECIES**, 2A

Albany woman born with conjoined twin left legacy through carnival appearances

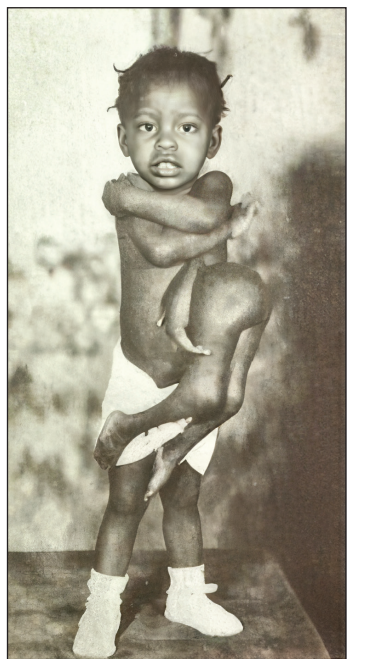
By **Alan Mauldin**
alan.mauldin@albanyherald.com

ALBANY — At a time when much of the population of southwest Georgia scratched out a living on the land, one Albany native was making hundreds of dollars a week.

Those unexpected riches during the Great Depression allowed the girl born to struggling parents with a dozen children to send many of her siblings to college. It also helped her create a legacy in land in Dougherty County that helped build generational wealth that is still being passed down in the family today.

While some may consider that miraculous during a time when much of the country was struggling, Betty Lou Williams’ birth in 1932 likewise was an unlikely event.

Williams was born with a



YOUNGER BETTY LOU WILLIAMS

parasitic twin, with two legs and an arm, including a hand

See **TWIN**, 2A

Dougherty County Public Works Committee tries again on jail HVAC replacement



File Photo

The Dougherty County Commission’s Public Works Committee made a recommendation this week to proceed with spending more than \$4 million to replace heating and air-conditioning equipment at the Dougherty County Jail.

By **Alan Mauldin**
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ALBANY — After a committee recommendation for \$11 million in jail renovations failed to have a hearing earlier this year from the Dougherty County Commission, the Public Works Committee has scaled back plans to \$4.27 million.

Committee members Russell Gray, Anthony Jones and Chairman Ed Newsome unanimously

approved the recommendation on Wednesday, and the committee also requested that the full commission consider the recommendation during the commission’s Monday meeting.

The 34-year-old heating, ventilation and air-conditioning (HVAC) system, the same one installed when the Dougherty County Jail was built, has drawn concern from the committee and is part of an overall esti-

mated \$41 million in repairs needed at the facility.

The system has been rebuilt once during its lifetime, and a second rebuild would come with its own risks, consultant James Andrews Jr. with Macon-based AH&P Consulting Engineers told the committee on Wednesday.

“I would tell you that because

See **HVAC**, 2A

Periodical — Mail Label

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From 1A

SPECIES

terior said the change restores the law to the original meaning of the statute by focusing on the direct “take” of endangered species rather than habitat modification itself.

But local conservation experts say the practical effects may prove far more complicated than simply reducing environmental regulations.

Ben Scott and Bethany Suggs of the Flint RiverQuarium said the revised framework could actually introduce greater uncertainty for projects in southwest Georgia by shifting more questions to species-by-species determinations rather than relying on broader habitat protections. In their view, that ambiguity has the potential to increase — not eliminate — the environmental reviews, public debate and legal challenges surrounding projects such as Albany’s long-delayed replacement of the Oglethorpe Boule-

vard Bridge over the Flint River. “You’re still going to have the voices that are going to be, ‘No, you can’t do this,’” Scott said, noting that organizations such as Flint Riverkeeper will continue scrutinizing projects affecting rivers and wetlands regardless of changes in federal policy. Clean water remains essential for species such as freshwater mussels, which filter enormous volumes of water and are among the river’s most sensitive indicators of ecological health.

For Suggs, one amphibian illustrates why habitat protection cannot always be separated from species protection.

Among the species conservationists worry about most is the striped newt, one of the rarest amphibians in North America. Endemic to the longleaf pine ecosystems of southern Georgia and northern Florida, the species has declined to just three known wild breeding populations. Suggs said the striped newt’s survival depends on a delicate combination of seasonal wetlands, intact upland

habitat and naturally occurring fire cycles that maintain the open forests where it lives. “They rely both on wetlands and areas that have natural wildfires,” Suggs explained. “They’re very, very specific.”

The amphibian breeds in isolated wetlands that periodically dry, helping reduce predators, before spending most of its adult life underground in surrounding upland habitat.

Suggs pointed to the alligator snapping turtle as another example. While populations in Georgia have shown greater stability than in some neighboring states, she said threatened species often receive protections precisely because scientists are trying to prevent them from becoming endangered. That preventative approach, she said, becomes more difficult when habitat protections become less certain.

The discussion carries particular significance for southwest Georgia.

The Flint River basin is widely recognized by aquatic biologists as one of the Southeast’s fresh-

water biodiversity hotspots. Research published in Freshwater Science in 2025 by scientists from Albany State University, the Flint RiverQuarium, the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, the U.S. Geological Survey and the University of Georgia found that the Flint River contains approximately 23% of Georgia’s freshwater mussel diversity, including nine mussel species protected under state or federal law.

Using DNA barcoding, researchers also documented 28 mussel-host fish relationships within the basin, including 27 previously unknown to science, underscoring how tightly connected the river’s ecology truly is.

Albany residents have already seen how endangered species protections can shape major infrastructure projects.

Crews replacing the Oglethorpe Boulevard Bridge over the Flint River encountered significant delays as biologists conducted extensive environmental surveys and relocated

2,384 freshwater mussels from the construction area, including 238 protected individuals. The work required months of planning and review, with construction schedules adjusted to avoid disrupting critical periods in the mussels’ life cycle.

Many other species rely on mussels for both shelter and food, making them a keystone species within the Flint River ecosystem. Their ability to filter water also improves water quality for countless other aquatic organisms.

The bridge project became a local example of how endangered species protections influence planning and permitting.

Scott said he believes the administration’s revised interpretation may not eliminate similar situations in the future. Instead, he said, determining which protections apply could become even more dependent upon individual biological reviews, agency interpretations and litigation, potentially creating greater uncertainty for developers and regulators alike.

Whether future infrastruc-

ture projects ultimately move faster remains unknown.

The Endangered Species Act still contains numerous consultation requirements, while the Clean Water Act, state wildlife regulations and other environmental laws remain in force. Existing biological opinions and permits also continue to apply. Several lawsuits challenging the administration’s new rule are now pending in federal court.

As Scott noted, development pressures are also changing. Proposed data centers increasingly seek locations near abundant water supplies because of their cooling demands, placing rivers and aquifers at the center of future growth discussions.

For Albany, the debate extends well beyond federal policy.

It is about whether protecting species means protecting the habitats they depend upon — and how communities balance economic development with one of the most biologically diverse river systems in the Southeast.

From 1A

TWIN

with three fingers, suspended from her abdomen.

“When she was born, they didn’t think she would survive,” her nephew James Williams, a retired Albany Police Department investigator, said. “They were able to work with her (mother), and she gave birth. That was the first one they had seen like this. That’s how the world and the circus got involved. She was two bodies in one. It was my understanding she was the first one ever born that way.”

The word of the child born with the limbs of a conjoined twin exposed outside her body was publicized, the nephew said, and that brought people calling who wished to display her to the public.

Williams never met his aunt,

the youngest of the 12 children, who died in 1955. His father, also named James, told him the story, however.

“My father told me a lot,” he said. “Even though they realized they benefited, he always cried.”

Williams’ father, as did several of his brothers, joined the U.S. Army and did well, reaching high enlisted ranks.

For the family, Betty Lou Williams was able to provide better lives.

“Out of 12 children, most of them went to college,” Williams said. “(She) allowed them to go to college when very few blacks went to college.

“Every one of the brothers and sisters here was very successful in education or the military. I know all my daddy’s children were very successful and active in the community. I thank God I’m in retirement, I’m in good health and I’ve got two grands. I’m very active in

my community.”

During her time working with a circus, Betty Lou Williams traveled across the country and in other countries. By her teenage years, she was being showcased in carnivals.

According to Ripley’s, Betty Lou Williams was earning \$250 per week when she began working, and at the height of her fame earned \$1,000 per week and was the highest-paid carnival “oddity” in history.

Despite being displayed for the public to observe to view her unusual physical appearance, Williams said his aunt led a relatively normal life as a girl. She wore loose-fitting clothing to minimize the protrusion from her abdomen.

“She was normal in school and everything,” he said. “She was educated. It wasn’t like it affected her being normal, talking normal, cooking. She didn’t let it hinder her. If you didn’t know, you didn’t know

she had the double body.”

Using her earnings, Betty Lou Williams purchased a large amount of land in Dougherty County. A portion of that land was sold for the College Heights subdivision, earning money for the family, and about 102 acres remain in the hands of family members.

“I’m going to give (some of) it to my children,” Williams said.

Four of Williams’ aunt’s siblings are still living, he said. They are Andrew and Joel Williams, who both live in California, Emilye Williams in Maryland and Shirley Williams of Albany.

“The family has been around Albany all their lives,” Williams said. “A lot of people don’t know that story. For young people it’s a lesson: If you have some difficult issues in your lives, there’s still a chance you can make it and be somebody.”

From 1A

HVAC

of the age of these chillers, there are parts that are not manufactured anymore,” he said. “I don’t know if I’ve ever known a chiller to be rebuilt twice. If the chillers go down, the jail’s going to go down. If you have a problem with the central system, you will have problems throughout the building.”

The pared-down proposal would replace only the two chillers that provide air-conditioning and two boilers that heat water and provide heat for the facility. The \$11 million proposal also would have replaced all of the rooftop air-handling units for the sprawling facility.

County staff has identified up to \$4.5 million in special-purpose local-option sales

tax funds that could be used to move the project forward.

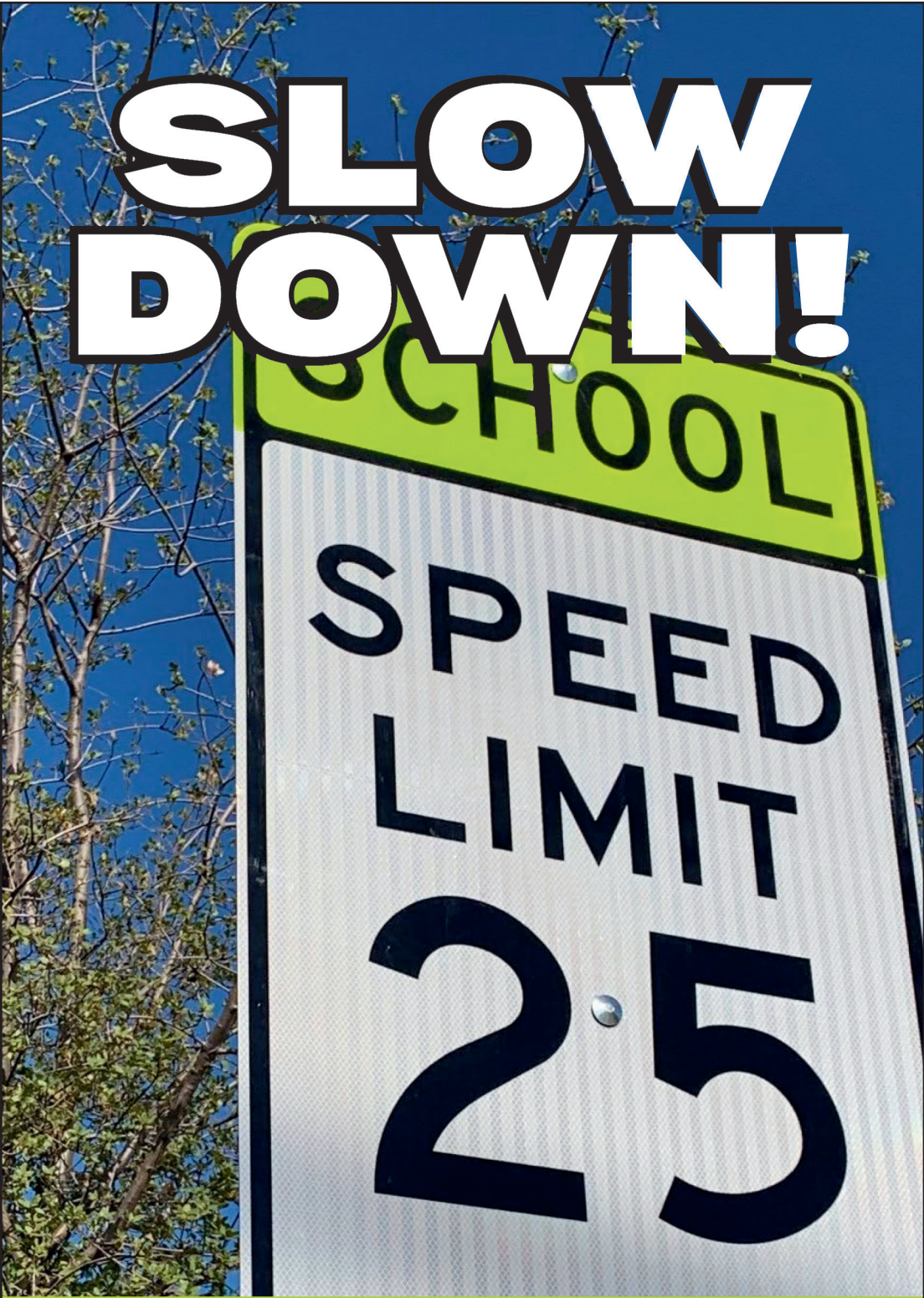
Commissioner Gloria Gaines, who is not a member of the Public Works Committee, questioned whether spending that money would drain county coffers to the point that it would not have funds for future emergencies.

“The question of how you pay for it and the question of how long it will take have to be addressed,” she said.

The old system is working toward the end of its operational life, and committee members said that a shutdown of the jail due to the failure of the heating or cooling system could mean having to house inmates at other facilities, a proposition that would cost the county heavily.

The clock is ticking because data centers, which are sprouting up across the country and

See **HVAC**, 11A



School zones will go into effect on Monday, August 3.

DCSS Dougherty County School System
Building a better community, one student at a time!

From 1A

NEXTERA

NextEra Energy, headquartered in Juno Beach, Fla., is the world’s largest electric utility holding company. Its portfolio includes more than 40,000 megawatts of generating capacity.

Dorminey, an environmentalist who earns her living off the land in the neighborhood where NextEra plans to build, said the Mitchell Commission did not give a clear explanation about use of the land before voting to approve the rezoning request.

“They were required to run information about the meeting in two editions of the local newspaper, and while they did, they didn’t put anything about their plans in the paper that ran just before the vote,” she said. “So not a lot of people showed up to find out what this was about.

“That made us late to the game.”

Since the commission’s vote to approve the rezoning request, Dorminey and a growing band of Mitchell County citizens have been busy trying to use any legal means necessary to have the request rescinded.

In materials obtained through an Open Records request, Mitchell County Administrator Gary Rice apparently offered an easier way to get approval for use of the land. In an email to members of the Mitchell County Development Authority, Rice said the authority could “leave (the land) as ag and request special use (to grant Nextera’s purchase request,” adding, “with the wide range of things that can go into an industrial zone, you may get more push back from the community.”)

James Eubanks, the executive director of the Development Authority, in an email to authority members, wrote, “We should not spread this information throughout the com-



Special Photo

Lauren Dorminey is part of a group in Mitchell County seeking to stop construction of a data center in the northern part of the county after the Mitchell County Board of Commissioners approved a rezoning measure that would allow the plant to be built.

munity until NextEra is prepared to hold an open house.”

Messages left seeking comment from Eubanks and Mitchell County Commission Chairman Benjamin Hayward were not returned by press time. Officials at the county’s commission office said Rice was out of town until Monday.

The email exchanges and other information gathered have led the group to put together a recall petition to “get new commissioners in office”

and “stop plans to build this data center.”

Though she says her leadership in the group came about organically, Dorminey certainly has the bona fides to lead the opposition in this matter. She and her fiancé, Geoff Hatcher are partners in the local Wild Herbs and Co. farmstead that sells botanicals such as cut flowers, medicinal plants, vegetables, landscaping and floral

See **NEXTERA**, 11A

Daily Horoscopes

ARIES (March 21-April 19): This could be a good period for you, growth and protection should be facilitated and overall your spirit could feel a little lighter. Research something you want to heal, you might find helpful answers now.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): The more that you set up your life to support you, the more you can achieve. To the extent that you can, make your home both a sanctuary from life and a charging station for the next round.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Partners may need to move past some resistance to get to a deeper connection. Don't force anything, that's guaranteed to increase the block. Things should flow through naturally if allowed to do so.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Keep building your abundance, your own efforts are important for making the difference now and they don't need to be extreme. Just stay with it day by day, the Universe is on your financial team for a while.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Gains are possible for the next month — unfortunately including weight gain — but your body isn't the only thing that can grow. Your sense of self and your ability to do good can also expand. Exercise and eat right.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Pivotal inner improvements can turn your life around, make the investment into your own self so you can stop self-sabotage and achieve your dreams. You might encounter push back before you find the answer.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Grow your circle of community; when members are committed to mutual benefit, it's a gift that keeps on giving. Don't try to push through resistance, it will either happen naturally or not at all.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Obstacles and stubbornness could prevent a purchase or other money move. Though today's day score is decent, it still might be best to

stand down for today and revisit the situation later.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Be sure you're not just resisting out of habit, be sure there's a real reason for it in the here and now. What you're pushing back against could possibly be something wonderful if you give it a chance.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): It can be hard to face the hard stuff until you see how much it can change every part of your life for the better. Carrying baggage makes it hard or impossible to soar. Release what holds you back.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Achieve addition by subtraction by letting go of old limitations and beliefs around love and relationships. A lot of the old rules aren't sustainable and don't provide a foundation for happiness.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Water flows between rocks, it's one reason Lao Tzu said the best person is like water. Be like water today, find your opportunities between obstacles. Build your sensitivity to aligned timing.

IF TODAY IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: Much of 2026 may have been about surviving rather than thriving, the remainder of the year could help you thrive. What's left of July could bring protection, benevolence and the meeting of many needs, if not every want. August could bring the clarity and answers you've been waiting for, but with more force of impact than you might anticipate. Game-changer moments make themselves FELT. This is your path, you're a match for it, you're no imposter. September offers money, heightened attractiveness and charm, and the chance to step in something due to your own stupidity. Choose Door #1. October could be another positive pivot — more ideas that change the playing field could descend. Then, along could come a very happy surprise or wonderful news.



1866 - The U.S. Congress passes legislation authorizing the rank of General of the Army. Lt. General Ulysses S. Grant is the first man to be promoted to this rank

1868 - The Wyoming Territory is established in the U.S.

1898 - The United States seizes Puerto Rico from Spain

1940 - General Henri Guisan orders the Swiss Army to resist German invasion and makes surrender illegal

1946 - An atomic bomb is detonated underwater in the lagoon of Bikini Atoll

1956 - The Italian ocean liner SS Andrea Doria collides with the MS Stockholm in heavy fog forty-five miles south of Nantucket Island

CALENDAR OF OBSERVANCES

- Carousel Day or Merry-Go-round Day
- Feast of Saint James
- Health and Happiness with Hypnosis Day
- Hire a Veteran Day
- National Culinarians Day
- National Day of Lament
- National Day of the Cowboy
- National Drowning

- Prevention Day
- National Hot Fudge Sundae Day
- National Water Gun Fight Day
- National Wine and Cheese Day
- Paddle for Perthes Disease Awareness Day
- Red Shoe Day
- Thread the Needle Day

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"The reason why worry kills more people than work is that more people worry than work."

Robert Frost,
poet (1874-1963)

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 was thoroughly impressed by the presentation Mr. Estes and his team of experts made during Monday's meeting with the Albany Commission and EDC officials. Their proposal would bring a shining gem to our downtown, but I'm afraid the city and county have given too much money to the fake developers whose purpose is to pocket money without offering anything in return. That would be a shame.

My dog is a Democrat. He lays around all day and then expects me to feed him.

I bought a cap with the caption "Make Lying Wrong Again," but I'm afraid to wear it for fear of being assaulted by "MAGA Christians." That Man Without a Family

With all these tick-borne diseases, it is time folks went back to having flocks of Guinea hens. They are tick-eating machines and excellent intruder alert providers.

The people who were at the Marine Corps base event recently all agreed that Rep. Bishop had difficulty answering questions about current events with our military. Rep. Scott was spot-on with his answers and really answered the questions Bishop had problems with. As with Joe Biden, maybe it is time for Bishop to step aside.

I admit that I really miss having a newspaper every day -- especially the Sunday one -- but I am very proud that The Albany Herald is still providing interesting and, especially, LOCAL stories. Other media outlets should take note.

I do not know what Clinton Johnson does for a living, but it seems he knows nothing about finance. Simple math -- a third-grade math problem -- will tell you if you spend more than you take in, you are going broke. For the city and county to plan to use their reserve funds when the budget runs out of money this year is such unprofessional government. The County Commission chairman will call Russell Gray "ignorant" again because he can add and subtract and voted against spending more than we take in.

Only semi-lucid, our president -- or, more realistically, his flunkies -- keeps shoveling bull to distract us from the Epstein grotesquery. Sadly, many state and local officials still buy into his lies despite mounting evidence that he was a part of that whole sordid mess.

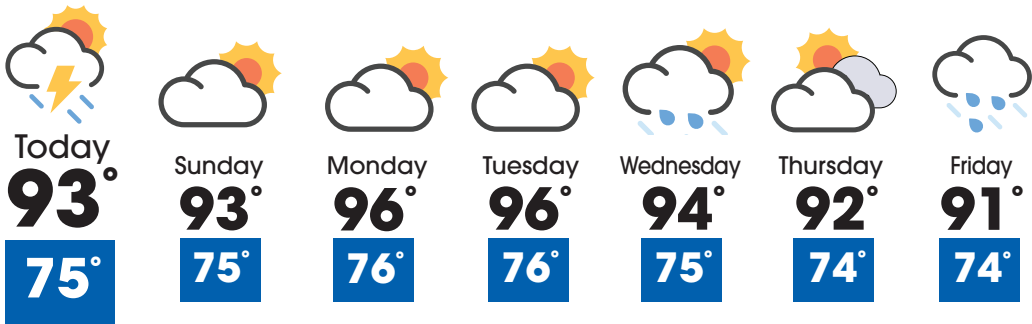
Heard is absurd. Gaines is a pain. Victor is a progress restrictor. Clinton should step down and play badminton. These people are your representatives ... and you wonder why our county can't get ahead.

I find it sadly hilarious that all of the stories in The Herald about Albany State quote officials at the college saying how much they're going to "work with the community." Yet the college has shown by its officials' recent actions that what they're really trying to do is the exact opposite. The college is becoming more isolationist, to their students' detriment.

I can't believe the Georgia High School Association is allowing athletes to train pretty much year-round. First of all, these kids aren't professionals; they need time to enjoy activities that will carry over into their adult lives when their playing days are over. Not that long ago, student/athletes weren't allowed to practice their sports 12 months a year.

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Weather Forecast



Daily Bridge Club

Test your dummy play

By Frank Stewart
Tribune Content Agency

To end the week, see if you can outplay two declarers, suggesting that the third time is the charm.

In a team match, both Souths

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

landed at 3NT after East overcalled in hearts. West led a low heart: deuce, king, ace. What would be your plan as declarer?

One South took the A-K of clubs and lost the third club. West led another heart, forcing out the queen. South had only eight tricks – two hearts, four clubs, two spades – and East was sure to get in with his ace of diamonds to take three hearts. Down one.

EIGHT TRICKS

The other South led a diamond to dummy's queen at the second trick. East won and led the jack of hearts, and South had only eight tricks. Down one again (though he could have succeeded). To make 3NT, lead a club to dummy at Trick Two and return the

deuce of diamonds through East, who surely has the ace for his vulnerable bid. If East grabs his ace, you have three diamonds and nine tricks; if he plays low, you win and succeed by setting up the clubs. Did you find the winning line?

DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ A 8 5 2 ♥ A Q ♦ K J 4 3 ♣ 10 6 3. You open one diamond, your partner responds one heart, you bid one spade and he jumps to three hearts. What do you say?

ANSWER: Partner's three hearts, a second-round jump in his own suit, invites game. If he wanted to insist on game, he could have bid four hearts. You would pass with a minimum hand such as A 8 5 2, Q 4, A Q 4 3, 10 6 3, but your actual hand is sound with good heart support. Bid four hearts.

North dealer
N-S vulnerable

Advice Columnist

Work-from-home spouse wastes company time

By Eric Thomas
Tribune Content Agency

Dear Eric: About two years ago, my husband was "invited" to resign his managerial position at a local company. This followed two less-than-great performance reviews which he claimed were the result of not getting along with his boss.

Fortunately, he was able to find another comparable full-time position quickly. He says he likes his job. His new position is a hybrid position and since I work fully remotely, our at-home days overlap.

I've noticed he probably puts in five hours on those days. I see him running personal errands, taking long lunches, playing video games and doing home chores throughout the workday.

I had previously thought he had a strong work ethic and admired him for that. Now, seeing this behavior, I've lost quite a bit of respect for him. I'm not sure how and if I should broach the subject.

I considered this on par with stealing. I'm not his boss, but I am worried about him losing his job. We're older, but we have about five years to work before retirement is an option. I'm stressed in addition to being disappointed in his lack of work ethic.

— Coworker Spouse

Dear Spouse: While he may not be sitting in front of the computer all day long, it certainly seems like your husband is fairly industrious and good about filling his days. So, it's possible that the job doesn't take all eight hours of the workday to complete.

Without being inside his company, it's hard to tell if this is an issue for his boss. Maybe he's found a good fit where the culture is centered around get-

ting the job done rather than performing productivity. Obviously, this is all conjecture. I can't say for sure. But there can be something strange that happens when you see a partner in their work environment and it's not always about the work so much as it is about the jarring difference of context.

His work ethic notwithstanding, the issue between the two of you is easier to address.

You're still stinging from his soft-firing two years ago and you, rightfully, have anxieties about retirement and your financial stability. So, start by talking about those feelings, using your new co-working setup as a jumping off point.

Tell him that you trust him (if you do) but that it's been hard seeing him spend time during the workday doing other things. Tell him that it has brought up anxieties about your future. Use "I" statements as much as you can, so this doesn't sound like a performance review. Ask him if he understands where you're coming from and if there are things that he can do or say to help you feel better about your plan for the next five years and beyond.

Dear Eric: My 43-year-old sister is completely obsessed with Halloween. Her condo is fully decorated year-round with scary animatronics, she wears Halloween knee socks and shirts every single day, and horror movies are her only topic of conversation.

Our concern grew recently when she wore full Halloween apparel to her nephews' fourth and second birthday parties. She even brought a Michael Myers purse, which we felt was highly inappropriate and frightening for toddlers.

She seems completely un-



Eric Thomas

able to turn the theme "off," even for major family milestones that focus on young children.

When our family gently tried to talk to her about this lifestyle, she got incredibly defensive, started crying and said nobody likes who she is or lets her be herself. It breaks my heart to see her hurt, but extended family and outsiders frequently judge her and think she is "weird."

I love my sister and don't want her to feel isolated. Do we just let her be herself and ignore the critics, or is this extreme obsession a sign of a deeper issue we should address? How do I support her without pushing her away?

— Pumpkin Spice Sibling

Dear Sibling: The Michael Myers purse notwithstanding, your sister's interest in Halloween doesn't seem to be hurting anyone.

You can just live and let live here. She likely knows that others think she's weird. But by dressing the way she does, she's showing it's more important for her to express herself than to give into societal pressure. Other people's judgments ultimately aren't worth much. So, if she's not letting them get to her, it doesn't make sense for her immediate family to keep bringing them up and making them an issue.

If she was obsessed with "Life is Good" apparel or Christmas sweaters or some other kind of attire, her appearance and choices might go over more smoothly with the general public. But there's no harm in liking what you like. While her choices wouldn't be yours, try to be grateful that she's confident enough to be herself in front of you.

The Albany Herald

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Albany State names Denise Davis-Maye inaugural associate provost for Faculty Affairs

Staff Reports

news@albanyherald.com

ALBANY — Albany State University has appointed Denise Davis-Maye as the university’s inaugural associate provost for Faculty Affairs. This newly established leadership role reflects the university’s continued commitment to strengthening faculty excellence, advancing academic innovation, and supporting student success.

In this role, Davis-Maye will provide strategic leadership across all aspects of faculty affairs, including recruitment and hiring, promotion and tenure, evaluation processes, faculty and professional development, policy and governance, as well as oversight of workload, staffing and data, while working in close collaboration with the provost and the Division of Academic Affairs.

Davis-Maye previously served as professor and chair of the Department of Social Work at Alabama State University. A seasoned educator, scholar and practitioner, she brings more than 30 years of professional social work experience and more than 25 years in social work education. Throughout her career, she has demonstrated a commitment to advancing social work education, cultivating future leaders, and promoting equity-centered practice across local, national, and global contexts.

“Dr. Davis-Maye’s extensive experience and demonstrated leadership in faculty development and academic excellence make her an outstanding addition to Albany State University,”



Denise Davis-Maye

university President Robert Scott said. “The creation of this inaugural role underscores our commitment to investing in our faculty as a critical driver of student success and institutional growth. We are confident that her vision and expertise will help elevate our academic enterprise.”

As associate provost for Faculty Affairs, Davis-Maye will serve as a member of the Academic Affairs leadership team, providing strategic oversight for faculty recruitment, development, evaluation and retention. She will lead initiatives

that foster a thriving faculty community, support scholarly productivity, and strengthen teaching and learning across the institution.

“Dr. Davis-Maye brings a wealth of knowledge and a collaborative spirit that will be instrumental in advancing faculty success at Albany State, Annice Yarber-Allen, ASU’s provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, said. “Her leadership will enhance our efforts to recruit and retain talented faculty, support professional growth at every career stage, and ensure our academic programs remain innovative, impactful and aligned with our mission.”

Davis-Maye is an alumna of Clark Atlanta University and completed graduate studies at Hunter College of the City University of New York, and the University of Alabama. Her career includes service as a U.S. Ambassador’s Distinguished Scholar at Bahir Dar University in Ethiopia, as well as leadership roles with the Women’s Policy Institute of the Women’s Foundation of Alabama. She currently serves on the Board of Directors of the ACLU of Alabama and is a Fulbright Specialist.

Davis-Maye is co-editor of *Black Sisterhoods: Paradigms and Praxis* (Demeter Press, 2022), which highlights the transformative power of collective leadership, scholarship, and community engagement among black women. Her recent work centers on strengthening faculty success through professional development, international partnerships, and global engagement initiatives that expand research capacity and foster innovation in teaching and service. WAYW



Dougherty County Police investigate Flock Camera fires

Staff Reports

news@albanyherald.com

ALBANY — The Dougherty County Police Department, in partnership with the Albany Fire Department, is investigating two separate fire incidents involving Flock Safety cameras that occurred Tuesday.

The incidents were reported at 2416 Radium Springs Road and at the intersection of Williamsburg Drive and Radium Springs Road.

As part of the preliminary investigation, officials say they believe the fires may have originated in the cameras’ battery packs; however, the exact cause has not been determined. Authorities are investigating whether the incidents were the result of a battery malfunction, intentional criminal activity or another cause.

The information available at this time is preliminary, and the investigation remains active.

Sons of Solomon Motorcycle Club helps provide more than 27,000 Meals during 2026 national meeting

Staff Reports

news@albanyherald.com

ALBANY — Albany recently welcomed the Sons of Solomon Motorcycle Club for its 2026 National Meeting, hosting more than 300 riders representing chapters from across the country.

Over the previous weekend, Sons of Solomon members filled local hotels, dined at area restaurants, and shopped with local businesses, generating a significant economic impact for southwest Georgia, officials noted. While the gathering provided a welcome boost to the local economy, perhaps the club’s most meaningful contribution was its commitment to serving the community.

As part of its annual tradition, the club members select a local charitable organization in each host city to support. For the 2026 national meeting, the club chose Feed the Valley, Albany’s regional food bank. During a special presentation on Saturday morning at



Special Photo

More than 300 members of the Sons of Solomon Motorcycle Club attended the group’s national meeting in Albany over the weekend. The group’s donation to Feed the Valley will provide more than 27,000 meals.

the Pride Magnolia Lodge, the Sons of Solomon presented a donation to Feed the Valley.

According to Feed the Valley officials, the contribution will help provide more than 27,000 meals to families living in Albany’s food deserts, helping combat food insecurity throughout the community. “It is our mission to give

back to the community, and we hope this contribution will make a lasting difference in Albany,” club officials said. “We sincerely thank the citizens of Albany and Dougherty County, along with the local Albany Chapter of the Sons of Solomon Motorcycle Club, for the warm welcome and outstanding Southern

hospitality shown throughout our national meeting.

“We look forward to returning and visiting again.”

The successful weekend showcased the organization’s enduring commitment to community service, charitable giving, brotherhood and building fasting partnerships with the communities it visits.

Decision imminent on Okefenokee’s proposed World Heritage designation

By Ross Williams

Georgie Recorder

WAYCROSS-- Georgia’s Okefenokee Swamp could soon be elevated to the same level as Yellowstone National Park, the fjords of Norway or Australia’s Great Barrier Reef.

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization’s World Heritage Committee is meeting this week in Busan, South Korea, with an agenda that includes deciding whether to add the 400,000-acre Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge to its list of World Heritage sites.

Established in 1972, the list is intended to aid “in the protection of the cultural and natural heritage of outstanding universal value,” according to UNESCO.

Being recognized as a World Heritage site would be a major boost for the Okefenokee and Georgia, Environment Georgia Director Jennette Gayer said.

“I think it is recognition that the Okefenokee is really one of a kind, that we are lucky in Georgia to have such a beautiful, biodiverse, special place, and it will mean that the entire world recognizes how special the Okefenokee is,” she said.

The swamp is considered a good candidate for selection because it is one of the world’s largest naturally driven freshwater ecosystems and it serves as habitat for an enormous number of species, including amphibians, reptiles, mammals, birds, fishes and invertebrates, according to UNESCO documents.

If it’s approved, it will become



Special Photo: Justin Taylor/The Current via Georgie Recorder

A kayaker paddles through Chase Prairie in the Okefenokee Swamp, which may soon become a World Heritage site.

the 27th World Heritage site in the United States, with other sites including the Grand Canyon, the Everglades and the Great Smoky Mountains.

If you spend enough time out on the Okefenokee, you’re likely to run into Rodney Thompson of St. George, who, with his wife, Tina, runs the YouTube channel Blackwater Outdoor Journeys. The channel showcases the couple’s canoeing, camping and fishing expeditions in the Okefenokee and other locations in Georgia and Florida.

Thompson grew up on the swamp, hunting, fishing and enjoying the natural beauty.

Thompson said he first learned about the proposal to make the swamp a World Heritage site when he started seeing opposition.

“I started seeing signs, you know, ‘Keep UNESCO out’ and all that kind of stuff,” he said. “I didn’t really understand what it was until I started really doing the research on it and what kind of impact it was going to have.”

Some locals oppose the designa-

tion because they say it could draw large numbers of tourists, potentially damaging the swamp and changing the local way of life.

Thompson said he ultimately supports the designation, but he is sympathetic to those arguments. He cited a 2024 Conservation Fund report finding that the number of people visiting the Okefenokee per year could double from 800,000 to 1.6 million by 2035 if it becomes a World Heritage site.

Thompson characterized nearby towns like St. George and Fargo as

“dying,” but said he hopes increased tourism could inject new life. The Conservation Fund projects the region could see 750 jobs, \$79 million in economic output and \$11.1 million in annual tax revenue.

Others who oppose the designation say they fear association with the United Nations would undermine U.S. sovereignty. An online petition opposing the measure has gained more than 1,000 signatures.

If the classification is approved, the refuge would continue to be owned and managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The designation would not stop all threats to the swamp.

Last year, environmentalists celebrated after an Alabama-based company scrapped plans to mine valuable minerals near the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge, but the designation would not stop others from developing near the swamp in a way that could harm the ecosystem.

Advocates have rallied behind a bipartisan attempt to protect Trail Ridge from mining.

“The reality is there are still many acres of land that are adjacent to the Okefenokee that we know contain minerals that people want to mine that are not protected, that could be mined without regard to this designation,” Gayer said. “We hope that this would influence regulators to think twice about another effort to mine adjacent to the Okefenokee, but the reality is we still have unprotected lands that people could mine on.”

SATURDAY SQUAWKBOX

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There’s absolutely no way the uninformed clowns in the city and county are going to allow the young man to refurbish the Gordon Hotel and old Herald Building. They’ll hold onto this money so they’ll have more to give Heard, Rambo, Pike and the other preachers who have a non-existent “plan” on Washington. Let’s be honest: The “plan” is for these people to line their pockets with taxpayer money.

Panhandlers daily in front of Albany Publix, harassing shoppers. Why doesn’t APD care? Constant police activity at roach motels. Why doesn’t the city manager shut them down?

The one rendering shown in The Albany Herald is beautiful. I don’t know if the powers that be will allow an “outsider” to come in and build such a high-quality building, what with giving millions of dollars to local “developers” who want to bleed the city and county dry, never finish their proposed project and walk away with taxpayer money that they did nothing to earn.

Democrats aren’t afraid Trump will fail and destroy America. They are afraid he will succeed and destroy their political ideology.

Over the past 5 or 6 years, Albany taxpayers have wondered where tax dollars went. Incompetence at every service counter and office in the government center; no police officers regularly patrolling; alleys in horrible condition; no litter enforcement or safety patrol in public areas including parking lots. What are we paying for exactly? A bright spot is our wonderful libraries.

Even with all of the complaints to the Albany Code office and the Albany police, Sanford Bishop’s taxpayer-paid employee continues to park his huge box truck in front of his home on Ashford Drive. This is against code and against the law. Just another reason that the Georgia legislature should hurry to redraw Bishop’s district. Why not park the box truck in front of the Congressman’s house?

County officials do this every few years: They let the revaluation process go to the point that the county is out of compliance with state law, and then they have some crew come in and randomly evaluate properties in the county based on some metric that only they understand. Then our taxes skyrocket. I’m moving closer to selling and hitting the highway.

Every time Jasmine Crockett says something, her IQ level drops down a few more points. Her IQ is down to below 50 now.

There are many Democrats that want to defund and abolish the police, ICE, border patrols and prisons. They want to make the streets safer for criminals and terrorists and less safe for hard-working law-abiding citizens. It will be the end of America if Democrats win the midterms.

Please, please stop with the “Austin Riley’s coming around” every time he gets a (rare) hit. The guy simply can’t hit anymore. It’s time to write him off and get someone who can hit above .200.

I find it amazing that the people who run this city -- the elected and appointed officials as well as the employees -- have no more pride than they do. There are heaping piles of trash within Albany’s city limits, but nothing is ever done to clean them up. Sure, it’s a disgusting job, but these people who do it are accepting taxpayer money to clean this crap up. And, of course, if their bosses don’t require it, why should they do it?

GUEST COLUMNIST ■ CHAD WARBINGTON

Albany and data centers: Part 4

At the time of writing this OpEd, the city of Albany has hosted three of four town halls concerning data centers and both the city of Albany Commission and Dougherty County Commission are contemplating moratoriums for data center development.

I don’t know of any community in the state of Georgia that has attempted that many town halls for public information and feedback for such a hot-button topic. Hundreds of citizens attended each of the town halls, and many lined up and waited to speak. I applaud our city manager and staff for trying to educate our citizens on the controversial data center topic and for allowing an “open mic” to allow citizens to ask questions and share concerns.

The conversation was “raw” and contentious at times, but I think it was good for our community to have the dialogue, even if it was uncomfortable. Some have said the level of public concern and engagement was not this high during the days of “dry” communities deciding on alcohol sales or even when the state instituted the lottery.

Also, some have said the public concern and engagement span both political parties equally, Republicans and Democrats, young and old, male and female, black and white, high income and low income. Speaking for myself, I had my own ideas and concerns I was working through before the Albany town halls, but after attending and listening, my concerns are much greater now. Information was shared from city staff and from citizens that has truly helped shape the current issue locally and is helping develop a path forward for our city.

I believe a moratorium is in order for Albany, but the amount of time is what is being discussed. A moratorium legally is just a “pause” and is not the final solution. Some are asking for 18 months, and some are saying 30-60 days is long enough. My opinion is that the length of time of the moratorium should depend on how long our Planning Commission and staff need to develop and recommend the new ordinances and guidelines to protect our community.

I’m told our staff has been researching this for more than a year now, and our Planning Commission could possibly have some recommendations in a couple of months. Whether two months or 12 months, whatever time is needed should be the duration of the moratorium.

As an example of new zoning requirements to protect citizens, I would offer the recent ordinance revisions the city of Albany instituted for alcohol licenses. Many citizens may not be aware, but the City Commission now has much stricter guidelines for convenience stores and package stores to obtain alcohol licenses. We were being inundated with alcohol license applications for “vice marts” that prey on vulnerable citizens with lottery, tobacco, coin machines, vaping, CBD and alcohol sales.

Of all those vices, the city has direct control of alcohol licenses, and when we make our alcohol ordinances stricter, it will break up and hopefully slow down the vice marts’ negative effects on our community.

In the same way, we can’t legally stop or prevent all data center developments completely, even though that is the sentiment of many citizens. We have to wisely craft ordinances and policies to prevent the negative effects on citizens and the community..If a developer wants to build and operate within our ordinances and policies, then they have a right to do that.

One watch out is that our courts are the final judges on property and constitutional rights. While we may craft ordinances and policies to prevent the negative impacts, anyone can appeal to the courts with a lawsuit challenging our ordinances if they are not researched and backed with data. The Planning Commission and staff have a tall task ahead of them as they research and recommend these very important ordinance and policy changes.

It’s important for our community to have a view and vision for the future, 10 years, 20 years and even 30 years down the road. Right now, data centers are quickly emerging and exponentially expanding as they respond to societal trends and our desire for more data. And at the same time, communities across the state and country are responding with significant concerns of the negative impacts of the data centers and a desire to slow down the very thing we are asking for.

Where will all this shake out in the future? I hope we figure it out soon as a nation, a state and a local community. I pray we will have the wisdom to figure this out and to land where Albany will be positioned for success and growth in the future while protecting our valuable resources and environment.

Chad Warbington is an Albany businessman who serves on the Albany City Commission.



WARBINGTON

COLUMNIST ■ SCOTT LUDWIG

Living to celebrate ... 10 years after

115/76. That was my blood pressure this morning.

It’s now been exactly 10 years to the day since I had a heart attack. I don’t recall what my blood pressure was back then, but it was certainly a lot higher than that. I could tell by the look on the emergency room doctor’s face.

108/70 and 109/85. Those were the next two readings this morning. You can never be too sure with in-home blood pressure monitors, so I take it three times to come up with an average. My resting pulse this morning was 53. Not as low as I’d like it to be – when I was running it always hovered around 50, give or take a couple of beats – but perfectly fine. Especially when you consider a decade ago I came close to not having one at all.

It’s a funny thing, a heart attack. Not ha-ha funny. Rather, an ain’t-that-a-kick-in-the-head funny. You see, I grew up thinking there was only one outcome from a heart attack. And it certainly wouldn’t have allowed the recipient to write about having a heart attack 10 years after the fact.

As I think back to July 16, 2016, it was a Wednesday. I woke up early, sat up in bed, and felt a terrible pain between my shoulder blades. I cut my run short that morning because it was all I could do to breathe, let alone run. When Cindy woke up, I told her that if I didn’t know any better, I would have thought I was having a heart attack. But I did know better, so surely I was mistaken.

I worked most of that day before finally calling it quits an hour early because the pain wasn’t letting up. In fact, by that afternoon, the pain had moved to my chest. On the way home, I phoned Cindy, who was with her friend Jan. They were on their way to Florida for a last-minute vacation before Cindy started her new job. I explained what was going on and said I was just going to go home and lie on the couch.

That’s when I heard Jan, who happened to be a nurse, shouting in the background, “He’s having a heart attack and needs to go to the emergency room now.”

Cindy phoned our future daughter-in-law and asked her to take me to the hospital, which she did right away because that’s the type of person she is. I quickly learned that the emergency room prioritizes conditions like mine, because I was immediately rushed into a room for a plethora of tests. Every single one of them pointed to the same conclusion: “Mister Ludwig, you’re having a heart attack.”

Someone slipped a nitroglycerine tablet under my tongue. I figured it was to give me a splitting migraine headache so excruciating that it made me forget any of my other pain. If that was the intent, I’m here to tell you it worked.

Shortly after that, Cindy showed up after giving up her weekend plans. I ended up staying in the hospital for 48 hours, so I took two vacation days from work because I never liked missing work for any reason – even a heart attack.

As for those 48 hours of being confined to a hospital bed, they were absolutely miserable. And not just for me; I made sure they were miserable for the hospital staff as well. Especially my primary doctor. I wanted to run the next day, and he was dead set against it. My rationale was that I ran while I was having a heart attack, so now that I wasn’t having one, why not?

I persisted throughout the day, and by late Thursday night the doctor finally relented and let me knock out a mile on the fifth floor. The next day I was discharged – I’m pretty sure the staff was glad to see me go – and got on the treadmill after I got home. Just a couple of slow and easy miles.

Per the doctor’s advice, I took it easy for the next six weeks. I was still running, just not very fast or very far. My condition didn’t require any medical procedures – other than the cardiac catheterization the doctor performed. I was on my own to recover. All I had to do was rest and take the prescribed medications.

In time, everything worked out fine. As proof, less than three months later I ran 119 miles over a three-day weekend. I wanted to make sure I still could if I ever had to. After all, you never know when your car might break down somewhere in the middle of the Mojave Desert.

So today – July 16, 2026 – I wanted to commemorate the occasion by reflecting on how fortunate I’ve been to still be here 10 years later. And if I’m still here on July 16, 2036, I’ll do it all over again.



LUDWIG

COLUMNIST ■ WAYNE FOWLER

The recipe for joy made full

I learned a new word: “Doomerism.” It describes a mindset caught in a vortex of pessimism about the way things are headed. But even if those concerns prove true, you can still live a life of joy.

This feeling of perpetual victimhood particularly affects young adults. They have consumed enough commentary to believe economic, political or environmental collapse are imminent and unavoidable. Some even choose to eschew child bearing because why bring a child into this mess? They live with their parents to save money, put their hope in socialism and reduce their carbon footprint. But joy escapes them.

Joy escapes anyone who doesn’t understand it. Even the ancient Greek philosophers understood the pursuit of happiness could only be indirect. They thought contentment and joy followed virtue, friendship and tranquility. They were on the right track, but wait: There’s something better.

A transcendent source of love, joy, and peace exists in this world. It is not philosophy, economics, politics or the environment. C.S. Lewis wrote: “If you want to get warm, you must stand near the fire; if you want to be wet, you must get into the water. If you want joy, power, peace, eternal life, you must get close to, or even into, the thing that has them.”

The “thing” is, of course, He who has revealed Himself in three Persons. Lewis speaks of being united with God (by faith) and adds, “There is no other way to the happiness for which we were made.”

Let’s be more direct. Jesus understands tribulations and doomerism. He knows about this fallen world that would deny the created order and forget about God. He said, “In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world.” (John 16:33) He taught that abiding in Him, obedience, and love are integrally connected.

Then he says, “These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full.” (John 15:11)

Did you see what Jesus did there? He acknowledged that you can have not just a life with some joy, but one full of joy. He didn’t say pursue happiness but pursue God and the things of God. Joy comes from abiding in Him, obeying Him, and loving Him and your neighbor.

Jesus wants you to be encouraged, to be set free from doomerism, to have the perspective and experience of joy, despite whatever happens in the world. Nothing that happens is a surprise to the God of Providence. He has already accounted for it in accomplishing His purposes. He has overcome the world, and in Him, you have, too.

“These things I speak in the world so that they may have My joy made full in themselves.” (John 17:13)

This joy says “No” to doomerism.

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



FOWLER

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“The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good.”
Proverbs 15:3

COLUMNIST ■ CARLTON FLETCHER

Mike Collins' neo-Nazi ties just the latest low surrounding his campaign

“We don't want 'em, we don't need 'em, Nazis ain't got no place to be.”

-- Roger Taylor

While in Georgia Wednesday on his “I was robbed in 2020” tour, Donald Trump stopped talking about himself long enough to talk about what a good man Mike Collins is and how Georgians should help Collins defeat incumbent Democratic Sen. Jon Ossoff.

Collins, though, was nowhere around. In a deal that was no doubt worked out ahead of time, Collins stayed away from this golden opportunity to get some love from the sitting president.

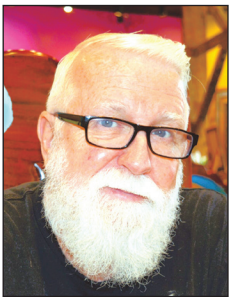
And while he hasn't said as much, Collins stayed away from the rally so that his litany of issues would not take away from Trump's self-aggrandisement. Perhaps the most damning of the controversy swirling around Collins is the recent revelation that his son-in-law, David Alan Scheer II, is an avowed neo-Nazi supporter.

An Instagram post made by Scheer last June said the “deep state (a boogymen loved by Trump conspiracy theorists) is the same old synagogue of Satan that killed our Lord Jesus.” Collins' son-in-law also shared posts promoting the white supremacist group Patriot Front and made such statements as “Gen-Z doesn't hate Hitler” and “There's nothing wrong with white nationalism.”

His posts also included disturbing Nazi imagery and claims that Jews were responsible for the death of JFK, the 9-11 attacks and the proliferation of pornographic material.

So that's Mike Collins' son-in-law, the man who married the candidate's daughter. But for those who say a person should not be judged by the company he keeps, there's also this:

— The U.S. House Ethics Committee is reviewing allegations of Collins' office misusing taxpayer funds. Primary among these claims is that Collins' former top aide, Brandon Phillips, performed work



FLETCHER

on the rep's campaign while drawing a congressional salary and arranged a paid, no-work internship for his girlfriend. (Collins, by the way, called these charges a “nothing burger,” although Phillips was dropped from his staff a short while later after he posted a vulgar attack on the wife of a strategist for Collins' opponent in the GOP primary, Derrick Dooley.)

— Collins brought in Kip Talley to replace Phillips, but he ended up firing him as well when Talley reportedly told friends he would use “the levers of the legislative branch” to help a Holocaust denier secure a release from prison.

Still, Trump called Collins a “good man” when the president paused momentarily from talking about himself, his “stolen election” and his many snake-oil schemes to add to his alleged fortune that's \$5.6 million smaller now that he's been ordered to pay E Jean Carroll that sum for sexual abuse and defamation.

In most of the polls that include the U.S. Senate race between Ossoff and Collins, the Republican already trailed by a significant margin. And Ossoff has collected more than 40 times more in contributions than the challenger.

But let's just wipe the slate clean. Let's put Ossoff's record against Collins's. There's an even wider disparity in that respect because Ossoff has a record of working for the people of Georgia and the nation, while Collins has used his position in the House to benefit himself ... and to try and build even closer ties to the president, hoping to get in on the crazy train for sycophants.

Ossoff vs. Collins on Nov. 3 should have been a clear no-brainer for any right-thinking Georgian before all the controversy swirling around the Republican even surfaced. Now, though, it's even clearer that there's really only one choice.

But let's not forget this is Georgia. And while it shames me to admit as much, there are people who will now vote for Collins because of his ties to neo-Nazis.

Email Carlton Fletcher at carlton.fletcher@albanyherald.com.

COLUMNIST ■ DAVID CARROLL

Today's news ... like drinking from a water hose

I generally limit my column to one topic. Sure, I often veer off course, but I always return to the main topic. It's like when I'm on a road trip to Cincinnati. When I see a Shoney's sign, I will go out of my way to get a hot fudge cake. But I always end up in Cincinnati. Having said that, let's explore a few recent diversions.

Keeping up with the news is like drinking from a fire hose. We have a president who doesn't understand that summer is the time to relax. He will send out a statement in the middle of the night, declaring that someone carved a 350-foot slit in the liner of the Reflecting Pool at the Lincoln Memorial. (Try doing that in any public place, and see if you can do so unnoticed.) Numerous photos, videos, and our own eyes tell us that is not true, but his favorite “news” channels report it as fact. Some of those arrested for this so-called vandalism will be in court soon, and I have a pretty good idea how this will turn out. “Case dismissed. Next?”

Speaking of the president, kudos to the conservative page editor of my local newspaper, the Chattanooga Times Free Press. In a recent editorial on the Tennessee governor's race, Clint Cooper noted that the president had not endorsed either of the three Republican candidates, all of whom had pledged their allegiance to him. Most notably, Cooper was surprised that the president had not singled out any of the candidates for his blessing, “especially when one of them (Marsha Blackburn) has stuck to him like Saran Wrap.” I know a good line when I see it.

Now may be a good time to replay one of my own favorite hits from a few years ago. I believed it then, and I believe it even more now. I established a very simple rule in my philosophy for choosing candidates for whom to vote: “No debates, no town meetings, no vote.” Former Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene has many supporters, and many detractors. Some days I agreed with her, and other days I didn't.

But I always admired the fact that she participated in debates and town hall meetings, even though she usually led her opponents in the polls by double-digit margins. Like it or not, we knew where she stood.

I never ran for office, and I never will. But if I did so successfully, debates and town halls would be my favorite part of the job. In my view, those who refuse to meet with constituents or share a stage with their opponents should be disqualified.

We were all saddened by the death of Sen. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina. He, too, was a polarizing figure, but he was energetic, open and often entertaining. At 71, he seemed healthy and vigorous, so it was a shock to learn he had died suddenly on a Saturday night. Maybe it's just me, but I found it a little unsettling to learn that his surviving sister, Darline, with whom he was quite close, had a conversation with the South Carolina governor just hours after her brother had passed. This, according to the sister, was in the wee hours of Sunday morning. And during that chat, the governor offered Darline her brother's Senate seat, which she readily accepted.

Let's pause a moment here. I also have a wonderful sister. I hope that if she gets a call right after I die from someone saying, “Hey, Elaine, sorry to hear about ol' Dave. Oh, by the way, I sure would like to buy his car,” she would say. “Slow down, pal. Could you give me a couple of days to grieve here; you know, make some arrangements and stuff? Let's talk in a week or two.” I think my sister would do that.

Anyway, Darline made the trip from Lexington, S.C., and was sworn in at the Capitol two days after her brother died. She then voted in favor of a defense authorization bill.

This is yet another reason I could never be a politician. That, plus, I don't have a red plaid shirt to wear in the TV commercials.



CARROLL

COLUMNIST ■ SEAN DIETRICH

Getting Funck-y in Pennsylvania

We left New York, bound for Pennsylvania. We crossed the border and entered the Horse-and-Bug State. All of a sudden the scenery changed. We saw farmhouses, porch swings, clotheslines, and large, steaming piles of organic matter on highway shoulders that definitely weren't left by SUVs.

We sped through Amish country on our way to meet our friend Kris at a restaurant called “Funck's.” My wife, Jamie, was convinced the name of this restaurant was an unfortunate typo.

“That can not be the real name of the restaurant,” Jamie said.

“Why not?” I said.

“Because it almost sounds like a cuss word.”

“That's not very nice. It's someone's name.”

“It's not a real name.”

“How can you be so sure?”

“Have you ever met a Funck?”

“No, but I've met plenty of people who acted like one.”

Then, I explained to my wife that this is Pennsylvania. In Pennsylvania, lots of people marry Funcks. Funck is a completely ordinary thing. Funck is a natural and normal part of life.

Then, I started thinking of all the imaginary Funck family reunions in the Keystone State, with everyone getting together for the annual Funck barbecue, with lots of happy Funck families running around. I

imagined tiny brother and sister Funcks, a Father Funck and a Mother ...

Anyway, we met our friend Kris at the restaurant where the hostess assured me that Funck is a real name and you are free to use this word in social settings without offending anyone. (“Quit acting like a Funck.”) They even use this name in religious ceremonies and nobody thinks twice. (“Do you, Liz Martin, take this man, Chip Funck, to be your lawfully wedded Funck?”)

“I actually know a woman named Funck,” one customer in line offered. “We tried to convince her to name her first daughter ‘Uptown.’”

End of digression.

So Kris arrived bearing hand-picked flowers in a glass jar. Her smile was infectious. We hugged in the restaurant parking lot. Kris is a good hugger. And we ordered Funcky appetizers.

I first wrote about Kris when I met her at a book event a few years ago. She is a Presbyterian pastor from Thailand. She's been a pastor for nearly 40 years. The majority of which have been spent in the States.

It bears mentioning that Kris is the first female Presbyterian minister I have ever met, let alone the first female Thai minister. Also, she holds the distinction of being the first minister I've ever met who ordered beer for lunch on a weekday.

“Would you like a beer?”

Kris asked.

I replied, yes, I would like a beer for lunch on a weekday.

So Kris flagged the waiter and, boom, just like that, for the first time in my life I was drinking with the Presbyterian clergy.

“When I was young, there were no women ministers coming from Thailand,” Kris said. “Many people discouraged me from this career, but this only made me want it more. I would say to myself, ‘These people cannot tell me what God has in store for me.’ Nobody can tell you what God has planned.”

When I first met Kris, she attended one of my one-man trainwrecks along with a young Thai woman named Oat. I say “young” because this is how Oat seemed. Youthful. Although Oat is in her mid-forties. Oat quickly became my friend, too.

Oat's parents were ministers, long ago. They were Kris's dear friends. Oat's father died in a car accident, and Oat's mother died of cancer. Oat came to live with Kris for an extended period. Kris became Oat's unofficial adopted mother. But now Oat is back in Thailand.

“Now that she is gone, I miss the sense of purpose I felt when she lived with me,” Kris said. “I miss going to the supermarket and having

someone besides myself to shop for. Now all I do is shop for my cats and make them fat.”

I asked what sort of work Oat is doing in Thailand.

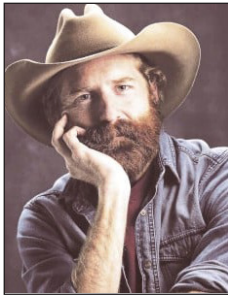
With bright eyes, Kris smiled. “She is teaching seminary.” Then she wiped her eyes and added, “Let's order another beer.”

After our meeting with Kris, and some more beer, I staggered to the parking lot, crawled into the passenger seat, and my wife buckled me in and wiped the drool from my collar.

Soon, we were entering Lancaster County, just in time to get stuck behind a horse and buggy. The buggy was moving so slowly, we knew something must be holding it up.

So I rolled the window down and looked ahead to see what the problem was. Ahead of the buggy was yet another buggy. Ahead of that buggy was another buggy. And ahead of that one was another buggy. We were behind multiple buggies.

After surviving our first Amish traffic-jam, we arrived at our friends, Shawn and Maile's house. Shawn is an old friend whom we affectionately call “Shawn of the North.” Shawn and Maile are both authors who own a bookstore in downtown



DIETRICH

Lancaster called Nooks, where I'll be performing for an event to deter any potential customers.

Shawn's wife, Maile, had prepared Indian food for supper. The house smelled glorious, with scents of cardamom, coriander and ginger in the air. No sooner had we entered Shawn's living room than we were greeted by Winnie, Shawn and Maile's enthusiastic Yellow Labrador Retriever.

All night, Winnie was content to lie on the floor and let me rub every square inch of her body, which I did for hours. Whenever I would quit rubbing, Winnie would dutifully begin to lick my palm, sometimes going so far as to lick between my fingers and even chew my fingernails with tiny love-bites until I resumed petting.

We all had deep conversations around the table, laughing and carrying on, while Winnie trimmed my excess fingernail growth. We stayed around that table until 11 p.m., until it was time to clear off the table.

When it was time to leave. We all participated in The Long Southern Goodbye Process on the porch. We are long Southern-goodbyers, and there is a specific method for long-Southern-good-bying:

After saying your initial goodbye, you embrace again, laugh some more, descend exactly one porch step, then

tell 312 more stories. Whereupon you then descend to the next porch step and do it all over again. This takes hours as you follow each other out to the car and climb into the passenger seat with departing guests, still telling stories and conversing as you drive away.

And as we all bid goodbye, and as Winnie licked every nanometer of my exposed skin, I got to thinking about how I've had life all wrong. For many years, I've had it wrong.

This is life. Right here. Right now. This. It might sound incredibly boring. Maybe even tedious.

But life is not about achieving things. It's not about stuff. It's not even about being happy, or about self-actualization, or about finding answers, or about ultimate truth or wisdom. Life is about people. It's always been about people. Also dogs. Possibly cats. But mostly people. Because their love is the only thing you can take with you when you leave.

For our final goodbye, Shawn held his hand out to shake mine.

I declined.

“Sorry,” I said, holding up my dog-licked, sticky hand. “I'd love to shake your hand, but I can't.”

Because my hand was all Funky.

States may have to act after feds drop endangered species habitat protection

By **Alex Brown**
Georgia Recorder

WASHINGTON -- The current administration is removing protections from the key places where endangered species live, saying states can keep the areas safe.

But experts say states aren't equipped for the task.

Earlier this month, the administration finalized a major change to the Endangered Species Act, rolling back protections for the forests, wetlands, deserts and other critical habitats that many plants and animals rely on.

The new rule will open many landscapes to development, logging, mining and oil and gas drilling. Wildlife officials — in both conservative and liberal states — had expressed strong concerns about the proposal, saying it would threaten their plans to safeguard endangered species.

But federal officials framed the decision as a move to give “freedom” to state leaders to manage wildlife without burdensome federal regulations.

States that wish to continue protecting habitats can do so under state law, the Interior Department and other federal agencies wrote in their lengthy new regulations.

But legal experts and wildlife veterans say that almost no states have endangered species laws on the books that allow state officials to prevent habitat destruction in the name of saving wildlife.

While many states have laws to stop poaching and direct killing of wildlife, the protection of nesting trees, spawning streams and other resources has long fallen to

the federal Endangered Species Act and the agencies that enforce it.

“It’s not going to be a situation where the states can easily just jump in here and fill the void,” Robert Anderson, who served as solicitor for the Department of the Interior during the Biden administration, said. “It’s not going to help states, and it’s going to make it worse for the species.”

Many wildlife experts also noted that state wildlife agencies are already underfunded as it is. Taking on the massive regulatory system that prevents developers and extractive industries from destroying critical habitat would require far more resources than those agencies have available.

A coalition of environmental groups and tribal nations have filed lawsuits challenging the federal rollback.

For decades, federal officials have scrutinized logging projects that would cut old-growth trees where owls build their nests, and agriculture operations that diverted water from streams where salmon return to spawn.

But now, the feds are pivoting to a much more limited definition of “harm.” Only actions that directly injure or kill the animals themselves will be considered a violation of endangered species law.

“You can destroy the resources a species requires as long as you don’t do it when the species is at home,” Karrigan Börk, a law professor and director of the Center for Watershed Sciences at the UC Davis Institute of the Environment, said. “If you drain a salmon river during



For decades, federal wildlife officials have protected old-growth forests as critical habitat for northern spotted owls. But a new interpretation of the Endangered Species Act removes protections for wildlife habitat.

the summer when the salmon aren’t in it, ultimately it has the same impact of killing off that whole species.”

The Interior Department did not respond to a State-line interview request.

A 2019 study published in Conservation Science and Practice of species added to the list of endangered species from 1975 to 2017 found that only 17% of them faced threats from direct killing, while 81% faced habitat loss.

“It’s common sense that we can’t save a species unless we save the places that they live,” Jane Davenport, senior attorney at Defenders of Wildlife, a nonprofit conservation group that is planning to sue the federal government over the change, said. “This is an attempted death blow to the Endangered Species Act.”

Some industry groups praised the move. The American Petroleum Institute and other oil and gas groups said in public comments that they supported the effort to limit habitat protections, but expressed concern that the administration’s move to rescind the “harm” definition without issuing a new interpretation could allow a future president or the courts to issue a more expansive reading of the law.

The groups cited Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia’s dissenting opinion in a landmark 1995 case that upheld habitat protections under the Endangered Species Act.

In public comments after the rule was initially proposed, wildlife agency leaders from both liberal and conservative states said the change would be a blow to their conserva-

tion efforts.

The proposed rule would have “dire consequences,” wrote Bruce Kreft, chief of the conservation and communications division with the North Dakota Game and Fish Department. “Eliminating habitat protection will lead to further population declines and, ultimately, an increase in the number of species needing (Endangered Species Act) protection.”

Wildlife officials in Arizona, Georgia, Louisiana, New Mexico, New Jersey, Vermont and Wyoming also expressed concern about the loss of habitat protections, as did the Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies, a nonprofit that represents state wildlife managers.

Of the public comments reviewed by Stateline, only Alaska’s wildlife agency leader offered wholehearted support for the change.

According to a 2024 analysis from the National Caucus of Environmental Legislators, only eight states plus Puerto Rico require the designation of critical habitats under their laws to protect endangered species.

California appears to be the only state with a process under state law to account for damage to wildlife habitat and require developers to offset those impacts, such as funding a restoration project nearby, Becca Madsen, a restoration economy director with the Environmental Policy Innovation Center, said.

“(States) don’t have this layer of federal regulations and staff and the consistency of how it’s been regulated for decades,” she said. “Now

they’ve got to create their own processes and permitting and data and guidance. It’s a lot.”

Even if states were to pass laws and invest in programs to protect wildlife habitat, they would be unable to enforce those measures on federal land. Across the West, federal public lands cover vast swaths of many states and provide critical habitat for many species. If the U.S. Forest Service were to permit a logging operation on old-growth forest under the new “harm” definition, state wildlife officials could do nothing to stop it.

Last week, a coalition of environmental groups filed a lawsuit challenging the “harm” rule. A pair of tribes in Washington state filed their own lawsuit, asserting that the decision will infringe on tribal fisheries that the federal government is obligated to protect under treaty agreements.

Some legal experts expect a flood of lawsuits over specific proposed projects.

“Courts are going to have to figure out on a case-by-case basis what’s covered and what’s not covered,” said Börk, the UC Davis professor. “It’s going to lead to widespread confusion over the next decades over what’s illegal or legal, and it’s going to make it harder for developers and landowners to know whether they have liability or not.”

This story was originally produced by Stateline, which is part of States Newsroom, a nonprofit news network which includes Georgia Recorder, and is supported by grants and a coalition of donors as a 501c(3) public charity.

Congress Votes

By **Targeted News Service**

WASHINGTON -- Here’s a look at how Georgia’s members of Congress voted over the previous week.

Along with its roll call votes this week, the House also passed: the Common Cents Act (H.R. 3074) to have the Treasury Department stop minting the penny, and to permit cash transactions be rounded up or down to the nearest 5 cents; the Stop Foreign Funds in Elections Act (H.R. 3535) to apply the prohibition against contributions and donations by foreign nationals in connection with elections to contributions or donations in connection with ballot initiatives and referenda; the Measuring Illicit Fentanyl Trafficking Act (H.R. 8535) to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to develop performance metrics relating to the detection, deterrence, and seizure of fentanyl; and the Improving Travel for Military Members Act (H.R. 9328).

HOUSE VOTES:

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME: The House has passed the Sunshine Protection Act (H.R. 139) sponsored by Rep. Vern Buchanan, R-Fla., to change time in the U.S. by making daylight saving time, currently in place from March to November, permanent and year-round nationwide. Buchanan said “allowing an extra hour of sunlight in the evening gives families more time for outside sports, activities, and school. It stimulates small business.” An opponent, Rep. Madeleine Dean, D-Pa., cited fatalities in children when permanent daylight saving time was adopted in 1974, due to the school day beginning in the dark, and said “that if we stop the clock, permanent standard time is a healthier choice.” The vote, on July 14, was 308 yeas to 117 nays.

YEAS: Loudermilk R-GA (11th), Bishop D-GA (2nd), Allen R-GA (12th), Scott, Austin R-GA (8th), Clyde R-GA (9th), McBath D-GA (6th),

Carter R-GA (1st), Jack R-GA (3rd), Johnson D-GA (4th), McCormick R-GA (7th), Collins R-GA (10th)

NAYS: Williams D-GA (5th)

COLD SNAPS AND TERRORISM: The House has passed the Weatherizing Infrastructure in the North and Terrorism Emergency Readiness Act (H.R. 3106) sponsored by Rep. Timothy M. Kennedy, D-N.Y. The bill would require the Homeland Security Department to perform a training exercise to prepare for a potential terrorist attack during an outbreak of severe cold. Kennedy said: “The insights and expertise gained from this exercise will strengthen coordination among emergency managers, state officials, and community partners.” The vote, on July 13, was 400 yeas to 7 nays.

YEAS: Entire Georgia delegation

TSA SCREENING OF CHILDREN: The House has passed the Improving Travel for American Families Act (H.R. 8897) sponsored by Rep. Ryan Mackenzie, R-Pa., to have the Transportation Security Administration undertake a pilot program for improving airport security screening methods for families traveling with children who are under 13 years old. Mackenzie said the bill “will help modernize travel experience for American families while improving efficiency at our nation’s airports.” The vote, on July 13, was 398 yeas to 12 nays.

YEAS: Entire Georgia delegation

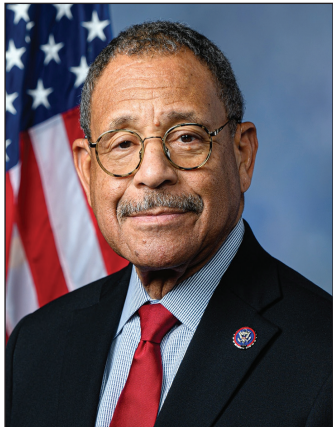
GUN RETAILERS: The House has passed the Protecting Privacy in Purchases Act (H.R. 1181) sponsored by Rep. Riley Moore, R-W. Va., to bar payment processors from identifying gun retailers with a distinct merchant code. Moore said the bill “preserves Americans’ rights by prohibiting the creation of a separate merchant category code for firearms. This would, of course, become a de facto gun registry.” An opponent, Rep. Mike Thompson, D-



Jon Ossoff



Raphael Warnock



Sanford Bishop



Austin Scott

Calif., said that by blocking states from using the code to investigate suspicious transactions, it would impair efforts to prevent gun trafficking and gun violence. The vote, on July 14, was 221 yeas to 201 nays.

YEAS: Entire Georgia delegation

AID TO ISRAEL: The House has rejected an amendment sponsored by Rep. Thomas Massie, R-Ky., to the National Security, Department of State, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act (H.R. 8595) that would have barred funding for Israel. Massie cited the \$39 trillion U.S. debt burden and the need to prioritize various domestic needs in arguing against the \$3.3 billion of aid. An opponent, Rep. Lois Frankel, D-Fla., said: “Maintaining stability in the Middle East has long been a vital United States strategic interest.” The vote, on July 15, was 104 yeas to 314 nays, with 10 voting present.

NAYS: Loudermilk R-GA (11th), Bishop D-GA (2nd), Allen R-GA (12th), Scott, Austin R-GA (8th), Clyde R-GA (9th), McCormick R-GA (7th), Williams D-GA (5th), Collins R-GA (10th)

YEAS: Johnson D-GA (4th)

UNITED NATIONS: The House has rejected an amendment sponsored by Rep. Chip Roy, R-Texas, to the National Security, Department of State, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act (H.R. 8595) that would have barred funding for the United Nations. Roy cited “anti-Israel bias, corruption, peacekeeper misconduct, institutional failure, and ways in which the United Nations operates on a regular

basis in direct contradiction to the interests of the United States.” An amendment opponent, Rep. Lois Frankel, D-Fla., said: “When the world faces challenges that no nation can solve themselves, the United Nations provides a place for countries to work together in pursuit of peace, security, and human dignity.” The vote, on July 15, was 136 yeas to 291 nays.

YEAS: Entire Georgia delegation

STATE DEPARTMENT BUDGET: The House has passed the National Security, Department of State, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act (H.R. 8595) sponsored by Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart, R-Fla., to provide \$47.3 billion for Fiscal 2027 spending at the State Department and related foreign affairs activities by other government entities. Diaz-Balart said the bill “supports our allies and protects our national security in a smart, efficient, and thoughtful way,” cutting total spending from 2026 levels by \$2.7 billion without reducing funding for national security priorities. An opponent, Rep. Lois Frankel, D-Fla., said the cuts “weaken our diplomats, dismantle our development programs, and slash humanitarian assistance. They undermine global health efforts that stop threats before they reach our shores.” The vote, on July 15, was 217 yeas to 209 nays.

YEAS: Entire Georgia delegation

SENATE VOTES:

TEXAS JUDGE: The Senate has confirmed the nomination of Arthur Jones to be a judge on the U.S. District Court for Southern Texas.

Jones was a judge advocate lawyer in the Air Force from 1995 to 2002, then joined the southern District, where he was, most recently, its executive assistant attorney. An opponent, Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., said Jones’s “association with a far-right organization [Gun Owners of America] and refusal to disavow that organization’s extreme views on firearm safety are disqualifying.” The vote, on July 13, was 46 yeas to 44 nays.

NAYS: Ossoff D-GA, Warnock D-GA

APPEALS COURT JUDGE: The Senate has confirmed the nomination of Matthew Schwartz to be a judge on the U.S. Second Circuit Court of Appeals. A private practice lawyer in New York City for the past two decades, Schwartz previously clerked for Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito. An opponent, Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., cited Schwartz’s representation of President Trump and Tesla. The vote, on July 14, was 50 yeas to 45 nays.

NAYS: Ossoff D-GA, Warnock D-GA

MILITARY SPENDING: The Senate has rejected a cloture motion to end debate on a motion to proceed to the National Defense Authorization Act (S.4784) sponsored by Sen. Roger F. Wicker, R-Miss. The bill would authorize about \$1.1 trillion of Fiscal 2027 spending on the military, including military construction programs and military activities at the Energy Department. The vote, on July 14, was 50 yeas to 46 nays, with a three-fifths majority required.

NAYS: Ossoff D-GA, Warnock D-GA

FLORIDA JUDGE: The Senate has confirmed the nomi-

nation of Jeffrey T. Kuntz to be a judge on the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida. An appeals court judge in the Florida courts for the last decade, Kuntz was previously a private practice lawyer in the state. An opponent, Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., called Kuntz “another nominee who has been rewarded for his loyalty to the president with a lifetime appointment to the federal bench.” The vote, on July 15, was 51 yeas to 46 nays.

NAYS: Ossoff D-GA, Warnock D-GA

MEDICARE WASTE: The Senate has rejected a motion to proceed to a bill (S.J. Res. 198) sponsored by Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Ore., that would have cancelled a Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services rule issued last July that adopted a six-year test model effort for using prior authorization for certain services in order to cut waste and fraud in Medicare’s fee-for-service payment program. Wyden said the result of the test has been that care doctors recommend for Medicare enrollees “has been slowed or halted by a shadowy AI-driven third party.” An opponent, Sen. Mike Crapo, R-Idaho, said: “Patients should have access to high-quality care, providers deserve predictable payment for services, and avoidable waste, fraud, and abuse in Medicare should be stopped. Ending this pilot program prematurely will deprive CMS of a useful tool to accomplish each of those goals.” The vote, on July 16, was 46 yeas to 50 nays.

YEAS: Ossoff D-GA, Warnock D-GA

Dougherty commissioner appointed to National Association of Counties Board of Directors

Staff Reports
news@albanyherald.com

ALBANY -- Dougherty County District 3 Commissioner Clinton Johnson has been appointed to the National Association of Counties Board of Directors as an at-large board member, allowing him to represent Georgia and counties across the nation.

He was appointed by newly elected National Association of Counties President George Dunlap after the board's annual conference and will serve a one-year term. Johnson will help shape NACo's policies, advocate for county priorities and strengthen local government.

Johnson is a former president of

the Association County Commissioners of Georgia.

"Serving on the National Association of Counties Board of Directors is a tremendous honor and an opportunity to represent both Dougherty County and Georgia on the national stage," Johnson said. "I look forward to working with county leaders nationwide to strengthen local government. This appointment ensures Georgia continues to lead in national policy discussions while amplifying southwest Georgia's voice."

The NACo Board guides national policy and advocates for the nation's 3,069 counties.



Special Photo
Dougherty County District 3 Commissioner Clinton Johnson has been appointed to the National Association of Counties Board of Directors as an at-large board member.



Special Photo: PCOM South Georgia
After a full day of classes, PCOM South Georgia student Barrington "Barry" Francis drives to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Moultrie/Colquitt County to water the garden he has helped revitalize.

ABAC grad Jenna Williams leaves her mark on college

Staff Reports
news@albanyherald.com

TIFTON — When Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College graduate Jenna Williams crossed the commencement stage in May, she did so as one of the institution's most accomplished students.

Williams received ABAC's David and Kim Bridges Award, presented annually to the graduating senior who exemplifies academic excellence, leadership and service. She graduated with a perfect 4.0 GPA, earning a bachelor's degree in biology with a minor in business. This fall, she will begin medical school at Mercer University.

Williams also addressed graduates at both spring commencement ceremonies.

"Don't be afraid of the wilderness," Williams said during her commencement address. "Don't be afraid of the unpaved life. The world doesn't need more people who know how to follow a map."

Throughout her four years at ABAC, Williams built an impressive record of academic achievement and campus leadership.

"Through the opportunities I've been given, serving in leadership roles, engaging in research and building meaningful relationships, I've discovered my passion for service and medicine," Williams said. "ABAC didn't just prepare me academically. It shaped who I am and gave me a strong foundation for the future I'm about to begin."

Williams' success in the classroom also translated into widespread interest from medical schools. She was accepted to every medical school to which she applied, an achievement that did not surprise Joseph Falcone, dean



Special Photo: ABAC
ABAC graduate Jenna Williams, center, crossed the commencement stage in May as one of the institution's most accomplished students.

of ABAC's School of Nursing, Health and Natural Sciences.

"Jenna was an exemplary student in the classroom and consistently demonstrated the intellectual curiosity, discipline and dedication necessary to succeed in a rigorous academic environment," Falcone said. "Given her academic accomplishments, leadership and commitment to her future in medicine, it is no surprise that medical schools recognized her potential and viewed her so highly."

"Jenna has distinguished herself in every aspect of her time at ABAC, and I am confident she will continue to excel as she begins her medical education."

A Douglas native and graduate of Citizens Christian Academy, Williams became involved on campus shortly after arriving in Tifton. She joined the ABAC Ambassadors in 2022, was elected president of the organization in

2023 and, in 2025, received the Michael D. Chason Ambassador of the Year Award. "She leads with humility, inspires with her work ethic and uplifts everyone around her," Assistant Director of Admissions Sunny Ross Sparrow said. "Her impact on this program and on ABAC will be felt for years to come."

Williams has often credited the ABAC Ambassadors with influencing her decision to attend the college.

"On my campus tour, an ambassador skillfully brought me out of my shell and sparked my interest in the college, ultimately influencing my choice to enroll here," Williams said.

Her leadership extended across campus. Williams was crowned Miss ABAC in 2024, served as vice president of the Student Government Association before being elected president in 2025, led the Phi Theta Kappa Honor So-

ciety as president and was captain of the Golden Girls dance team.

"Great leaders leave a lasting impression not because of the titles they hold, but because of the people they inspire," ABAC President Tracy Brundage said. "Jenna Williams has been an extraordinary example of servant leadership throughout her time at ABAC. She has elevated every organization she has been part of, encouraged others to become involved and demonstrated what it means to lead with purpose and compassion."

"Her legacy will continue to influence our campus long after graduation, and we are incredibly proud to call her an ABAC alumna."

In addition to her academic and leadership accomplishments, Williams graduated debt-free through scholarships.

"As someone who always planned to pursue education beyond a bachelor's degree, graduating debt-free has been an incredible advantage," Williams said. "It has allowed me to enter medical school focused on my education and future patients rather than being burdened by financial stress from my undergraduate years."

Williams will receive additional financial support during medical school through the Nathan Deal Scholarship. The scholarship is awarded to approximately seven students each year and covers most tuition costs. The scholarship also requires recipients to participate in rural health research and leadership development activities and, after completing residency, practice full-time in an approved medically underserved rural Georgia county for four continuous years.

PCOM South Georgia students plant seeds for next generation

Staff Reports
news@albanyherald.com

MOULTRIE -- For the past month, Barrington "Barry" Francis has ended each day at PCOM South Georgia the same way. After a full day of classes, he drives to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Moultrie/Colquitt County to water the garden he has helped revitalize.

The partnership between PCOM South Georgia's Student National Medical Association chapter and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Moultrie/Colquitt County began in 2019, and students launched the garden in 2022. Since then, at least five groups of PCOM South Georgia students have contributed to the garden's development with guidance and support from faculty advisor Robert Jason Walker.

As community outreach liaison for the SNMA Moultrie chapter, Francis noticed the original wooden raised beds had begun to weather and secured funding to replace them with durable metal garden beds.

Thomas J. Last, a professor of biochemistry, cell biology, and genetics, spent an afternoon helping Francis install the new beds.

"Working alongside our SNMA students and the Boys & Girls Clubs to expand this garden has been incredibly rewarding," Last said. "I enjoyed helping build the raised beds, sharing gardening advice, and donating plants over the past few years, including roselle, tomatoes, lemongrass and mint."

PCOM South Georgia and SNMA share a similar mission: to educate and empower communities.

"Community service projects like the community garden allow members to extend their impact beyond the classroom and clinical setting by promoting health education and increasing community access to resources," Kailyn Geter, national president of SNMA and a medical student at Howard University College of Medicine, said. "The SNMA chapter at PCOM South Georgia actively embodies the SNMA mission of community service."

The garden has since become a source of pride for the Boys and Girls Clubs, where staff have watched both the plants and the children thrive.

"It's been a joy to see the vegetables, trees and plants we planted grow a little more each week," Joel Jenkins, the chief executive officer of Boys and Girls Clubs of Moultrie/Colquitt County, said. "Even more rewarding is seeing our club members flourish. Many thanks to our PCOM volunteers for supporting young people."

As the garden continues to grow, Francis said he hopes more PCOM South Georgia students will get involved. He plans to create a watering schedule that allows others to build relationships with the children and educate them on nutrition.

"Working with the kids has been one of the most rewarding parts of medical school," he said. "Their smiles keep me coming back every day."

American Heart Association awards TRMC for heart failure treatment, stroke care

Staff Reports
news@albanyherald.com

TIFTON — Tift Regional Medical Center has received the American Heart Association's Get With The Guidelines Heart Failure Gold Plus Target: Optimal and Stroke Gold Plus quality achievement awards for its ongoing commitment to improving outcomes. Both awards place TRMC in the "Target: Type 2 Diabetes" honor roll.

The Get With The Guidelines heart failure and stroke quality achievement awards recognize hospitals that consistently demonstrate a commitment to treating patients according to the most current, evidence-based guidelines as outlined by the American Heart Association. Get With The Guidelines puts the expertise of the American Heart Association to work for hospitals nationwide, supporting care teams in delivering guideline-directed care.

"TRMC is committed to delivering high-quality care by following the latest evidence-based treatment guidelines," Christi Bryant, TRMC's director of Cardiovascular Services, said. "Get With The Guidelines

helps our care teams put proven science into practice every day. Research shows this approach can support better recovery, with the goal of helping more people in south Georgia live longer, healthier lives."

Each year, participating hospitals qualify for award recognition by demonstrating sustained performance in delivering quality care for patients with heart failure. In addition to following clinical treatment guidelines, Get With The Guidelines participants provide patients with education and tools to help them manage their condition at home.

"We are proud to recognize the leadership and dedicated care teams at TRMC for their strong commitment to improving care for people living with heart failure," Dr. Sabra Lewsey, the volunteer chair of the American Heart Association Heart Failure System of Care Advisory Group, said. "Hospitals that participate in Get With The Guidelines - Heart Failure, a 20-year flagship quality improvement program, often achieve better patient outcomes, including fewer readmissions and lower mortality rates — benefiting patients, families, communities and health care systems alike."



Special Photo: TRMC
Tift Regional Medical Center, located in Tifton, is celebrating recent awards for heart failure treatment and stroke care.

Upshaw, Lockett named to Georgia Power 100

By Joe Whitfield
Sports Editor

ALBANY - Southwest Georgia continues to make its mark on the Atlanta Journal-Constitution's Georgia Power 100 preseason rankings.

After Worth County quarterback Lyndon Worthy was previously recognized among the state's top signal callers, Lee County's Jaden Upshaw and former Dougherty High School standout Antwan Lockett have earned spots among Georgia's top wide receivers.

Upshaw enters his senior season as Georgia's top senior wide receiver prospect,

according to the AJC, and ranks as Lee County's No. 2 football prospect this century, trailing only former five-star defensive lineman Aubrey Solomon.

The Texas A&M commitment has been one of the state's most productive receivers throughout his career despite missing time last season. Playing in just 10 games, Upshaw caught 47 passes for 902 yards and eight touchdowns as a junior after posting 842 receiving yards and 11 touchdowns during Lee County's 13-1 campaign as a sophomore. He enters his final high school season



Staff Photo: Joe Whitfield

Lee County wide receiver Jaden Upshaw was one of two southwest Georgia wide receivers who were named this week in the Georgia Power 100 by the Atlanta Journal-Constitution. The other player named is former Dougherty wide receiver Antwan Lockett who now plays at Colquitt County High School.

with 125 receptions for 1,964 yards and 22 touchdowns while serving as one of the cornerstones of a Trojans offense expected to rank among the state's most explosive.

Lockett also earned a place on the prestigious list after a breakout season at Colquitt County.

The Georgia Tech commitment spent his first two varsity seasons at Dougherty High School before transferring to Colquitt County, where he made an immediate impact. Last season, Lockett hauled in 40 receptions for 811 yards and 10 touchdowns for the Packers after totaling 506 receiving yards and eight

touchdowns as a sophomore at Dougherty.

The Georgia Power 100, compiled annually by the Atlanta Journal-Constitution, recognizes the state's top high school football prospects based primarily on on-field production while also considering college potential. Position groups are being released throughout the week before the unveiling of the complete Georgia Power 100.

With Worthy, Upshaw and Lockett already recognized, Southwest Georgia has placed three players on the Georgia Power 100, with several position groups still to be announced.



Staff Photo: Joe Whitfield

Monroe head football coach Bo Daniels begins his first season leading his alma mater after returning from Westover, where he served as an assistant coach. Daniels has emphasized discipline, accountability and building the program from the ground up.

Daniels laying groundwork for Golden Tornadoes

By Joe Whitfield
Sports Editor

Bo Daniels knows championships aren't built during the first week of practice.

They're built one standard at a time.

That's why the Monroe High School alumnus has spent his first months as the Golden Tornadoes' new head football coach focusing less on wins and losses and more on creating the culture he believes will eventually return the program to prominence.

"When you're coming as the new head coach, you have to start from the ground up," Daniels said. "You have to work with the players, the parents and the coaching staff to get everybody on the same page."

"So we've been working to set the foundation for Monroe football where everybody is all in, where there are no excuses and where everybody is willing to make the sacrifices needed to build a winning team. We are focused on setting the standard for the team — the coaches and the players."

Daniels returned to his alma mater earlier this spring after serving on Corey Joyner's coaching staff at Westover, where he earned a reputation coaching the defensive line. Now, he takes over a Monroe program with the challenge of building not only a football team, but a culture.

The transition to his first head coaching position has been steady, Daniels said, because his expectations have remained consistent from the day he arrived.

"I haven't had any real surprises or things that caught me off guard," he said. "Things come up and you just work through it. You can't catch me off guard if you lean on your standards and your rules."

Daniels quickly assembled a coaching staff that shares his philosophy.

He brought in veteran assistant Ceceil Lester to direct the offense, praising his ability to maximize the talent available.

"He has experience doing a lot with a little," Daniels said.

On defense, Daniels turned to Roscoe Byrd as his defensive coordinator. Byrd brings collegiate coaching experience from Benedict College and Savannah State.

"He pays attention to details," Daniels said.

See DANIELS, 10A



Staff Photo: Joe Whitfield

Albany State head coach David Bowser, left, sits alongside Golden Rams players Derrick Drayton, Cameron Watts and De'Avery Weeks during SIAC Football Media Day Wednesday at the Harriet Tubman Museum in Macon.

SIAC Media Days: Albany State picked to finish fourth

By Joe Whitfield
Sports Editor

MACON — Less than a week after earning a No. 3 national ranking in the first NCAA-sanctioned Black College Football Poll, defending SIAC champion Albany State was picked to finish fourth in the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference's Predicted Order of Finish, unveiled Wednesday during SIAC Football Media Day at the Harriet Tubman Museum.

The Golden Rams, now led by first-year head coach David Bowser, were slotted behind Edward Waters University, Benedict College and Tuskegee University in the preseason voting conducted by SIAC head coaches and athletic directors.

Bowser wasn't surprised.

"With the number of new players on the roster, I am not totally surprised at the ranking," Bowser

said. "I do believe that our talented senior class warranted us the ranking in the top two."

Albany State enters the season with one of the league's most inexperienced lineups, returning just one offensive starter and two defensive starters from last year's championship team. Yet Bowser said the Golden Rams' tradition remains one of the program's greatest strengths.

"I am grateful to be the head coach at Albany State, a great program with at least 20 years of success on the field," Bowser told those in attendance during Media Day. "These young men that I coach understand what Albany State football means to the university and the community."

That appreciation has become one of the cornerstones of Bowser's first season. His team has adopted the slogan "Grateful, not entitled," a reminder that while Albany State's championship

tradition carries high expectations, every team must earn its own success.

The conference predictions present an interesting contrast with last week's inaugural NCAA-sanctioned Black College Football Poll. While SIAC coaches and athletic directors placed Albany State fourth, the national panel ranked the Golden Rams No. 3 in the country behind only Benedict and Johnson C. Smith. Edward Waters, the conference favorite, was ranked No. 9 nationally.

Edward Waters claimed the top spot in the SIAC's Predicted Order of Finish behind preseason Offensive Player of the Year Johntrarius Thomas. The senior running back rushed for more than 1,000 yards last season and returns to lead a Tigers team expected to contend for the conference championship.

Albany State faced similar expectations entering last season

after being picked to finish first in the conference. The Golden Rams rewarded those projections by winning the SIAC title. This year, Bowser inherits a program with championship pedigree but a roster filled with new faces, making the fourth-place prediction as much a reflection of roster turnover as the conference's respect for its top contenders.

2026 SIAC Predicted Order of Finish

- Edward Waters
- Benedict
- Tuskegee
- Albany State
- Kentucky State
- Allen
- Miles
- Fort Valley State
- Savannah State
- Clark Atlanta
- Central State
- Morehouse
- Lane College

SIAC sets its sights on national prominence

By Joe Whitfield
Sports Editor

MACON — Forty media outlets gathered Wednesday inside the Harriet Tubman Museum for SIAC Football Media Day, where commissioner Dr. Anthony Holloman made one thing clear: The Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference is no longer content with being recognized as one of the nation's premier HBCU leagues.

Its sights are set much higher.

"The goal is not just to be the best HBCU conference," Holloman told coaches, players and media members. "The goal is to win a national championship."

It's an ambitious vision, but one Holloman believes is becoming

increasingly realistic.

Last season, Albany State, Benedict College and Kentucky State all earned berths in the NCAA Division II Football Championship, marking the first time the SIAC placed three teams in the national playoffs. Holloman also pointed to the growing depth throughout the conference and said the league is becoming stronger from top to bottom.

"I believe the players we have here today are the best of the best on and off the field," Holloman said.

Before football became the focus of Media Day, Holloman highlighted the conference's commitment to serving its communities.

On Tuesday, SIAC coaches and

student-athletes packed 600 back-to-school backpacks for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Georgia, participated in a cleanup project at Atrium Health and visited children receiving treatment at a local hospital.

"It is times like this that show motivation for greatness," Holloman said.

The conference's growing profile extends beyond community outreach.

Earlier this week, the SIAC announced that 23 football games will air this season on ESPN platforms, including ESPN+ and ESPN2. The conference championship game on Nov. 14 will kick



Staff Photo: Joe Whitfield

SIAC Commissioner Anthony Holloman speaks during Football Media Day on Wednesday at the Harriet Tubman Museum in Macon. Holloman said the conference's goal is to become the nation's premier NCAA Division II football conference.

See SIAC, 10A

Braves top Padres with big eighth inning

Field Level Media

Rookie Jim Jarvis ignited a six-run eighth-inning rally with an RBI double and the Atlanta Braves hung on to defeat the visiting San Diego Padres 7-6 on Wednesday.

The win gave the Braves a 2-1 lead in the four-game series.

With the game tied 1-1 in the eighth, Mauricio Dubon started the outburst with a one-out single off reliever Wandy Peralta (1-2). Jarvis followed with a double into the right field corner that scored Dubon easily. Brewer Hick-

len doubled to left to drive in Jarvis.

Reliever Randy Vasquez entered and allowed RBI singles to Ozzie Albies, Matt Olson, Austin Riley and Dominic Smith as the Braves sent 11 men to the plate.

Trailing 7-1 entering the ninth, the Padres rallied to score five times. Victor Mederos was charged with four runs while retiring just one batter. Raisel Iglesias entered and allowed a two-run homer to Luis Rengifo, his first for the Padres. Iglesias struck out Manny Machado and Ty

France to end the game and earn his 20th save.

Dylan Lee (5-0) threw a perfect eighth inning.

Atlanta starter Martin Perez was activated before the game and made his first start since July 5, when he went on the injured list after being struck on the left forearm by a line drive. He threw four scoreless innings, allowing one hit and four walks while striking out three.

San Diego squeezed six innings out of starter Michael King. He gave up one run on five hits and four walks,

striking out seven. He has allowed one run in each of his last three starts.

The first three Braves drew a walk, but Atlanta could only cash in for one run in the first inning on an RBI grounder by Michael Harris II. King struck out Riley and Mike Yastrzemski to end the threat.

The Padres tied the game in the seventh on Jackson Merrill's solo homer off reliever Didier Fuentes. Merrill lashed it 449 feet, the longest of his career, into the fountain in center field for his 14th homer.



Special Photo: Brett Davis-Imagn Images

The Atlanta Braves beat the San Diego Padres 7-6 Wednesday night in Atlanta, thanks to a six-run eighth inning. Rookie shortstop Jim Jarvis hit the first triple of his Major League career to get the rally going.



Staff Photo: Joe Whittfield

Albany State head football coach David Bowser, left, stands with Ft. Valley State football coach Marlon Watson after both teams stood in the spotlight at the SIAC Media Days Wednesday in Macon. The two will face off against each other on Nov. 7 in a game that will air on ESPN+.

Golden Rams land four games on ESPN+ schedule

By Joe Whittfield
Sports Editor

Albany State football fans will have four opportunities to watch the Golden Rams on ESPN+ during the 2026 regular season as part of the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference's 23-game television package announced Tuesday.

The Golden Rams' first streamed appearance will come Sept. 26 when they host Kentucky State at Albany State Coliseum. Albany State returns to ESPN+ on Oct. 17 for a road matchup against Tuskegee before closing its regular-season television schedule with back-to-back appearances against defending SIAC champion Benedict on Oct. 24 and rival Fort Valley State on Nov.

7, both at home.

The Nov. 7 showdown with Fort Valley State serves as the annual Fountain City Classic, one of the SIAC's premier rivalry games and one of several conference traditions featured in ESPN's coverage this season.

The SIAC's television schedule includes 23 games across ESPN2, ESPNU and ESPN+, highlighted by the league championship game on Nov. 14, which will air nationally on ESPNU.

"Our relationship with ESPN remains steadfast as we continue our mission to enhance the visibility of our member institutions and the extraordinary student-athletes who represent them," SIAC Commissioner Anthony Holloman said. "The 2026 season marks a new era of opportunity, and as we embark on our sixth

year with ESPN, we eagerly anticipate an unforgettable season that will showcase the legacy, competitive fervor and resilience that define SIAC football."

The conference schedule opens Aug. 30 when Tuskegee hosts West Alabama in the sixth annual Red Tails Classic on ESPN2 from Montgomery, Alabama. Tuskegee will also face Fort Valley State on ESPN2 on Sept. 5 in the fourth annual Port City Classic in Mobile, Alabama.

In addition to the Fountain City Classic, ESPN's coverage will feature several marquee conference matchups and homecoming games throughout the season, including contests at Miles, Benedict and Clark Atlanta.

Albany State enters its first season under head coach David Bowser after finishing 7-3

overall and 6-2 in SIAC play in 2025. The Golden Rams open the 2026 campaign Aug. 29 at Florida A&M before hosting Johnson C. Smith in the Black College Hall of Fame Classic on Sept. 6 in Canton, Ohio.

The top two teams in the SIAC standings will meet Nov. 14 in the conference championship game, with the winner earning the league's automatic berth into the NCAA Division II playoffs.

Albany State's ESPN+ schedule

Sept. 26: Kentucky State at Albany State

Oct. 17: Albany State at Tuskegee

Oct. 24: Benedict at Albany State

Nov. 7: Fort Valley State at Albany State (Fountain City Classic)

From 9A SIAC

off at 10:30 a.m. on ESPN2.

Holloman smiled as he explained the early start time.

"Because we'll be the only game on TV at that time," he joked. "Everybody will have to watch."

The commissioner also welcomed four new head football coaches to the conference: David Bowser at Albany State, Terry Sims at Clark Atlanta, Brad Sherrod at Morehouse College and Thomas Howard at Savannah State.

Before the coaches and players participated in question-and-answer sessions with reporters, the conference recognized several athletic departments and administrators for excellence during the past year.

Tuskegee enjoyed the biggest day during the awards ceremony, capturing the Women's Commissioner's Cup while athletic director Reginald Ruffin was named Athletic Director of the Year. Deborah Jones earned Senior Woman Administrator and Compliance

Director of the Year honors, and Tuskegee also received the Citizenship Award for its community service efforts.

Morehouse College claimed the Men's Commissioner's Cup and the Georgia Power Community Impact Award, while Clark Atlanta sports information director Justin Mordecai was recognized as the SIAC Sports Information Director of the Year.

The event concluded with the release of the conference's Predicted Order of Finish, with Edward Waters selected as the preseason favorite ahead of Benedict College, Tuskegee and defending SIAC champion Albany State.

For Holloman, however, preseason polls and conference championships are only part of the equation.

As the SIAC prepares for another football season, he believes the conference's future will ultimately be measured by more than television exposure or HBCU bragging rights. The benchmark, he said, is competing for—and winning—a Division II national championship.

From 9A DANIELS

"That will make a difference."

While Daniels has emphasized establishing expectations throughout the program, he is counting on several returning players to lead by example. Quarterback Jordyn Shorter, Kohlin Brownlee, Jayvin Range, Arzoreion Bryant and Isaiah Rivers have emerged as leaders throughout the offseason.

At the same time, Daniels believes Monroe's future is bright as a talented sophomore class continues to push for playing time.

"The future of Monroe football is looking very bright," he said.

The Golden Tornadoes will get their first game action in an Aug. 7 scrimmage against Mitchell County before opening the regular season Aug. 28 against Class 7A powerhouse Colquitt County in Moultrie.

The challenging schedule doesn't concern Daniels as much as making sure Monroe plays the way he expects.

"It doesn't matter who we

play," he said. "We've got to be Monroe. It doesn't matter what the scheme is or who the defender is, you've got to do things the right way every time. We've got to go and be fundamentally sound and be organized in what we are doing."

As he begins his first season leading the program he once called home, Daniels said the response from the Monroe community has reinforced that he isn't building alone.

"Our alumni are just amazing," he said. "They have been donating and helping. We've got amazing people in our community. We've also gotten tremendous support from the school administration — Mrs. (Lawanna) Johnson. It's just being excellent."

For Daniels, the early months have been about establishing standards that he hopes will define Monroe football long after this season. The wins, he believes, will follow a program committed to discipline, accountability and doing things the right way.

Georgia's Dante Dowdell recovering from ATV accident

Media Reports

terms of this year," Smart said.

Smart emphasized that football has become secondary as Dowdell begins his recovery.

"He's just a tremendous kid with a great family," Smart said. "We're very supportive of them. Our players have been up there to see him. It's a really tough deal."

Dowdell transferred to Georgia after rushing for 560 yards and three touchdowns at Kentucky last season. Before that, he spent one season each at Oregon and Nebraska, where he enjoyed his most productive year with 614 rushing yards and 12 touchdowns in 2024. His experience and physical running style made him one of Georgia's most significant additions through the transfer portal.

The 6-foot-2, 225-pound senior was expected to fill

the role vacated by veteran Josh McCray, giving Georgia another dependable power back behind returning starter Nate Frazier. Dowdell's ability to gain tough yards between the tackles figured to make him a valuable piece of offensive coordinator Mike Bobo's running game, particularly in short-yardage and goal-line situations.

His absence leaves Georgia with less proven depth entering preseason camp. Frazier returns after emerging as the Bulldogs' lead back last season, while Chauncey Bowens and highly regarded sophomore Dwight Phillips Jr. could see expanded roles if Dowdell is unable to return in 2026.

Still, the football ramifications pale in comparison to Dowdell's health.

Smart repeatedly stressed that the priority is seeing the



Special Photo: Jordan Prather-Imagn Images

Dante Dowdell rushed for 560 yards and three touchdowns at Kentucky last season before transferring to Georgia. Bulldogs coach Kirby Smart said Dowdell suffered serious injuries in an ATV accident during the summer and is recovering at Atlanta's Shepherd Center. His status for the 2026 season remains uncertain.

running back make a full recovery rather than determining when — or if — he returns to the field.

For now, Georgia's champi-

onship aspirations have taken a back seat to supporting one of its newest teammates through what figures to be the toughest battle of his life.

Tony's Take: Sankey out of touch; Mederos is fire

By Tony Duckworth
TonyDuckworthsr@gmail.com

SEC Sankey. SEC Commissioner Greg Sankey is out of touch. I'm confident his views on the current state of college football do not reflect the views of the head coaches in the league. I'm certain most AD's agree with their head coaches.

Sankey reminds me of Clemson Coach Dabo Sweeney. Their success until several years ago was undeniable. The luster of the championships and naty appearances are tarnished, dusty, and an afterthought in the world of what have you done for me lately. Both of their ego's are the top of their peers, but the fan bases of Clemson and the SEC have grown tired of the spin, subpar performances, and inability to adapt to the current landscape of CFB.

I watched an SEC media days recap Monday, and observed Sankey make remarks that demonstrate it's time for the SEC university presidents to move on from the self-appointed czar of CFP. It is no secret that Sankey doesn't want expansion of the College Football Playoffs. No one will argue there are only 7 or 8 teams entering each sea-

son who will win the national championship, and early round playoff games are rarely nailbiters. The media wants expansion, players want more teams playing, and the CFB fans want more teams playing in the tournament.

The other comment Sankey made Monday was his criticism of the fifth year of eligibility. As I said in a recent column, the only downside to the fifth year is the record books. Over time, records will be broken as the extra games will pad stats of the superstars in the modern era.

Mederos. One criticism I have had for several seasons with the Atlanta Braves is the lack of fire and passion on their roster.

Mederos earned the save for the opening game of the Padres series on July 20. His game stats were 2.1 innings pitched | 1 hit allowed | 0 earned runs | 1 strikeout | 1 walk. Solid.

There were several moments when Mederos was on the verge of the one-run lead evaporating. Each time Mederos and the Braves defense delivered. Mederos was visibly emotional and excited about each big out, which makes this Braves fan hopeful that some of that fire will be contagious in the clubhouse.

My advice to Mederos who was traded to Atlanta from the Angels on April 3 is be you. "Be who you be" as I heard an opposing basketball coach tell his team during a pre-game speech many years ago.

The Braves need energy on the roster, and Mederos may be just what the doctor ordered.

Deerfield-Windsor. I met the Deerfield-Windsor Cross Country team for an early morning practice at the YMCA Sports Park Tuesday. I enjoyed my regular 2-mile jog while the competition runners passed me on the left.

Deerfield is one of 13 high schools registered to compete in the Inaugural Albany Area YMCA Cross Country Invitational. Coach Jake Clawson has been a great asset in getting this event off the ground.

The races will begin at 8:00 a.m. on August 29 at the YMCA Sports Park.

Approximately 400 athletes will participate. GHSA and GIAA teams will come to Albany to participate from as far as Perry and Valdosta.

The Albany Area YMCA is committed to community collaboration and youth development.

UK & ME. First-time Kentucky head coach boasted the Wildcats "can be successful in

the SEC because of me." Will Stein said "me" twice when answering the question. Stein has yet to be a head coach, and he has no coaching experience in the SEC. Stein will be in for an eye-opening experience.

Hacked. Those who know me recognize that I enjoy social media. X, formerly Twitter, is undefeated and without question my favorite site for sports, politics, and humor. Sorry, Facebook and Instagram. I haven't joined the TikTok craze.

Unfortunately, my X account was hacked a few weeks ago following a run that began in 2011. By no means am a social media influencer, but I enjoyed interactions with my approximately 3,000 followers. Those followers were primarily due to my days in college athletics. While tempted, I rarely comment outside of sports on X, despite politics being low-hanging fruit.

After three weeks of back-and-forth with Elon's underperforming X customer service, I opted to move on from my 15-year-old Twitter handle @tonyduckworthsr, and I converted to @duckworthtonysr.

I'm a big fan of X, and following a brief hiatus, it has been good to be scrolling again.

EARTHWEEK

Diary of a Changing World

By Steve Newman

Stray Signals

Atmospheric conditions during a Midwest heat dome apparently carried a radio signal about 300 miles from Iowa to Indiana, accidentally activating an outdoor emergency siren in the middle of the night.

The July 1 alarm sounded in Huntington County even though no tornado or other emergency threatened.

Officials blamed tropospheric ducting, which occurs when layers of differing temperature and humidity trap radio waves and carry them beyond normal ranges.

The phenomenon can also cause distant radio and television stations to override local broadcasts.

As climate change makes persistent heat domes more frequent, emergency agencies may face more such episodes of false alarms.

Earthquakes

A temblor hit New Zealand's South Island, shaking homes and briefly triggering a tsunami alert.

• Earth movements were also felt in India's Bay of Bengal coast, the central Philippines, southern Peru and far southern Mexico.

Taming El Niño

Computer simulations suggest that artificially brightening clouds over the Pacific Ocean could weaken a developing super El Niño and reduce some of its extreme weather impacts.

The technique would spray tiny sea-salt particles into low clouds, causing them to reflect more sunlight and cool the ocean below.

Researchers modeled the intervention during the powerful 1997-98 and 2015-16 El Niños and found that an early, sustained deployment could have almost eliminated both warming events.

Scientists caution that the technology is not ready for use and could produce unintended effects, including altered rainfall and warming in other parts of the world.

Java Eruption

Indonesia's restive Mount Merapi erupted five times, with lava flowing down the mountain's western flank. No casualties or damage were immediately reported.

Officials warned those living near river valleys originating from Merapi to remain vigilant for potential lava flows, blasts of superheated material and lahars (volcanic mudflows), especially during periods of heavy rainfall.

Merapi has remained persistently active since 2020 as lava continues to accumulate in unstable summit domes.

Night Mirrors

A U.S. company has received federal approval to test a satellite designed to redirect sunlight onto part of Earth after dark. Reflect Orbital's Earendil-1 would unfold a roughly 59-square-foot steerable mirror, creating an illuminated area roughly 3 miles wide on the surface.

The company says reflected sunlight could extend solar-power production and provide lighting during emergencies.

Scientists and environmental groups warn that the technology could interfere with astronomy, distract pilots and drivers, and disrupt the natural light-and-dark cycles of humans, wildlife and plants.



A Southern California-based company has plans to place more than 50,000 mirrored satellites in orbit if approved. Image: Reflect Orbital

Sharper Models

Climate scientists can now determine with increasing speed and precision how much human-caused warming has intensified an individual heat wave, flood or other extreme weather event.

Improved methods allow some attribution studies to be completed while the event is still unfolding.

The findings are being used by governments, insurers and communities assessing future risks and could eventually help courts determine financial responsibility for climate damage.

But the advances are drawing sharper attacks from politicians and energy interests, including from President Donald Trump, who told a U.N. meeting that climate change is a "hoax" and dismissed some climate models as wrong.

More details available at earthweek.substack.com.

Super Typhoon

After devastating the Northern Mariana Islands, a weaker Bavi crossed the western Pacific and inundated parts of China's Zhejiang province.

Dist. by: Andrews McMeel Syndication ©MMXXVI Earth Environment Service

From 2A

HVAC

have intense cooling requirements, are also in line to purchase equipment, Andrews said. That means there can be a lengthy wait for some of the equipment included in the proposal.

Meanwhile, a failure that results in costs associated with housing inmates in facilities out of town could break the county financially in a matter of months, Commissioner Russell Gray said.

The committee recommended the \$11 million in renovations during an April meeting, but Commission Chairman Lorenzo Heard did not allow that recommendation to be placed on the commission's agenda for discussion.

A new system also would be more efficient, which would save the county money in the long run, Andrews told commissioners.

The estimate given is meant to be at the high end, and the county could benefit from ordering equipment through the state's purchasing program that could cut costs significantly, he said.

"I always say there's two things we need to do as county commissioners: produce a balanced budget on July 1 and maintain a jail," Jones said. "Let's move this jail forward."

From 2A

NEXTERA

designs for events like weddings. She is also a content provider offering gardening tips for a large online company.

"I'm deeply connected to this land," Dorminey said. "My great-grandmother and grandfather gave birth to my grandfather on this land. But my roots run deeper. While at Valdosta State (University, where she earned a degree in cultural anthropology), I was part of an environmental group that fought the building of a coal-fired biomass plant in Mitchell County.

"I moved to North Carolina for seven years, where I was exposed to a culture of people who live off the land. That just enhanced everything I'd learned in my adult life."

Since the commission vote, the group seeking to halt the rezoning have started collecting signatures on a petition to have the current board of commissioners recalled. They are holding events throughout the county in an attempt to get the required number of signatures.

"We want a recall election," Dorminey said. "We're going to need between 3,000 and 4,000 (signatures of regis-

tered voters who voted in the last election), but we think we can do that. There's really a groundswell of growing excitement around what we're doing."

Dorminey said the now closed coal-fired plant that was opened in the '90s is nowhere near as dangerous as the 1,500 megawatt plant planned by NextEra. She notes issues that she said make such a facility a danger to surrounding land:

– "Turbines that use natural gas emit nitrous oxide into the air, and those emissions are particularly harmful to children and the elderly, leading to higher instances of respiratory and cardiovascular illnesses;

– "They can't answer questions about water usage, which is crucial in a community like ours. They say 80% of the water used will evaporate as steam, while the other 20% will be runoff. They don't know where that runoff will go, but the chemicals in it will impact fishing, hunting, recreation and wildlife all the way to the Gulf of Mexico;

– "People who live near the plant will be plagued by noise 24-7 as the plant struggles to keep up with the appetite;

– "The steam in the air will release chemicals that will be absorbed into the soil when rainfall releases it;

– And while the commissioners talk about the tax money that the plant will bring in, they don't take into account the impact on our property values. They say things like 'we may be able to eliminate property taxes,' but our response is that when our property values plummet, there will be no future industry, no farms or no families moving in."

Dorminey said her rapidly growing group opposed to the data center proposal has grown close in the three weeks since the commission voted to approve the rezoning request. She also notes that the movement is spreading beyond the county.

"This doesn't just impact the people in north Mitchell County," she said. "We're talking about the aquifers that provide water all over the Southeast.

"Seeing people unite for this cause is a beautiful thing. Three weeks ago, we were all just folks living our separate lives. Now, things are like they were when I was a kid, when my mom was a kid. We're there together, taking care of each other. We were betrayed by our commissioners. And now we're fighting back. And the beautiful thing is that no one is trying to get the credit; there's no ego involved. We're all in this together."

The most underrated bargain in the grocery store

Every grocery store has an aisle filled with ingredients people buy without thinking. Flour. Rice. Pasta. Oats. Then there's the one ingredient many shoppers pass week after week because they're not quite sure what to do with it. That's polenta. And it might be one of the best bargains in the store.

Polenta isn't fancy. In fact, it's one of the oldest comfort foods around. It's simply coarse cornmeal slowly cooked until creamy, but don't let its humble beginnings fool you.

You see, polenta has a marketing problem. It sounds fancy pants, so shoppers assume it's difficult or expensive. In reality, it's just cornmeal wearing its Italian name tag.

If you're wondering wheth-

er polenta is just fancy grits, the answer is ... sort of. They're close cousins. Polenta is usually made from yellow corn and has a heartier texture, while grits are made from white corn and cook up a bit smoother.

A single bag costs just a few dollars yet makes many generous servings. Because its flavor is mild, it happily soaks up whatever you pair it with. A spoonful of butter and Parmesan turns it into comfort food. Top it with hearty meat sauce, roasted vegetables, braised meats, mushrooms or today's Italian sausage and peppers, and suddenly an inexpensive pantry staple becomes dinner worthy of a cozy Italian restaurant.

The leftovers are where polenta really shines. Once chilled, it's firm enough to slice. Pan-fry the slices until golden, grill them alongside burgers or chicken, or tuck them beneath a fried egg for breakfast.

If you're pressed for time, fully cooked tube polenta is a handy shortcut. Just don't let convenience empty your wallet. Making it from scratch takes only about 20 minutes and costs a fraction of the price.

CREAMY POLENTA

Yield: 4-6 servings
Total Time: 25 mins.
2 cups water
2 cups whole milk
½ teaspoon salt
1 1/3 cups cornmeal
1 tablespoon butter
4 ounces cream cheese, cubed
1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese
In a large saucepan, bring the water, milk and salt to a boil,



then reduce heat to low. Add the cornmeal in a steady stream, whisking to avoid lumps. Keep stirring on low heat until thickened, about 15 minutes. Switch to a wooden spoon and add the butter, cream cheese and Parmesan. Keep stirring. You can tell it's done when it pulls away from the sides of the pot. Serve immediately.

ITALIAN SAUSAGE & PEPPERS WITH POLENTA

Yield: 4-6 servings
Total Time: 30 mins.
1 1/2 tablespoons olive oil, divided
1 pound Italian sausage links
1 large yellow onion, chopped
1 red bell pepper, chopped
2 medium zucchinis, sliced
1 teaspoon fresh garlic, minced
1 (15 oz.) can fire-roasted crushed tomatoes
1 teaspoon Italian seasoning
In a large skillet, heat 1/2 tablespoon olive oil and brown the sausages. They will cook more later, so they don't need to cook completely now. Set aside and keep warm.



Photos Courtesy of www.JasonCoblentz.com

Creamy polenta provides the perfect bed for savory Italian sausage, peppers and onions.

WHEN IT'S ADVANTAGEOUS TO RENT RATHER THAN BUY



Special Photo: MCC

Renting has long been characterized as a short-term solution, but there are situations when it's advantageous to sign a lease.

(MCC) Real estate prices skyrocketed in recent years and property values have remained high in many markets ever since. Conventional wisdom has long attested to the value of investing in real estate, but a significant percentage of hopeful homeowners may be struggling to find an affordable property in the current market. That's led some to question conventional wisdom and look to renting as more than just a temporary pitstop on the road to homeownership.

According to Hannah Jones, a senior economic research analyst at Realtor.com, many early- and mid-career workers are finding the prospect of purchasing a home out of reach. While the percentage of 18- to 44-year-olds living with their parents has risen by nearly 3 percent since the four-year period between 2010 and 2014, scores of young professionals are looking to renting as well. Renting has long been characterized as a short-term solution, but there are situations when it's advantageous to sign a lease.

Buying would bust a budget

Buying a home is more expensive than ever, but the cost of homeownership extends beyond the mortgage. Mortgage calculators are useful tools when estimating a monthly mortgage payment, but that only paints part of the picture in relation to the costs of owning a home. Single-family homes tend to be larger than rented apartments, and that extra space means higher utility bills. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA), the national average price for electricity increased by 7.4 percent between 2024 and 2025. Property taxes are another notable variable to consider, as Rocket Mortgage notes they can increase the monthly cost of homeownership by hundreds of dollars, if not more. If the monthly mortgage payment itself is stretching your budget, then that budget is likely to be busted by utility bills, property taxes and the predictable and less predictable maintenance expenditures associated with homeownership.

your expenses

While many suspected the real estate market would become more affordable after prices skyrocketed in the early 2020s, that has not happened. According to the National Association of Home Builders, house prices across the United States increased by 55 percent between the first quarter of 2020 and the third quarter of 2025. Even if that increase levels off rather than rises in the coming years, early- to mid-career workers may not benefit by trying to wait out the market. While landlords have the right to increase rent at the end of each lease, historically rents do not increase by all that much year-to-year. According to iPropertyManagement, the average monthly rent increased by 70 percent between 2020 and 2026. However, the average change between 2025 and 2026 was less than 3 percent. While rents have increased over the last half decade, the relatively low year-to-year increase, coupled with the lower utility bills and lack of property taxes, can allow early- and mid-career professionals to



Did you know?

(MCC) Patios continue to be more popular than decks. According to a tabulation of data from HUD/Census Bureau Survey of Construction from the National Association of Home Builders, the share of new homes with patios is on the rise while the share with decks remains low. The NAHB tabulation found that the percentage of new homes with decks was 17.6 percent in 2023, while the percentage of new homes with patios reached a record high of 63.7 percent in that same year. Though some homes feature both a deck and patio, the NAHB notes that's the case in just 6 percent of properties. However, decks have remained a go-to choice in certain regions of the United States. For example, the NAHB reports that 76 percent of new homes in New England featured decks while just 17 percent featured patios. Decks (42 percent) also proved more popular than patios (20 percent) in the mid-Atlantic region.

Predicting mortgage rates is no small task and involves consideration of a wide range of variables, some of which are impossible to anticipate. For example, Yahoo! Finance notes that mortgage rates became volatile upon the beginning of the conflict in Iran in late winter 2026, and that volatility continued throughout the spring. That volatility came after years of high mortgage interest rates, which the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau notes had dipped to 2.65 percent in January 2021 but rose to 7.79 percent in October 2023. All that volatility may have some in the market for a new home wondering if rates are due to drop. Near the end of spring 2026, mortgage interest rates hovered around 6.5 percent for a 30-year fixed rate mortgage, according to data from the lender FreddieMac. Mortgage interest rates are key variables for potential buyers to consider, and Yahoo! Finance projects that interest rates will remain around 6 percent for years to come but steadily decline between 2026 and 2030, by which time the forecasted rates are 5.7 percent. While those rates are always affected by both predictable and unpredictable variables, a dip in interest rates over the next half decade could benefit buyers.



Working with a real estate pro offers many benefits

(MCC) Approximately 4.5 million homes are sold annually in the United States. Statista indicates the total number of residential real estate transactions in a given year typically ranges between five and six million. With so much inventory and money changing hands, it often behooves both buyers and sellers to thoroughly prepare for the process of buying, selling or renting a property.

The allure of saving money is often a driving factor behind For Sale By Owner (FSBO) transactions. Bypassing professional fees might seem like an easy win in a volatile housing market. However, navigating the market without a licensed real estate professional frequently leads to lower profits, longer timelines and sometimes even more money spent, according to Clever Real Estate.

In the National Association of Realtors® 2025 Profile of Home Buyers and Sellers, FSBO homes sold for a median price of \$360,000 compared to a median of \$425,000 for agent-assisted sales. Real estate professionals provide critical valuation expertise, ensuring a home is priced accurately to trigger competitive offers. And this isn't the only benefit of working with a real estate professional.

• Access to listing services: Real estate professionals have access to the Multiple Listing Service (MLS), where marketed properties will have the best opportunities to be seen by independent buyers and other real estate professionals. Without access to the MLS, homes are limited in exposure, reducing the likelihood of receiving premium offers.

• Market trend interpretations: Real estate agents have advanced tools and professional networks that help them spot off-market opportunities or trends that could be advantageous to certain buyers.

• Legal knowledge: According to Virginia Realtors®, buyers without representation are left to navigate complex pricing and inspection contingencies on their own. They're also in the weeds when it comes to understanding the steps and legal requirements of real estate transactions. A qualified real estate professional has the knowledge to navigate this process.

• Manage negotiation and paperwork: Negotiating the best deal and handling the piles of paperwork that comes with a real estate transaction can be very challenging to independent buyers and sellers. Data from HouseCashin points out that only 11 percent of FSBO sellers manage to complete their transactions without an agent's intervention.

Instead of struggling, it's better to work with a real estate pro throughout the process.

• Time benefits: Real estate professionals can devote more time to selling a home or finding one to buy than a person doing it independently. This means that a home can be bought or sold within a desired timeframe.

A real estate professional provides market exposure, objective negotiation and pricing accuracy that a DIY approach simply cannot replicate.





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Debbie Fulford
Associate Broker, CRS, ABR

REMAX of Albany
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Albany, GA 31707

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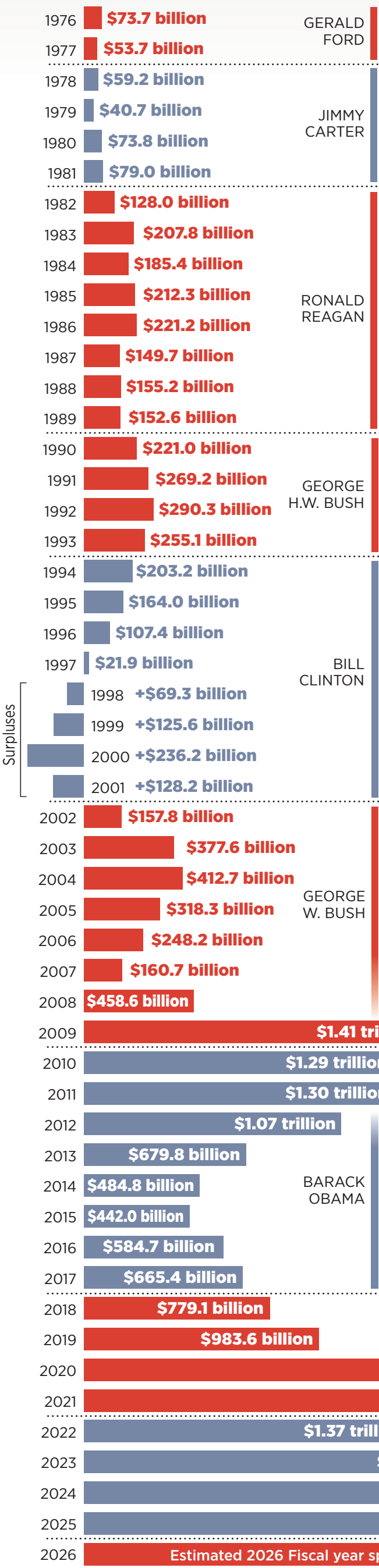
FURTHER REVIEW

AMERICA'S SPENDING HABIT

By Charles Apple | THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

Financial experts project that the total national debt will approach or exceed \$40 trillion by the end of the current fiscal year on September 30.

Our annual deficit spending and our total debt load has increased significantly over the past half century. How long can we keep up this pace?



WHAT'S CAUSING OUR NATIONAL DEBT?

To what can we attribute these enormous annual deficits and our growing deficit? You can blame blue reflecting pools and new White House ballrooms. But the problem is much bigger and more complicated than that.

The first place to look is Social Security and Medicare. You can call these “mandatory spending” or “entitlement programs,” depending on which way you lean, politically.

Social Security, for example, is supposed to be funded by payroll taxes that are earmarked specifically for that purpose. But our nation is experiencing an enormous increase in the number of retirees as members of the Baby Boomer generation reaches their late 60s. At the same time, the cost of medical care and medicine has risen significantly, also pushing up Medicare spending.

In 1983, President Ronald Reagan signed legislation to raise payroll taxes, intending to help fund the upcoming enormous wave of boomer retirements. Instead, however, the government spent this stockpile to cover other expenses.

Since 2010, Social Security payouts began exceeding tax revenues. The government has been redeeming the

Treasury bonds it has purchased over the years to help cover these payments. But it hasn't been enough. Currently, it's expected Social Security will exhaust its trust funds in another six to nine years.

Another reason our annual deficits are increasing is because our tax revenues have not kept pace with our spending growth. Taxes have been cut significantly a number of times over the past half-century, starting with the Reagan tax cuts in the 1980s, again in the early 2000s and then President Donald Trump's sweeping 2017 cuts.

And keep in mind that every time unemployment rises, that causes a drop in payroll tax revenue. All these factors make it more difficult for Uncle Sam to cover his bills.

Even the size of the debt itself causes that debt to grow as interest costs keep rising. Spending on interest is one of the largest categories on each year's annual budget.

Our national debt this year stands at 100.6% of our nation's Gross Domestic Product. It was just 26.7% of the GDP a half-century ago and 31.5% a quarter-century ago. The Congressional Budget Office expects it to continue to rise to 195% of our GDP by 2053.



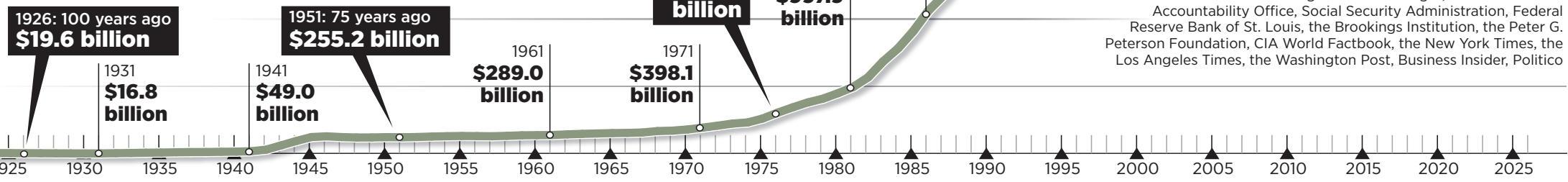
ANNUAL SPENDING DEFICIT OR SURPLUS PER FISCAL YEAR

The Congressional Budget Office announced in 2001 that an expected annual surplus — which had been growing each year during the Bill Clinton administration — would end up a good trillion dollars more than it had forecast just three months before.

This was good news for then-President George W. Bush, who, in his second week in office, called for a tax cut that would trim \$1.6 trillion in revenues and would slash \$2.488 trillion from the Social Security system. Bush Administration leaders said they could pay off the entire federal debt within a decade.

So what happened? Much of the money was eaten up by the Dot-com bubble crash. Expected payroll tax revenue — earmarked for the Social Security system — vanished practically overnight.

GROWTH OF OUR FEDERAL DEBT OVER THE LAST CENTURY



Sources: Congressional Budget Office, U.S. Treasury Department, the White House Office of Management and Budget, U.S. Government Accountability Office, Social Security Administration, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, the Brookings Institution, the Peter G. Peterson Foundation, CIA World Factbook, the New York Times, the Los Angeles Times, the Washington Post, Business Insider, Politico

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Public Works Director
City of Edison

The City of Edison is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Public Works Director. This position is responsible for planning, organizing, directing, and managing all operations of the Public Works Department for City of Edison. This position oversees Infrastructure maintenance and develop-

Full-Time
ment, including roads, bridges, drainage systems, and fleet management.

Applications with a complete job description may be obtained from the City of Edison Administrative Office located at 19437 Hartford St., Edison, Ga from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. daily. Contact the office at 229-835-2269. Applications will be accepted until August 7th, 2026.

Albany Legals
Adoptions

A-670
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
In Re: Adoption of Petition of LALIA ALEXANDRIA BONNER and LANDON ALEXANDER BONNER, by and NOTICE OF PETITION TO TERMINATE PARENTAL RIGHTS To: NARVEZ WARREN the Presumed Legal Father, of a LALIA ALEXANDRIA BONNER, born in 2017 and LANDON ALEXANDER BONNER, born in 2017. You are hereby notified that an Adoption Petition for LALIA ALEXANDRIA BONNER and LANDON ALEXANDER BONNER has been filed in the above-styled Court by JULIUS LOUD., through his attorney, Christopher A. Flowers of Smith & Flowers Law, P.C. Civil Action File No. 26A14-3. The mother of the child has consented to the adoption. Pursuant to Official Code of Georgia Annotated Section 19-8-10 and 19-8-11 and other pertinent laws, you are advised that a hearing has been scheduled for August 26, 2026, at 02:00 p.m. before the Honorable Victoria Johnson. Further, you are advised that you have the right to appear at said hearing. You should contact the attorney for Petitioner, Christopher A. Flowers, Smith & Flowers Law, P.C. P.O. Box 70879, Albany, Georgia 31708/ 504 N. Jefferson Street, Albany, Georgia 31701, telephone 229-434-1070 for further information. All notices to or correspondence with the Petitioner and copies of all pleadings or proceedings you may file in any court in regard to the above-referenced Child should be served upon him. Dated this 10th day of July, 2026.
July 18, 25, August 1, 8, 2026

Construction/Service Bids

A-696
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
138 Pine Avenue Redevelopment PROPOSAL REF. #27-008
Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Albany, Procurement Division, 222 Pine Avenue, Suite 260, Albany, Georgia, 31701, until 5:00 P.M. on August 21, 2026. A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held in the Procurement division office and through Zoom, on July 28, at 10:00 A.M. Zoom credentials are contained in the proposal documents. Proposal documents can be obtained from Procurement, the Georgia Procurement Registry, and www.albanyga.gov. For additional information contact Destin Adams, Buyer I, at dadams@albanyga.gov. \b\ Michael Eaton, Chief Financial Officer
July 25, 2026

Debtors & Creditors

A-662
GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY
All creditors of the estate of Hershell Eugene (Gene) Hitchcock, deceased, late of Dougherty County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned.
This 10th day of July, 2026
Jessica Hitchcock
2311 Forest Glen Rd
Silver Spring, MD 20910
703-823-4517
July 11, 18, 25, August 1, 2026

A-695
GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
All creditors of the estate of Raymond James Barlow, Sr. a/k/a Raymond Barlow, deceased, late of Dougherty County, Georgia are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned.
This 19th day of July 2026.
Raymond Barlow, Jr., Executor of the Estate of Raymond James Barlow, Sr. a/k/a Raymond Barlow, deceased
c/o Phil Cannon
Georgia Bar 107895
Meeks and Cannon, P.C.
P O Drawer 720
Leesburg, GA 31763
229-759-9111 phone
July 25, August 1, 8, 15, 2026

A-693
GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
All creditors of the estate of Margie A. Lashley a/k/a Margie Christine Lashley, deceased, late of Dougherty County, Georgia are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said Estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned Administrator.
Rodney Clayton
Administrator of the Estate of Robert Lee Clayton
c/o Christopher A. Flowers.
504 N. Jefferson Street
Albany, GA 31701
July 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

A-693
GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
All creditors of the estate of Margie A. Lashley a/k/a Margie Christine Lashley, deceased, late of Dougherty County, Georgia are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said Estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned Administrator.
Rodney Clayton
Administrator of the Estate of Robert Lee Clayton
c/o Christopher A. Flowers.
504 N. Jefferson Street
Albany, GA 31701
July 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

Debtors & Creditors
Georgia Bar 500850
Meeks and Cannon, P.C.
P O Drawer 720
Leesburg, GA 31763
229-759-9111 phone
July 25, August 1, 8, 15, 2026

A-664
NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY
IN RE: ESTATE OF RALPH EDWARD TOHOLSKY, DECEASED
All creditors of the estate of Ralph Edward Toholsky, deceased, late of Dougherty County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned Administrator of the Estate of Ralph Edward Toholsky.
This 9th day of July, 2026.
Judy Ann Toholsky, Executor of the Ralph Edward Toholsky, Estate
1802 Devon Drive
Albany, Georgia 31707
or
MOORE, CLARKE, DuVALL & RODGERS, P.C.
2829 Old Dawson Road
Post Office Drawer 71727 Albany, Georgia 31708-1727 (229) 888-3338
July 18, 25, August 1, 8, 2026

A-643
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY.
IN RE: ESTATE OF JUDY L. KIDD, deceased
All creditors of the estate of Judy L. Kidd, deceased, late of Dougherty County, Georgia are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned, according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are hereby required to make immediate payment to me.
This 30th day of June, 2026.
s/Jennifer K. Trapnell
Jennifer K. Trapnell
Executor of the Estate of Judy L. Kidd, deceased
c/o Patrick S. Flynn, LLC
P.O. Box 7
Albany, GA 31702
July 11, 18, 25, August 1, 2026

A-690
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
STATE OF GEORGIA,
COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY
All creditors of the Estate of Barbara Turner deceased, late of Dougherty County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to us.
This 20th day of July 2026.
Sharmille Nichole Edmonson,
Administrator of the Estate of Barbara Turner
3978 Longleaf Ct.
Concord, NC 28025
July 25, August 1, 2026

A-642
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY
IN RE: ESTATE OF Elizabeth Nandan Wuller, Deceased
All creditors of the estate of Elizabeth Nandan Wuller, deceased, late of DOUGHERTY County, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to me.
Lawrence Travis Walden
Administrator of the estate of Elizabeth Nandan Wuller, deceased
510 Greenwood Drive
Albany, GA 31707
OCGA 53-7-41 states:
"...Every personal representative shall, within 60 days from the date of qualification, publish a notice directed generally to all of the creditors of the estate to render an account of their demands. The notice shall be published once a week for four weeks in the official newspaper of the county in which the personal representative qualified..."
July 11, 18, 25, August 1, 2026

A-637
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY
IN RE: ESTATE OF Oscar Lawrence Hayes, Deceased
All creditors of the estate of Oscar Lawrence Hayes, deceased, late of Dougherty County, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to me.
Debra Farmer
Administrator of the estate of Oscar Lawrence Hayes, deceased
2402 Pendleton Street
Albany, GA 31721
OCGA 53-7-41 states:
"...Every personal representative shall, within 60 days from the date of qualification, publish a notice directed generally to all of the creditors of the estate to render an account of their demands. The notice shall be published once a week for four weeks in the official newspaper of the county in which the personal representative qualified..."
July 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

A-608
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
State of Georgia,
County of DOUGHERTY
Estate No. 2026-ES-148
All creditors of the Estate of ROBERT LEE CLAYTON, deceased, late of Dougherty County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said Estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned Administrator.
Rodney Clayton
Administrator of the Estate of Robert Lee Clayton
c/o Christopher A. Flowers.
504 N. Jefferson Street
Albany, GA 31701
July 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

Debtors & Creditors
A-609
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
State of Georgia,
County of DOUGHERTY
Estate No. 2026-ES-147
All creditors of the Estate of PATRICIA DELORIS CLAYTON, deceased, late of Dougherty County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said Estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned Administrator.
Rodney Clayton
Administrator of the Estate of Patricia Deloris Clayton
c/o Christopher A. Flowers.
504 N. Jefferson Street
Albany, GA 31701
July 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

A-663
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS
STATE OF GEORGIA,
COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY
All creditors of the Estate of Remell W. Jackson deceased, late of Dougherty County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to us.
This 9th day of July, 2026.
Rhondie Girard Jackson
Administrator of the Estate of Remell W. Jackson 400 Badin Ct
Macon, GA 31220
July 18, 25, August 1, 8, 2026

Divorces

A-580
Dougherty COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
STATE OF GEORGIA
Petitioner: Haley Johnson V .
Respondent: Benjamin Johnson
Civil Action Case Number: 26-SUCV-597-4
NOTICE OF SUMMONS
TO: Benjamin Johnson, Respondent
Named Above:
This notice has been published to let you know that a Complaint For Divorce case was filed against you in Superior Court on June 22, 2026. The court issued an order for service of summons by publication on June 26, 2026. You must file an Answer to the Petition with the clerk of Superior Court and serve the Petitioner with a copy of the Answer. The Petitioner's address is 635 12th Avenue, Albany, GA 31707. You must file your Answer within sixty (60) days of the date of the order for service by publication. If you fail to file an Answer, then a judgment by default will be taken against you, and the Petitioner will get everything he asked for in the Complaint for Divorce.
This 26th day of June, 2026.
Judge Joseph W. Dent
Dougherty County Superior Court
State of Georgia
July 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

Juvenile Court

A-698
PUBLICATION
DOUGHERTY COUNTY JUVENILE COURT
IN THE MATTER OF: J.W., B/M, DOB: 11/25/2012
To: Rose White, Jawaski Cobb and any other individual who might be the biological father of one male child born to Rose White on November 25, 2012.
A petition was filed in this Court by Social Services Case Supervisor Trenea White, on the 18th day of August 2025. The Petition alleges the above-referenced child to be dependent according to Georgia law and seeks **termination of your parental rights, if any.** You may obtain a copy of the Petition, which sets forth the specific allegations in detail, from the Clerk of Juvenile Court of Dougherty County, **225 Pine Avenue, Basement, Juvenile Court, Albany, Georgia, phone is 229-431-2162.**
By authority of an Order for Service by Publication by the Judge of said Court on the 21st day of July, 2025, you are commanded to be an appear in the Juvenile Court of Dougherty County, Georgia, at the Dougherty County Courthouse located at 225 Pine Avenue, Basement, Juvenile Court, Albany, Georgia, within sixty (60) days of said Order for Service by Publication and on the 29th day of September, 2026, at 1:30 p.m. to then and there make defense to allegations of the petition, and to show cause why the prayers of the petition should not be granted, and why the said child and all parties named herein should not be dealt with according to the provisions of the law. **The hearing is for the purpose of terminating your parental rights.**
You or any other interested party may file a written objection or answer on or before the date and time for the hearing stated above by filing the same at the office of the Clerk of Juvenile Court of Dougherty County, Georgia, and the Petitioner's Attorney, Gregory T. Williams.
Be advised that any biological father who is not the legal father of this child shall lose all rights to this child and shall not be entitled to object to the termination of his rights unless within thirty (30) days of receipt of this notice, he files (1) a petition to legitimate the child pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 19-7-22 and (2) notice of the filing of the Petition to legitimate with the Dougherty County Juvenile Court.
Witness the Honorable Valerie Brown-Williams, Judge of said Court this 21st day of July 2026.
Tequila Woods
Clerk of Dougherty County Juvenile Court

A-698
PUBLICATION
DOUGHERTY COUNTY JUVENILE COURT
IN THE MATTER OF: J.W., B/M, DOB: 11/25/2012
To: Rose White, Jawaski Cobb and any other individual who might be the biological father of one male child born to Rose White on November 25, 2012.
A petition was filed in this Court by Social Services Case Supervisor Trenea White, on the 18th day of August 2025. The Petition alleges the above-referenced child to be dependent according to Georgia law and seeks **termination of your parental rights, if any.** You may obtain a copy of the Petition, which sets forth the specific allegations in detail, from the Clerk of Juvenile Court of Dougherty County, **225 Pine Avenue, Basement, Juvenile Court, Albany, Georgia, phone is 229-431-2162.**
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Be advised that any biological father who is not the legal father of this child shall lose all rights to this child and shall not be entitled to object to the termination of his rights unless within thirty (30) days of receipt of this notice, he files (1) a petition to legitimate the child pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 19-7-22 and (2) notice of the filing of the Petition to legitimate with the Dougherty County Juvenile Court.
Witness the Honorable Valerie Brown-Williams, Judge of said Court this 21st day of July 2026.
Tequila Woods
Clerk of Dougherty County Juvenile Court

Gregory T. Williams
Special Assistant Attorney General
Post Office Box 1113, Camilla, Georgia 31708
Phone (229) 330-0614, Georgia Bar Number 443607
July 25, August 1, 8, 15, 2026

Juvenile Court
A-699
PUBLICATION
DOUGHERTY COUNTY JUVENILE COURT
IN THE MATTER OF: K.A., B/M, DOB: 09/08/2021; K.A., B/M, DOB: 09/08/2021; K.A. B/M, DOB: 12/16/2022
To: Justin Crapp and any other individual who might be the biological father of one male child born to Roderica Ashberry on December 16, 2022 and two male children born to Roderica Ashberry on September 8, 2021.
A petition was filed in this Court by Social Services Case Supervisor Trenea White, on the 26th day of June 2026. The Petition alleges the above-referenced children to be dependent according to Georgia law and seeks **termination of your parental rights, if any.** You may obtain a copy of the Petition, which sets forth the specific allegations in detail, from the Clerk of Juvenile Court of Dougherty County, **225 Pine Avenue, Basement, Juvenile Court, Albany, Georgia, phone is 229-431-2162.**
By authority of an Order for Service by Publication by the Judge of said Court on the 13th day of July, 2026, you are commanded to be an appear in the Juvenile Court of Dougherty County, Georgia, at the Dougherty County Courthouse located at 225 Pine Avenue, Basement, Juvenile Court, Albany, Georgia, within sixty (60) days of said Order for Service by Publication and on the 29th day of September 2026, at 9:00 a.m. to then and there make defense to allegations of the petition, and to show cause why the prayers of the petition should not be granted, and why the said children and all parties named herein should not be dealt with according to the provisions of the law. **The hearing is for the purpose of terminating your parental rights.**
You or any other interested party may file a written objection or answer on or before the date and time for the hearing stated above by filing the same at the office of the Clerk of Juvenile Court of Dougherty County, Georgia, and the Petitioner's Attorney, Gregory T. Williams.
Be advised that any biological father who is not the legal father of these children shall lose all rights to these children and shall not be entitled to object to the termination of his rights unless within thirty (30) days of receipt of this notice, he files (1) a petition to legitimate the children pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 19-7-22 and (2) notice of the filing of the Petition to legitimate with the Dougherty County Juvenile Court.
Witness the Honorable Valerie Brown-Williams, Judge of said Court this 13th day of July 2026.
Tequila Woods
Clerk of Dougherty County Juvenile Court

A-699
PUBLICATION
DOUGHERTY COUNTY JUVENILE COURT
IN THE MATTER OF: K.A., B/M, DOB: 09/08/2021; K.A., B/M, DOB: 09/08/2021; K.A. B/M, DOB: 12/16/2022
To: Justin Crapp and any other individual who might be the biological father of one male child born to Roderica Ashberry on December 16, 2022 and two male children born to Roderica Ashberry on September 8, 2021.
A petition was filed in this Court by Social Services Case Supervisor Trenea White, on the 26th day of June 2026. The Petition alleges the above-referenced children to be dependent according to Georgia law and seeks **termination of your parental rights, if any.** You may obtain a copy of the Petition, which sets forth the specific allegations in detail, from the Clerk of Juvenile Court of Dougherty County, **225 Pine Avenue, Basement, Juvenile Court, Albany, Georgia, phone is 229-431-2162.**
By authority of an Order for Service by Publication by the Judge of said Court on the 13th day of July, 2026, you are commanded to be an appear in the Juvenile Court of Dougherty County, Georgia, at the Dougherty County Courthouse located at 225 Pine Avenue, Basement, Juvenile Court, Albany, Georgia, within sixty (60) days of said Order for Service by Publication and on the 29th day of September 2026, at 9:00 a.m. to then and there make defense to allegations of the petition, and to show cause why the prayers of the petition should not be granted, and why the said children and all parties named herein should not be dealt with according to the provisions of the law. **The hearing is for the purpose of terminating your parental rights.**
You or any other interested party may file a written objection or answer on or before the date and time for the hearing stated above by filing the same at the office of the Clerk of Juvenile Court of Dougherty County, Georgia, and the Petitioner's Attorney, Gregory T. Williams.
Be advised that any biological father who is not the legal father of these children shall lose all rights to these children and shall not be entitled to object to the termination of his rights unless within thirty (30) days of receipt of this notice, he files (1) a petition to legitimate the children pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 19-7-22 and (2) notice of the filing of the Petition to legitimate with the Dougherty County Juvenile Court.
Witness the Honorable Valerie Brown-Williams, Judge of said Court this 13th day of July 2026.
Tequila Woods
Clerk of Dougherty County Juvenile Court

Gregory T. Williams
Special Assistant Attorney General
Post Office Box 1113, Camilla, Georgia 31708
Phone (229) 330-0614, Georgia Bar Number 443607
July 25, August 1, 8, 15, 2026

Miscellaneous

A-652
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY
TAKE NOTICE THAT:
The right to redeem the following described property, to wit:
1415 E. Residence Ave. More particularly described as the following : all that tract or parcel land lying and being in the City of Albany, Dougherty County, Georgia and being ALL of LOT 8, 9 BLK N. Jackson Heights, Section "A" Subdivision, recorded in Plat Book 1, Page 252, Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia, will expire and be forever foreclosed and barred on and after 5th day of August, 2026.
The tax deed to which this notice relates is dated the 5th of August 2025 and is recorded in the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia, in Deed Book 5339 at page 312-312. The property may be redeemed at any time before the 1st of September 2026, by payment of the redemption price as fixed and provided by law to the undersigned at the following address:
Terry Medlock
734 Cedar Ave.,
Albany, GA 31701
Please be governed accordingly,
Terry Medlock
July 11, 18, 25, August 1, 2026

Name Changes

A-623
NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME
STATE OF GEORGIA
DOUGHERTY COUNTY
Notice is hereby given that the Petitioner, GERELINE COE BUTLER, by and through her attorney of record, MARK T. PHILLIPS, filed her Petition to the Superior Court of DOUGHERTY County, Georgia, on the 23rd day of June 2026, praying for a change of name from GERELINE COE BUTLER to the name GERALDINE COE. Notice is hereby given pursuant to law to any interested or affected party to appear in said Court and to file objection to such name change. Objection must be filed with said Court within thirty (30) days of the filing of said petition.
This 23rd day of June 2026.
MARK T. PHILLIPS
Post Office Box 70728
Albany, Georgia 31708-0728
(229) 439-9100
Mark@pnpcclaw.com
July 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

A-686
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
In re the Name Change of the Child(ren)
Isaac John Jefferson, Minor child(ren)
Civil Action File No. 26SUCV668-3
NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME
I, Taylor Howard Jefferson filed this

Name Changes
petition to the Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia on the 16th day of July, 2026, to change the name(s) of the minor child(ren) as follows:
Current Name of Child: Isaac John Jefferson
Date of Birth: 01-14-2026
Proposed New Name: Isaac John Howard
Any interested or affected party has the right to appear in this case and file objections within thirty days as set forth in O.C.G.A. § 19-12-1(f)(2) and (3).
This 16th day of July, 2026.
Taylor Howard Jefferson
Petitioner pro se
615 W 3rd Ave
Albany, GA 31701
229-699-3959
July 25, August 1, 8, 15, 2026

A-672
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF Dougherty County STATE OF GEORGIA
In re the name change of: Matthew Dakota Callahan
Civil Action File No. 26-SUCV-647-2
NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME
filed a petition in the Superior Court I, Matthew Dakota Callahan, filed a petition in the Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia on the 28th day of May, 2026, to change my name from Matthew Dakota Callahan to Matthew Dakota Young. Any interested party has the right to appear in this case and file objections within 30 days after the Petition was filed.
Signed this 28th day of May, 2026.
Matthew Callahan, Petitioner
3713 Radial Avenue
Albany Ga 31705
229-894-6422
July 18, 25, August 1, 8, 2026

Forfeiture/Seizure

A-684
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY
There will be sold at Public Outcry to the highest and best bidder for cash, before the courthouse door in Albany, Dougherty County, Georgia, between the legal hours of sale, on the second Tuesday in August, 2026, the following tracts, separately and individually, in order to collect on the judgment listed below:
Parcel 00157/00007/0027
All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in the County of Dougherty, State of Georgia and being all of Lot 27 College Park Subdivision section six as shown of plat of survey recorded in land records of Dougherty County, Georgia in the office of the Clerk of Superior Court, Dougherty County, Georgia. Said plat being made a part of this described by reference. Also known as **2514 Toni Lynn Lane, Albany, GA 31705.**
Said one-half interest in said land is found in the possession of Shirley Franklin Smith, Jr. (II) and was levied on as the property of Shirley Franklin Smith, Jr. (II) to satisfy a fi fa. against him in favor of the Estate of Shirley Franklin Smith, Sr. from the Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia, Civil Action No. SUCV2024000451, in the amount of \$1,017,579.20, recorded in Lien Book 600, page 459, Dougherty County Public Records.
Said sale is subject to ad valorem taxes for the year 2025 and all previous years if unpaid. Any and all bids are subject to refusal.
./s/ Captain Jason Carter
Sheriff, Dougherty County, Georgia
Spurlin & Spurlin, LLC
1510 Whiddon Mill Road
Post Office Box 7566
Tifton, GA 31793
(229) 391-9106
johnspurlin@spurlinlaw.com
July 18, 25, August 1, 8, 2026

Probate Court Administration

A-636
GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY
PROBATE COURT
IN RE: ESTATE OF: SYDNEY NELSON CONNER, III
ESTATE FILE NO: 2026-ES-185
Vickie Harper has petitioned to be appointed **administrator** of the estate of **SYDNEY NELSON CONNER, III**, Deceased, of said County. (The Petitioner has also applied for certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. 53-12-261, and waiver of bond/reports/statements.) All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds for any such objections, and must be filed with the court on or before **August 3, 2026.**
All pleadings/objections must be signed before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your pleadings/objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel at the following address/telephone number for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
Leisa G. Blount
Judge, Probate Court
Dougherty County, GA
P.O. Box 1827
Albany GA 31702
(229) 431-2102

A-636
GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY
PROBATE COURT
IN RE: ESTATE OF: SYDNEY NELSON CONNER, III
ESTATE FILE NO: 2026-ES-185
Vickie Harper has petitioned to be appointed **administrator** of the estate of **SYDNEY NELSON CONNER, III**, Deceased, of said County. (The Petitioner has also applied for certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. 53-12-261, and waiver of bond/reports/statements.) All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds for any such objections, and must be filed with the court on or before **August 3, 2026.**
All pleadings/objections must be signed before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your pleadings/objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel at the following address/telephone number for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
Leisa G. Blount
Judge, Probate Court
Dougherty County, GA
P.O. Box 1827
Albany, GA 31702
(229) 431-2102
July 11, 18, 25, August 1, 2026

A-647
GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY
PROBATE COURT
IN RE: ESTATE OF: BETTY TAYLOR
ESTATE FILE NO: 2026-ES-228
Donna Kaye Barwick has petitioned to be appointed **administrator** of the estate of **BETTY TAYLOR**, Deceased, of said County. (The Petitioner has also applied for certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. 53-12-261, and waiver of bond/reports/statements.) All interested parties are hereby notified to show cause why said petition should not be granted. All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds for any such objections, and must be filed with the court on or before **August 3, 2026.**
All pleadings/objections must be signed before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your pleadings/objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel at the following address/telephone number for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
Leisa G. Blount
Judge of the Probate Court
Dougherty County Probate Court
225 Pine Ave, Suite 123
Albany, GA 31702
229-431-2102
July 11, 18, 25, August 1, 2026

Probate

Probate Court 12 mth Support

ESTATE FILE NO: 2025-ES-436
NOTICE OF PETITION TO FILE
FOR YEAR'S SUPPORT

The Petition of **Johnnie Coleman** for a year's support from the estate of **CONSTANCE COLEMAN**, Deceased, for Decedent's surviving spouse having been duly filed, all interested persons are hereby notified to show cause, if any, on or before **August 10, 2026**, why said petition should not be granted.

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

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

July 18, 25, August 1, 8, 2026

A-617
GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY
PROBATE COURT
IN RE: ESTATE OF: ROBERT JAMES CLEMENTS
ESTATE FILE NO: 2026-ES-219
NOTICE OF PETITION TO FILE
FOR YEAR'S SUPPORT

The Petition of **Carrie Cecelia Clements** for a year's support from the estate of **ROBERT JAMES CLEMENTS**, Deceased, for Decedent's surviving spouse having been duly filed, all interested persons are hereby notified to show cause, if any, on or before **July 27, 2026**, why said petition should not be granted.

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

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

July 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

Probate Court Wills

A-622
CASE NAME: MARTHA CARTER JUDGE
CASE NO: 2026-ES-221
GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY
PROBATE COURT
IN RE: The Petition to Probate Will in Solemn Form in the above-referenced estate having been duly filed,
TO: DEIRDRE ROBINSON, JA'BREKIA BASS, and ALL OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES

This is to notify you to file objection, if there is any, to the Petition to Probate Will in Solemn Form, in this Court on or before **August 3, 2026**.
Be notified further: All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a Probate Court Clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.

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

July 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

Public Hearings

A-692
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
The Albany-Dougherty Historic Preservation Commission will conduct a public meeting on **Wednesday, August 5, 2026, at 10:00 A.M.** (In-Person) Historic Preservation Commission meetings are open to the public. Please note, there is also a virtual option. The meeting will take place at the following location.

240 Pine Avenue, Room 380
Albany, GA 31701
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/95219225113?pwd=VU9hZzNpbFoiS2dMMN04yUzIhYWx6UT09>
Meeting ID: 952 1922 5113
Passcode: 515128
One tap mobile
+16465588656,95219225113*,*,*51 5128# US (New York)
26-035 HISTORIC – 412 W Residence Ave: COA request by Frederico Gioja for the retroactive approval of new vinyl siding, reconstructed front porch, along with the replacement of some of the existing windows and doors. This item was postponed at the July Regular Meeting.

26-045 HISTORIC – 328 W Broad Ave: COA request by Brandy Morrison for a rear ADA ramp, patio expansion, and stair replacement. This item was postponed at the July Regular Meeting.
Exact description of the property is on file at the Planning & Development Services Department, 240 Pine Avenue, Room 300, and may be reviewed along with any other information regarding this request between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Telephone number is (229) 438-3901

As set forth in the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the City of Albany does not discriminate based on disability in the admission or access to or treatment or employment in its programs or activities. The

Public Hearings

Human Resources Department has been designated to coordinate compliance with the non-discrimination requirements contained in section 35.107 of the Department of Justice Regulations. Information concerning the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the rights provided there, is available at the office of Human Resources. The City of Albany will assist citizens with special needs given proper notice (7 working days). Any requests for reasonable accommodations required by individuals to fully participate in any open meeting, program, or activity of the City of Albany, Georgia should be not directed to Paul Forgey, AICP, Director, Planning and Development Services, 240 Pine Avenue, Suite 300, Albany, Georgia, 31701, (229) 438-3901.

July 25, 2026

A-641
Public Notice
WIOA Local Plan Available for Public Review and Comment

The Southwest Georgia Workforce Development Board 2024-2027 Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Local Plan Revision will be available for public review and comment from July 6, 2026 through August 7, 2026.

The plan will be available on our website at www.worksourcesouthwestgeorgia.org.

Attn: Pascha Spence
WorkSource Southwest Georgia
P. O. Box 647
Camilla, Georgia 31730
Phone: 229-336-2378
Fax: 229-336-8190
pspence@colquittga.gov
www.worksourcesouthwestgeorgia.org

Written comments will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on August 8, 2026 and should be directed to Pascha Spence as stated above.

July 11, 25, 2026

Public Sales/ Auctions

A-671
ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE
(TOWING OR STORAGE COMPANY)

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

The vehicles are currently located at 100 Baldwin Dr., Albany, GA 31707. Year: 2018
Make: JEEP
Model: Wrangler
VIN: 5XYKTD428BG065957
Year: 2011
Make: KIA
Model: Sorento

Vehicle Make: Honda
Year: 2008
Model: Pilot
Vehicle ID#: 5FNYP28718B001492
Vehicle License#: State: GA

Vehicle Make: Dodge
Year: 1999
Model: Ram 1500
Vehicle ID#: 3B7HC12Y8XG194897
Vehicle License#: State: GA

Vehicle Make: Hyundai
Year: 2013
Model: Sonata
Vehicle ID#: 5NPEB4AC8DH507219
Vehicle License#: State: GA

Vehicle Make: Nissan
Year: 2015
Model: Altima
Vehicle ID#: 1N4AL3AP3FC172643
Vehicle License#: State: GA

Vehicle Make: Mercedes-Benz
Year: 2010
Model: C-Class
Vehicle ID#: WDDGF5EB3AR118003
Vehicle License#: State: GA

Vehicle Make: Mercedes-Benz
Year: 2007
Model: S-Class
Vehicle ID#: WDDNG71X27A033341
Vehicle License#: State: GA

Vehicle Make: Kia
Year: 2006
Model: Optima
Vehicle ID#: KNAGD126565449127
Vehicle License#: RPT6758
State: GA

Vehicle Make: Honda
Year: 2013
Model: Accord
Vehicle ID#: 1HGCR2F51DA019563
Vehicle License#: State: GA

July 18, 25, 2026

A-651
Public Auction
Location:
Royal Storage
2801 Palmyra Road
Albany, GA 31707
Date & Time:
Friday, August 14, 2026
Bids due by 12:00 PM Sharp
Auction by Sealed Bid Only
Viewing:
Thursday, August 13, 2026
9:00 am – 5:00 pm
211 Angie Harper: lawn mower, tools, decor
260 Azur Williams: Clothes, shoes, furniture, TV, small appliances
408 William Ward: Appliances & furniture
447 Waretta Sawyer: Totes & décor
448 Eric Martin: Furniture
454 Labrishia Kendrick: Furniture & bedding
601 Ghareh Jones: Mattress, bed & dresser
633 Fredrick Davis: safe, boxes, furniture, clothes
638 Carmen Spencer: Bed, furniture & misc.
662 Michael Kunde: Misc.
664 Michael Kunde: Misc.
668 Shakeita Mackey: Clothes & furniture

Public Sales/ Auctions

726 Carmen Spencer: Furniture
July 25, August 1, 8, 2026

A-681
Notice of Public Sale
Ledo Self Storage 1661
Ledo Rd. Albany, GA 31707
(229) 490-4960.
Property of the following tenant(s) will be sold to satisfy rental liens in accordance with the Georgia Code 10-4 -213 et seq for Georgia Lien Statues. All items will be sold or otherwise disposed of. Sales will be conducted online at storageauctions.com August 6, 2026 at 10AM EST.
All goods will be sold AS IS condition. All items or spaces may not be available at time of sale. All sales are final, and a \$100 refundable cleaning deposit is required for all sales. The following units will be auctioned.

Unit A3 Ariel Harvey-HH Goods.

Unit A5 Michael Hopkins-Furniture, HH Goods.

Unit C69 Aaron May-Furniture, HH Goods, Appliances.

Unit D59 Thomas Fogarty-HH Goods, Appliances.

Unit E49 Erika Warren-Appliances, HH Goods.

July 18, 25, 2026

A-683
PUBLIC AUTO AUCTION
8-3-2026 9:00 AM
LOCATION: Strums Elite Towing & Recovery 2800 Phillips Dr ALBANY, GA 31721 229-319-5924

IN ACCORDANCE WITH O.C.G.A. SECTION 40-11-02, FIFTY-FOUR (54) ABANDONED, WRECKED AND STOLEN VEHICLES ARE TO BE AUCTIONED TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER. TERMS OF PAYMENT: CASH, CASHIERS CHECK OR PERSONAL CHECK WITH LETTER OF CREDIT FROM YOUR BANK. 7% CAR PREMIUM CHARGE ON EACH PURCHASE. ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE: You are hereby, in accordance with OCGA 40-11-19 (A) 2, that petitions were filed in the Magistrate Court of Dougherty County to foreclose liens for all amounts owed. If the lien is foreclosed, a court shall order the sale of the vehicle to satisfy the debt. The vehicle is currently located at: Strums Elite Towing & Recovery, 2800 Phillips Drive Albany Ga 31721. Anyone with an ownership interest in this vehicle should contact the business above.

VIN: 1C4HJXEN1JW304448
Year: 2018
Make: JEEP
Model: Wrangler

VIN: 5XYKTD428BG065957
Year: 2011
Make: KIA
Model: Sorento

VIN: 1G1BL52WXR1156554
Year: 1996
Make: Chev
Model: Caprice

VIN: WBADT43422GY42389
Year: 2002
Make: BMW
Model: 5 Series

VIN: 1N4AL3AP2GN340584
Year: 2016
Make: Nissan
Model: Altima

VIN: 2G1WC58389266583
Year: 2008
Make: Chev
Model: Impala

VIN: 2CNDL13F876071216
Year: 2007
Make: Chev
Model: Equinox

VIN: 4JGDM2DBXP005316
Year: 2023
Make: Mercedes Benz
Model: EQS

VIN: 1GNEC13ZX2J148772
Year: 2002
Make: Chev
Model: Tahoe

VIN: 1GNEC13Z225R249973
Year: 2005
Make: Chev
Model: Tahoe

July 18, 25, 2026

A-688
You are hereby notified, in accordance with OCGA 40-11-19 (a) (2), that each of the below-referenced vehicles are subject to a lien and a petition may be filed in court to foreclose a lien for all amounts owed. If the lien is foreclosed, a court shall order the sale of the vehicle to satisfy the debt. The vehicles are currently located at **Hook Em Towing and Wrecker Service – 204 Poplar Street Albany, GA 31707**. The vehicles subject to liens as stated above are identified as:

Vehicle Make: KIA
Year: 2013
Model: FORTE
Vehicle ID#: KNKFT4A22D5677288
Vehicle License #: SNL7514
State: GA

Vehicle Make: FORD
Year: 2007
Model: FUSION
Vehicle ID#: 3FAHP07Z67R235621
Vehicle License #: AAE1ES
State GA

Vehicle Description: BLUE DENALI 50 MOPED
Year: UNKNOWN
Model: UNKOWN
Vehicle ID#: LLOTCAPC3NG000234
Vehicle License #: UNKNKOIWN
State UNKNOWN

Anyone with an ownership interest in any of these vehicles should contact the following business immediately: Business Name: Hook Em Towing and Wrecker Service Address: 204 Poplar Street Albany, GA 31707 Telephone #: 229-496-2011 July 25, August 1, 2026

A-687
BANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE PETITION ADVERTISEMENT
You are hereby notified, in accordance with O.C.G.A. Section 40-11-19.1, that petitions were filed in the Magistrate Court of Dougherty County to foreclose liens against the vehicles listed below for all amounts owed. If a lien is foreclosed, the Court shall order the sale of the vehicle to satisfy the debt. The present location of the vehicles is: PAINT PRO TOWING, LLC

Public Sales/ Auctions

Anyone with an ownership interest in a vehicle listed herein may file an answer to the petition on or before: Answer forms may be found in the Magistrate Court Clerk's Office or online at: www.georgiamagistratecouncil.com.

1.) 2005 Chevrolet Impala
Vin # 2G1WF52E259292612
Case # 2026-195AV

2.) 1996 Ford Mustang
Vin # 1FALP45X1TF218431
Case # 2026-194AV

3.) 2004 Chevy C15 Suburban
Vin # 3GNEC16Z14G289701
Case # 2026-196AV

July 25, August 1, 2026

A-669
ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE PETITION ADVERTISEMENT
You are hereby notified, in accordance with O.C.G.A. Section 40-11-19.1, that petitions were filed in the Magistrate Court of Dougherty County to foreclose liens against the vehicles listed below for all amounts owed. If a lien is foreclosed, the Court shall order the sale of the vehicle to satisfy the debt. The present location of the vehicles is: **PAINT PRO TOWING, LLC** Anyone with an ownership interest in a vehicle listed herein may file an answer to the petition on or before: Answer forms may be found in the Magistrate Court Clerk's Office or online at: www.georgiamagistratecouncil.com.

1.) 2022 Nissan Sentra
Vin # 3N1AB8CV7NY271707
Case # 2026-161AV

July 18, 25, 2026

A-689
ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE PETITION ADVERTISEMENT
You are hereby notified, in accordance with O.C.G.A. Section 40-11-19.1, that petitions were filed in the Magistrate Court of County to foreclose liens against the vehicles listed below for all amounts owed. If a lien is foreclosed, the Court shall order the sale of the vehicle to satisfy the debt. The present location of the vehicles is: **Hook Em Towing and Wrecker Service – 204 Poplar Street Albany, GA 31707**. Anyone with an ownership interest in a vehicle listed herein may file an answer to the petition on or before: **8/10/2026**. Answer forms may be found in the Magistrate Court Clerk's office located at: 225 Pine Ave – Albany, GA 31701 Forms may also be obtained online at www.georgiamagistratecouncil.com.

Vehicle Make: BUICK
Year: 2008
Model: ENCLAVE MP
Vehicle ID#: 5GAER23788J289068
Vehicle License #: SGI9996
State GA
Magistrate Court Case No: 2026-150AV

Vehicle Make: CHEVROLET
Year: 2011
Model: IMPALA
Vehicle ID#: 2G1WD5EM1B1244165
Vehicle License #: WCJ838
State GA
Magistrate Court Case No: 2026-152AV

Vehicle Make: CHEVROLET
Year: 2005
Model: IMPALA
Vehicle ID#: 2G1WF52E759177147
Vehicle License #: SKX3454
State GA
Magistrate Court Case No: 2026-151AV

Vehicle Make: MITSUBISHI
Year: 2009
Model: LANCER
Vehicle ID#: JA3AU26U79U038215
Vehicle License #: AAN0WG
State GA
Magistrate Court Case No: 2026-201AV

Vehicle Make: FORD
Year: 2014
Model: FUSION
Vehicle ID#: 3FA6P0K9XER119110
Vehicle License #: CQD7960
State GA
Magistrate Court Case No: 2026-207AV

Vehicle Make: CHEVROLET
Year: 2009
Model: MALIBU
Vehicle ID#: 1G11C5SL0FF312821
Vehicle License #: SKL1838
State GA
Magistrate Court Case No: 2026-205AV

Anyone with an ownership interest in any of these vehicles should contact the following business immediately: Business Name: Hook Em Towing and Wrecker Service Address: 204 Poplar Street Albany, GA 31707 Telephone #: 229-496-2011 July 25, August 1, 2026

Service by Publication

A-613
IN THE STATE COURT OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA
DONTRAVIOUS ANTWAN BURR, Plaintiff, V.

RODRRIZEKUS P STARLING and KOFI DEMETRICK SOLOMON, Defendants.

CIVIL ACTION FILE NO.: STSV2025000841

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION
To: Roddrizekus P Starling, Defendant.

By Order for Service by Publication dated June 9, 2026, the Court has issued an order for service of summons by publication, and you are hereby notified that on December 4, 2025, the Plaintiff herein filed a suit against you for personal injuries arising out of an automobile collision that occurred on June 16, 2024. You are required to file with the Clerk of the State Court of Dougherty County, and to serve upon the Plaintiff's attorney, Anthony S. Perez, Esq., Kenneth Nugent P.C., 4227 Pleasant Hill Road, Building 11, Duluth, Georgia 30096 and answer in writing within 60 days of the date of the Order of Publication. Witness the Honorable John M. Stephenson, Judge of this State Court.

Respectfully submitted this **18th day of June, 2026**.
By: **Phyllis N. Johnson**
Deputy Clerk, State Court of Dougherty County
July 4, 11, 18, 25, 2026

Service by Publication

A-685
TO: KENDALL HARRIS AND ANY UNKNOWN BIRTHFATHER

You have been identified as the biological father of Baby Boy Thiebaut born to Autumn Rose Thiebaut April 13, 2026, in Dougherty County, Georgia. The natural and legal mother of the child has surrendered her parental rights and custody to the child to Covenant Care Services, Inc. for adoption. If you have any interest in the child, please contact Covenant Care Service, Ins., 3950 Ridge Avenue, Macon, Georgia 31210, (478) 475-4990 or toll free 1-800-226-5683. If you do not file a response to this Petition with the Court **within thirty (30) days of your receipt of this notice and provide a copy to me** as the attorney for Covenant Care Service, Inc., you will lose all rights you may have in and to the child and you will neither receive notice nor be entitled to object to the adoption of the child, pursuant to Official Code of Georgia Annotated.

NOTICE OF HEARING
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that counsel of record for Covenant Care Services, Inc., will bring its Petition to Terminate on for hearing before the Superior Court of Bibb County, Bibb County Courthouse, 601 Mulberry Street, Macon, Georgia, at **12:30 PM ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2026**. THIS IS THE ONLY NOTICE YOU WILL RECEIVE OF SAID HEARING.

H.J. STRICKLAND, JR., Georgia Bar No. 004450
Attorney for Covenant Care Services, Inc.
435 Second Street, P.O. Box 6437
Macon, Georgia 31208-6437
(478) 745-2821

July 18, 25, August 1, 8, 2026

Trade Names

A-666
NOTICE OF TRADE NAME REGISTRATION

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, **The Medicine Man LLC**, whose registered office is **314 W. Residence Avenue, Albany, Georgia 31701**, is engaging in business in **Dougherty County, Georgia** under the trade name **"The Medicine Man's Corner"** with a principal place of business at **2416 Dawson Road, Suite 4, Albany, Georgia 31707**. The nature of the business is **to sell vitamins, dietary supplements, and alternative medicinal products**.

The registration statement relating thereto, in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 10-1-490, has been filed with the Clerk of the Superior Court of **Dougherty County, Georgia**. Dated this 9th day of July 2026.

Janice H. Rouse, Manager
The Medicine Man LLC
July 18, 25, 2026

A-665
NOTICE OF TRADE NAME REGISTRATION

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, **The Medicine Man LLC**, whose registered office is **314 W. Residence Avenue, Albany, Georgia 31701**, is engaging in business in **Dougherty County, Georgia** under the trade name **"The Medicine Man"** with a principal place of business at **2416 Dawson Road, Suite 4, Albany, Georgia 31707**. The nature of the business is **to sell vitamins, dietary supplements, and alternative medicinal products**.

The registration statement relating thereto, in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 10-1-490, has been filed with the Clerk of the Superior Court of **Dougherty County, Georgia**. Dated this 9th day of July 2026.

Janice H. Rouse, Manager
The Medicine Man LLC
July 18, 25, 2026

Foreclosures

A-700
This is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

NOTICE OF SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLE UNDER WRIT OF FIERI FACIAS

GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY
Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in that certain Writ of Fieri Facias against Glenn Singfield II dated April 9, 2026, filed for record April 10, 2026, recorded at Lien Book 602, Page 142, Dougherty County, Georgia Records, in the original amount of \$23,667.04, with interest at the rate specified therein, there will be sold, by the undersigned at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, before the Courthouse Door, or designated area in **DOUGHERTY COUNTY, Georgia**, or designated area, within the legal hours of sale on the **first TUESDAY in SEPTEMBER 2026**, the following described property:

That certain 2016 GMC Yukon XL Denali with VIN Number 1GKS2HKJXGR350589.

This sale will be made for the purpose of paying the debt owned under the above Writ of Fieri Facias, all expenses of the sale, including attorneys' fees and other payments provided for under the terms of the Writ of Fieri Facias and Georgia Law.

The above-described motor vehicle will be sold AS IS and subject to any liens. No recorded liens were found as of June 2, 2026 by the Georgia Department of Revenue.

For further information about this Writ of Fieri Facias or Notice of Sale: Contact:

Sherman Willis Gardner Willis Plaire & Wilson, LLP
1115 W. 3rd Avenue,
Albany, GA 31707
Phone: 229-883-2441
Email: sherman.willis@gwpwlaw.com
July 25, August 1, 8, 15, 2026

A-644
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in that certain Commercial Deed to Secure Debt, Security Agreement and Fixture Filing and Assignment of Leases and Rents from WIL 1401 Whispering Pines LLC, a Georgia limited liability company ("Grantor"), to and in favor of Pacific Private Money, Inc., a California corporation, dated May 03, 2022, and recorded May 10, 2022 in Deed Book 4973, Page 228, Dougherty County, Georgia records (the "Security Deed"), securing that certain Promissory Note dated May 5, 2022 in the original principal amount of \$9,000,000.00 (the "Note"); as assigned to Saluda Grade Mortgage Funding LLC, pursuant to that certain Assignment of Commercial Mortgage, Security Agreement, Fixture Filing and Assignment of Leases and Rents, dated as of May 5, 2022, recorded November 27, 2023, in Deed Book 5145, Page 339, aforesaid records; and as assigned to Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, not in its individual capacity but solely as Owner Trustee of SG Alternative Title Trust 2021-RTL1 ("Lender") pursuant to that certain Assignment of Security Deed/Mortgage, recorded January 2, 2024, in Deed Book 5154, Page 104, aforesaid records (the "Last Assignment"); which Last Assignment as affected by that certain Affidavit Related to Title Made Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 44-2-20, recorded September 23, 2025, in Deed Book 5337, Page 22, aforesaid records; which Security Deed as affected by that certain Default Judgment Final Order recorded May 6, 2026, in Deed Book 5379, Page 299, aforesaid records; there will be sold at public outcry by Lender as attorney-in-fact of Grantor to the highest bidder for cash

Foreclosures

of Commercial Mortgage, Security Agreement, Fixture Filing and Assignment of Leases and Rents, dated as of May 24, 2022

Foreclosures

(the Secured Creditor), by assignment, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note of even date in the original principal amount of \$39,150.00, with interest at the rate specified therein, there will be sold by the undersigned at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash at the Dougherty County Courthouse within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in August, 2026, the following described property: Tax ID Number(S): 000MM/00017 /003 Land Situated In The County Of Dougherty In The State Of GA Being All Of Lot 1 Of Hilltop Acres Subdivision, Section "1" According To A Map Or Plat Of Same As Recorded In Plat Book 5, Page 101 (Plat Cabinet 1, Slide B-58) In The Office Of The Clerk Of The Superior Court Of Dougherty County, Georgia. The Property Address And Tax Parcel Identification Number Listed Are Provided Solely For Informational Purposes. Commonly Known As: **1901 Stuart Ave, Albany, GA 31707-1705** The debt secured by said Deed to Secure Debt has been and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of default, failure to pay the indebtedness as and when due and in the manner provided in the Note and Deed to Secure Debt. Because the debt remains in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, as provided in the Deed to Secure Debt and by law, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given). Rocket Mortgage, LLC holds the duly endorsed Note and is the current assignee of the Security Deed to the property. Rocket Mortgage, LLC S/B/M Nationstar Mortgage LLC, acting on behalf of and, as necessary, in consultation with Rocket Mortgage, LLC (the current investor on the loan), is the entity with the full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the loan. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2, Rocket Mortgage, LLC S/B/M Nationstar Mortgage LLC may be contacted at: Rocket Mortgage, LLC S/B/M Nationstar Mortgage LLC, 8950 Cypress Waters Blvd., Coppell, TX 75019, 877-450-8638. Please note that, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2, the secured creditor is not required to amend or modify the terms of the loan. To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party/parties in possession of the subject property known as 1901 Stuart Ave, Albany, Georgia 31707 is/are: Ronald J. Breedlove, An Unmarried Man and tenant/tenants. Said property will be sold subject to (a) any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), (b) any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, and (c) all matters of record superior to the Deed to Secure Debt first set out above, including, but not limited to, assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, easements, restrictions, covenants, etc. T h e sale will be conducted subject to (1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code; and (2) final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the security deed. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 9-13-172.1, which allows for certain procedures regarding the rescission of judicial and nonjudicial sales in the State of Georgia, the Deed Under Power and other foreclosure documents may not be provided until final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan as provided in the preceding paragraph. Rocket Mortgage, LLC as Attorney in Fact for Ronald J. Breedlove, An Unmarried Man This Law Firm Is Acting As A Debt Collector Attempting To Collect A Debt. Any Information Obtained Will Be Used For That Purpose. 00000010578482 Barrett Daffin Frappier Turner & Engel, LLP 4004 Belt Line Road, Suite 100 Addison, Texas 75001 Telephone (972) 341-5398. July 11, 18, 25, August 1, 2026

A-573
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
STATE OF GEORGIA, COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY
By virtue of a Power of Sale contained in that certain Security Deed from MALCOLM WHITLOCK AND LINDA WHITLOCK to MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS NOMINEE FOR CALIBER HOME LOANS, INC., dated November 19, 2018, and recorded on November 30, 2018, in Deed Book 4558, at Page 103, in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia, said Security Deed having been given to secure a Note of even date, in the original principal amount of One Hundred Thirty-Seven Thousand, Two Hundred Seventy and no/100 Dollars (\$137,270.00), with interest thereon as provided therein, as last transferred to NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing, recorded in Deed Book 5124, at Page 250, in aforesaid records, will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the courthouse door of Dougherty County, Georgia, or at such place as has been or may be lawfully designated as an alternative location, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in August, 2026, all property described in said Security Deed including, but not limited to, the following described property: ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN LAND LOT 4, IN THE SECOND LAND DISTRICT OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS ALL OF LOTS 85 AND 86 OF BRENTWOOD PARK, INC. ACCORDING TO A MAP OR PLAT OF SAID SUBDIVISION AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 4, PAGE 89 (PLAT CABINET 1, SLIDE B-30), IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OR SUPERIOR COURT OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA. Said property may more commonly be known as **2715 Abbey Ln, Albany, GA 31721**. The debt secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of default, non-payment of the monthly installments on said loan. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given). The individual or entity that has full authority to negotiate, amend and modify all terms of the loan is NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint

Foreclosures

Mortgage Servicing, 75 Beattie Place, Greenville, SC 29601; telephone: (800) 365-7107. Said property will be sold on an "as-is" basis without any representation, warranty or recourse against the above-named or the undersigned. The sale will also be subject to the following items which may affect the title: a) zoning ordinances; b) matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or by an inspection of the property; c) any outstanding ad valorem taxes, including taxes, which constitute liens upon said property whether or not now due and payable; d) special assessments; e) the right of redemption of any taxing authority; f) all outstanding bills for public utilities which constitute liens upon said property; g) all restrictive covenants, easements, rights-of-way and any other matters of record superior to said Security Deed. To the best of the knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the owners and party in possession of the property are Linda Whitlock aka Linda Whitlock, Malcolm Whitlock and/or tenant(s). The sale will be conducted subject to 1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy code and 2) final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed. NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing as Attorney-in-Fact for Malcolm Whitlock and Linda Whitlock Contact: PADGETT LAW GROUP, 6267 Old Water Oak Road, Suite 203, Tallahassee, FL 32312; telephone: (850) 422-2520 25-009677
June 13, 20, 27, July 4, 11, 18, 25, August 1, 2026

A-530
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY
By virtue of a Power of Sale contained in that certain Security Deed from RICKY T BOGES to MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS INC. AS GRANTEE, AS NOMINEE FOR MORTGAGE SOLUTIONS OF GEORGIA, LLC, dated June 14, 2019, recorded June 18, 2019, in Book 4611, Page 37-53, Dougherty County, Georgia Records, said Security Deed having been given to secure a Note of even date in the original principal amount of One Hundred Seventeen Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty-Six and 00/100 dollars (\$17,826.00), with interest thereon as provided for therein, said Security Deed having been last sold, assigned and transferred to Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC, there will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash at the Dougherty County Courthouse, within the legal hours of sale on the **first Tuesday in August, 2026**, all property described in said Security Deed including but not limited to the following described property: ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN THE CITY OF ALBANY, DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA, DESCRIBED AS ALL OF LOT 25 OF AUDUBON PLANTATION, PHASE 1, ACCORDING TO A PLAT RECORDED IN PLAT CABINET 1, SLIDE C-13(A), IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA
Said legal description being controlling, however the property is more commonly known as **120 MOSSYDALE LN, ALBANY, GA 31721**. The indebtedness secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of default under the terms of said Security Deed. The indebtedness remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same, all expenses of the sale, including attorneys' fees (notice to collect same having been given) and all other payments provided for under the terms of the Security Deed.
Said property will be sold on an "as-is" basis without any representation, warranty or recourse against the above-named or the undersigned. The sale will also be subject to the following items which may affect the title: any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, whether or not now due and payable); the right of redemption of any taxing authority; matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or by an inspection of the property; all zoning ordinances; assessments; liens; encumbrances; restrictions; covenants, and any other matters of record superior to said Security Deed.
The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed, and (3) purchaser's tendering to Rubin Lublin, LLC, anti-money laundering information as required pursuant to the FinCEN Real Estate Report Rule. Failure to provide information, could result in rescission of the sale.
To the best of the knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the owner and party in possession of the property is RICKY T BOGES, or tenants(s).
The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed, and (3) purchaser's tendering to Rubin Lublin, LLC, anti-money laundering information as required pursuant to the FinCEN Real Estate Report Rule. Failure to provide information, could result in rescission of the sale.
The entity having full authority to negotiate, amend and modify all terms of the loan (although not required by law to do so) is: M & T Bank, Loss Mitigation Dept., 1100 WEHRL DRIVE, WILLIAMSVILLE, NY 14221, Telephone Number: 1-800-724-1633. Nothing in O.C.G.A. Section 44-14-162.2 shall be construed to require a secured creditor to negotiate, amend, or modify the terms of the mortgage instrument.
LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC
as Attorney in Fact for RICKY T BOGES
THE BELOW LAW FIRM MAY BE HELD TO BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR, UNDER FEDERAL LAW. IF SO, ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
Attorney Contact: Rubin Lublin, LLC 3145 Avalon Ridge Place, Suite 100, Peachtree Corners, GA 30071 Telephone Number: (877) 813-0992 Case No. MTB-26-01901-1 riselaw.com/property-listing
May 30, July 11, 18, 25, August 1, 2026

A-694
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY
By virtue of a Power of Sale contained in that certain Security Deed from CORRIINE E. APONTE-WALKER and ROHAN WALKER to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as

Foreclosures

grantee, as nominee for Colony Bank, its successors and assigns., dated April 26, 2024, recorded April 30, 2024, in Book 5185, Page 125, and re-recorded September 18, 2025, in Book 5336, Page 16, Dougherty County, Georgia Records, said Security Deed having been given to secure a Note of even date in the original principal amount of Two Hundred Twenty-One Thousand Nine Hundred Six and 00/100 dollars (\$221,906.00), with interest thereon as provided for therein, said Security Deed having been last sold, assigned and transferred to Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC, there will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash at the Dougherty County Courthouse, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in October, 2026, all property described in said Security Deed including but not limited to the following described property: ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS ALL OF LOT 11 IN BLOCK "A", DESIGNATED AS A-11 IN THE SUBDIVISION PLAT OF SECTION NO. 1 OF RADIUM SPRINGS, INC., ACCORDING TO A PLAT OF SUBDIVISION AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 1, PAGE 282, IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA.
Said legal description being controlling, however the property is more commonly known as **121 REDBUD ROAD, ALBANY, GA 31705**. The indebtedness secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of default under the terms of said Security Deed. The indebtedness remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same, all expenses of the sale, including attorneys' fees (notice to collect same having been given) and all other payments provided for under the terms of the Security Deed.
Said property will be sold on an "as-is" basis without any representation, warranty or recourse against the above-named or the undersigned. The sale will also be subject to the following items which may affect the title: any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, whether or not now due and payable); the right of redemption of any taxing authority; matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or by an inspection of the property; all zoning ordinances; assessments; liens; encumbrances; restrictions; covenants, and any other matters of record superior to said Security Deed.
To the best of the knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the owner and party in possession of the property is CORRIINE E. APONTE-WALKER, ROHAN WALKER, or tenants(s).
The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed, and (3) purchaser's tendering to Rubin Lublin, LLC, anti-money laundering information as required pursuant to the FinCEN Real Estate Report Rule. Failure to provide information, could result in rescission of the sale.
The entity having full authority to negotiate, amend and modify all terms of the loan (although not required by law to do so) is: LoanCare, LLC, Loss Mitigation Dept., 3637 Sentara Way, Virginia Beach, VA 23452, Telephone Number: 800-909-9525. Nothing in O.C.G.A. Section 44-14-162.2 shall be construed to require a secured creditor to negotiate, amend, or modify the terms of the mortgage instrument.
LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC
as Attorney in Fact for CORRIINE E. APONTE-WALKER, ROHAN WALKER
THE BELOW LAW FIRM MAY BE HELD TO BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR, UNDER FEDERAL LAW. IF SO, ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
Attorney Contact: Rubin Lublin, LLC 3145 Avalon Ridge Place, Suite 100, Peachtree Corners, GA 30071 Telephone Number: (877) 813-0992 Case No. LNC-25-03715-9 riselaw.com/property-listing
July 25, September 12, 19, 26, October 3, 2026

A-598
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
UNDER POWER
DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA
Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by Martha Peterson to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for Reliance First Capital, LLC, dated July 12, 2022, and recorded in Deed Book 5000, Page 92, Dougherty County, Georgia Records, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of One Hundred Eighty-Seven Thousand Two Hundred Twenty and 0/100 dollars (\$187,220.00), with interest thereon as set forth therein, there will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the courthouse door of Dougherty County, Georgia, within the legal hours of sale on August 4, 2026, the following described property: THE LAND REFERRED TO HEREIN BELOW IS SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY, STATE OF GEORGIA, AND IS DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: Being more particularly described as Lot 27 of Oak Hill Subdivision according to a map or plat recorded in Plat Cabinet 1, Slide C-48 in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia Records, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of \$54,000.00 dated June 26, 2003, and recorded in Deed Book 2614 , Page 337, Dougherty County records, said Security Deed being last transferred to TOWD POINT MORTGAGE TRUST 2019-4, U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE in Deed Book 5380 , Page 636, Dougherty County records, the undersigned will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, before the Courthouse door in said County, or at such other place as lawfully designated, within the legal hours of sale, on 8/4/2026, the property in said Security Deed and described as follows: ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS ALL OF LOT 34 OF GAILSHAR GARDENS SUBDIVISION "B", ACCORDING TO A MAP OR PLAT OF SAID SUBDIVISION AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 186 IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA. Said property being known as: **1906 GAIL AVE, ALBANY, GA 31707**
To the best of the undersigned's knowledge, the party or parties in possession of said property is/are JACKIE G BRIGGS or tenant(s).

Foreclosures

collect attorney's fees having been given). The entity having full authority to negotiate, amend or modify all terms of the loan (although not required by law to do so) is: Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC they can be contacted at (800) 561-4567 for Loss Mitigation Dept, or by writing to 500 N. State College Blvd, Suites 1030, 1300 and 1400, Orange, California 92868, to discuss possible alternatives to avoid foreclosure.
Said property will be sold subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above.
To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party in possession of the property is Martha Peterson or tenant(s); and said property is more commonly known as 3701 Castle Pines Ln, Albany, GA 31721.
The sale will be conducted subject to (1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code (2) final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the security deed and (3) any right of redemption or other lien not extinguished by foreclosure.
Reliance First Capital, LLC as Attorney in Fact for Martha Peterson. Brock & Scott, PLLC 4360 Chamblee Dunwoody Road Suite 310 Atlanta, GA 30341 404-789-2661 B&S file no.: 25-16714
July 11, 18, 25, August 1, 2026

A-619
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
Because of a default under the terms of the Security Deed executed by Desreen Natasha Carr and Ronnie Carr to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as beneficiary, as nominee for Ameris Bank, its successors and assigns dated July 11, 2022, and recorded in Deed Book 4996, Page 145, Dougherty County Records, said Security Deed having been last sold, assigned, transferred and conveyed to Planet Home Lending, LLC, securing a Note in the original principal amount of \$225,834.00, the holder thereof pursuant to said Deed and Note thereby secured has declared the entire amount of said indebtedness due and payable and, pursuant to the power of sale contained in said Deed, will on the first Tuesday, September 1, 2026, during the legal hours of sale, before the Courthouse door in said County, sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, the property described in said Deed, to-wit: **All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in Dougherty County, Georgia, and being all of Lot 8 of Winterwood Subdivision, Section II, according to a map or plat of said subdivision as same is recorded in Plat Book 4, Pages 82 and 83, in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia.** Said property is known as **604 Shamrock Drive, Albany, GA 31721**, together with all fixtures and personal property attached to and constituting a part of said property, if any.
Said property will be sold subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, whether or not now due and payable), the right of redemption of any taxing authority, any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above.
The proceeds of said sale will be applied to the payment of said indebtedness and all expenses of said sale as provided in said Deed, and the balance, if any, will be distributed as provided by law.
The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the secured creditor.
The property is or may be in the possession of **successor in interest or tenant(s)**.
Planet Home Lending, LLC as Attorney-in-Fact for Desreen Natasha Carr and Ronnie Carr
File no. 26-084507
LOGS LEGAL GROUP LLP* Attorneys and Counselors at Law 1050 Crown Pointe Parkway, Suite 500 Atlanta, GA 30338 (770) 220-2535 <https://www.logs.com/>
*THE LAW FIRM IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
July 4, 11, 18, 25, August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 2026

A-632
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
Pursuant to the power of sale contained in the Security Deed executed by JACKIE G BRIGGS to SUNTRUST MORTGAGE, INC. in the original principal amount of \$54,000.00 dated June 26, 2003, and recorded in Deed Book 2614 , Page 337, Dougherty County records, said Security Deed being last transferred to TOWD POINT MORTGAGE TRUST 2019-4, U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE in Deed Book 5380 , Page 636, Dougherty County records, the undersigned will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, before the Courthouse door in said County, or at such other place as lawfully designated, within the legal hours of sale, on 8/4/2026, the property in said Security Deed and described as follows: ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS ALL OF LOT 34 OF GAILSHAR GARDENS SUBDIVISION "B", ACCORDING TO A MAP OR PLAT OF SAID SUBDIVISION AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 186 IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA. Said property being known as: **1906 GAIL AVE, ALBANY, GA 31707**
To the best of the undersigned's knowledge, the party or parties in possession of said property is/are JACKIE G BRIGGS or tenant(s).

Foreclosures

The debt secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due and payable because of, among other possible events of default, failure to pay the indebtedness as provided for in the Note and said Security Deed. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of sale, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given).
Said property will be sold subject to the following: (1) any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, whether or not yet due and payable); (2) the right of redemption of any taxing authority; (3) any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property; and (4) any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above.
Said sale will be conducted subject to the following: (1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code; and (2) final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed.
The name, address, and telephone number of the individual or entity who has full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the mortgage is as follows: Select Portfolio Servicing, Inc. 3217 S. Decker Lake Drive Salt Lake City, UT 84119 800-633-9698
Note that pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2, the above individual or entity is not required by law to negotiate, amend, or modify the terms of the mortgage.
THIS LAW FIRM IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED MAY BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
TOWD POINT MORTGAGE TRUST 2019-4, U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE, as Attorney-in-Fact for JACKIE G BRIGGS Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC 13010 Morris Rd., Suite 450 Alpharetta, GA 30004 Phone: 470-321-7112 Firm File No. 26-394040
July 11, 18, 25, August 1, 2026

A-633
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY
Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by Jennifer D Clark to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for First Bank Mortgage a division of First Bank of Georgia, its successors and assigns dated October 29, 2008, recorded in Deed Book 3544, Page 276, Dougherty County, Georgia Records, and as modified by that certain Loan Modification Agreement recorded in Deed Book 5067, Page 53, Dougherty County, Georgia Records, as last transferred to U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCF2 ACQUISITION TRUST by assignment recorded in Deed Book 4945, Page 266, Dougherty County, Georgia Records, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-THREE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$123,500.00), with interest thereon as set forth therein, there will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the courthouse door of Dougherty County, Georgia, or at such place as may be lawfully designated as an alternative, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in August, 2026, the following described property: SEE EXHIBIT "A" ATTACHED HERETO AND MADE A PART HEREOF
The debt secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due and payable because of default having been made of the terms of the Note and Security Deed. The terms remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the total debt, including all expenses of this sale, as provided in the Security Deed and by law which includes, but is not limited to, attorney's fees (notice pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 13-1-11 having been given).
Said property will be sold subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), the right of redemption of any taxing authority, any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above. Said property will be sold on an "as-is" basis without any representation, warranty or recourse against the above-named or the undersigned. Prospective bidders must perform their own due diligence.
U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCF 2 ACQUISITION TRUST is the holder of the Security Deed to the property in accordance with OCGA § 44-14-162.2.
The entity that has full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the mortgage with the debtor is: Selene Finance LP, 3501 Olympus Boulevard, 5th Floor, Suite 500, Dallas, TX 75019, 8777683759.
Note, however, that such entity is not required by law to negotiate, amend or modify the terms of the loan.
Upon information and belief, said property is more commonly known as **2011 Sharon Drive, Albany, GA 31707**. Should a conflict arise between the property address and the legal description, the legal description shall control.
ATTENTION ALL PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS: On March 1, 2026, the data collection and reporting requirements under the U.S. Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) new Anti-Money Laundering Rule (the "Rule"), found at 89 FR 70258, went into effect. The Rule applies to certain residential real estate sale transactions (including some that go beyond the typical one-to-four family residence) where the transfer is to a legal entity or trust, and which includes cash purchases, private financing or financing provided by an institution not subject to a federal Anti-Money

Foreclosures

Laundering or Suspicion Activity Report requirement. If applicable, as part of this Rule, buyers and sellers are required to provide additional information and documentation about themselves, their legal entities, and/or the source of funds used in the reportable transaction. The collection of this information and documentation is required to comply with the Rule's federal reporting requirements, if applicable.* This notice is provided for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. You are encouraged to consult with your own independent legal counsel if you have questions about how the FinCEN Anti-Money Laundering Rule affects your transaction and whether your transaction is reportable.
*The Rule is the subject of ongoing litigation in several jurisdictions. We suggest that you seek your own legal counsel if you have questions about the status of the Rule and its applicability to your sale, if any.
The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code, (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed, and (3) to confirmation that the successful bidder has timely provided all information required for reporting under the Rule, 89 FR 70258, if applicable.
U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCF 2 ACQUISITION TRUST as Attorney in Fact for Jennifer D Clark McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLP 1544 Old Alabama Rd Roswell, GA 30076 www.foreclosurehotline.net EXHIBIT "A"
All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in the City of Albany, Dougherty County, Georgia, and being more particularly described as All of Lot 51 of Gailshar Gardens Subdivision "E," Section II, according to the map or plat of said subdivision as the same is recorded in Plat Book 3, Page 270 (Plat Cabinet 1, Slide B-8), in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia.
Subject to any and all easements and restrictions of record. Parcel ID No. 000NN/00005/022
Property Address: 2011 Sharon Avenue Albany, GA 31707
FW August 4, 2026
Our file no. 23-12941GA 23-12941GA
July 11, 18, 25, August 1, 2026

A-629
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
STATE OF GEORGIA
DOUGHERTY COUNTY
By virtue of a power of sale contained in a certain security deed from CHRISTINE V WILLIAMS to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for Rocket Mortgage, LLC, its successors and assigns and recorded in Deed Book 5329, Page 233-256, Dougherty County, Georgia records given to secure a note in the original amount of \$127,000.00 with interest on the unpaid balance until paid, the following described property will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash at the courthouse door of DOUGHERTY COUNTY, Georgia, or at such place as has or may be lawfully designated as an alternative location within the legal hours of sale on the **first Tuesday in August, 2026**, to wit: August 04, 2026, the following described property: ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA, AND BEING ALL OF THE LOT NO. 4 AND THE EAST ONE HALF OF LOT NO. 3 IN BLOCK "S" OF THE WILDCROSS SUBDIVISION (WILDERS CROSSING) ACCORDING TO A MAP OR PLAT OF SAID SUBDIVISION AS SAME IS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 1, SLIDE A-25), IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY.
Being real property commonly known as 1144 Benjamin Ave, ALBANY, GA 31707.
The debt secured by the above-referenced security deed has been declared due because of the default in the payment of said debt per the terms of the note and other possible defaults by the borrower or the successor thereto. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the debt and all expenses of this sale including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given).
Said sale will be made subject to the following items which may affect the title to said property: All restrictive covenants, easements and rights-of-way appearing of record, if any; all zoning ordinances; matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or by an inspection of the property; all outstanding or unpaid bills and assessments for street improvements, curbing, garbage, water, sewage and public utilities which may be liens upon said property; and any outstanding taxes, assessments and other liens superior to the security deed being foreclosed hereby. To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the above-described property is in the possession of the borrower and/or other persons with the consent and acquiescence of the borrower.
Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2, the name, address and telephone number of the person or entity who shall have full authority to negotiate, amend, or modify all terms of the above-described mortgage is as follows: RoundPoint Mortgage Servicing LLC 446 Wrenplace Road Fort Mill, SC 29715 877-426-8805
The foregoing notwithstanding, nothing in O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2 shall be construed to require TH MSR Holdings LLC to negotiate, amend, or modify the terms of the Security Deed described herein.
TH MSR Holdings LLC as Attorney in Fact for Jenna C Wirtz Chang Attorney Contact: Tromberg, Miller, Morris & Partners, PLLC 3000 Langford Road, Building 100 Peachtree Corners, GA 30071 Phone: 404-793-1447 Fax: 404-738-1558 25GA404-0049
THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
July 11, 18, 25, August 1, 2026

A-650
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
DOUGHERTY COUNTY Pursuant to the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by Jeffrey D. Thomas to Wells Fargo Financial Georgia, Inc. dated 9/11/2007 and recorded in Deed Book 3416 Page 202 and modified at Deed Book 5114 Page 258 Dougherty County, Georgia records; as last transferred to or acquired by JPMorgan Chase Bank, NA as Successor By Merger to J.P. Morgan Mortgage Acquisition Corp., conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of \$120,015.94, with interest at the rate specified therein, there will be sold by the undersigned at public outcry

Foreclosures

DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
July 11, 18, 25, August 1, 2026

A-631
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
STATE OF GEORGIA
DOUGHERTY COUNTY
By virtue of a power of sale contained in a certain security deed from Jenna C Wirtz Chang to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for Better Mortgage Corporation, Isaaca, its successors and assigns and recorded in Deed Book 4725, Page 20, Dougherty County, Georgia records given to secure a note in the original amount of \$153,000.00 with interest on the unpaid balance until paid, the following described property will be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash at the courthouse door of DOUGHERTY COUNTY, Georgia, or at such place as has or may be lawfully designated as an alternative location within the legal hours of sale on the **first Tuesday in August, 2026**, to wit: August 04, 2026, the following described property: All that tract or parcel of land situate, lying and being in Land Lot 37 of the Second Land District of Dougherty County, Georgia, and being more particularly known as all of Lot 28 of St. Andrews Subdivision, Section 1, according to a map or plat of said subdivision recorded in Plat Book 4, Page 163, (Plat Cabinet 1, Slide B-40), and a part of Lot 265 of St. Andrews Subdivision, Section 2, according to a map or plat of said subdivision recorded in Plat Book 5, Page 30, (Plat Cabinet 1, Slide B-51), in the office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia, and being more particularly described as follows: Commence at the intersection of the east right-of-way of East Alberson Drive with the South right-of-way of Wexford Drive and run thence in a northeasterly direction along the south right-of-way of Wexford Drive, a distance of 140.63 feet to the point of beginning. From said point of beginning, continue along the south right-of-way of Wexford Drive around a curve with a chord bearing north 57 degrees 18 minutes 43 seconds east a distance of 109.99 feet to a point; thence run south 36 degrees 33 minutes 19 seconds east a distance of 260.92 feet to a point; thence run south 43 degrees 18 minutes 07 seconds west a distance of 81.78 feet to a point; thence run south 08 degrees 19 minutes 09 seconds west a distance of 111.92 feet to a point; thence run south 87 degrees 43 minutes 56 seconds west a distance of 119.10 feet to a point; thence run north 27 degrees 59 minutes 18 seconds west a distance of 180.93 feet to a point located on the south right of-way of Wexford Drive and the point of beginning. Said tract contains 1.131 acres according to plat of survey entitled "Property of Philip J. Derwinski and Geraldine Derwinski" dated August 15, 1994, prepared by William H. Spires, Jr., a Georgia Registered Land Surveyor #2527. Said plat being incorporated herein and by specific reference thereto being made a part of this description.
Being real property commonly known as 3528 Wexford Drive, Albany, GA 31721.
The debt secured by the above-referenced security deed has been declared due because of the default in the payment of said debt per the terms of the note and other possible defaults by the borrower or the successor thereto. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the debt and all expenses of this sale including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given).
Said sale will be made subject to the following items which may affect the title to said property: All restrictive covenants, easements and rights-of-way appearing of record, if any; all zoning ordinances; matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or by an inspection of the property; all outstanding or unpaid bills and assessments for street improvements, curbing, garbage, water, sewage and public utilities which may be liens upon said property; and any outstanding taxes, assessments and other liens superior to the security deed being foreclosed hereby. To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the above-described property is in the possession of the borrower and/or other persons with the consent and acquiescence of the borrower.
Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2, the name, address and telephone number of the person or entity who shall have full authority to negotiate, amend, or modify all terms of the above-described mortgage is as follows: RoundPoint Mortgage Servicing LLC 446 Wrenplace Road Fort Mill, SC 29715 877-426-8805
The foregoing notwithstanding, nothing in O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2 shall be construed to require TH MSR Holdings LLC to negotiate, amend, or modify the terms of the Security Deed described herein.
TH MSR Holdings LLC as Attorney in Fact for Jenna C Wirtz Chang Attorney Contact: Tromberg, Miller, Morris & Partners, PLLC 3000 Langford Road, Building 100 Peachtree Corners, GA 30071 Phone: 404-793-1447 Fax: 404-738-1558 25GA404-0049
THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
July 11, 18, 25, August 1, 2026

A-650
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
DOUGHERTY COUNTY Pursuant to the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by Jeffrey D. Thomas to Wells Fargo Financial Georgia, Inc. dated 9/11/2007 and recorded in Deed Book 3416 Page 202 and modified at Deed Book 5114 Page 258 Dougherty County, Georgia records; as last transferred to or acquired by JPMorgan Chase Bank, NA as Successor By Merger to J.P. Morgan Mortgage Acquisition Corp., conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of \$120,015.94, with interest at the rate specified therein, there will be sold by the undersigned at public outcry

What to watch SUNDAY

July 26, 2026

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

Shark Week Begins

Discovery Channel, 6 a.m.

It's official — the summer's most anticipated week of programming begins! Shark Week is back for its 38th season.

Collector's Call

MeTV, 6:30 p.m.

Rick Brewer is not your typical collector. Like most collectors, he loves toys and items from the '70s and '80s and, being handy as he is, he loves to restore them to what they looked like when he was a kid. But what sets Rick apart from other collectors is that he's lost much of his memory, so when he sees an item from his past, it actually helps trigger memories of his childhood that might have otherwise been lost forever. He shows some of his most treasured items, including the CB radio he got for his fifth birthday, and the Sky Arrow set he only had faint memories of, but searched relentlessly to find a new one so that he could connect to his past. Our toy expert, Joel Magee, will put a value on Rick's collection and bring a trade item that'll certainly bring back some fond memories for him, but might not be enough to make a deal.

Patience

PBS, 8 p.m.

When a monk is found dead in a chapel kneeling in prayer, Patience and Frankie (Ella Maisy Purvis and Jessica Hynes) dig into the monastery's secrets in the new episode "A Monk's Tale."

The Walking Dead: Dead City

AMC, 9 p.m. ■ Season Premiere

The eight-episode Season 3 finds Maggie (Lauren Cohan) and Negan (Jeffrey Dean Morgan), after years of culminating tension, putting aside their differences to work together to build a thriving community in Manhattan.



'The Walking Dead: Dead City'

ROBERT CLARK, AMC

Air Jaws: Red, White and Breach

Discovery Channel, 9 p.m.

Across the U.S. coastline, a new phenomenon is emerging as great white sharks are captured on film breaching in California like never before. Filmmaker Jeff Kurr, marine biologist Alison Towner and cinematographer Andy Casagrande set out to capture this unprecedented behavior and uncover the secrets behind the Great American Breach.

The Great Food Truck Race

Food Network, 9 p.m. ■ Season Premiere

This season is a battle of savory and sweet with eight competing trucks (four sweet and four savory) — each representing a dynamic mix of flavors, strategies and culinary creativity — vying for a win. Host Tyler Florence will lead the route starting from Nashville and stopping in cities with vibrant food scenes, all while adding unexpected twists and turns. The season will culminate in an action-packed finale from the legend-

ary Churchill Downs in Louisville, where one truck will be awarded a life-changing \$50,000 grand prize.

Grantchester

PBS, 9 p.m.

As Alphy (Rishi Nair) seeks redemption, Geordie's (Robson Green) investigation into a local crook ignites a high-stakes siege.

The Chi

Showtime, 9 p.m. ■ Series Finale

The drama series following a group of South Side Chicago residents who are linked by coincidence but bonded by their need for connection and redemption wraps up after eight seasons. Jacob Latimore, Birgundi Baker, Luke James and Shamon Brown Jr. star.

Rick and Morty

Adult Swim, 11 p.m. ■ Season Finale

Season 9 of the animated comedy from Dan Harmon and Justin Roiland wraps up with "Field of Dreams."

CATCH A CLASSIC

Instant Families

TCM, beginning at 8 p.m.

TCM's Instant Families theme features three films about unlikely bonds that form outside the usual definition of home. The evening begins with Charlie Chaplin's **The Kid** (1921), one of the great early feature-length comedies, with Chaplin's Tramp raising an abandoned child played by Jackie Coogan. 1987's **Baby Boom** (pictured) follows, starring Diane Keaton as a high-powered New York executive whose carefully managed life is upended when



CRAIG BLANKENHORN

she unexpectedly inherits a baby. The night ends with **Bachelor Mother** (1939), a screwball comedy starring Ginger Rogers as a shopgirl mistakenly believed to have abandoned a baby, with David Niven as the department store heir who gets pulled into the confusion.

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From the editors of
TV Weekly and tvinsider.com



What to watch MONDAY

July 27, 2026

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

Dancing With the Stars: The Next Pro

ABC, 8 p.m.

In tonight's new episode — "You're Only as Strong as Your Weakest Link: Group Work With Britt Stewart" — the dancers face the difficult challenge of a group performance. Mentored by Britt Stewart, they must master a high-intensity routine in just hours, putting teamwork, timing and resilience to the test.

All American

The CW, 8 p.m.

Secrets are revealed that put Amina and KJ (Alexis Chikaeze and Nathaniel Logan McIntyre) in the hot seat in the new episode "No More Hiding."

The 1% Club

FOX, 8 p.m.

For the first time in *The 1% Club* history, the stage belongs to 100 extraordinary women as they compete for the chance to win up to \$100,000 in the new episode "Ladies Night."



'World War II With Tom Hanks'

HISTORY

Bull Shark Dinner Bell

Discovery Channel, 8 p.m.

Shark attack survivor and advocate Paul de Gelder teams up with apex predator specialist Rosie Moore in Jupiter, Florida, to investigate what triggers giant bull sharks to confront humans, testing human behavior in the ocean, extreme weather events and prey preferences to determine what factors ring the loudest dinner bell.



MGM

Christmas, Mr. Lawrence (1983), starring David Bowie as a British officer in a Japanese prisoner-of-war camp. The late-night lineup includes **Smithereens** (1982), with Richard Hell; **Down by Law** (1986), featuring Tom Waits; **The Player** (1992), with Lyle Lovett among its large ensemble; and Who's **That Girl** (1987), starring Madonna.

World War II With Tom Hanks

History, 8 p.m. ■ Series Finale

The documentary series concludes with "Endgame" and "Fallout." Following the death of President Roosevelt, Harry Truman must weigh his options on how to bring the Pacific war to an end. Japan's military leaders refuse to accept the war is lost, leading Truman to deploy the most terrible weapon the world has ever seen. In Europe, the Allies have triumphed. The United States and the Soviet Union initially work together to establish a new world order. But over the course of the next four years, these two ideological adversaries begin a new phase of global conflict under the shadow of nuclear war.

The Quiz With Balls

FOX, 9 p.m.

Families who faced off on the survival show *Extracted* meet again for the chance to win \$100,000 in tonight's new episode. Jay Pharoah hosts.

The Wall

NBC, 10 p.m.

Railroad conductor Richard went above and beyond when he drove 50 miles on his birthday to return a lost wallet to a passenger. In tonight's new episode, Richard and his sister Erika take on the Wall in hopes of winning big.

POV

PBS, 10 p.m.

In 2010, 16-year-old Kalief Browder was arrested for allegedly stealing a backpack and spent three years at New York's Rikers Island jail complex without a trial or a conviction. After his release, he struggled with depression and died by suicide at age 22. His everlasting legacy expands via the poetry of his mother, Venida, in an unfolding poetic journey between past, present and future. "For Venida, For Kalief" weaves a cinematic collage of verité, poetic visuals and rare archival imagery from 1970s New York to reveal how an individual's life — and afterlife — can transcend systemic oppression to ignite change once thought unattainable.

Modern Marvels: WWII

History, 10 p.m. ■ New Series

Across three electrifying episodes, the series moves from terrifying superweapons and massive mega builds to fascinating gear and gadgets that changed the course of history. Tonight's episode, "Superweapons," focuses on how the war unleashed revolutionary weapons that redefined warfare.

MOVIES YOU'LL LOVE



'Nobody's Fool' PARAMOUNT PICTURES

Happy Gilmore (1996, Comedy) Adam Sandler, Christopher McDonald **AMC, 6 p.m.**

Jack Reacher (2012, Action) Tom Cruise, Rosamund Pike **Paramount, 6 p.m.**

Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2 (2017, Science fiction) Chris Pratt, Zoe Saldana **FX, 7:30 p.m.**

Nobody's Fool (2018, Romance-comedy) Tiffany Haddish, Tika Sumpter **VH1, 7:30 p.m.**

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

Journey to the Center of the Earth (2008, Children) Brendan Fraser, Josh Hutcherson **SYFY, 8 p.m.**

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

Rambo III (1988, Action) Sylvester Stallone, Richard Crenna **BBC America, 8 p.m.**

Top Gun (1986, Action) Tom Cruise, Kelly McGillis **Paramount, 9:30 p.m.**

Couples Retreat (2009, Comedy) Vince Vaughn, Jason Bateman **TNT, 10 p.m.**

Men in Black (1997, Action) Tommy Lee Jones, Will Smith **SYFY, 10 p.m.**

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

From the editors of
TV Weekly and tvinsider.com



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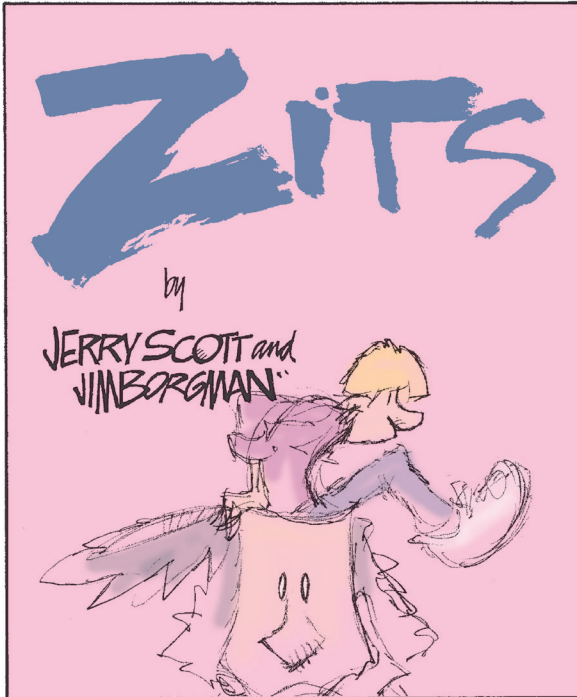
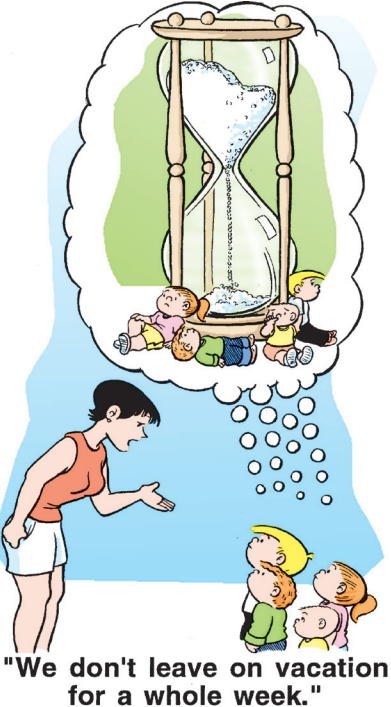
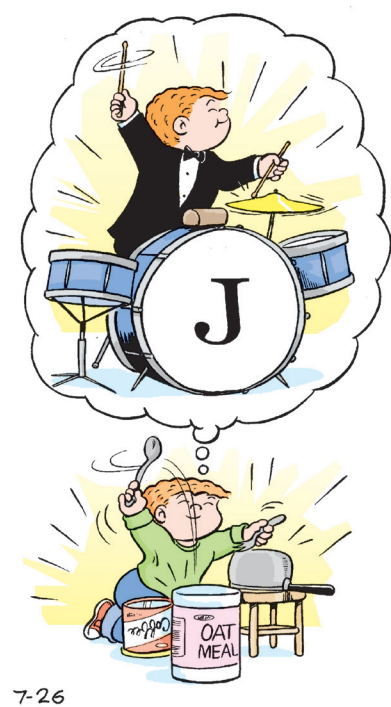
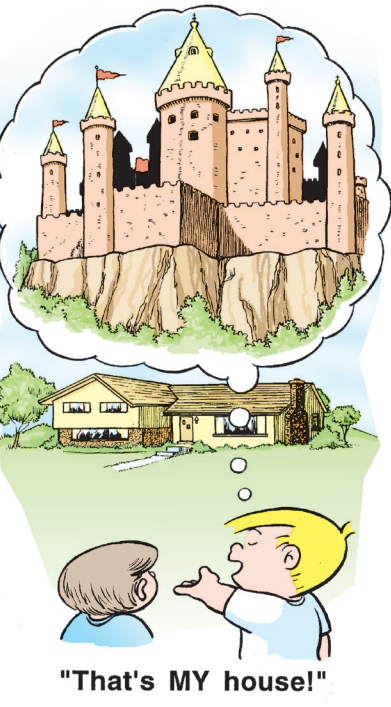
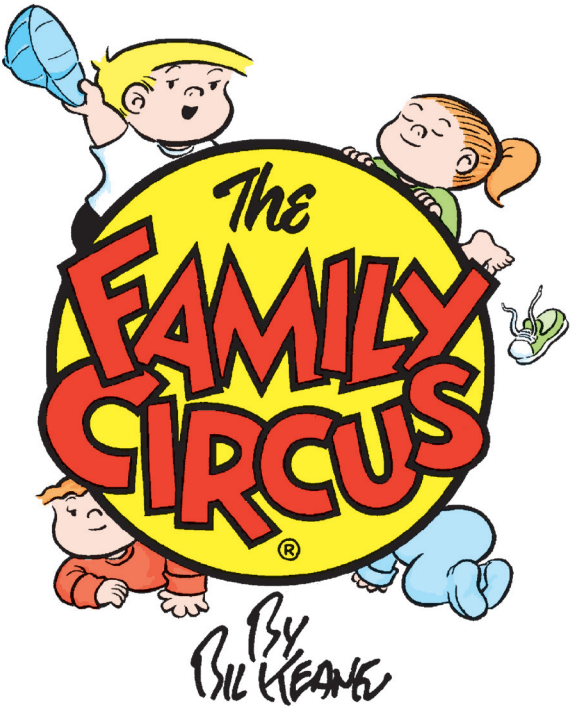
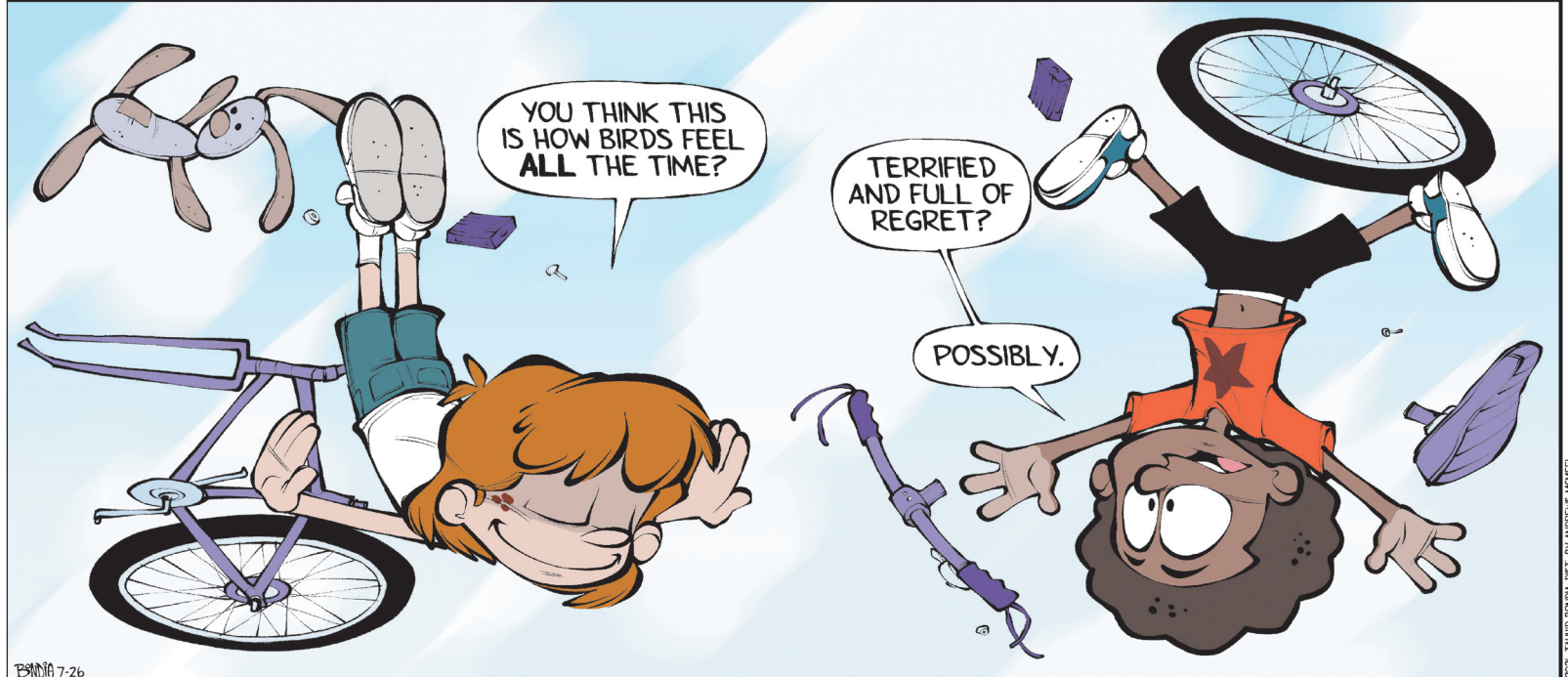
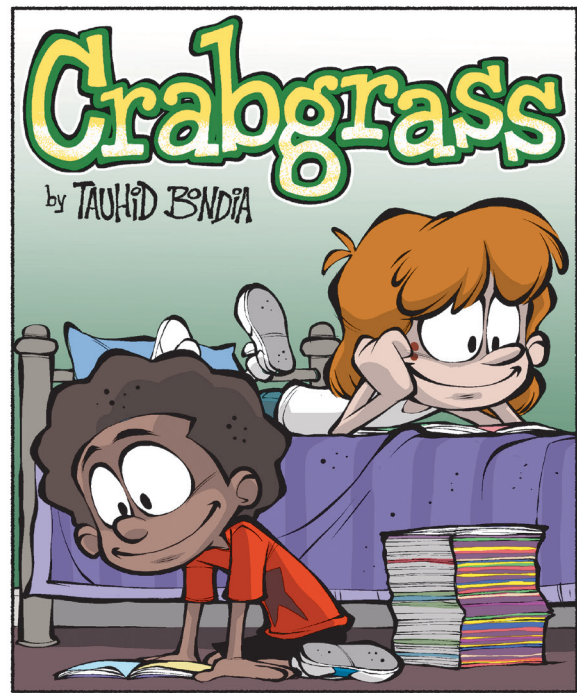
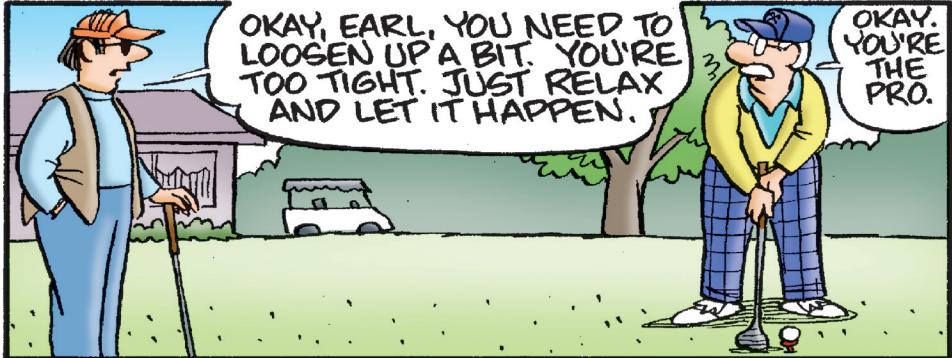
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TV - What to watch

The Albany
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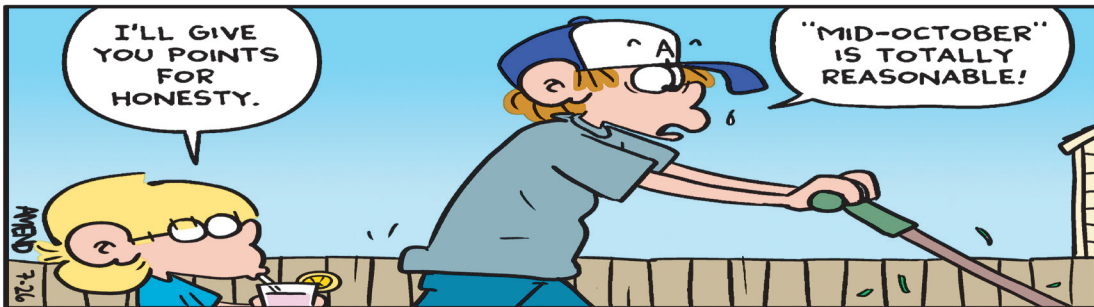
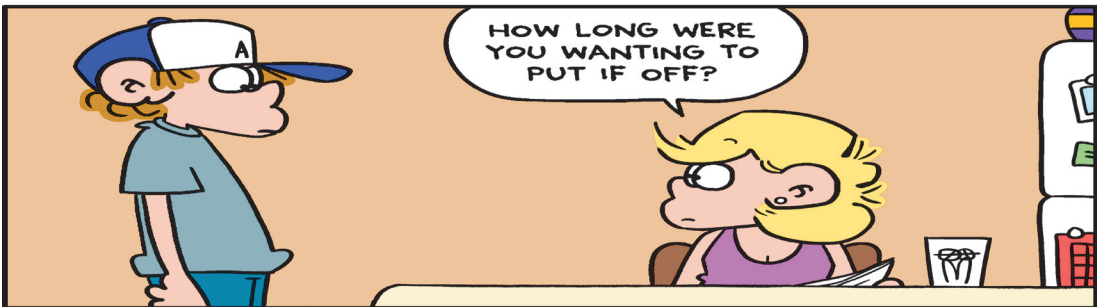
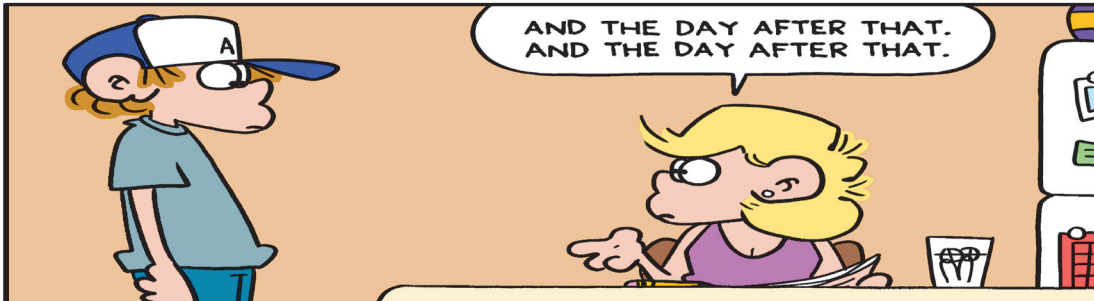
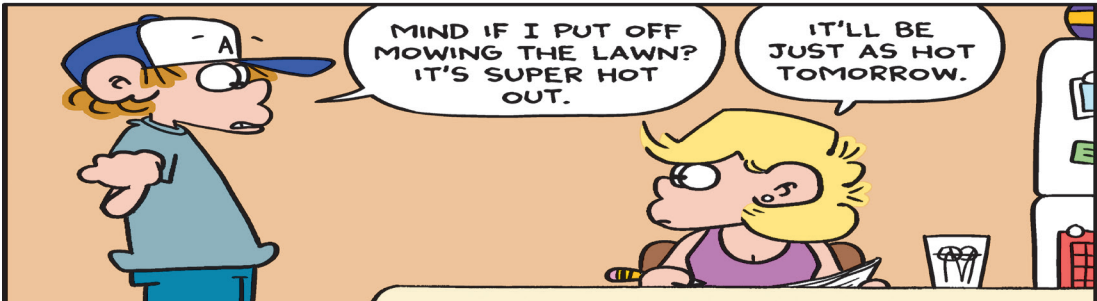
Weekend Comics

JULY 25-26, 2026



FoxTrot

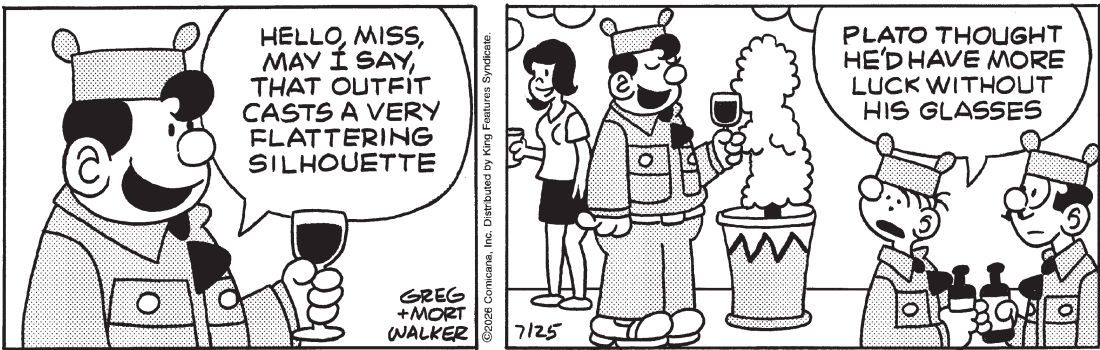
by Bill Amend



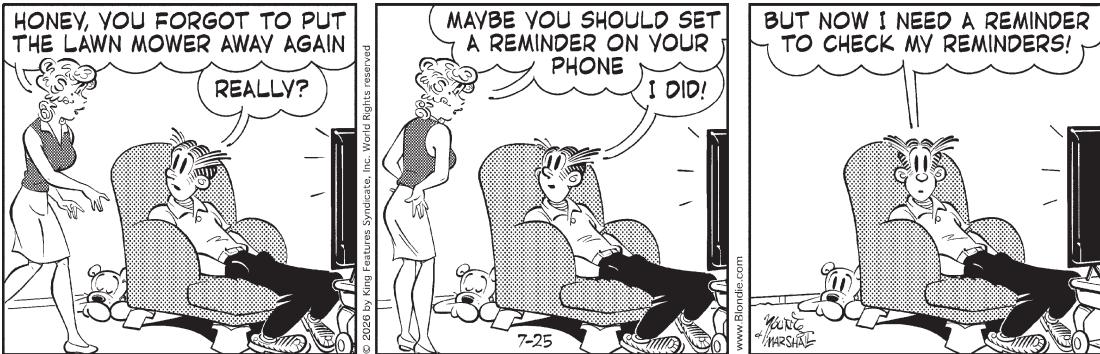
CLOSE TO HOME John McPherson



BEETLE BAILEY Mort & Greg Walker



BLONDIE Dean Young & John Marshall



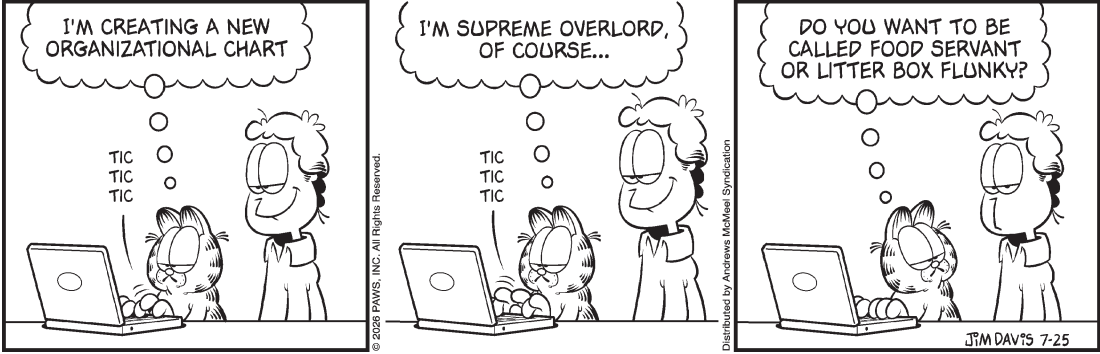
THE BORN LOSER Art & Chip Sansom



ZITS Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



GARFIELD Jim Davis



PICKLES Brian Crane



SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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

WHATZIT?

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

PPPP BU

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:

Peace be with you

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Half a dozen
4 Likely
7 Bedouin
11 Rocky hill
12 Adhesive
13 Inside info
14 Letter after zeta
15 "My bad!"
16 Facilitate
17 Reward
19 Merchant
21 Strikes gently
23 Priestly vestment
24 Rose oil
27 Label
29 — Vegas
32 Spiral
33 "The — of the Rose"
34 Kimono sash
35 Silent
36 "Isn't it a —?"
37 Frosted
38 "Able was I — ..."

DOWN

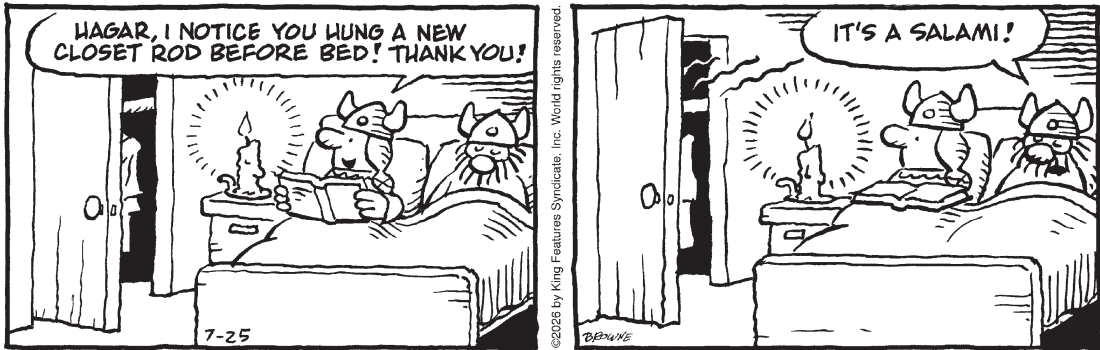
1 Dance movement
2 Jot
3 Diagnostic picture (Hyph.)
4 In the upper air
5 Dog
6 Try
7 "Let's Make —"

TODAY'S SOLUTION:

1	N	I	L		7	E	D		D	E	E	R
N	I	L		S	E	R	V		E	T	B	V
V	D	V		E	A	I	G		E	B	N	O
R	O	T	V	R	O	E	T	V	L	S		S
			C	I	H	C		V	S			
E	T	K	N	V		I	T	E			R	E
D	E	C	I		A	T	I	P		W	N	W
I	B	O		E	W	V	N		T	I	O	C
S	V	L	G	V	T		R	V	T	T	V	
			R	V	A	L	B		T	S		
R	E	D	V	A	R	T	R	A	F	O	V	A
S	E	V	E		S	P	O	O		V	A	E
P	E	D	O	P	E		L	U	E	G		
A	R	A	B		A	P	T	A	P		X	S

39 Actor — Wallach
40 Place for a bracelet
41 PreCheck org.
43 Stylish
45 Basic supply
48 Public speaker
52 Rubik's puzzle
53 Yield
55 Nabokov novel
56 Competent
57 War god
58 Footwear for a diver
59 Woodwind need
60 Punta — Este
61 Dynamite letters

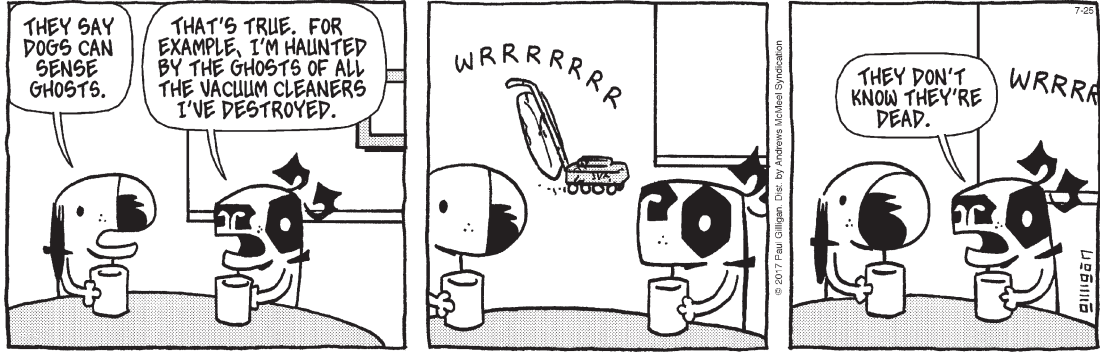
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE Chris Browne



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.

LOWERING CELLPHONES COSTS Solution: 5 letters

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

TODAY'S ANSWER: Usage

ADAM@HOME

BY ROB HARRELL

I STILL PREFER THE SWIMMIN' HOLE TO THE PUBLIC POOL.

WELL...YOU'RE WRONG.

I SAW A CLUMP OF HAIR FLOAT BY.

BETTER THAN A NEST OF WATER MOCCASINS.

THERE ARE NO WATER MOCCASINS IN THE SWIMMIN' HOLE.

UNUSUAL NAME FOR A SNAKE.

I HAVE A PAIR OF MOCCASINS AND THEY ARE THE HEIGHT OF COMFORT.

YOU COOL IF I GO HANG OUT DOWN THERE FOR A WHILE?

7-26

CLOSE TO HOME

BY JOHN McPHERSON

7-26

HOW ABOUT THAT?! HERE'S MY BALL... AND WITH A CLEAR SHOT AT THE GREEN!

THE FRUSTRATION OF GOLFING WITH MOSES.

7-26

THE BORN LOSER

by Art & Chip Sansom

7-26

I NEED SOME ADVICE,

AS I'M GROWING OLDER, MY LIFE IS CHANGING AND NEW SITUATIONS COME UP THAT I DON'T KNOW HOW TO HANDLE,

WELL, YOU HAVE A ROLE MODEL RIGHT UNDER YOUR NOSE WHO HAS BEEN THROUGH THOSE SAME SITUATIONS.

YOU MEAN DAD?

YES! JUST ASK HIM HOW HE HANDLED THOSE SAME SITUATIONS. HOW DID HE ACT? WHAT DID HE SAY? WHAT DID HE DO?

THEN I SHOULD JUST DO EXACTLY WHAT HE DID?

HEAVENS, NO! YOU SHOULD DO THE EXACT OPPOSITE!

7-26

Jeff MacNelly's **Shoe**

By Ben Lansing & Susie MacNelly

7-26

FOR MY ELEVENTH POINT, I WOULD LIKE TO CLARIFY MY OBFUSCATIONARY PROPOSAL TO THE AMENDMENT THAT SOUGHT TO BRING ELUCIDATION TO THE MEANING OF THE ORIGINAL BILL WHICH WOULD HAVE NEVER BEEN POSSIBLE WITHOUT THE RICH LEGACY OF BRIBES, GERRYMANDERERS, CHARLATANS AND CROOKS WHO HAVE ALWAYS BEEN THERE TO GET ME WHERE I AM TODAY AND FOR WHOM I BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH

WITHOUT FREEDOM OF SPEECH, WE WOULDN'T KNOW WHO THE IDIOTS ARE.

BLAH BLAH BLAH...

7-26

LAZY & HONEST

ERNIE, THIS PERSONALITY QUESTIONNAIRE YOU FILLED OUT IS FULL OF CONTRADICTIONS.

IT SAYS YOU'RE AGREEABLE...

THAT'S RIGHT!

...BUT IT ALSO SAYS YOU'RE ARGUMENTATIVE.

THAT'S COMPLETE NONSENSE.

YOU'RE INTUITIVE...

I'VE ALWAYS SENSED THAT!

... DESPITE BEING OUT OF TOUCH WITH YOUR FEELINGS.

WOW, I HAD NO CLUE.

YOU'RE AN INTROVERT...

I'D LIKE TO SPEND SOME TIME ALONE WITH THAT THOUGHT.

...WHO IS ALSO AN EXTROVERT.

IT WOULD BE FUN TO DISCUSS THIS WITH A BIG GROUP!

BUT THERE IS ONE FINDING WE CAN ALL AGREE MAKES SENSE.

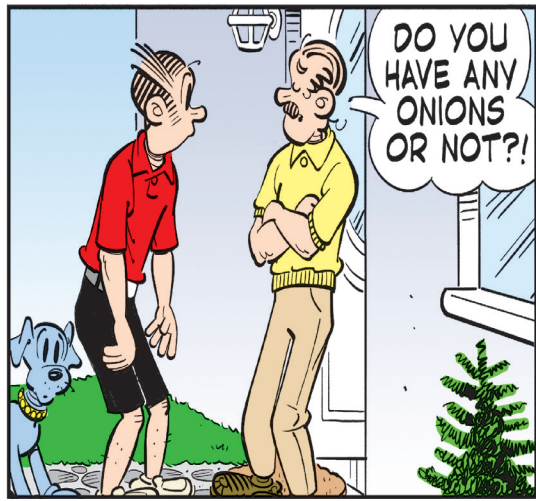
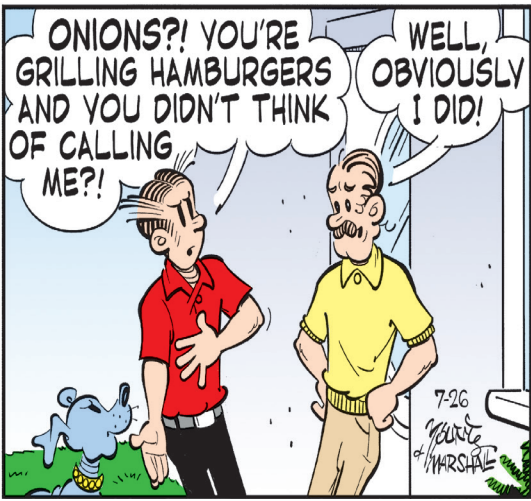
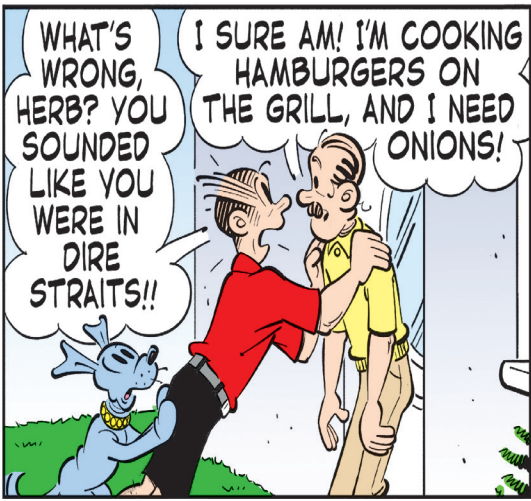
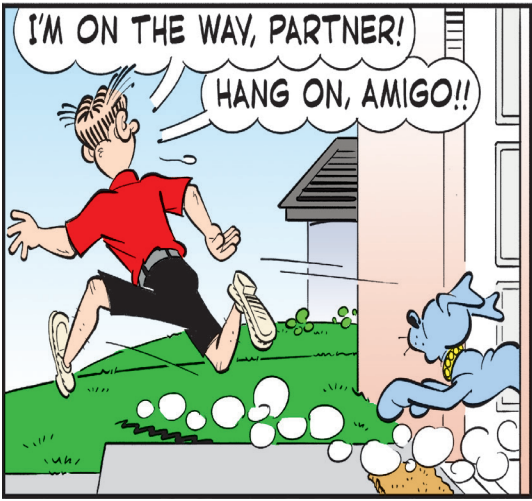
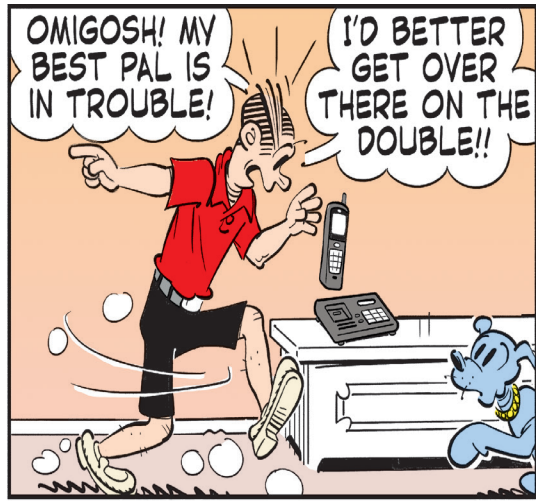
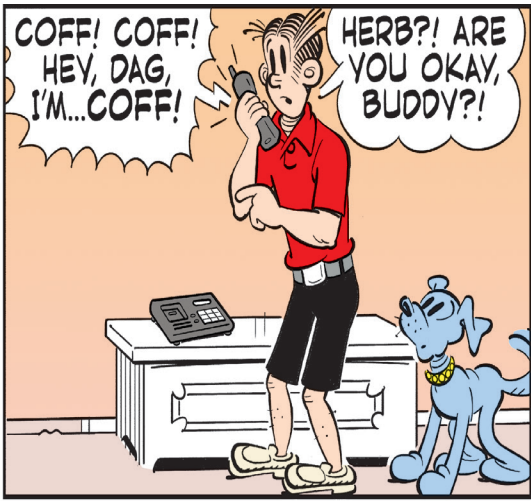
WHAT'S THAT?

YOU'RE CONSISTENTLY INCONSISTENT!

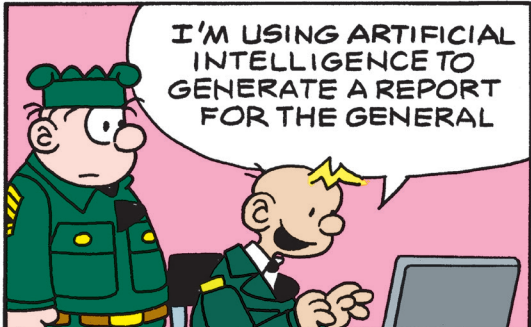
7-26

BLONDIE

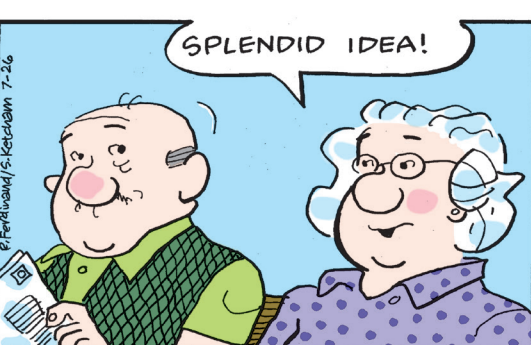
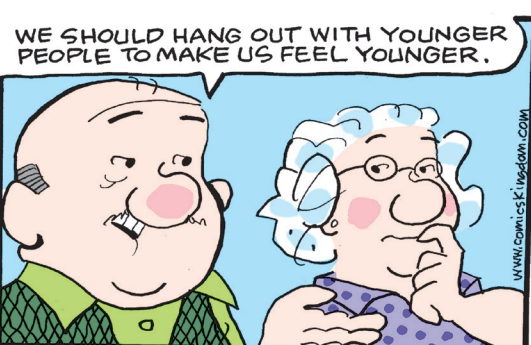
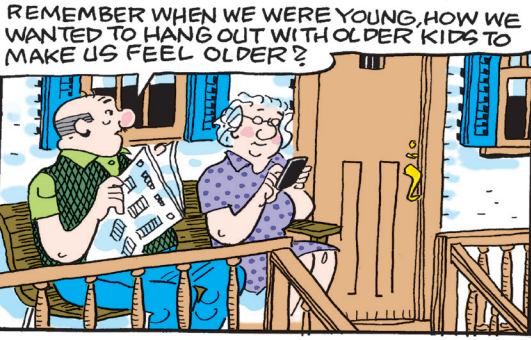
BY DEAN KURTZ & JOHN MARSHALL



Mort Walker's beetle bailey

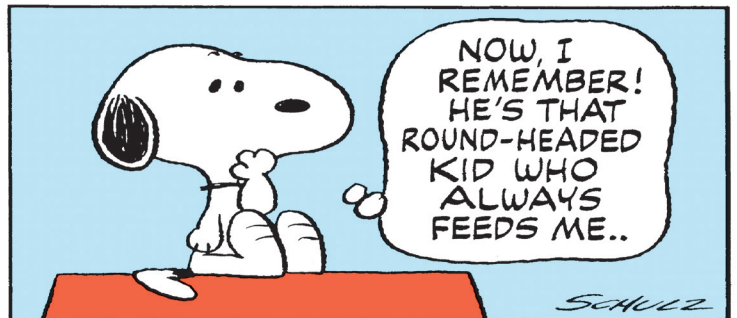


Frank Kermans Dennis the Menace age RELATED



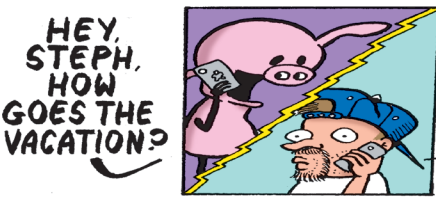
CLASSIC PEANUTS

BY CHARLES SCHULZ



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

BY STEPHAN PASTIS



A LITTLE NERVE-WRACKING. RAT AGREED TO DO THE STRIP TODAY AND I'M NOT SURE WHAT HE HAS IN MIND.

IF YOU HANG ON, I'LL CHECK, BUT I'M SURE THERE'S NO NEED TO WORRY. HE KNOWS HOW IMPORTANT A GOOD SUNDAY STRIP IS TO YOU.

