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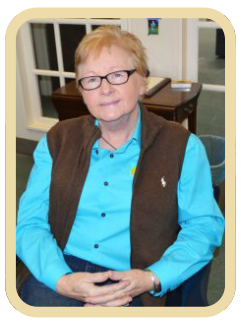

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B.J. Fletcher
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The Albany HERALD

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Abortion fight
Democrats set to seek changes
• Page 8A

$1.50 ©2026 GTLN Vol. CXXXIIII, No. 140 WEEKEND THURSDAY-SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26-28, 2026

Patriots' Day takes Deerfield-Windsor students back to colonial times

By Alan Mauldin
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ALBANY – Deerfield-Windsor School's fifth-graders went old school last week, as in 1776, for their annual Patriots' Day that saw them garbed like youngsters from the U.S. colonial era and participating in ye olde activities like churning butter, making soap and preparing hand-made pomander balls.

Which brings up the question: What's a pomander ball?

The craft of making the balls involves piercing oranges with cinnamon cloves and adding scented oils, the result of which can serve as a decoration or home-made air freshener. They were also given as gifts during the time period in which the children were immersed, said parent Ashley Keen, who was overseeing the craft experience.

"It's a really neat and immersive experience, for sure," she said.

The students didn't just look and act the part, however, they arrived with a new persona. They were given period names like "Zachariah" and "Rosana" and were provided a backstory complete with family occupation and colonial birthplace.

Prior to the Patriots' Day gathering on Thursday at the Albany Exchange Club Fairgrounds, the students practiced their roles by standing by their chairs after entering the classroom and waiting to be instructed to sit by a teacher.

Murphy Bronson, who was dubbed "Dorothy" for the day, was excited about the pomander balls and getting to experience how children lived hundreds of years ago.

"I learned that, like, they didn't have much to do, so you did stuff that was useful to your family," she said. "I really enjoyed making the soap. I liked feeling it. We had to mush it with our hands."

The 2026 edition was the 17th year for the program which is funded by a grant from the Albany Chapter of the Colonial Dames.

Thursday was the culmination of an all-subject curriculum over the past several weeks called "Why America is Free." The students have been learning about colonial history, including the Revolutionary War and what life was like during that time period as well as important historical figures.

During Patriots' Day, they also participated in art activities, including doing a miniature portrait of themselves and quilling.

"They are basically taking strips of paper and rolling them, and they are gluing them to make a picture,"

See **PATRIOTS' DAY**, 2A



Staff Photo: Alan Mauldin
Harper Lacey works on a pomander ball during Deerfield-Windsor School's Patriots' Day activities, held last week at the Albany Exchange Club Fairgrounds. The annual event is the culmination of students' study of the Colonial and Revolutionary War era.

Albany State professor chases lifelong quest for 'God's will'

By Carlton Fletcher
carlton.fletcher@albanyherald.com

ALBANY – Albany State University professor Kizzie Donaldson-Richard is a force of nature.

How else can one describe a woman who's spent quality time in her life as a behavioral specialist, a police officer, a special ed teacher, a human resources director for FEMA, and, oh yeah, a professor who is called by her supervisor a "superstar" in the classroom?

Born and raised in Tifton, Donaldson-Richard – who says, "My mom, called me Kizzie, so call me Kizzie" – has lived a quixotic life that has propelled her to each new position as she's built a resume that is an indication of a woman searching for the perfect place to achieve her life's goal: "I have a heart to help people."

"I feel like I'm doing God's work in my life, doing what He laid out for me," Donaldson-Richard said. "I take it personally that, no matter what comes my way, I'm going to do everything in my power to live ethically, with integrity."

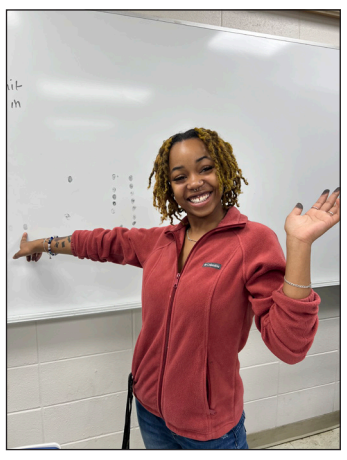
And that, in a nutshell, is what she teaches students in her Criminal Justice classes at ASU.

"Dr. Kizzie is an inspiration," one of those students said as the student reflected on her professor's impact. "She's tough – you have to work in her class – but you end up getting so much out of it. I really believe she's interested in preparing me for life when I finish college."

A star athlete at Tift County High School who played basketball, softball and ran track and cross country, Kizzie Donaldson made an impression on fans in the sports-mad community and in the school halls and classrooms as well. She was TCHS's homecoming queen, anchored the school's news team, held offices in several clubs and was named president of her senior class.

She accepted a basketball scholarship to Wallace Community College in Alabama, but came home after

See **QUEST**, 2A



Special Photo Courtesy of Kizzie Donaldson-Richard
Kizzie Donaldson-Richard demands no more of her Albany State University students than she gives herself.

Blueprint for a career: Bob Alexander's lifetime of firsts

After more than five decades in public service — including founding Albany's first traffic engineering department and transforming downtown Leesburg — the city's first-ever city manager is hanging up his hard hat.

By Kathryn Crockett
kathryn@albanyherald.com

The First of Many Firsts

LEESBURG – It was sometime in the early 1970s, and Bob Alexander had just finished one of the most significant traffic engineering projects of his young career. Fresh from Fort Gordon's Signal Corps and newly arrived in Albany, he had redesigned the entire downtown grid — converting Washington, Jackson, Madison and Monroe streets to a one-way system designed to untangle decades of congestion. It was a defining achievement for a man who had just been hired to build the city's first-ever traffic engineering department from scratch.

Then he drove down the wrong way and got a ticket.

"That was kind of embarrassing," Alexander recalled, still finding the punchline somewhere between 50 years of perspective. It's exactly the kind of story that tells you everything about the man: ambitious enough to redesign a city's traffic flow before his second year on the job, grounded enough to remain the butt of his own best story.

For more than five decades and across three jurisdictions — Albany, Lee County and Leesburg — Alexander has quietly shaped the roads, water systems, and civic institutions that the region takes for granted every day.

As Leesburg's first-ever city manager, a role he created when the city transitioned to a council/manager form of government, he is now preparing to step back, leaving behind a downtown he has patiently, methodically rebuilt from the inside out.

See **BLUEPRINT**, 2A



Photo Courtesy of the city of Leesburg
Leesburg City Manager Bob Alexander is preparing to retire after more than five decades in public service, including engineering and planning roles in Albany and Lee County.

Periodical — Mail Label

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HAPPY THANKSGIVING!
Thankful for the communities we call home.
At Albany Area Primary Health Care, we are grateful for the opportunity to provide quality care for our neighbors across Southwest Georgia. Thank you for trusting us with your health.
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From 1A

BLUEPRINT

The Engineer at the Helm

What made Alexander unusual — and unusually effective — was a rare combination of technical depth and administrative vision. Where most city managers arrive from planning or policy backgrounds, Alexander came equipped with a civil engineering degree, military experience in the Signal Corps at Fort Gordon, and years of hands-on traffic work. The result was a leader who didn't just approve infrastructure plans, he understood every bolt and bearing they rested on.

"You work until you get things done; regardless," he said, summing up a career philosophy that carried him from one-way streets in Albany to cranes in Leesburg.

That dual fluency shaped every project he touched.

In Albany, he helped design and install one of the first computerized traffic signal systems in the United States — a room-sized computer system with gold-plated electrical contacts that made traffic in the city responsive and adaptive for the first time.

After the devastating 1994 flood, he engineered the recovery of Turner Field Golf Course in what FEMA later described as the only project of its kind in the country, raising the greens above the 100-year flood elevation so they could never be lost to flooding again.

"We had ant hills all over the place," he said, still amused. "Everybody asked, 'Why are these greens so tall?'"

Then came the project he worked from both sides of the county line.

In the 1990s, Alexander presented a plan to the Georgia Department of Transportation to punch a road through from Westover Road to Lido Road, relieving pressure on the Liberty Expressway corridor. When he later moved to Lee County as its planning and engineering director, he kept pushing — from the other direction.

It took 30 years. But the underpass is there now.

Building Leesburg Back Up

Taking on a city that had never had a city manager before was challenge enough. But for Alexander — who had spent 50 years collecting exactly these moments, from the Signal Corps at Fort Gordon to Augusta's traffic division to Albany's first engineering department to Lee County's planning office — the structural shift was a rare opening, a moment when long-deferred decisions could finally be made.

He came in with a downtown master plan already taking shape in his mind: clear the blight, control the land, and build something that would last. He negotiated an 11-acre beautification lease with the railroad in the heart of downtown, turning vacant parcels into greenspace and parking. He restored the historic train depot, today a visual anchor of the city center. He worked the state's rural zone designation to attract commercial tenants to renovated buildings.

And beneath it all, literally, his team extended water and sewer lines along the bypass and raised the city's water tower by 20 feet — a job that required three of the largest cranes in the state.

"I was thinking about selling popcorn that day," he said.

The next chapter for Alexander is already in motion. Working with developers on the Wooten Station mixed-use project and the 32 Crossing development, Alexander has helped lay the groundwork for a downtown that can attract young professionals and families, not just foot traffic. A downtown beautification project, five years in the making with federal transportation funds, is nearing its bid phase. He wants to stay long enough to see it through.

"I probably know more about that than anybody else," he said. "I'd like to stick around and make sure that thing's done right."

Leadership From the Inside Out

Ask Alexander about his management philosophy and he pivots quickly from policy to people. Weekly staff meetings, yes — but not to issue directives. To listen.

When the police chief mentioned a love of drums and live music, Alexander didn't just nod. He encouraged it — and Burg Bash, now in its fifth year, was born. When the finance director talked about competing in barbecue festivals with her family, he said go for it. A pumpkin patrol, a Christmas gift drive for foster children, a downtown farmers market — each grew not from a strategic plan, but from someone on staff who cared about something outside their job description.

"You get folks and you find their passion, and (getting things done is) nothing to them," Alexander said. "That's what they want to do, and it makes it exciting to come to work every day."

He learned the other lesson the hard way — the early days when he moved fast on a project and turned around to find no one behind him.

"You gotta bring the folks along, or at least listen to them and try to get a coalition together so that you can make things happen," he said.

The Leesburg City Council, he said, has been a genuine partner in that work. The city's vision didn't belong to him alone.

What Comes Next

Alexander's formal retirement date is still being finalized; he's committed to staying on while the city conducts its search, a process he estimates will take several months.

The downtown beautification project, the Wooten and Depot Districts, and the broader comprehensive plan are unfinished chapters he isn't ready to leave mid-sentence.

After that? Real estate in Albany, working alongside his son. Sailing. Tennis. And, as he put it plainly, picking up a few bottle caps on the beach.

"In 20 years," he said, surveying Leesburg's trajectory, "we'll have 12,000 people. But it'll be quality growth."

For a man who spent a career building the infrastructure that makes growth possible, it sounds less like a prediction and more like a plan.

From 1A

QUEST

a year at the school when her mother was in a traffic accident.

"My mom and my Aunt Delois – I called her 'Mommie' – were huge influences in my life," Kizzie says. "When mom was in the accident, I felt I had to come home and help take care of her. But my goal had always been to be a probation officer, police officer or social worker. That was my heart."

Donaldson-Richard took on a number of jobs as she continued her education at Darton College (now part of Albany State University) and on an academic scholarship at Albany State. Before starting work as a behavioral specialist, she earned bachelor's and master's degrees in Criminal Justice with emphasis on Counseling and Psychology.



Special Photo Courtesy of Kizzie Donaldson-Richard

While she's held a number of careers during her lifetime, Kizzie Donaldson-Richard says she is led by "God's will" as she determines each new chapter.

But Kizzie's itch to serve as a law enforcement officer led her to sign on with the Albany Police Department in 2002, a quest that would not be fulfilled until seven years later.

"I finished everything at the police academy except the shooting, but I had a medical issue that day that kept me from continuing the academy for a period," she recalled. "If you missed three days, you were out. I was told that I wouldn't have to go through the whole process if I came back, so I went back in 2009 to finish what I started."

Donaldson-Richard passed the shooting portion of the academy and soon signed on as a police officer in Sylvester. It was there, she said, that she experienced an ugly side of law enforcement and some of the people who make it their career.

"I was sexually harassed by members of the force, and I was granted the right to sue by EEOC," she said. "But I decided to seek a change in scenery."

Donaldson-Richard worked for the Moultrie Police Department – "Chief Frank Lane taught me a lot there" – the police department at Darton College and later Albany State, and the Dawson Police Department before leaving law enforcement to take a position with FEMA as a human resources officer and, later, the Dougherty County School System as a special ed teacher.

"Teaching intrigued me, especially in the special education department," she said. "My mom had had a speech impediment when she was young, so school officials back then put her in special ed. She dropped out, and I was born on her 15th birthday. I wanted to help others in similar circumstances."

As fate would have it, Donaldson-Richard's son with her husband, Robert Richard, was being recruited by Albany State to play football, and Kizzie attended a recruiting trip with him. As it turned out, she ended up being recruited.

"At that time, in 2021, about 85% of the students in our Criminal Justice program were black females," Jason Armstrong, the assistant dean in ASU's College of Business Education and Professional Studies, said. "I knew of Kizzie's background through her husband, so I made sure to talk to her when she came with her son on a recruiting visit.

"She was clearly the best candidate for the position we had open; her experiences in law enforcement were a major factor. One of the things we stress in our Criminal Justice program is experiential learning. Books are only going to take you so far."

Given the freedom to teach her classes "my way," Donaldson-Richard excelled in the classroom. She works to obtain internships for her students and teaches classes based on real-life scenarios, bringing law enforcement professionals into her classroom setting to talk about the reality of working the streets.

"I got the case files from the Kendrick Johnson case (in which a high school student in Lowndes County was found deceased in a wrestling mat under suspicious circumstances), and had my students work the case, look for clues in the files to determine if justice was served," Donaldson-Richard said. "I believe hands-on teaching is the way students really learn."

Kizzie also has had one of her papers – "Effects of Laws, Policies and Rehabilitation Programs on African American Males: Recidivism in Southwest Georgia" – published as a book, and she's won glowing accolades from her students and peers.

"I had students tell me 'Dr. Kizzie is tough,'" Armstrong said. "I told them that she's the kind of teacher that holds their feet to the fire, to hang with her. Before the class was over, those same students told me she's a great teacher and they wanted to sign up for her other classes."

One of Donaldson-Richard's mentors at Tift County High said he felt confident his former charge would leave a mark as she moved into adulthood.

"Kizzie was tenacious," her former basketball/cross country coach, John O'Brien, said. "She worked hard all the time, and I knew she'd be a success story. She was the kind of athlete where, if someone took the ball from her, she was going to get it back, no matter what.

"I was demanding as a coach, and I saw the same kind of attitude in Kizzie. She had amazing discipline, and as she's matured in life, I see a lot of the same characteristics I had in her. I hope what she learned at Tift County has played a part in her development now. I keep up with her, as I do many of my former players."

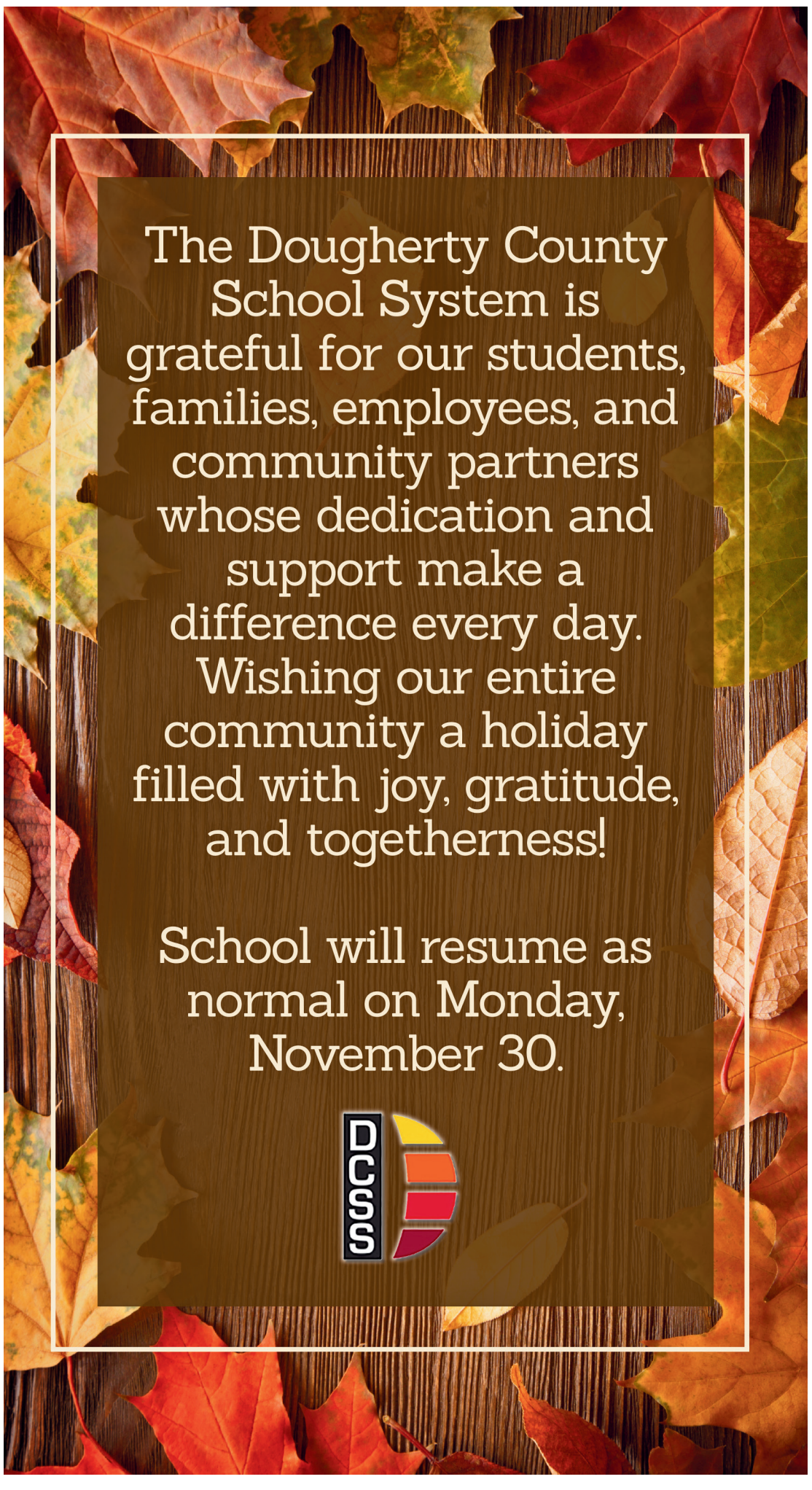
As she's settled into her career at Albany State, Donaldson-Richard seems perhaps at last to have found her calling. But she's not closing any doors.

"I don't know if this is what I'll do from now on," she said. "I leave everything to God's will. If it's His will for me to continue in this profession, then I will. But I'm always open to what He wants for me.

"I do think it's important that I teach my students not to lower their standards. I make it clear to them: If you don't do the work, you can't pass my course. It's important that they leave with that mindset."

Kizzie Donaldson-Richard has been doing the work required of her as she's navigated a pathway that's been filled with twists and turns. But she's never veered off course. And with that kind of leadership at Georgia's largest historically black university, it's a certainty that she'll help produce students who've bought into her ethos.

And no educational institution could ask for more.





Staff Photo: Alan Mauldin

Fifth-graders from Deerfield-Windsor School perform a dance for parents as the final activity for Patriots' Day.

From 1A

Patriots' Day

Deerfield-Windsor art teacher Henrietta Ladson said. "This goes back – it started in the Renaissance – but also in Colonial time. We write (on the card) with a quill pen in the classroom, fold it and seal what they wrote."

Ladson, who is also one of the local Colonial Dames, said the organization brought the program to Albany from a group in Texas, some of whom flew to Albany for the first year.

"They came up with it because they were in a museum, and these school children came through and had no idea about the early days of our country," she said. "The Colonial Dames got fully on board to educate the children."

For the day's final activity, the students performed a style of dance from the Colonial era.

"It's pretty good," student Brax Keen said of the day. "I liked watching the blacksmith, making the soap. They used to make their own stuff."

Daily Horoscopes

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Home sweet home could feel just right, whether you're hosting a holiday gathering, or returning later. You're in an expansive phase generally and while new horizons beckon longer-term, today you might crave familiarity.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Today could allow for meaningful conversations that could shift things in a positive direction. Discussions could include financial opportunities and strategies alongside less-pragmatic topics.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): What is valued could be more important now — not just money but the truly valuable things that make life worth living. Share ideas with your circle today and try to spend time with someone close.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You might have your hands full today. Even if you aren't hosting a big dinner, tasks and duties could still be a priority. Your gentle nature and nurturing vibe could be easy to see for a day or two.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You could be a little split on this holiday between feeling social and wanting some private time. If you can work it out to indulge both needs, try to do so. Tomorrow could present a similar split in desires.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Your mood could suit a holiday, you could be feeling quite social and outgoing. However, for the next month or so home and related matters could still be at the forefront of your mind in some way.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You should be able to put your heart into the world today without holding back, which is a big overnight shift from yesterday. Communication, both spoken and written, should be flowing and comfortable.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): A new experience could be just what will answer your needs today — try to incorporate that into any holiday plans. Financial matters could be highlighted for several more weeks and staged for growth.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Today and tomorrow could be excellent for teaming up to make something good happen. You could feel confident and comfortable in your skin. Work on self-presentation for the next few weeks.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): The stronger your inner self, the more you can build and achieve. Use the next few weeks to process old lessons, learn what's important, forgive, and let go. Time with someone close could fill your heart.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Lots of people volunteer time on Thanksgiving, which might be especially fulfilling this year, your altruistic instincts are strong now. You also have the capacity to put real feeling into mundane tasks for a few days.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Your creativity could be running strongly today and tomorrow and a desire to play could emerge. You still keep a grasp on responsibilities though, you could be growing your participation in the world

IF TODAY IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: While the last few days of November could be fairly mellow, lots should start happening as December rolls on. The first beautiful gift could be the gift of healing: Of a person, a pet, a relationship, or a situation long-unresolved. Any of these could ease your heart. Soon after, a lightning bolt could drop multiple blessings at your doorstep, expect more than one of the things you've been hoping and praying for to show up at that time. The arrival of these needed resources could set the stage for an outstanding performance near year-end, with the standing ovation continuing into the new year. Mid-January, frustration or rebellion could drive a move that sabotages you, cool your jets and don't undo what you've achieved so far. Get past this, and the Universe could drop another big gift: Extra confidence, and a chance to grow your fortune — but check it carefully to be sure.

TODAY IN HISTORY

• **1778** - Captain James Cook becomes the first European to visit the Hawaiian Island Maui

• **1789** - At the request of the U.S. Congress, A national Thanksgiving Day is observed in the U.S. as proclaimed by President George Washington

• **1863** - U.S. President Abraham Lincoln proclaims November 26 as a National Thanksgiving Day to be celebrated annually on the final Thursday in November. From 1942 and on, it has been celebrated on the fourth Thursday in November

• **1914** - An internal explosion on the HMS Bulwark kills 741 men near Sheerness in North Kent, England

• **1942** - The movie Casablanca starring Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman, premieres in New York City

• **1944** - During World War II, a German V-2 rocket hits a Woolworth's shop in London, killing 168 people

• **1970** - In Basse-Terre, Guadeloupe, 1.5 inches of rain falls in a minute as the heaviest rainfall ever recorded

• **1979** - Pakistan International Airlines Flight 740 crashes near the King Abdulaziz International Airport in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia killing all 156 people on board

• **1983** - 6,800 gold bars worth nearly 26 million pounds are stolen from the Brink's-Mat vault at Heathrow Airport in London

• **2000** - George W. Bush is certified the winner of Florida's electoral votes, going on to win the U.S. Presidential election

• **2003** - The Concorde makes its final flight over Bristol, England

• **2019** - At least 52 people died and over 1,000 people injured when a 6.4 magnitude earthquake hits western Albania

CALENDAR OF OBSERVANCES

• Coton de Tulear Day
• Good Grief Day
• National Cake Day
• National Day of Mourning
• National Family Health History Day
• Thanksgiving
• Turkey-Free Thanksgiving
• Unthanksgiving Day

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"To know oneself is to study oneself in action with another person."

Bruce Lee,
martial artist (1940-1973)

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.

Weather Forecast

Today	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
63°	59°	63°	67°	62°	67°	74°
38°	39°	43°	49°	45°	48°	60°

Daily Bridge Club

Procrastination pays

By Frank Stewart
Tribune Content Agency


Frank Stewart

"You're such a hopeless procrastinator," Rose scolded Cy the Cynic in the club lounge. "When you die, we will start your funeral a half-hour late to honor your memory."

NORTH
♠ A 10 8 2
♡ 10 6 4 3 2
◇ Q
♣ 10 9 2

WEST
♠ 5 3
♡ A 8 5
◇ A 9 7 5 3
♣ Q 7 6

EAST
♠ 9 6
♡ Q J 9
◇ K 10 8 6 2
♣ 8 5 4

SOUTH
♠ K Q J 7 4
♡ K 7
◇ J 4
♣ A K J 3

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
4 ♠	All Pass		

Opening lead – ◇ A

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"I admit that I have a problem," Cy said in an earnest tone of voice, "and I'm doing something about it. I just bought a book on how to deal with procrastination."

"And when do you intend to read this book?" Rose wanted to know.

"Maybe sometime next year," said the Cynic.

TRUMP SHIFT

Cy knows when to procrastinate when it comes to drawing trumps. When he was declarer at today's four spades, West led the ace of diamonds and shifted to a trump. Cy won with dummy's ten but was careful to draw no more trumps. He immediately led a heart: queen, king, ace. Cy won the next trump and conceded a heart.

East won and forced dummy to ruff a diamond, but Cy ruffed a heart. He reached dummy with a trump, discarded two clubs on the good hearts and claimed the rest. If the missing hearts had not split 3-3, Cy could have finessed in clubs, making the game if East had the queen.

DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ K Q J 7 4 ♥ K 7 ♦ J 4 ♣ A K J 3. Your partner opens one heart, and the next player passes. What do you say?

ANSWER: Slam is quite likely, and it is best to let partner know that immediately and enlist his cooperation. Jump-shift to two spades. If partner bids 2NT next, just raise to 3NT (or bid three clubs) and leave any further move to him. Many partnerships use "weak jump-shifts." Those may have some advantages, but strong jump-shifts certainly facilitate slam investigation.

South dealer
N-S vulnerable

Advice Columnist

Friends planned overseas group vacation and then skipped town

By Eric Thomas
Tribune Content Agency


Eric Thomas

Dear Eric: I had a close high school friend who asked my husband and me on an overseas trip with them. We were excited about this, paid our money and booked flights together.

A few months later we were having supper with my friend and her husband and another couple and my friend announced casually that they had decided to move to another state and were no longer going on the trip.

A couple of days later I called my friend to verify that it was our trip they were backing out of, and she said yes. Apparently, they had been thinking about moving for a while but had not mentioned this to us at the time of asking to travel together.

I was very hurt and upset that they had not contacted us privately to tell us of their change in plans.

Before they moved, my friend asked me to go on outings and I refused each time. Her husband contacted me to ask if I was upset about the cancellation and I told him that I was. He felt that we had no reason to be upset.

I have had limited contact with my friend for the last several years, and I have the feeling that she thinks we need to apologize. To me the issue was the lack of communication about their change in plans.

I am just curious about how others would react.

– Ghosted on Vacation

Dear Vacation: Their communication around this seems thoughtless at best, chaotic at worst. It would be one thing if these were tentative plans that got scuttled in a move. But you all booked together and paid the cost of overseas travel (no small thing, no matter the cost of gas). It's not legally binding, but in the realm of friendship and the realm of logistics, it's pretty set and warrants a conversation.

Hearing, offhandedly, that they weren't going shows a strange disregard for you all. When were they planning to tell you? When you got to the airport?

Generously, perhaps this can be chalked up to the haze that comes over you when you have to plan an out-of-state move. But, if they suspected you were upset, and were sure enough of it to ask you about it, they could have just as easily gone a step further and cleared the air. They don't necessarily have to acknowledge doing something wrong. But it's hard to get anywhere if they won't acknowledge that you feel a certain way.

Similarly, if they think you need to apologize (on the surface, I disagree), then they should have a conversation with you about what went wrong and how you can all move forward together. If you want to revive the relationship, the best thing to do is to have a resetting talk. No need to rehash everything. But acknowledge that you got misaligned and that you want to put it behind you.

Dear Eric: My child wants to bring her new girlfriend home from college for their winter vacation. The girlfriend is more than welcome.

The question I have is how to handle gift-opening.

My child has two sets of living grandparents, nine aunts and uncles on stepmother's side, three uncles on mom's side, and four aunts and uncles on dad's side. My child has good relationships with all of these kin, and most of them give her thoughtful Christmas presents.

I plan to get a couple of gifts for the girlfriend, if she comes.

We certainly don't want our guest sitting there watching while my child opens all the family presents. We could pack up the presents for my child to open later, so that everyone has an equal number of gifts under the tree on Christmas morning, but that creates a strange present-opening experience for my child. What is a good way to handle gifts when company comes for the holiday?

– Awkward Abundance

Dear Abundance: Try chatting with your child about it in advance and see what she thinks. She may have a read on her girlfriend that will put your mind at ease or might have some ideas. This conversation could also present an opportunity for you to gently suggest that your child make her gift-opening a team activity, perhaps even handing some gifts off to the girlfriend while your child watches.

It seems prudent to talk through the logistics of introducing a girlfriend to such a large family, even without the consideration of the gifts. It may be more important, actually, to make sure that the girlfriend has a person beyond your child who can be a port in the joyful family storm. Perhaps that person is you. Perhaps the best gift to give her is a knowing look and the opportunity to come help you in the other room for a minute.

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

SQUAWKBOX

squawkbox@albanyherald.com

I find it amazing and idiotic that people use this forum to air gripes and pontificate about national issues that they neither know -- nor can do anything -- about. And yet they don't even bother to vote in local elections that do impact their lives directly.

Not only should the city be made to fulfill its agreement with Rails to Trails, it should have to pay all lawyer costs and fines for each year the city didn't uphold its part of the bargain made. The absolutely idiotic argument that one commission can't hold another to its agreements is as dumb as it gets. Each time a new commissioner comes on board, under this scenario, the city would have to approve a complete new set of laws and codes.

With their refusal to follow through with their bargain with Rails to Trails, the Albany City Commission is proving itself to be just as inept and just as crooked as the Dougherty County Commission.

Facebook post: "It's almost that time of year when conservative Christians celebrate the birth of a baby they would have deported." That Man Without a Family

I have lots of memories from my days at the Sylvester Road Elementary School, but they weren't as sunshiney as the ones in the Herald story. I must have gotten the only bad teachers at the school.

The tax reval fiasco just keeps getting worse. I understand one of Lorenzo's buddies was one of the principals in the company that raked in a lot of taxpayer money to do a shoddy, completely inaccurate job. Who suffers? Not the company that couldn't do its job, and certainly not the little commission chairman. It's the dwindling number of citizens in this god-forsaken community who still pay taxes who are suffering.

Here's an idea: I'll support one of these made-up nonprofits when they come up with a name that makes sense and that a normal human can pronounce.

Thank you, Albany Herald, for editorials by the likes of Thomas Knapp, Ralph Nader, David Carroll and our own Carlton Fletcher. They make the newspaper worth reading.

Democrats, still feeling the buzz of riding a wave of anti-Trumpism to victory in the midterms, are making all kinds of promises to try and right the many wrongs of their predecessors. Instead of making all these promises, they might sit down and do a little boning up on what lies ahead. I'd be willing to bet that not three of the ten elected department leaders have any idea of what they're doing. Just repeating campaign slogans is not governing and it's not planning.

Dr. Scott, thank you for your inspiring words at the United Way breakfast last week. In your time at ASU, you've shown true leadership and the capacity to move things forward rather than just talk about them. I have a feeling our university will go far under your guidance.

I wish all media people -- local, state, national -- did their jobs with the passion Joe Whitfield brings to The Albany Herald's sports. Thank you, Joe, for caring about what you do and giving our students the coverage a hometown newspaper should provide.

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Southwest Georgia runoff election becomes high-stakes battle

By Ross Williams
Georgia Recorder

ALBANY -- Voters in eight southwest Georgia counties have one more trip to make to their polling places before they ring in the new year, and they'll decide whether House Democrats expand their newly won majority or whether Republicans can save an incumbent lawmaker's seat.

A runoff in state House District 151, which includes parts of Chattahoochee, Dougherty, Marion, Schley, Stewart, Sumter, Terrell and Ware counties, is scheduled Dec. 1. Voters will choose between Republican state Rep. Mike Cheokas and Democrat Ethan Wolfe, a retired military officer, after neither candidate surpassed 50% of the vote earlier this month.

Cheokas had the lead with 9,403 votes, good for about 47.9% to Wolfe's 8,022 votes, or slightly less than 41%. Independent candidate Travis Lockhart made up the difference.

Democrats claimed historic wins in this year's election, flipping every statewide position on the ballot from governor to agriculture commissioner and gaining a majority in the state House, but only a slim one.

Democrats are set to hold 91 seats in the 180-member chamber, giving



Special Photo

A runoff in southwest Georgia's state House District 151, which includes parts of Chattahoochee, Dougherty, Marion, Schley, Stewart, Sumter, Terrell and Ware counties, is scheduled Dec. 1.

them the minimum number of seats required to claim majority status. With two other races still unresolved, Democrats expect to pick up at least one more seat when the dust settles.

"Anytime you get into margins that close, one vote can be the difference maker," Carmen Bergman, director of the Georgia House Republican Caucus, said. "We saw that with several pieces of consequential legislation over the years, whether it be tort reform or school choice legislation. So I expect both the Democrats and us are going to be fighting hard."

Both of the bills Bergman referred to passed the House with 91 votes, the minimum needed to move out of the chamber.

"These legislators are still human," Democratic strategist Andrew Heaton said. "People are going to get sick. People are going to have family emergencies. People are going to have deaths in the family. And so we've got to have every bit of cushion possible to ensure that all of our agenda goes through when it's up for a vote."

Cheokas said he's been knocking on constituents' doors until sundown ahead of the runoff and speaking directly with voters to stress the importance of turning out.

Cheokas, who chairs the House's small business development committee, said his experience makes him the better man for the job.

"Most of all, it's about the lives of the people living in my district," he said.

Cheokas was first sworn into the House in 2004 as a Democrat, but switched parties in 2010. He lost his seat to a Democrat in 2016 but won it back against a different opponent in 2018.

"As for the makeup of the House, whether it's a gubernatorial appointment, a federal indictment or a couple of sick days, we've seen Democrats in the House lose members during the session," he added. "That threshold for a majority will be smaller after my victory."

Wolfe said he and his team have been hitting the campaign trail as well and working to remind voters that the election is not over. He said he is pitching himself as an outsider candidate.

"We don't need another 20 years of the same excuses," he said. "We need someone who shows up with fresh ideas, real solutions and a willingness to fight for the people back home. I'm talking about bringing good-paying jobs to rural Georgia, keeping our hospitals open, investing in our public schools and making life more affordable for working families.

"I spent 30 years serving my country in the Air Force, and I know that leadership means taking responsibility and getting results," he added. "I'm not running to build a political career. I'm running because I love this community, and I believe our best days can still be ahead of us. But we have to be willing to do something different."

The last time Cheokas had a Democratic challenger was in 2022, and Cheokas won by nearly 10 percentage points that year, though the area, like most of the rest of the state, swung hard toward Democrats this year. House Democrats were able to pick up 10 seats, potentially more, this year.

That makes Heaton feel optimistic about Wolfe's chances.

"The reasons that animated voters to go out in November haven't changed in one month," he said. "It's going to take a massive field and campaign operation to get our voters back out to the polls and help them understand why this is still so important. We can't rest where we're at. We've got to get this 93rd vote."

Bergman said Republicans won't be resting either and said it will come down to a "turnout game."

And this time around, Bergman said, Republicans will be hungry for a victory.

"One of the best ways to know the mood of an electorate is through verbatims, what you're hearing on the ground, what you're hearing from people who can actually vote," she said. "And, conservatives, Republicans in that area, are motivated by what we've seen transpire and are excited for the chance to support their hometown guy, Mike Chokas, to go be a watchdog in Atlanta."

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 Senate also passed the Improving Access to Workers' Compensation for Injured Federal Workers Act (S. 3296) to cover, for purposes of workers' compensation, services by physician assistants and nurse practitioners provided to injured federal government workers; the Safe Cloud Storage Act (H.R. 7834) to limit liability for certain entities storing child sexual abuse material for law enforcement agencies; and the DEATH BETS Act (S. 4035) to prohibit the listing of contracts relating to war, death and similar activities.

The House also passed: the Settlement Agreement Information Database Act (H.R. 7934) to require the publication of settlement agreements; the Crossett Experimental Forest Act (H.R. 10136) to require the Agriculture Department to convey the Crossett Experimental Forest to Arkansas; the Renewing the African American Civil Rights Network Act (H.R. 9269) to extend the authorization of the African American Civil Rights Network; and the South Dakota Water Feasibility Studies Act (H.R. 9785) to direct the Interior Department to conduct studies to determine the feasibility of constructing projects to supply municipal, rural, and industrial water in certain parts of the Missouri River basin.

HOUSE VOTES:

MAPPING NATURAL RESOURCES: The House has passed the Earth MRI Reauthorization Act (H.R. 9640) sponsored by Rep. Robert J. Wittman, R-Va., to reauthorize through Fiscal 2031 the Earth Mapping Resources Initiative at the U.S. Geological Survey. The Initiative catalogs and maps natural resources, including critical minerals, in the United States. The vote, on Nov. 18, was 396 yeas to 14 nays.

YEAS: Loudermilk R-GA (11th), Bishop D-GA (2nd), Allen R-GA (12th), Scott, Austin R-GA (8th), McBath D-GA (6th), Carter R-GA (1st), Jack R-GA (3rd), Johnson D-GA (4th), Williams D-GA (5th), McCormick R-GA (7th), Collins R-GA (10th)

NAYS: Clyde R-GA (9th)

THOMAS PAINE: The House has passed the Common Sense 250 Act (H.R. 9600) sponsored by Rep. Jamie Raskin, D-Md., to require placing a monument to Thomas Paine in a portion of the National Mall in Washington, D.C., that is devoted to commemorating historically important art. Raskin said the monument would help "secure the legacy of this indispensable, but often overlooked, Founding Father." The vote, on Nov. 17, was 365 yeas to 36 nays.

NOT VOTING: Loudermilk R-GA (11th)

YEAS: Bishop D-GA (2nd), Allen R-GA (12th), Scott, Austin R-GA (8th), McBath D-GA (6th), Carter R-GA (1st), Jack R-GA (3rd), Johnson D-GA (4th), Williams D-GA (5th)

NAYS: Clyde R-GA (9th), McCormick R-GA (7th), Collins R-GA (10th)

PREVENTIVE HEALTH CARE: The House has passed the Preventive Health Savings Act (H.R. 4464) sponsored by Rep. Jay Obernolte, R-Calif., to require the Congressional Budget Office to consider the long-term budget impacts of preventive health care when analyzing proposed legislation. Obernolte said that by removing the current 10-year limit on such analysis, the bill would "help Congress better understand whether preventive health policies could improve health outcomes while reducing long-term costs to both taxpayers and our federal healthcare programs." The vote, on Nov. 19, was unanimous with 401 yeas.

YEAS: Entire Georgia delegation, except Loudermilk R-GA (11th), Johnson D-GA (4th), who did not vote.

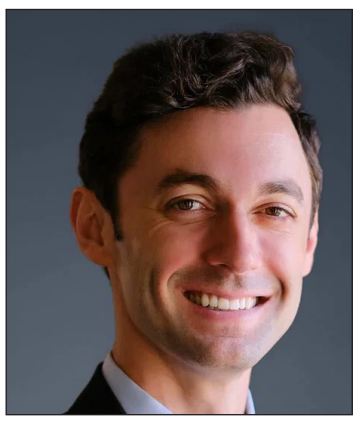
SENATE VOTES:

APPEALS COURT JUDGE: The Senate has confirmed the nomination of Daniel Desmond Domenico to be a judge on the U.S. Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals. Domenico has been a judge on the U.S. District Court for Colorado since spring 2019, following a decade as the state's solicitor general. An opponent, Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., said: "Judge Domenico's record rubberstamping President Trump's unlawful mass deportation policies as a district court judge makes him unfit for the Tenth Circuit." The vote, on Nov. 16, was 51 yeas to 46 nays.

NAYS: Ossoff D-GA, Warnock D-GA



Austin Scott



Jon Ossoff



Raphael Warnock



Sanford Bishop

SECOND APPEALS COURT JUDGE: The Senate has confirmed the nomination of Anna St. John to be a judge on the U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. St. John became a judge on a U.S. district court in Louisiana this April; for the previous decade, she had been an attorney at the Hamilton Lincoln Law Institute in New Orleans, specializing in settlements of class action lawsuits. A supporter, Sen. John Barrasso, R-Wyo., said St. John would be one of the "judges who honor and follow the Constitution, judges who apply the law of the land as it is written, and they protect our God-given rights." An opponent, Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., cited testimony from St. John to Congress five years ago that he said was "in support of compelling abuse survivors into forced arbitration." The vote, on Nov. 17, was 52 yeas to 46 nays.

NAYS: Ossoff D-GA, Warnock D-GA

IRAN WAR AUTHORIZATION: The Senate has rejected a bill (H. Con. Res. 93) sponsored by Rep. Seth Moulton, D-Mass., that would have required the cessation of U.S. military hostilities against Iran absent a Congressional authorization or declaration of war. A supporter, Sen. Tim Kaine, D-Va., said "the war was unconstitutional from the start because it was not a war of imminent defense and the president did not seek the Congressional authorization required by the Constitution." An opponent, Sen. Tim Sheehy, R-Mont., called the conflict with Iran "a war of necessity" and said a move to curb its prosecution would be used by Iran as "a tool to delay us, to buy time and resources to continue their murderous regime and to continue to kill Americans, harm our interests, and try to take over the region and the world." The vote, on Nov. 19, was 48 yeas to 51 nays.

YEAS: Ossoff D-GA, Warnock D-GA

PERMITTING RULES: The Senate has passed the Bipartisan American Affordability and Jobs Act (H.R. 2347) sponsored by Rep. Lloyd Smucker, R-Pa., to change the framework for federal government reviews of permit applications, including by speeding environmental reviews; and also change various elements of reviews of energy infrastructure developments. A supporter, Sen. Mike Lee, R-Utah, said: "Literally everything you buy will be made potentially more affordable by this bill in a very meaningful, very material way." An opponent, Sen. Jeff Merkley, D-Ore., cited concerns that the bill would curtail "the ability of states to weigh in on clean water and clean air" consequences of projects such as natural gas-based power plants. The vote, on Nov. 19, was 62 yeas to 33 nays.

NAYS: Ossoff D-GA, Warnock D-GA

Phoebe confirms legitimacy of data breach notification letters

Staff Reports
news@albanyherald.com

ALBANY – Phoebe Putney Health System is aware that some patients have recently received letters from Medcom, a third-party vendor that previously provided billing assistance services to Phoebe, regarding a data security incident that occurred in 2025. While Phoebe no longer conducts business with Medcom, the company maintained certain patient information as a result of its former business relationship with Phoebe.

Following the completion of its investigation, Medcom issued notification letters to individuals potentially affected by the incident. Phoebe has received inquiries from patients seeking to confirm the legitimacy of these letters and wants to assure the community that these notifications are legitimate and are not a scam.

Medcom also provides, or previously provided, services to other hospitals and healthcare organizations throughout the southwest Georgia region. As a result, individuals who have received care at multiple healthcare organizations may receive more than one notification letter related to this incident.

As part of its response, Medcom is offering complimentary credit monitoring services to affected individuals. Phoebe encourages those who receive a notification letter to carefully review its contents and take advantage of the resources being made available to them.

"We understand that receiving a letter like this can be concerning, and we appreciate those in our community who have taken the additional step of verifying its legitimacy," Jonathan McGuire, vice president and chief compliance and privacy officer for Phoebe, said. "We want to reassure our patients that these notifications are legitimate and encourage them to take advantage of the complimentary credit monitoring services being offered.

"While we cannot undo what occurred with this former vendor, we can encourage and empower individuals to take proactive steps to protect their personal information."

Individuals may understandably be hesitant to provide their Social Security number when enrolling in these services. However, providing this information through the verified credit monitoring enrollment process is necessary to confirm an individual's identity and enable the monitoring of their credit activity.

Individuals who receive a notification letter are encouraged to call 1-888-517-6590, the dedicated toll-free number provided in their letter. Medcom has established this resource specifically to address questions regarding the incident and assist individuals with enrolling in complimentary credit monitoring services. Contacting this dedicated resource directly is the best course of action for affected individuals.

As always, Phoebe encourages individuals to remain vigilant and never provide sensitive personal information in response to unsolicited phone calls, emails or text messages.

Phoebe takes the privacy and security of patient information seriously and understands the concern and inconvenience this incident may cause.



File Photo

Individuals who receive a notification letter concerning a security breach involving Phoebe Putney Health System are encouraged to respond to the letter from the third-party vendor.

Board of Regents elects new leadership for 2027

By Ty Tagami
Capitol Beat News Service

ATLANTA — Two Bulldogs will take leadership roles at the Georgia Board of Regents next year, after the body elected Dr. Deep J. Shah, a primary care physician, as the incoming chair and retired real estate executive Mat Swift as the next vice chair.

Shah, the CEO of Gwinnett Clinic and the current vice chair, will succeed Chairman David B. Dove for a one-year term Jan. 1, when Swift will replace Shah as vice chair, the University System of Georgia announced Friday.

The regents made several significant decisions during Dove's tenure as chair, including the selection of former Southern Company president and CEO Thomas A. Fanning as the system's 15th chancellor, following Sonny Perdue's announcement in April that he would retire.

Until this year, Georgia was one of just two states without a comprehensive aid for students from low-income households. A new state program built on a much smaller program launched by the university system last year.

The transition comes amid record fall enrollment of nearly 393,000 students.

Both Shah and Swift earned undergraduate degrees at the University of Georgia. Shah, of Johns Creek, went on to earn a master's degree in social policy at Oxford University on Truman and Rhodes scholarships and then a medical degree from Harvard University.

Swift went on to earn a law degree from Mercer University before a career in commercial, industrial and residential real estate, helping to spearhead the redevelopment of downtown Columbus.

The regents are appointed by the governor to seven-year terms overseeing Georgia's 25 public colleges and universities, the Georgia Public Library Service and the Georgia Archives.

SATURDAY SQUAWKBOX

SQUAWKBOX@ALBANYHERALD.COM

Russia has lost over 1.7 million dead and wounded; Ukraine 500,000-plus. No problem, we still have gas less than $4 a gallon, and Longhorn steaks with the hungry third world and coming famine an ocean away. But they're only Russians. Somehow, yet I wonder if Russia will run out of forced conscripted young soldiers, husbands, sons and now daughters before Albany runs out of 15-17-year-olds with guns in backpacks at basketball games. But they're only .....Right? You guys keep "talking"

Bottom line: THe Albany city government is made up of liars who don't have the decency to keep their word. They made a deal with Rails to Trails, got the benefits from their end of the deal, then failed to uphold the other end of the bargain. This makes them liars, and their excuse of being held to past leadership is blatantly absurd.

Democrats are celebrating their victories in the midterm elections, but like Mr. Fletcher noted, having all these inexperienced and unqualified people coming in to take control of important state agencies is a catastrophe waiting to happen. Sometimes, you have to be careful what you wish for.

Albany taxpayers deserve a better understanding of the recent shooting at the basketball game. The campus is fairly gated, and presumably there are cameras everywhere. Why haven't ASU and the UGA Board of Regents explained this? It's terribly tragic, but also grossly unprofessional. Unfortunately, all of the leaders involved are experts at not taking responsibility for failures. In the private sector, they would all be fired by now. We deserve better.

I followed the advice the new United Way preacher gave and tried to find out where that "more than $1 million" they raised last year went to. Sorry, but I could not follow the thread. It's more like a confusing jumble to keep people from following the paper trail. I want more info before I give my money.

Happy late birthday, MCLB Marines. First to go, last to know.

Major League Baseball has enjoyed a renaissance with all the creeps now playing in the NFL and NBA. But it looks like greed -- billionaires and millionaires fighting over dollar bills -- is going to ruin baseball as well. They don't seem to realize that, yes, we can live without them.

Our lazy Code Enforcement is trying to take advantage of taxpayers. More of our money to demolish houses? First, how about you focus on the literal hundreds of broken-down cars parked all over town, illegal parking in front yards, and other easy-to-resolve violations? Not to mention fire hazard drug houses where nine cars park daily in front of two-bedroom houses. Focus on what matters, not just giving our money to your buddy with a bulldozer.

It's almost funny, watching city crews of 10-15 do work that takes 1 or 2 people, and it's work that is so unnecessary. Messing up traffic to install nights in areas that people are scared to walk in after dark doesn't make a whole lot of sense. How about using that money to build a competent police force?

The city's failure to live up to its agreement with the Rails to Trails folks explains why new businesses have stopped trying to locate in our town. Poor Leadership.

I'm not one of those doomsday whiners, but with all the bad stuff going on with our air travel, financial institutions, etc, I can't help but worry. And we have a decrepit old man at the head of our government who is so out of touch he leaves us in constant danger of international incidents based on his inadequacies and his massive ego. Lord, get us to January.

COLUMNIST ■ B.J. Fletcher

Who is shaping Albany's future?

Over the past 15 years, Albany and Dougherty County have watched thousands of residents leave. Businesses have closed. Families have relocated. Too many of our young people graduate, earn a degree, and build their lives somewhere else.

Those are facts.

We continue to celebrate every new job announcement, but we should ask a simple question: Are these jobs creating careers that allow families to buy a home, raise children, and retire with dignity? If not, then we are measuring success by ribbon-cuttings instead of results.

Crime continues to be one of the greatest concerns for many citizens. Whether crime statistics improve or worsen from year to year, perception matters. When families believe a community is unsafe, many choose to raise their children somewhere else. Businesses pay attention to that as well.

Perhaps the most important question is this: Who is shaping the future of Albany?

Too many citizens stay home during local elections. Yet those elections often determine the direction of our city more than national politics. Local officials make decisions that affect public safety, economic development, neighborhoods, infrastructure, and the quality of life we experience every day.



FLETCHER

Voting should never be based solely on personalities, popularity, or simply following someone else's recommendation. It should be based on facts, ideas, policies and measurable results. Every candidate should be asked the same questions:

• How will you create jobs that support a family instead of simply adding positions?

• How will you reduce violent crime and improve public safety?

• How will you grow our tax base instead of watching it continue to shrink?

• How will you encourage our children and grandchildren to build their future here instead of somewhere else?

If those questions cannot be answered with a clear plan, then perhaps we are voting for promises instead of progress.

The future of Albany will not be determined by the people who complain the loudest. It will be determined by citizens who are willing to become informed, vote in every election, ask difficult questions, and expect measurable results from those they elect.

Communities rarely rise above the expectations of their citizens.

As citizens, we also have a responsibility. We cannot expect different results if we only participate when a presidential or gubernatorial election is on the ballot. Local elections often have the greatest impact on our daily lives, yet they typically have the lowest voter turnout.

Albany deserves better than political slogans. It deserves informed citizens who study the issues, vote in every election, and hold every elected official accountable — not just before Election Day, but every day afterward.

Communities do not change because we hope they will. They change because informed citizens demand results. The future of Albany is not someone else's responsibility. It belongs to every one of us.

B.J. Fletcher is an Albany businesswoman and a former member of the Albany City Commission.

COLUMNIST ■ Dick Yarbrough

Reflections on birthdays past, present and future

If I seem a bit slower than usual today, I have a good excuse. I have just had another birthday. Another in a long line of birthdays. A very long line. The first thing I did this morning was to check the obituaries and be sure my name wasn't listed. At my age, one can never be too sure.

As has been the custom for the past 17 years, I celebrate the occasion at the annual birthday bash with great-grandson Cameron Charles Yarbrough, whose birthday is a couple of days before mine. When we began this tradition, Cameron was in a highchair. Today, he is taller than his great-grandfather. Times have changed but not the birthday bash. It remains a cherished family tradition.

Birthdays seem to be coming around faster than they used to. And every one draws me closer to the end of my time on this earth. I used to think time was plentiful. Now, I wondered what happened to all the days past. And how many I squandered because I knew there would be another one awaiting me to get things right. I don't think that way anymore. Time is precious. Life is short.

My birthday always falls just before, just after or smack dab on Thanksgiving Day. That makes me a Sagittarius, for whatever that's worth. We Sagittarians are supposed to be humorous. I suspect there are one or two of you reading this who might disagree with that, maybe even a Sagittarian or two. We are also known to be blunt, which can come across as tactless or harsh. Guilty as charged. I'll try to do better in the future. But no promises.



YARBROUGH

There have been some memorable birthdays, like when my late wife hired an airplane to fly over Sanford Stadium on a football weekend with a banner proclaiming, "Nifty. Nifty. Dick Yarbrough is 50" to the cheers and jeers of 76,000 of my closest friends. Not sure what precipitated her doing that, except perhaps for the surprise (to her) mock funeral lamenting the passing of her youth on her 40th birthday. The woman obviously had a long memory.

Birthday or no birthday, Thanksgiving is a time to take stock of my life and to give thanks for what I have been given. And I have been abundantly blessed. My family, my friends, anything and everything about the University of Georgia, the oldest state-chartered university in the nation and home of my beloved Henry W. Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communications.

I am thankful for my church and all within it who labor daily to save my sorry soul. My breakfast buddies, Dale and Mary Jane; Lois and Linda; Dora, Paul and Caryl. We haven't solved all the world's problems yet, but we are working on it. These things take time.

I am thankful that God gave me the ability to paint a lick but didn't let me know it until later in life. It has given me something to look forward to in my old age besides aching knees and doctor visits.

I am thankful that I had 63 1/2 years with my wife and that her legacy will live on in supporting the efforts of deserving second-career nursing students at Kennesaw State University to get their degree and to enter the nursing profession who might not otherwise have had the opportunity.

I am thankful for Regina who cuts my hair and has been doing so for the past 10 years; for Olivia, the greatest retail clerk in the history of the world, who makes me feel special every time I walk in the store; for Melissa, Alina and James who have taken care of me since my mangled toe surgery; for Philip, who drives me wherever I need to go. Little things mean a lot.

I am thankful for the opportunity to chat with you each week and to the editors for giving me the chance to do so. I don't take myself seriously, but I take this job very seriously. It is a privilege and I must never forget that.

So another birthday has come and gone. What now? The Welsh singer Shirley Bassey says you don't get older, you get better. That is my birthday wish for us all. Older and better. And may we continue this journey together.

Contact Dick Yarbrough at dick@dickyarbrough.com or at P.O. Box 725373, Atlanta, Ga. 31139.

GUEST COLUMNIST ■ Charles Ochie

Where do parents' responsibility begin and end when children misbehave?

As a Criminal Justice professor with more than 30 years of teaching experience, I have spent considerable time examining criminological theories, research and scholarly literature on juvenile delinquency and criminal behavior. Like thousands of other families, we have also had the privilege of raising four children who are now highly educated, productive adults and graduates of Dougherty County public schools.

Yet, one question continues to challenge me: To what extent should parents be held responsible when their children misbehave or commit crimes?

Although criminologists offer different explanations for juvenile delinquency, there is no universally accepted answer. Nevertheless, this question deserves serious public discussion, particularly as we hear increasingly troubling reports of children, some as young as 10 or 11, carrying firearms and engaging in violence against others.

When a child bullies another child, engages in violence, violates the law, or commits a serious criminal offense, who should be held responsible? The child? The parents? The school? The community? Or society as a whole? More importantly, who has the greatest influence in shaping our children's values, beliefs, attitudes, and behavior?

Parents are traditionally considered children's first teachers in virtually every society and culture. Long before children enter school, they begin learning from what they observe at home. They watch how their parents communicate, resolve disagreements, treat others, respond to authority, and handle difficult situations. Children learn not only from parental instructions but, perhaps more importantly, from parental examples.

Can parents teach respect while consistently demonstrating disrespect? Can they expect their children to reject aggression when hostility and intimidation are commonplace at home? Can parents demand discipline when they fail to demonstrate self-discipline themselves?



OCHIE

These questions become particularly important when considering the responsibility of parents to model the values and behaviors they expect their children to embrace. Children develop through instruction, observation, discipline, encouragement, and experience. Although they eventually develop independent personalities and make their own decisions, the family environment significantly influences their understanding of acceptable and unacceptable behavior.

Parents cannot control every decision their children make, but they have a responsibility to provide guidance, establish boundaries, monitor behavior, and correct misconduct. The issue becomes particularly alarming when children between the ages of 10 and 17 gain access to firearms and use them against other people.

How does a child obtain a firearm? Does it belong to a parent, relative, or someone else in the household? Was it carelessly left unsecured in a bedroom, vehicle or another accessible location? Did an adult knowingly allow the child to possess it?

I have personally visited friends' homes here in the Good Life City where firearms were prominently displayed, almost like decorative items. One of my former neighbors in Albany even used firearms as part of the home's decoration. Coming from a different cultural background, I have often found this practice difficult to understand.

This observation is not an argument against the Second Amendment or Americans' constitutional right to bear arms. I recognize that right and now wish it was universal human rights in all societies. However, gun ownership must be accompanied by an equally strong commitment to responsible ownership and safety.

These questions should not arise only after someone has been injured or killed. Parents and firearm owners must recognize that keeping firearms in homes where children live carries serious responsibilities. Simply telling a child not to touch a gun is insufficient. Secure storage, appropriate supervision, and firearm safety education are essential preventive measures.

To be fair, not every child who commits a crime comes from a troubled home, and not every parent whose child misbehaves has failed. Children are influenced by peers, social media, neighborhood conditions, and experiences beyond parental control. However, these influences do not automatically excuse parental negligence.

When children exhibit warning signs, demonstrate violent tendencies, or show an unhealthy interest in firearms, responsible parents must pay attention and intervene.

There is an important distinction between holding children accountable for their actions and holding parents accountable for their own failures. When parents knowingly permit dangerous behavior, provide irresponsible access to firearms, ignore repeated warning signs, or fail to exercise reasonable supervision, parental accountability becomes a legitimate concern.

Ultimately, parenting involves much more than providing food, clothing, shelter and education. It means instilling respect, honesty, empathy, responsibility, self-control, and respect for human life. It requires knowing where our children are, understanding their friendships, monitoring behavioral changes, and intervening when necessary.

Perhaps the question we should be asking is not simply why children misbehave or commit crimes, but whether the adults responsible for raising them have adequately prepared them to become responsible members of society. We cannot expect society to produce responsible children if we are unwilling to accept responsibility for how we raise them.

Parenting is both a privilege and a profound responsibility. When that responsibility is neglected, the consequences may extend far beyond the home, threatening the safety, security, and well-being of the entire community.

Charles Ochie is a professor of Criminal Justice and dean of the Graduate School at Albany State University.

THE ALBANY HERALD

Perspectives

The Albany HERALD
ALBANYHERALD.COM

Carlton Fletcher
EDITOR

Georgia Trust for
LOCAL NEWS

TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

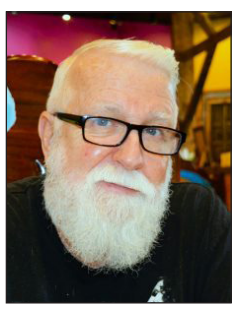
"For thou wilt light my candle:
the Lord my God will enlighten my darkness."
Psalms 18:28

COLUMNIST ■ CARLTON FLETCHER

Christmas wish list: Officials who put community first

The more I see, the more I know That everyone just wants a show. No, we don't want to see the truth.
-- Imagine Dragons

As we land smack-dab in the middle of the holiday season – Thanksgiving is knocking on the door and Christmas and New Year's are waiting in the wings, ready for their shining moments – I've taken a few moments to reflect.


FLETCHER

Like most people who call Albany home, I'm living in something of a paradox right now. I love this community, believe it is home to some of the best people in the world. But, as recent actions have shown, there also are some of the worst people in the world living here.

No matter how elected officials and business leaders try to sugarcoat it, this community is inundated with gangs and gangsters whose purpose in life is to take from others to enrich themselves. We read about these people in police reports and read between the lines at government meetings where the primary focus seems to be doing for special interest groups, friends and self ... certainly not the people who put elected officials in office.

Not the people whose taxes pay for their deeds and misdeeds.

There are any number of projects that, yes, have been discussed and approved that, now that they're becoming reality, seem ludicrous in retrospect, money going to projects that do little to improve the community, money that could have been used to address some of southwest Georgia's real needs.

A lot of citizens – voting citizens, no less – barely raise an eyebrow at this misguided use of their tax dollars because a) It benefits them or b) it's NIMBY – not in my backyard – and therefore of little consequence.

That's one of the big issues that corrupts this community, allows people whose primary concern is self to openly misuse tax dollars that came out of hard-working people's pockets. It's almost as if some -- certainly not all -- of these officials are saying, "The tax roles are getting smaller and smaller in our community, so we have to get the money while we can."

And they do.

Here's how that happens: Citizens in this community invest very little effort and time into looking at the records of the people who are in charge of spending their tax dollars. They vote for fellow church members, co-workers, people of the same faith or ethnic group, or people that promise them anything if they're put into office.

I guess that's one area where local elected officials have been true to their word. They promised friends and supporters that they'd benefit if they helped the candidates get elected, and now that they're in office, that's exactly what's happening. Officials who should be charged with carefully studying any prospective project are more interested in a) what am I going to get out of this? and b) what are all my friends who donated to my campaign going to get out of this?

Former Albany City Attorney Nathan Davis once said at an Albany-Dougherty Inner City Authority meeting, "Come with me over to the government center. I can take you to a room that's piled up with any number of master plans that either failed or never got off the ground."

Of course, that was when the local governments went through the charade of "planning" projects that would impact taxpayers' wallets. Now, they just get their four votes and greenlight projects that anyone with walking-around sense – no advanced degree in economics needed – can plainly see is a political payoff.

Many have accused officials of taking kickbacks, but there is no hard proof of such chicanery. That doesn't mean, though, that it doesn't happen. There are too many smoking guns laying at the feet of a number of local officials – enough to arm a good-sized gang of marauders – for these claims to have no basis.

Short of intervention from the state – which is not going to happen ... we're outside metro Atlanta, so we don't matter in the eyes of today's politicians – there really isn't a whole lot the average taxpayer can do. We can't withhold tax payments; they'd happily put us in jail and take our assets. We can't appeal to law enforcement because the people in question are their bosses.

What we can do, though, is vote these corrupt people out of office. We can do a little research – just a little would do – and back candidates whose primary concerns do not appear to be self-guided. And, guess what ... if we're wrong, time will come around again, and we can vote the next group of corrupt officials out until we find some who have the best interest of the community at heart.

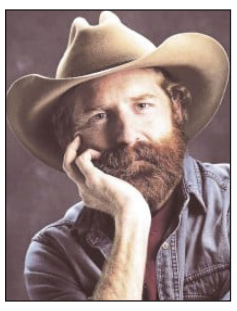
But, alas, this is a community whose grudges over past sins run deep. Their primary concern is to make sure someone who worships, thinks and looks like them stays in office, no matter their level of corruption. A perfect recipe for ... well, what we have now. And, unfortunately, no New Year's resolution will fix this.

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

COLUMNIST ■ SEAN DIETRICH

Four a.m. in Athens

Athens. I am taking a taxi from my apartment at 4 a.m. The taxi driver is waiting by the curb, petting a stray cat.


DIETRICH

He is smoking a cigarette, and he wants to know why I am up "so damned early." My driver played college basketball in the U.S. back when he still had hair. He enjoys cussing in English. "Is just more fun."

We get in the cab. Athens nightlife is still going strong. I tell him I am running the Athens Marathon today. He is driving me to the starting line.

"Why de hell you do dis?" he asks. "You crazy or something?"

He takes a roundabout. He drapes an arm out his window.

"Why do you run?" he asks.

We have a long ride from Athens to Marathon. He wants a story.

So I tell him. My dad was a marathoner. When I was a kid, we spent every weekend at a race, or helping Daddy train for one. On Friday nights, my father and I would ride country roads with two-liter bottles of water. We would pull over every mile and hide them behind fence posts and rocks, then tie a white flag so he could find the water during long runs.

We spent summer vacations inside pop-up campers in Colorado so he could train on fourteeners for the Pikes Peak Marathon. He was fast. He was strong. Gifted, even.

Then, one night after his 41st birthday, he decided he didn't want to live anymore. He used his brother's gun.

Only a few days before, my father had taken me on a run with him. I rode a bike beside him. I was 11. I was overweight. My father desperately wanted me to lose weight. I could usually feel his disappointment in me. Sometimes I thought I disgusted him. He was all the things I'd never be. He was handsome. Athletic. Tall. Slender. Fit. Beautiful.

We scattered his ashes atop Pikes Peak. My aunt threw away all his old race bib numbers. My mother took down his photos.

The driver is on his fourth cigarette. He is only listening.

"But why do you run?" he says. "I do not ask about your father. I ask about you."

I sigh.

"It's complicated," I explain.

When my father died, I had a passionate love affair with Little Debbie and Chef Boyardee. I got heavier. I was depressed. I began to dislike myself.

I became bulimic for a year. I tried to lose weight by vomiting up meals. I think I just wanted to please my dad. Even though he wasn't around to be pleased. And because I wasn't getting much nutrition, I got dizzy whenever I stood up.

Looking back, I think I puked because it gave me a sense of control.

And then one night, I was staring at myself in the bathroom mirror. I gripped my chubby belly and I said to myself, "No."

I was not going to end up like him.

I was finished hating myself. I went outside and did the only thing I knew. I ran. I jogged in Chuck Taylors and cut-off shorts. And I ran after dark so nobody would laugh. I lasted four minutes before going into oxygen debt.

After that, I ran each night. In secret. I would run precisely one telephone pole farther than I had the evening before.

By age 15, I was running 5 miles a day. I had slimmed up, I was eating right, and I had changed inside.

During those gentle hours I'd spent running, something happened to my soul. Sometimes, I would run and spontaneously start crying. And my tears were always met with the sensation that someone's arms were wrapping around me.

Sometimes I'd sit in the weeds and just weep. But they weren't sad tears. Not entirely. I was ... I don't know. I felt so loved. Love was holding me. Love cradled me. I would sometimes ask this presence through tears, "Are you an angel?" "Are you my dad?"

And I'd sort of hear in my head an answer. "Think bigger, Sean."

And I can't describe why, but the presence which held me seemed so divinely feminine. Not masculine. Not chock-full of machismo, like Moses parting the sea of testosterone. This was different. This was maternal.

Our taxi pulls into the village of Marathon. The orange sun is rising over Greece. My driver is still listening.

"You feel her still sometimes?" the driver asks.

"Yes."

"What does she feel like?"

"Just ... warm."

He nods. "Yes. I think I know this feeling."

The cab pulls over. The driver lets me out. We shake hands. I tell him he ought to charge more for psychotherapy. We laugh. Then I ask what his name is.

"My name is Apostolos. It means 'apostle.' But believe me, I am no saint."

He releases my hand. "What does Sean mean?" he asks.

"It means God has been gracious."

And believe me.

She has.

Sean Dietrich is an entertainer, author and columnist with close ties to the deep South.

COLUMNIST ■ JAY BOOKMAN

Secrecy, tax breaks pave way for data center proposals in Georgia

This year, Georgia taxpayers will spend an estimated $2.4 billion in tax breaks to subsidize construction of data centers in our state.


BOOKMAN

I have several problems with that. You might, too.

First, and most obviously, that $2.4 billion could buy a lot of health insurance, or keep rural hospitals operating. It could pay a lot of teacher salaries. But leadership in this state has decided those are not good uses for the money. Instead, they've decided it is better used to fatten the bank accounts and stock portfolios of people who are already some of the richest on the planet.

Because really, that's all state officials are doing. Even if you believe that data centers are necessary – and there's a decent argument to that effect – billions of dollars of state tax subsidies remain a ridiculous waste of money. The usual justification for such subsidies is to encourage needed economic development projects that otherwise would not occur, and that is simply not the case here.

To the contrary, this year the artificial intelligence industry is expected to draw $2.5 trillion in new private investment globally. The worry isn't that the AI industry can't attract enough investment, it's that it is drawing too much investment, too quickly, to the point that many experts warn that the sector is creating a financial bubble that may soon burst.

In short, we are subsidizing and incentivizing projects that almost certainly would have been built in Georgia anyway.

Second problem: We are using public money to subsidize something that the public does not seem to want. Nationally, poll after poll finds that more than 70% of Americans would oppose construction of data centers in their community. Here in Georgia, an Atlanta Journal Constitution poll of primary voters back in April found that 53% of Republicans and 75% of Democrats would oppose data centers near them. Those numbers have probably grown since then.

Why? Data centers require huge quantities of water to cool servers. They require huge amounts of electricity, straining power plants and grids and potentially raising energy costs. They are noisy, and once operational they don't generate many jobs. It is not irrational to wonder whether their drawbacks outweigh their benefit, particularly to communities forced to host them.

That leads us to the third problem. In their headlong rush to cash in on the AI boom, data center proponents often have neither the time nor the patience for working with and reassuring communities about its impact. Instead, they attempt to get their way through brute force, deception, political power and money.

Take recent events in Effingham County, near Savannah, where a huge new data center was announced in late July. At full build-out, the facility will cover 1,400 acres and require 3.2 gigawatts of electricity, enough to serve 3 million homes.

That's a project of immense public impact. Yet there had been no public input or even knowledge about the project before it was announced as a finalized deal. That happened by design, not accident. According to The Current, the CEO of the Effingham County development authority had signed a non-disclosure agreement with OpenAI, the company building the plant. In April, he even publicly denied that negotiations for a data center were underway, actively misleading the people he is supposed to represent.

In late July, the county development board quietly approved the final deal in a hastily called meeting without proper public notice. Nobody in the community was in attendance. The local weekly newspaper had been told a deal was coming, but it agreed to embargo the news, withholding it from its readers and denying them the chance to weigh in, until after the deal had been approved. That's a terrible journalistic decision.

That is not operating in good faith. It is a way of doing business that heightens rather than mitigates fear and suspicion. And the problem is, similar stories are playing out all over the country.

Outside Memphis, for example, Elon Musk is building another massive data center project and has installed dozens of natural gas generators to supply the needed electricity. However, he has done so without the legally required air quality permits and pollution-control systems, producing thousands of tons of unregulated pollutants.

And when local groups sought to sue Musk's company for violating the federal Clean Air Act, the Trump administration declared the facility essential to national security, claiming that status meant Musk could ignore federal law and was immune to lawsuits.

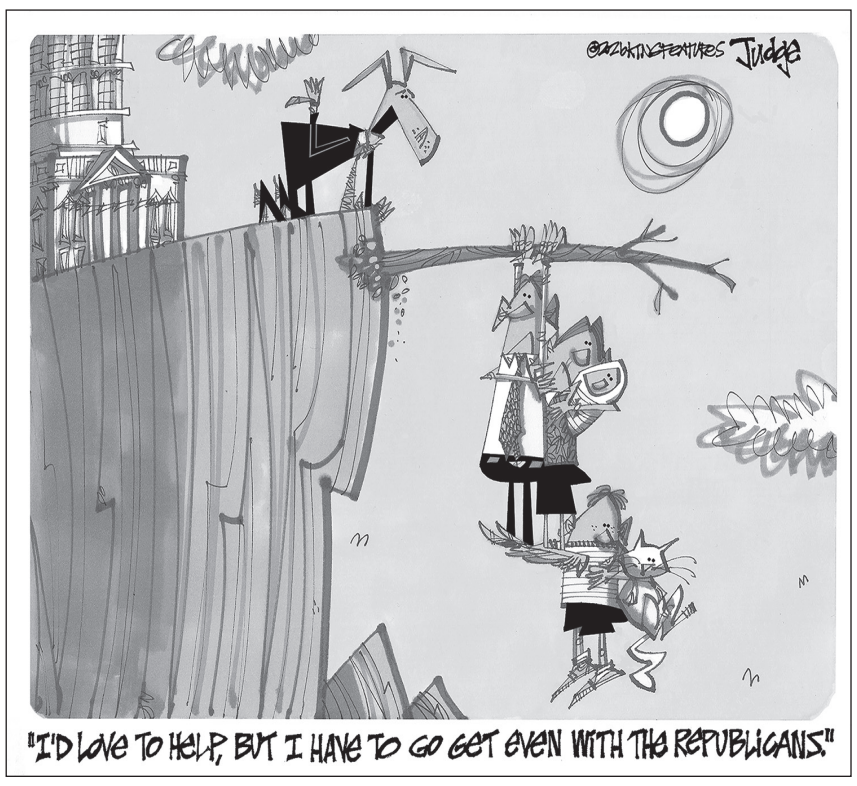
Such high-handed action may work in the short-term, but it will inevitably produce a backlash. It has done exactly that, which leads to my fourth and most important point:

AI is already a spooky technology to many people, including people intimately involved in its development. They warn of its impact on jobs and communities, of its propensity to "hallucinate," to tell users what they want to hear, and in some cases to set its own agenda, independent of its human creators.

The companies and people championing the promise of AI reassure us that they will keep the public interest in mind, that they will be responsible and conscientious in implementing this powerful technology and will not blow through safeguards in a mad rush for profits. Yet these are the same people now bulldozing through environmental laws, compelling elected officials to keep secrets from their own constituents and ignoring community input in their gold rush to build AI data centers.

So color me skeptical.

Jay Bookman covered Georgia and national politics for nearly 30 years for the Atlanta Journal-Constitution, earning numerous national, regional and state journalism awards. He is the author of "Caught in the Current," published by St. Martin's Press.



Southwell honors staff at awards banquet

Staff Reports
news@albanyherald.com



Special Photo

Among those recognized at Southwell's recent awards banquet were, from left, Southwell President/CEO Christopher Dorman; Jensen Patrick Nursing Excellence Award honoree Neysa Handley; Exceptional Physician Award winner Dr. Raymond Alvarez; Advanced Practice Provider Award winner Allison Presley; Dixon-Dorminy Employee of the Year Shaneka Paschal; and John B. Prince Award winner Dallas Hunt, Chairman of the Tift Regional Health System Inc. Board of Directors.

TIFTON – Southwell saluted its employees and associates at an annual awards banquet held recently at the UGA Tifton Campus Conference Center. Southwell consists of Tift Regional Medical Center in Tifton, Southwell Medical and Southwell Health and Rehabilitation in Adel, and Southwell Physician Practices with clinics located throughout the region.

"Tonight is a special night of well-deserved tributes, honors and recognition,"Southwell President/CEO Christopher Dorman said. "Our people are our biggest strength, and I remain amazed at the level of dedication and hard work our team puts into every opportunity. Thank you for putting our patients first."

The TRMC Foundation honored Dr. Raymond Alvarez with the Exceptional Physician Award. Alvarez is a hospital medicine provider with TRMC hospital medicine.

The TRMC Foundation also recognized Allison Presley with the Advanced Practice Provider Award. Presley is a nurse practitioner with TRMC pediatric hospital medicine. In addition, the TRMC Foundation named RN Neysa Handley in the Radiology Nursing department as the Jensen Patrick Nursing Excellence Award winner.

The John B. Prince III Distinguished Service Award is designed to recognize a longstanding associate of TRMC who is also a leader in the community, using their influence over the years to help further the mission of the hospital. This year's award was presented to Dallas Hunt, who has served as chairman of the Tift Regional Health System Inc. Board of Directors since 2021 and has served in a board capacity for the system for more than 22 years.

Southwell also recognized employees of the month for the past year. Office Specialist Shaneka Paschal at Affinity Pediatrics was named the Dixon Dorminy Employee of the Year.

Southwell also saluted employees with five, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30 and 35 years of service. Elizabeth Alberson, a pharmacist in the Southwell Pharmacy, and Ginger Jordan, the histology supervisor in the TRMC laboratory, both reached the milestone of 40 years of service.

Earnest Reese, an orderly in the TRMC OR, and Irma Richardson, the transfer coordinator in the Transfer Center, were honored for reaching 45 years of service.

The evening also included a special musical tribute from Office Coordinator Kasandra Pridgon with the TRMC Anita Stewart Oncology Center.

"On behalf of our board of directors and executive team, I want to thank all of you for what you do each and every day," Dorman told the audience. "Wherever you work, whatever your role, please know that you are making a positive impact."

SRTC-Moultrie Radiologic Technology students honored in pinning ceremony



Special Photo:SRTC

Southern Regional Tech Radiologic Technology students honored during a recent pinning ceremony included Robin Osby, Juliana Cordova, Janyra Garcia, Julia Duncan, Rachael Morris, Charleigh Ball, Lanesha Wright, Gersa Augusto, Emma Fulghum, Mariah Lopez, Amber Crosby, Eboni Robinson, Feliciata Brown, Alyssa Tyson, John Jones, Autumn May, Aaliyah Jones, Colin Summerlin, Nohadia Palma, Caiden Grant, Amanda Owens, Caleb Pritchard -Benjamin Moreno- Efrain Sifuentes, Travis Davis and Pedro Urbano.

Staff Reports
news@albanyherald.com

MOULTRIE -- Southern Regional Technical College honored graduating SRTC-Moultrie Radiologic Technology students during a ceremony here recently. Twenty-seven seniors were recognized at the awards ceremony and received pins to mark the completion of their program requirements:

"The Radiologic Technology Class of 2026 has worked incredibly hard to reach this milestone," Radiologic Technology Program Chair Brooke Gagnon said. "Through countless hours of studying, clinical rotations, challenges, and successes, these students have grown into confident, compassionate, and dedicated future radiologic technologists. We are incredibly proud of every one of them." .

Several students were recognized for outstanding effort and achievement. Janyra Garcia was recognized with the Impact Award. Voted on by fellow students, this award recognizes a classmate who made a lasting difference through encouragement, support and dedication to helping others succeed.

Caleb Pritchard was recognized with the Academic Award for achieving the highest grade-point average in the class. This award honors the student's outstanding academic performance, dedication to learning, and commitment to excellence throughout the program.

Alyssa Tyson was recognized with the Clinical Award, which recognizes the student with the highest clinical average in the program and demonstrated outstanding performance in the clinical setting.

The Radiologic Technology Associate of Applied Science Degree Program is a sequence of courses that prepares students for positions in radiology departments and related businesses and industries. Following the completion of core requirements, this program can be completed in four semesters.

In the coming weeks, seniors will sit for the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists exam, and pending passage will be ready for careers as radiographers. These seniors will be eligible to take part in the college's Dec. 2 commencement ceremony in Bainbridge.

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

For the most up-to-date information on registration, class dates, and program offerings, interested individuals can log on to www.southernregional.edu or call (888) 205-3449. Spring semester begins Jan. 12.

Pelham man sentenced to 25 years for trafficking methamphetamine

Staff Reports
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ALBANY – A southwest Georgia man was sentenced as a career offender to serve 25 years in federal prison for trafficking more than 80 kilograms of methamphetamine obtained from Atlanta into the Pelham community after a GBI-led investigation.

"Drug trafficking organizations depend on a network of individuals at every stage of the supply chain, from suppliers and transporters to distributors and street-level dealers," U.S. Attorney Will Keyes said. "This case demonstrates the commitment between federal, state, and local law enforcement to disrupt that pipeline and hold every participant accountable under the law for the harm these dangerous drugs inflict on our communities."

"Methamphetamine remains a serious threat across Georgia, and our rural communities are not immune to its effects," GBI Director Chris Hosey said. "Combatting drug trafficking requires a coordinated effort, and the GBI is proud to work with our local, state and federal partners to investigate drug trafficking across the state. Our shared goal is to dismantle these operations and protect the communities of Georgia."

Lucius Lamar Williams, 43, of Pelham was sentenced to serve 300 months in prison to be followed by 10 years of supervised release by U.S. District Judge Leslie Abrams Gardner. A federal jury convicted Williams of four counts of distribution of methamphetamine, two counts of aiding and abetting possession with the intent to distribute methamphetamine, and one count of possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine. There is no parole in the federal system.

According to court documents and statements referenced at trial, the GBI launched an investigation into drug trafficking in Pelham, conducting a series of controlled purchases from Williams, usually at the Pelham Auto Detail Shop he owned. Each time, Williams sold between 1 and 4 ounces of methamphetamine to either a confidential informant or an undercover agent.

GBI agents discovered that Williams paid for couriers to make trips to Atlanta to obtain multiple kilograms of methamphetamine from an unnamed individual for him to sell in the Pelham community. Traffic stops of his couriers resulted in the seizure of more than 8 kilograms of methamphetamine. Agents also learned that he was using a family member's home to store his drugs.

The GBI investigated the case, with assistance from the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Pelham Police Department, the Crisp County Sheriff's Office, and the Thomas County Sheriff's Office. Criminal Chief Leah McEwen prosecuted the case for the government.

Albany Area Chamber of Commerce
First Methodist Church of Albany
STAR BUSINESS OF THE WEEK
FIRST METHODIST CHURCH OF ALBANY

First Methodist Church of Albany
307 Flint Ave
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The Albany Area Chamber of Commerce proudly recognizes First Methodist of Albany as this week's Star Business of the Week.

With a history dating back to 1841, First Methodist Church has been a longstanding part of downtown Albany, continuing its mission of sharing Christ, strengthening faith, and serving the community.

Through worship services, children's and student ministries, preschool programs, and opportunities for discipleship, First Methodist provides a place for individuals and families of all ages to connect, grow, and build meaningful relationships. The church also extends its impact beyond its doors through community outreach and mission opportunities that reflect its commitment to loving and serving its neighbors.

We are grateful for First Methodist Church's longstanding investment in Albany and its continued dedication to making a difference in the lives of those throughout our community. Congratulations, First Methodist Church of Albany, and thank you for being a valued member of the Albany Area Chamber of Commerce!

The Star Business of the Week is presented by WALB News 10 and Fleming & Riles Insurance with treats provided by Ellianos Coffee Albany.

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State Democrats plan to target six-week abortion ban

By Ross Williams
Georgia Recorder



Special Photo: Ross Williams/Georgia Recorder

Protesters on both sides of the abortion issue clash outside the Georgia Capitol. A newly elected Democratic majority in the Georgia House could mean changes to the state's six-week abortion ban.

ATLANTA -- It was the biggest applause line of the biggest event in Gov.-elect Keisha Lance Bottoms' campaign, a rally featuring former President Obama less than a week ahead of the Nov. 3 election.

"I believe in a woman's right to make decisions –" Bottoms said, then paused for more than 20 seconds of cheers and chants of "Keisha, Keisha."

" — a woman's right to make decisions about her own body and her future," she continued. "And as governor, I will fight to restore that right."

Georgia has banned most abortions since a 2022 U.S. Supreme Court decision overturned the federal right to an abortion and left the issue to the states. With some exceptions, Georgia bans abortions once embryonic cardiac activity is detectable, typically around the sixth week of pregnancy. The ban remains in place while a challenge against it moves through court. Before Roe v. Wade was overturned, Georgia allowed abortions up to about 20 weeks of pregnancy.

Bottoms' health platform included repealing that law and returning to "the Roe-era standard."

Speaking to reporters at the Capitol the Friday after Election Day, Bottoms appeared to acknowledge obstacles to making that happen.

"If we see a pathway to do something about it this session, then we're going to take that opportunity," she said, referring to the annual lawmaking session set to begin in January. "And it may not be this session. If it's not this session, then we're going to take it at the first opportunity that we have."

Georgia Democrats outperformed expectations in this year's midterm election, sweeping all statewide offices on the ballot and narrowly gaining control of the state House. But any pathway for Bottoms to change the abortion law, known as the LIFE Act, would need to run through the state Senate, which is set to remain under slim Republican control.

Republicans will have a two-seat majority in the chamber, which means GOP leadership will likely have final say over which bills are assigned to committee, a required first step toward becoming law.

And once a bill makes it to the full Senate, Democrats will need the support of at least two Senate Republicans to move legislation through the chamber.

Speaking on a recent episode of the Atlanta Journal-Constitution's "Politically Georgia" podcast, Senate Majority Leader Jason Anavitarte indicated that the Senate's Republican majority would not have much appetite to shift its priorities on issues like abortion.

"Georgia elected a majority state Senate of Republicans," the Dallas Republican said. "I mean, those are the electoral results, whether it was 29 or 31 or 32, they elected 29. So we're going to stand by what we believe is the right thing to do, whether it's on abortion or gun rights or the economy or taxes or whatever. We're gonna have a deliberative conversation, and then we'll make decisions."

While the Senate will be under a Republican majority, a Democrat is set to preside over it. Sandy Springs Democratic state Sen. Josh McLaurin is set to become the state's next lieutenant governor in January after winning the majority of votes in the midterm.

McLaurin said a majority is not the same thing as a mandate.

"Those 29 seats are gerrymandered," he said. "If we had fair maps, Democrats would already have a majority. It's a testament to the size of voters' mandate this year that we flipped four Senate seats that were previously considered unwinnable because of gerrymandering. The majority leader should keep that in mind as he performs his moral calculus."

Some Democrats hope a full repeal is possible but believe a compromise is more likely.

"The compromise is going to have to happen in the Senate because that's where you still have a narrow margin of Republicans," state Sen. Sally Harrell, an Atlanta Democrat who previously sought to overturn the abortion ban, said. "That's where they have the majority, but there's so much public support for being able to access abortions and support of reproductive freedom that you might find some Republicans who feel that pressure and who might be willing to enter into a dialogue about making some changes around the edges."

State Rep. Michelle Au, a Johns Creek Democrat and a physician, offered the example of Amber Thurman, a 28-year-old medical assistant who died in 2022.

Thurman experienced a rare complication after undergoing a medication abortion. She went to the hospital with a severe infection, but doctors delayed treatment for 20 hours, and by then it was too late to save her life. Georgia's maternal mortality review committee deemed her death preventable and found the delay largely responsible, ProPublica reported.

Au said lawmakers will be hearing from doctors and medical organizations about what changes they would like to see.

"The most important thing moving forward is we cannot have a law, we cannot have it written into statute that healthcare providers are criminalized for providing what we have been taught to be the best standard of care for certain clinical situations," she said.

If Georgia's new Democratic leadership decides that compromise will be a goal for next year's session, they can expect resistance.

Cole Muzio is founder and president of Frontline Policy Action, an influential right-twing evangelical lobbying group that has successfully pushed for culturally conservative legislation, including Georgia's abortion law.

Muzio said he is hopeful Democrats will not exceed what he views as a narrow mandate from voters and that his organization is ready to work with them on legislation focused on bipartisan issues like boosting support for special education and children in foster care.

But he said Frontline is ready to defend outgoing Gov. Brian Kemp's legacy, including the abortion ban.

But legislators are likely to receive pushback not only from the anti-abortion side.

Kwajelyn Jackson, executive director of the Feminist Center for Reproductive Liberation, a health clinic in Atlanta providing abortions within the current law, said reproductive rights advocates will be lobbying for change as well.

"We will ensure that, whether or not there is waffling or hesitation, that it is made clear to everyone who is holding public office that we are demanding real change and that we are not willing to wait and see, that we actually want to see action being taken as quickly and as definitively as possible," she said.

Christma-hanuk-wan-za-kah: Three holidays in one

By Fran Pappas
Special to The Albany Herald

ALBANY -- Focusing on destination, I began traveling to Africa, Europe, the Middle East, and throughout the United States. It didn't take me long to realize that the most important part of my travel was my journey. The people I met and relationships I made along the way became lifetime connections as I learned that we shared similarities through traditions, customs, food, family, and faith that bring people and families together.

This holiday season, three important holidays celebrating religious and cultural freedom will begin with Hanukkah at sundown Dec. 4, through sundown Dec. 12; Christmas on Dec. 25 and Kwanzaa from Dec. 26t through Jan. 1.

What I found amazing was that the number "7" was a part of each universal symbol celebrating the spirit of giving, love, and hope and storytelling. Their similarities promoting good will through gift-giving, feasts with traditional foods, significant decorations of wreaths and trees, music and games, provided me with emotional nourishment as they emphasized the importance of family and community.

Sounds all too familiar, doesn't it?

The holidays do share many similarities; however, they also differ in how and why they are celebrated. For example, Christmas, a Christian religious and cultural holiday, commemorates the birth of Jesus Christ. Christianity is based on the Bible and teachings of Jesus, a celebration from the seven days of creation to the many sevens in Revelation and the completion of the Crucifixion, when Jesus spoke seven statements in agony from the cross.

Hanukkah, a Jewish winter holiday commemorating the rededication of the holy Temple in Jerusalem, involves the Menorah, a candelabra with seven candles, six curved branches representing the six days of creation, and the center branch representing the seventh day, Shabbat. The six lamps that incline inwards represent the branches of human knowledge, while the central lamp represents enlightenment, the light of God.

Kwanzaa, an African American and Pan-African cultural holiday, is a seven-day cultural celebration held annually that honors seven principles: unity, self-

determination, collective work and responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity and faith. Although it's a uniquely African American observance, it's not tied to any faith or religion, specific geography, or any other holiday.

Last but not least, Chrismahanuk-wan-za-kah is a blend, in word and concept, of the three holidays: the Christian Christmas, the Jewish Hanukkah, and the African American Kwanzaa. Chrismahanuk-wan-za-kah is meant to be an inclusive celebration around the December/January holiday season for friends and family of diverse, interfaith backgrounds.

Three holidays; the trinity; and then there were one. Let us join together as one, and may these holidays bring peace to all humankind and blessings upon us and our families.

UGA climbs in Time's ranking of top colleges for future leaders

UGA Today
media@uga.edu



Special Photo: UGA

Time magazine has ranked the University of Georgia No. 41 among public and private institutions.

ATHENS – The University of Georgia climbed six spots in Time magazine's Best Colleges for Future Leaders 2027 ranking. UGA is the highest-ranked institution in the state of Georgia, No. 4 among institutions in the Southeastern Conference and No. 16 in the nation among public institutions. Overall, Time ranked UGA No. 41 among public and private institutions.

Time partnered with the data research firm Statista to identify the colleges and universities that have played the greatest role in developing influential American leaders.

For its 2027 rankings, researchers examined the educational backgrounds and career histories of nearly 5,900 leaders working in business, government, academia, science, healthcare and other fields. Institutions were evaluated based on their representation in those leaders' educational histories.

"This ranking is a testament to the value of a University of Georgia education," UGA President Jere W. Morehead said. "As a land-grant institution, we prepare our students to lead and serve their communities, our state and the nation. We are proud to see so many of our alumni advancing that mission through their professional achievements and service to others."

Birth Announcements

Staff Reports
news@albanyherald.com

Unless otherwise noted, the following births all took place at Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital in Albany between October 11 and November 7, 2026:

Cooper, Sutton Banks, son, was born Oct. 11 to Peighton Grant and Dillion Cooper of Albany.

Flowers, Sevyn Ke'Mari, son, was born Oct. 11 to Yasmeen Bridges and Roderick Flowers of Albany.

Neal, Zion Myles, son, was born Oct. 13 to Anniyah Hughes and Bryson Neal of Valdosta.

Chaconas, Winona Louise, daughter, was born Oct. 13 to Emily and Corey Chaconas of Leesburg.

Jenkins, Yoshua Israel, son, was born Oct. 14 to Ariel Jenkins and Yoshua Israel of Albany.

Dariso, Jamir Alegend, son, was born Oct. 15 to Meyanni Smith and Javaris Dariso of Americus.

Fulks, De'Zylah Onci', daughter, was born Oct. 15 to Shandrea Gaines and Deonte Fulks of Ideal.

Stidham, Stetson Colt, son, was born Oct. 16 to Madison Roberts and Parker Stidham of Leesburg.

Monds, Raelynn Kehlani, daughter, was born Nov. 2 to Jazlynn Jones and JaVarious Monds of Albany.

Hancock, Jude Morris, daughter, was born Nov. 3 to Kayla and Jeremy Hancock of Leesburg.

Green, Eh'evr Grace, daughter, was born Nov. 3 to Brihanna Green of Dawson.

Douglas, Kaylani Marie, daughter, was born Nov. 4 to Shayla Welborn and Shawn Douglas of Albany.

Murphy, Nature Adore, daughter, was born Nov. 4 to Cynthia Daniels and Aderyl Murphy of Albany.

Maynor, Carter Jaumon, son, was born Nov. 4 to Ashanie Maynor of Albany.

Lawrence, Ivy Joy, daughter, was born Nov. 6 to Rachel and Caleb Lawrence of Leesburg.

Coleman, Jettzon Keanu'lee Beruad, son, was born Nov. 6 to Alacey Mitchell and Justin Coleman of Albany.

Daniels, Jha'laiah Yalani, daughter, on Nov. 6 to Vanity Nelson and Jevonta Daniels of Albany.

Daniels, Koastle Mae Lanier, daughter, was born Nov. 7 to Addison Dawson and Ethan Daniels of Ashburn.

A semifinal berth on the line at Hugh Mills

By Joe Whitfield
Sports Editor



Staff Photo: Joe Whitfield

Dougherty's Melvin Williams pulls down a pass from quarterback Micah Joyner during Friday night's win over Hampton at Hugh Mills Stadium. The Trojans will need all of their weapons this week when a hot Mary Persons squad comes to Albany for the Elite Eight matchup. Kick off at Hugh Mills is set for 7:30 p.m. with temperatures expected to be in the mid-50s.

ALBANY — By halftime last Friday, Mary Persons had put 27 points on an unbeaten team in its own stadium. Back in Albany, Dougherty needed a fourth-quarter touchdown and a late fumble recovery to keep its season alive.

Now the two meet at Hugh Mills Stadium, and Dougherty coach Uyl Joyner has a different read on the result that sent Mary Persons there.

"They are a good football team and they play in that really tough region with Peach County and Troup County," Joyner said. "I don't really think that was an upset."

The sixth-seeded Trojans (11-1) host the 14th-seeded Bulldogs (8-4) at 7:30 p.m. Friday in the GHSA Class 4A quarterfinals. Dougherty earned another home game with a 27-26 win over Hampton. Mary Persons took a 27-7 halftime lead at third-seeded Monroe Area and held on to win 41-35. Gametime temperatures are expected to be in the mid-fifties at kickoff.

The Bulldogs lost to Troup County by three points and Peach County by eight. They come to Albany on a four-game winning streak, with 43 points against Upson-Lee, 49 against North Clayton and 41 against Monroe Area in their last three games.

To keep Mary Persons from putting up another number like that, Dougherty has to get to Jordan Singleton and keep him there.

The senior quarterback has thrown for 1,831 yards and 24 touchdowns with just two interceptions. He has rushed for 438 yards and five more scores. Give him time and he can find junior receiver Mason Stephens, who has 69 catches for 977 yards and 14 touchdowns. Leave a lane open in the rush and Singleton can take it himself.

Dougherty has five defenders with double-digit tackles for loss, led by linebacker Trevion Williams and defensive end John Thomas with 16 apiece. Makiah Redding has 12, Jones Kendarvis 11 and JerMarcus Potts 10. Linebacker Eric Spann, a Georgia Southern commit, leads the Trojans with 69 tackles. They'll have to stay disciplined against Singleton and still account for CJ Banks, who has rushed for 834 yards and 11 touchdowns.

Banks will get a look at the same problem from the other side of the ball. He has 70 tackles, including 10 for loss, and teams with leading tackler Jayden Coleman at linebacker. Their assignment is to contain Micah Joyner, who has passed for 2,801 yards and 37 touchdowns and rushed for 587 yards and five scores.

Hampton saw how quickly Joyner can turn a short throw into a touchdown. With Dougherty trailing 26-21 in the fourth quarter, he found David Burgess along the sideline. The Florida A&M commit ran past the defense for the go-ahead score.

Burgess has 51 catches for 942 yards and 14 touchdowns. If the Bulldogs roll coverage his way, Joyner can turn to Jherel Gibson, Alonzo Hammond, Melvin Williams, Detavious Poole or Jayden Richardson.

"I can tell you Coach [Brian] Nelson will have that team ready to play," Uyl Joyner said. "We will need to be at our best."

Dougherty got the stop it needed against Hampton when the Hornets fumbled on the first play of their final possession. With a semifinal berth on the line, the Trojans face a quarterback who has spent the season making defenses earn that last stop.

Florida State hires Georgia's Schumann

Field Level Media



Special Photo: Joshua I. Jones
Athens Banner / Herald

Florida State named Georgia defensive coordinator Glenn Schumann its head football coach Monday. Schumann is expected to remain with the Bulldogs through the postseason, ESPN reported.

Florida State hired Georgia defensive coordinator Glenn Schumann to be the football team's next head coach on Monday.

Schumann checks several boxes for the Seminoles. He boasts an impressive track record as coordinator of Kirby Smart's defense since 2024 and as a member of the Bulldogs' defensive staff since 2016. Prior to that, he worked under Nick Saban at Alabama. Schumann has been a part of six national championship teams at the two schools combined across nearly 20 seasons.

Schumann, 36, also has work and family ties to Florida State. He previously worked with new Seminoles athletic director Jeff Purinton at Alabama. He was born in nearby Valdosta, Ga. His grandfather Jack Haskin became Florida State's first assistant football coach in 1947 and is a member of the school's athletics hall of fame.

"Being named the head coach at Florida State is an incredible honor and responsibility," Schumann said. "I am thankful to (FSU) President (Richard) McCullough, (Board of Trustees chair) Peter Collins, Jeff Purinton and the rest of the university's leadership for their belief in me. We are going to build a program that meets the championship expectation at Florida State through hard work, high standards and a commitment to each other.

"I want to thank Coach Smart and Coach Saban for their trust in me and supporting me with opportunities to develop as a coach and leader. I will be forever grateful for the impact they have had on my life. My family's connection to Florida State is deep, and I know what this program can be. I'm excited to bring my wife and children to a place that means so much to my family."

The Bulldogs' defense this season is ranked among the top 10 nationally in total defense, rushing defense and scoring defense.

During his time at Alabama and Georgia, Schumann has been a part of eight conference championships and seven College Football Playoff appearances in addition to the six national titles. He can also claim having developed 12 first-round NFL Draft picks and 13 first-team All-Americans.

Schumann began his coaching career in 2008 under Saban as an undergraduate analyst. He moved up to graduate assistant and then served as director of player development and associate director of player personnel in 2014 and 2015.

His Georgia run began as an inside linebackers coach from 2016-18. He was promoted to co-defensive coordinator in 2019, a position he held through the 2023 season. He became the sole defensive coordinator in 2024.

"We are incredibly excited to announce Glenn Schumann as the next leader of our Florida State football program," Purinton said. "I have known him since 2008 and have seen firsthand his growth as a coach. Glenn's abilities in all facets of the game, from organization to leadership to development and recruiting, are elite. He is a great person who will represent the Florida State program with class and integrity. We can't wait to welcome his wife, Lauren, and their children to Tallahassee."



Special Photo: Kameron Taylor

Georgia's Zachariah Branch scores a touchdown in the Bulldogs' 16-9 win over Georgia Tech last season at Mercedes-Benz Stadium in Atlanta. Georgia goes for its ninth straight win in the rivalry Saturday in Athens.

Rivalry Renewed: Good Old-Fashioned Hate

By Joe Whitfield
Sports Editor

ATHENS — The last time Georgia Tech came to Sanford Stadium, the Yellow Jackets led 17-0 at halftime. By the time Nate Frazier ran in the winning two-point conversion, Georgia had needed the rest of regulation and eight overtimes to beat Tech 44-42.

Now the Bulldogs are chasing a different number. A win Saturday would be their ninth straight over Georgia Tech, something neither school has done in a rivalry that dates to 1893.

Top-ranked Georgia (10-1) hosts Tech (3-8) at 3:30 p.m. on ABC. Georgia counts this as the 118th meeting and leads the series 73-39-5. Bobby Dodd's Yellow Jackets won eight straight from 1949 through 1956. Tech's most recent win came in Kirby Smart's first season, when Qua Searcy scored late and Harrison Butker kicked the extra point to beat Georgia 28-27 at Sanford.

A decade later, Smart was asked Monday how much the rivalry means to his players. In a game called Clean, Old-Fashioned Hate, he offered a question of his own.

"Does a hatred for somebody make you play better?" he said. "I don't know."

Smart was more definite about what he sees when he watches Brent Key's team.

"They're physical at the point of attack," Smart said. "They believe in running the ball just like we do."

That's where Georgia has its clearest advantage. The Bulldogs average 201.6 rushing yards per game, and Tech gives up an ACC-worst 213.5. Georgia could also get starting center Drew Bobo back after he missed two games. Smart said Bobo remains day to day but that he thinks the center will be able to play.

Tech has ways to test Georgia on the ground, too. Smart singled out Justice Haynes for what he does after contact and how much Tech can ask him to do. Haynes can catch the ball out of the backfield, protect the quarterback or take the snap himself in the wildcat.

Preparing for Haynes falls to a Georgia defense allowing 13.9 points per game and a coordinator who now has another job waiting for him. Florida State named Glenn Schumann its head coach Monday evening. ESPN reported that Schumann is expected to stay with Georgia through the postseason.

"Schumann has done a fabulous job here," Smart said at his Monday news conference. "If anything comes to his success, he has earned every bit of it, but the University of Georgia is focused on Georgia Tech."

The last three meetings give Georgia plenty of reason to keep its attention there. The Bulldogs won by eight in 2023, by two in eight overtimes in 2024 and by seven last year at Mercedes-Benz Stadium. Georgia has a chance to do something Saturday that no team in this rivalry has done. The Yellow Jackets have spent the past three meetings making the Bulldogs play to the last possession.

Trojans look to keep the zero

Lee County has outscored two playoff opponents 90-0. Next comes a Woodward team that scored on a fumble return and a misplayed field goal in the same quarter.

By Joe Whitfield
Sports Editor

LEESBURG — Lee County has outscored its first two playoff opponents 90-0. Woodward Academy has won twice on the road by a combined 10 points.

Now they meet at 7:30 p.m. Friday at Trojan Stadium, with a spot in the Class 6A semifinals on the line. And if Lee County wants to keep that zero, it'll have to do more than stop Woodward's offense.

Against Sequoyah, Bryce Woods returned a fumble 20 yards for a touchdown. Myles Tate took a misplayed field goal attempt 60 yards for another. By the end of the first quarter, the War Eagles led 17-0.

"They have been very opportunistic in the playoffs taking advantage of turnovers," Lee County coach Dean Fabrizio said.

The third-ranked Trojans (11-1) enter as the No. 2 seed. The 23rd-seeded War Eagles (8-4) have already won at Langston Hughes, where they lost by three touchdowns in October, and at Sequoyah, where they needed a late 80-yard drive to win 31-24.

Lee County knows how quickly a game can turn against Sequoyah. The Trojans trailed by 11 with three minutes left back in September and won 43-32. Jaden Upshaw put them ahead with a 55-yard punt return, and Montravious Clay finished it with an interception return for a touchdown.

Now Upshaw is questionable. The senior receiver and Texas A&M commit left in the first quarter against Kell and did not return. Quarterback Cohen Lawson still has Carter Blackwell, Destin Bell, Amari Weston and Tyler Henderson among his targets, and the Trojans showed against Kell how much damage their backs can do in a single quarter.

Dominique Ball broke loose for a 28-yard touchdown run, and Jaquavian Sheard scored on catches of 48 and 58 yards as Lee County turned a 14-0 halftime lead into a 35-0 win. Fabrizio expects another strong game from an offensive line that includes North Carolina commit Shavezz Dixon, Larry Jackson, Larry Mosley, Kaison Moore and Mike Robinson.

That win ended Kell's streak of 189 consecutive games with a point, dating to 2011. Lee County held the Longhorns to 135 yards in its fourth shutout in six games. This week the Trojans face Harrigan, a Charlotte commit whom Fabrizio singled out along with Woodward's receivers. Sequoyah had the lead in the fourth quarter until Harrigan took it back with one throw.

Woodward has won all three meetings with Lee County, most recently 23-7 in the second round in 2022. To earn a first win over the War Eagles and a host a semifinal game in Leesburg, the Trojans would do well to make Harrigan drive the length of the field. Woodward got two touchdowns against Sequoyah before he needed to throw one.

SEC to weigh expelling LSU

Field Level Media



Special Photo: Kevin Jairaj / Imagn Images

LSU's tiger mascot raises both paws. The Southeastern Conference will meet Dec. 3 to consider ending LSU's membership amid a dispute over athlete eligibility.

The Southeastern Conference will hold a meeting Dec. 3 to weigh whether to terminate LSU's membership.

The SEC filed an amended complaint and a motion for a temporary restraining order on Monday in its ongoing federal lawsuit against LSU, saying the conference plans to hold a meeting to decide whether to "terminate LSU as an SEC member institution."

The SEC confirmed as much in a statement published Monday evening.

"The lawsuit seeks to protect the Conference's ability to govern itself and to enforce the rules and policies its member universities have voluntarily adopted," the SEC's statement said. "The Conference maintains its right to associate only with institutions that meet its established standards and expectations of membership and that demonstrate appropriate institutional control of their athletics programs.

"Monday's filing advances the Conference's obligation to defend its governance framework and the shared interests of its member universities."

According to SEC rules, two-thirds of the 16 university presidents and chancellors are needed to terminate a school's membership.

The decision reflects the escalating tensions between the SEC and its member institution — which began with a clash over the football team adding players who had signed NFL contracts, and were then inflamed by the men's basketball program adding RJ Luis Jr. to the roster and playing him in a game.

The SEC is arguing that its First Amendment right to "expressive association" is being infringed on by LSU. Its suit was first filed in early September, when the Tigers and football coach Lane Kiffin were planning to add tight end Dae'Quan Wright and defensive lineman Zxavian Harris after they had spent time in NFL training camps. LSU backed off from signing the players.

Luis, the 2025 Big East Player of the Year at St. John's, had signed a two-way deal with the Utah Jazz and an Exhibit 10 contract with the Boston Celtics' G League affiliate in Maine, but he never appeared in an NBA regular-season game.

He committed to LSU in May, but head coach Will Wade did not initially roster him because of the SEC's new rule prohibiting the return of any athlete who had signed a professional contract or entered a professional draft and didn't appropriately withdraw.

Luis received a preliminary injunction that was upheld by the Louisiana Supreme Court, not only allowing him to play another season of college basketball, but also preventing the SEC from declaring him ineligible or punishing LSU.

The day after Luis appeared in his first game last week, LSU president Wade Rousse said he instructed Wade not to let him compete for the Tigers again.

In Monday's filing, the conference said the Luis debacle was evidence that LSU had "no real intention of following SEC rules unless it suits their objectives."

"The SEC simply cannot be certain that Defendants won't change their minds and violate longstanding Conference rules again," the filing went on to say.

Because the Louisiana Supreme Court ruled that the SEC could not punish LSU for playing Luis — punishment that could have included suspending Wade for half a season and revoking LSU's voting privileges along with fines — the league is exploring the termination of its membership instead.

"The SEC cannot be forced to associate with LSU while Defendants commit actions that are irreconcilable with the Conference's goals and views and that make a mockery of the Conference's institutional control requirements," the filing said. "Defendants' actions with respect to Mr. Luis violate the SEC's Professionalism Rules and confirm the lack of institutional control over the athletics program at LSU that is required by the SEC Constitution and Bylaws."

Terrell Academy sweeps Citizens Christian for first wins

By Joe Whitfield
Sports Editor

DAWSON— Terrell Academy's girls found their way around a 6-foot-1 center by shooting from the perimeter. The boys built an early lead from beyond the arc, too, then spent the rest of the night trying to hold it.

Both teams picked up their first wins of the season Monday at Terrell Academy's Thanksgiving Tip-Off Classic. The Lady Eagles beat Citizens Christian Academy 43-34, and the Eagles edged the Patriots 41-40 in the final game of the opening day. Both Terrell Academy teams are 1-2.

With Citizens Christian center Arabelle Roberts controlling the paint, Terrell Academy stayed outside early. Natalie Oliver hit two 3-pointers and Hadley Webb added another for a 9-5 lead after one quarter. All five of the Lady Eagles' first-half field goals came from beyond the arc as they took a 16-13 lead into halftime.

Citizens Christian tied it at 18 early in the third quarter. Caroline Joiner answered with a 3-pointer from the top of the key and hit two more in the quarter, including one from the corner, to help Terrell Academy build a 29-20 lead.

That cushion disappeared when the Lady Patriots scored the first nine points of the fourth. Terrell Academy pulled ahead again, and Piper Graham hit a 3-pointer with 1:45 left to make it 37-32. After Roberts fouled out, Webb sank another 3 to help put the game away.

Webb led Terrell Academy with 19 points. Joiner scored nine, Oliver added eight and Graham finished with seven. Roberts led Citizens Christian with 23.

Freshman Bo Scott Holland got the Eagles started with a 3-pointer in the boys game, and Garrison Lorber hit two more as Terrell Academy jumped ahead 12-4. Citizens Christian cut the lead to 19-18 by halftime, and the Eagles' margin at the final buzzer was still one point.

Tillman Faust led Terrell Academy with 16 points. Luke Rudd scored 11 for Citizens Christian.

The Eagles will return to action after the holiday break Tuesday when Westwood comes to Dawson.



Staff Photo: Joe Whitfield

Terrell Academy's Tillman Faust leaps toward the basket for two points during Monday night's game against Citizen Christian in Dawson. Faust scored 16 points to lead the Eagles to their 41-40 win.

COLUMNIST ■ TONY DUCKWORTH

Tony's Take: The Dawgs, Wemby and a grateful Pop Pop

Dominance. The state of having power, control, authority, or greater influence over others. That pretty much sums up UGA football this season, save the hiccup against that pesky team on the Plains.



DUCKWORTH

When I watch this team, I see a team that imposes its will on opponents. Kirby has a Saban-like edge to his coaching that keeps the players and staff in the organization on edge and sharp. Recruits must align with the Dawgs culture which primarily means 'team over me', hard work, discipline, and a desire to be coached. Prospects know UGA has a winning formula, but they also recognize they should not choose Athens unless they want to be coached hard all the time. I'm certain it is an adjustment period for most, but those who persevere reap the rewards.

In recent years, the reward equals National and SEC Championships. The number of Dawgs who are playing in the NFL are also part of the reward.

The average Dawgs fan will look back when the Kirby era is over in disbelief at how they took it for granted.

Remarkable. NBA superstar Victor Wembanyama continues to put up statistics that seem impossible. What makes it more impressive is that Wemby's 7' 4" stature defies logic on the skill level he performs.

On Saturday, Wemby tallied his third career 50-point game against New Orleans. What makes his stat line even more improbable is what his line was at halftime. According to ESPN, Wemby became the first NBA player in the play-by-play era to score at least 30 points, 10 rebounds, 3 blocks, and 3 steals in a half. Yes, a half. It should be noted that with 2:30 remaining in the half, Wemby had outscored the Pelicans' starting five.

Wemby's halftime stat line was 32 points, 12 rebounds, 3 steals, and three blocks. By the way, ESPN reports no player in the NBA has matched that line in an entire game this season. Wemby compiled these numbers in nearly 18 minutes.

ESPN reports that Wemby tied LeBron and Devin Booker for the second-most 50-point performances in NBA history by a player 22 or younger. Wemby turns 23 on January 4, so he may thread another 50 to become the lone player to accomplish four career 50-point performances.

Wemby joined Hall of Famer David Robinson as the only two with 50-point and 5 block games in NBA history since blocks were added to the stat line in the 1973 - 74 season. Wemby is the first to accomplish this multiple times during the same season.

Farewell. UGA will be playing in Kirby's 9th (of 11 seasons) SEC title game versus Bama, Tennessee, or Texas. This will be the last SEC Championship due to the CFP expanding to 24 teams in 2027.

UGA is currently Vegas' darling to win the CFP, along with Notre Dame, Texas, BAMA, and Miami rounding out the top 5 to make a run at the title according to the oddsmakers.

Thankful. Sports and athletics are a big part of my life. Life is hard and the entertainment value of sport is worth the distraction it provides.

In the end, family is the greatest gift we have. Take the time to enjoy your family during the holidays. I will meet my second grandchild this week. I'm thankful he is healthy and humbled he will bear my name.

Something tells me Anthony Channin Duckworth III will enjoy sports like his Pop Pop.

Super 6 + 1 | #23 LOUISVILLE @ #16 Kentucky | Auburn @ **#3 BAMA | #24 FLORIDA** @ FL State | Miss St @ **OLE MISS | TEXAS** @ TX a&m | #18 usc @ **#4 UCLA** | Falcons @ **VIKINGS** | Record 51 - 25

Tony Duckworth is a Macon native and President and CEO of the Albany Area YMCA.



Special Photo: Sam Greene / The Enquirer

Tarik Skubal follows through on a pitch for the Los Angeles Dodgers. The two-time Cy Young Award winner reportedly agreed to a nine-year, $450 million deal with the New York Mets.

Skubal's reported deal sets record for a pitcher

Field Level Media

Two-time Cy Young Award winner Tarik Skubal has agreed to a nine-year, $450 million contract with the New York Mets, according to multiple reports on Sunday.

The 30-year-old left-hander has been MLB's most dependable and dominant starter over the last three seasons. Skubal won the American League Cy Young with the Detroit Tigers in 2024-25 while winning 31 games and posting a 2.30 ERA.

Skubal split last season between the Tigers and the Los Angeles Dodgers and produced a 12-7 record with a 2.72 ERA. For his career, Skubal owns a 66-44 record with a 3.02 ERA in 163 games (160 starts).

Skubal has amassed 1,075 strikeouts versus just 199 walks in his 925 1/3 career innings. He has registered a sub-1.00 WHIP in each of his last four seasons.

The $450 million agreement shatters the previous MLB mark for biggest contract for a pitcher. Yoshinobu Yamamoto, who was pursued by Mets owner Steve Cohen shortly after he took over the team, signed a 12-year, $325 million deal before the 2024 season.

Skubal will be asked to direct the Mets back to the playoffs after enduring their first last-place finish in the National League East since 2003. The Mets also missed the postseason in 2025 despite getting off to a 45-25 start.

Skubal reportedly also met with the Toronto Blue Jays, San Diego Padres and Los Angeles Dodgers.

Nolan McLean (12-10, 3.16 ERA) was the Mets' only reliable starter throughout the 2026 season, though Christian Scott (4-5, 3.85) and rookie left-hander Zac Thornton (5-6, 3.42) fared well in the second half. Left-hander Sean Manaea (6-8, 4.78) gives the Mets another veteran option.

Elevated Holiday Recipes Perfect for Any Occasion



FEATURE IMPACT

Holiday celebrations can take many shapes, from family feasts to small bites ahead of a dazzling main course. However, between shopping, decorating and a calendar full of events, finding time to plan your own holiday menus can be a challenge. A few thoughtfully chosen ingredients and approachable recipes can make hosting feel more manageable and every gathering feel special.

Bring a taste of Europe to your table with Grana Padano PDO cheese and Prosciutto di Parma PDO. The cheese's rich, nutty flavor and the prosciutto's delicate sweetness and silky texture can elevate your recipes, whether you're preparing a family favorite or planning appetizers for a holiday party.

Both specialties carry the European Union's Protected Designation of Origin (PDO) certification, which identifies foods produced in defined geographic regions according to strict specifications. Look for the red and yellow PDO logo to help ensure authenticity, quality and traceability.

Put these European favorites to work in these recipes that combine simple steps with festive presentation. Easy to serve and full of flavor, these holiday appetizers will have guests coming back for more.

Savory Cheese Puff Pastry Biscuits turn ready-made dough into holiday shapes with three colorful topping options: paprika, parsley and sesame, each mixed with grated cheese. Sweet Potato Rounds pair roasted sweet potatoes with creamy goat cheese, savory prosciutto and crisp sage for a bite that looks as inviting as it tastes.

Find more holiday recipe ideas at distinctlydeliciouslyeuropean.eu.

Savory Cheese Puff Pastry Biscuits

Yield: 25-30 biscuits

Biscuits:

- **2 rolls puff pastry dough**
- **1 egg, whisked, for brushing**

Toppings:

- **1 tablespoon sweet paprika**
- **1 tablespoon chopped fresh parsley**
- **1 tablespoon sesame seeds**
- **1 cup grated Grana Padano PDO cheese**

Preheat oven to 350 F.

Line baking tray with parchment paper.

To make biscuits: On lightly floured surface, roll out puff pastry dough. Using cookie cutters, cut out shapes, dividing into three equal groups, one for each topping variation.

Brush top of each biscuit with whisked egg.

To make toppings: Place paprika, parsley and sesame seeds in three separate bowls. Divide grated cheese evenly among bowls.

Sprinkle one-third of biscuits with paprika mixture, one-third with parsley mixture and one-third with sesame seed mixture. Place biscuits on lined tray, spacing slightly apart.

Bake 12-15 minutes, until golden and fragrant.

Sweet Potato Rounds

Yield: 16-20 rounds

- **2 medium sweet potatoes**
- **2 teaspoons olive oil**
- **salt, to taste**
- **2 tablespoons butter**
- **1 bunch fresh sage, stems removed**
- **4 ounces goat cheese**
- **8 slices Prosciutto di Parma, halved**

Preheat oven to 425 F.

Line baking sheet with foil or parchment paper. Peel and slice sweet potatoes into 1/2-inch rounds. In medium bowl, toss sweet potatoes with oil and lightly season with salt, to taste. Arrange rounds in single layer on prepared pan; bake until sweet potatoes are lightly browned and tender, about 20 minutes, flipping halfway through.

In small skillet over medium heat, bring butter to simmer. Add half the sage leaves. Cook until crispy, 2-3 minutes. Remove to paper towel and season lightly with salt, to taste. Repeat with remaining sage leaves. Reserve 2 teaspoons butter. In small food processor, combine goat cheese and reserved butter; whirl until smooth.

To make rounds, remove goat cheese to plastic zip-top bag. Cut off one corner and pipe small dollops of cheese onto each round. Top with half slice prosciutto and one crispy sage leaf.





Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or of the granting authority. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

Georgia HEART Hospital Program reaches $100 million rural hospital tax credit cap

Staff Reports
news@albanyherald.com

ATLANTA -- The Georgia HEART Hospital Program has announced that the 2026 rural hospital tax credit cap of $100 million was met on Nov 23, marking a historic milestone for the program and reflecting the tremendous commitment of Georgia taxpayers to strengthening rural healthcare across the state.

Strong participation from individuals and businesses throughout the year, coupled with a significant increase in tax credit application activity in recent weeks, propelled the program to this record-breaking achievement. The collective generosity of Georgia taxpayers will have a meaningful impact on every HEART-eligible rural hospital across the state.

"Reaching the $100 million cap is an incredible accomplishment and a testament to the growing recognition among Georgia taxpayers of the vital role our rural hospitals play," Ben Saylor, CEO of the Georgia HEART Hospital Program, said. "As we approach Thanksgiving, we are especially grateful for the thousands of taxpayers who have chosen to invest their tax dollars in the health and well-being of communities across our state."

Through the Georgia HEART Hospital Program, individuals and businesses can receive a dollar-for-dollar Georgia income tax credit for qualifying contributions to eligible rural hospitals. These contributions provide critical financial resources that enable hospitals to enhance healthcare services, invest in facilities and equipment, and continue providing quality care to the communities that depend on them.

Although the 2026 cap has been met, Georgia HEART will continue accepting tax credit applications and building a waiting list of interested taxpayers. Should previously approved tax credits go unfunded, applicants on the waiting list may have an opportunity to participate before year-end.

Looking ahead, HEART will begin accepting 2027 tax credit applications at www.georgiaheart.org on Dec. 1 and encourages taxpayers to apply early to secure their opportunity to support Georgia's rural hospitals in the c

Georgia HEART extends its appreciation to its participating hospitals, individual and business contributors, tax advisors, and community partners whose collective efforts have helped make this historic achievement possible.

The Georgia HEART Hospital Program administers Georgia's Rural Hospital Tax Credit Program, helping eligible rural hospitals increase their funding and enhance their ability to provide quality healthcare to Georgians. Through this innovative tax credit opportunity, Georgia taxpayers can redirect their state income tax dollars to support rural hospitals and make a meaningful impact on communities across the state.



File Photo

Phoebe Sumter Medical Center in Americus was one of the rural hospitals in Georgia to receive part of the Georgia HEART Hospital Program's $100 million credit cap funding.

City of Edison
Public Hearing Notice

The City of Edison will have a public hearing on December 14th, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. to hear public comment on the following:

- Conditional Use permit – 19081 Hartford ST. Edison, Ga 39846

- Adoption of Zoning Ordinance

- Adoption of Data Center Ordinance

A Meeting will be held immediately after the public hearing for the Council to act on this matter. Both meetings will be held at City of Edison's Meeting Room, 19433 Hartford St. Edison, Ga 39846.

Please call (229) 835-2279 for more information.

Daily strategies for staying organized

Organization is about much more than just being able to know where your stuff is at all times. The benefits of being organized are numerous. According to PIH Health, being organized can affect time management, save money and can even help a person feel less stressed. Being organized will help a person stay focused and productive. Tidying up also can count as a low-impact workout.

Despite how beneficial it can be, staying organized can sometimes get away from a person because it might seem overwhelming. Instead, breaking down organization into small, daily habits makes the chore easier, rather than waiting for a massive undertaking. The following are some organizational tips, courtesy of My 100 Year Home, Maison de Cinq and Guideposts.

• Papers: Handle papers, mail, newspapers, and similar items immediately instead of setting them down to look for later. If there is junk mail, toss it in the recycling bin right on the spot.

• In and out: For every new item brought into the home, such as clothing, decor or a kitchen gadget, donate or discard one similar item to keep the home inventory manageable.

• Drop zones: Set up dedicated receptacles to catch items near entryways for bags, keys and wallets so they do not end up being scattered across the home. A basket on the bottom step to collect stray items that need to be relocated upstairs also is a good idea.

• Get a tidy tote: Enlist the help of a tote or portable caddy that can be carried around the home to quickly gather out-of-place items.

• Digital correspondence: Address emails at least once a day and trash messages and texts that need not be kept so that inboxes aren't overloaded.

• Label: Each day for a little while until complete, go room to room and label bins, pantry shelves and toy boxes. This way family members will know where things belong.

• Load the dishwasher: A dishwasher can keep a kitchen organized. Dishes should be placed in the dishwasher immediately after meals so they do not clutter up the sink (or attract pests). Once the dishwasher is full, a load can be run.

• Create a daily schedule: Establish a calendar for cleaning in addition to spot tidying. Each room of the house can be matched up to a day of the week for deeper cleaning.

With some daily organizational tips, people can stay on top of clutter.



The following are some organizational tips, courtesy of My 100 Year Home, Maison de Cinq and Guideposts.









Southwest Georgia Outdoors



HUNTING SEASON DATES

Canada Goose: November 28 - 29
Ducks: November 28 – November 29
Fox & Bobcat: December 1 – February 14
Woodcock: December 5 – January 18
Duck & Mergansers: December 12 – January 31
Snow Goose & White Fronted Goose: December 12 – January 31

Finding plenty of analog memories in this digital age

By Tom Seegmueller
news@albanyherald.com

ALBANY— I was talking to granddaughter Bennett the other day about her day at school and watching her do homework, and it occurred to me that it wouldn't be long before I might be reading her essays on life or the ubiquitous writing assignments such as, "What do you have to be thankful for this Thanksgiving.?"

Sitting in a deer stand this week, I recalled our conversation and took a moment to reflect on my early erudite writing endeavors and how I might respond to the same question today. How have seven decades shaped my view on being thankful?

I'm thankful to have grown up in an era where my experiences, both good and bad, have been real and not virtual. I'm thankful to have shared most of these events with friends and family who made them more vibrant when enjoyable, and more bearable when challenging.

I'm thankful many of these experiences exist only in my memory and aren't somewhere in "the cloud" for others to judge. I'm thankful and blessed to still have the friendship and guidance from my father, who is still an inspiration and example of why integrity, honor and trust are important in life; a man who, along with my mother, provided me with not only security but the freedom to be myself.

I'm thankful for them showing me love even when I faltered and failed. I'm thankful their only prerequisites were that I would do my best and not quit when I attempted something new. I'm thankful for those who gave me the opportunity to try, regardless of my success. I'm thankful that I was allowed to be raised with a bevy of honorary uncles and aunts, both black and white, who shared their insights on life and living. My horizons were broader and my understanding deeper because of these experiences.

I'm thankful I encountered a time when political and philosophical differences could lead to an enjoyable and open discussion without rancor. I'm thankful for my children and their children, who now make my life richer as I grow older. I'm thankful for them patiently allowing me to relive some of my youth through their shared endeavors. I'm also thankful for the fresh perspectives they provide on the world we currently share.

I'm thankful to have grown up knowing that if you have more friends than fingers, you might not understand what a real friend is. Therefore, I am extremely thankful for those few that are still alive that have stuck with me through the good and the bad that I have shared with them. I'm thankful for the things they taught me, but moreso for their forgiveness.

I'm thankful that I met Kelly and now agree with her that had we met earlier, we would not have appreciated each other or the menagerie we now share. I'm thankful I caught the tail end of glory days of quail hunting and the restoration of white-tail deer. I'm thankful I can still walk in on a good point and watch a buck chase a doe. I'm thankful that I can still sit on a horse and enjoy a ride when the opportunity comes along.

I'm thankful to still be sharing the ride, and for the most part I can still say, " Peter Pan never had a bad day. Some are just better than others."



When it comes to being thankful this Thanksgiving, this is what life is all about.

Special Photo

The history of binoculars as used by hunters

By Tom Seegmueller
news@albanyherald.com

ALBANY — For most of the 20th century, outdoors enthusiasts in southwest Georgia had no need to carry binoculars into the field unless they were birdwatching. Then, in the 1960s, the introduction of pivot irrigation systems combined with efforts to restore the region's white-tail deer population gave hunters in the region new reasons to consider a good pair of binoculars as a valuable piece of gear.

As pivot irrigation systems began to transform the landscape, deer had the opportunity to feed in fields that covered hundreds of acres. This offered hunters the opportunity to step out of the woods and see deer feeding and traveling at longer distances. Sometimes at extremely long distances.

Suddenly, the 30-30 was being replaced with a more modern high-velocity gun. Although these guns were often equipped with scopes offering high magnification, hunters soon discovered using them to observe a large field wasn't safe or efficient.

The binoculars we take for granted today have historical roots that can be traced back almost 5,000 years. Ancient Egyptian artisans are credited with shaping the first optical lens from polished crystal. However, historians believe that these early convex lenses were not created to improve vision. They were most likely used to start fires by focusing rays of sunlight in one spot.

Roman scholars would advance the process in the first century A.D., using water-filled "burning glasses" to not only start fires but to serve as simple magnifying devices. The critical breakthrough for improving human vision occurred in 1267 when Roger



Bacon, a Franciscan friar in Italy published his observations on optical magnification by the use of glass lenses.

By the end of the century, Italian craftsmen were creating eyeglasses using convex lenses to correct farsightedness. Four hundred years would pass before Hans Lippershey, a Dutch eyeglass maker, would submit his patent for "a certain instrument for seeing things far away as if they were nearby."

When Italian inventor Galileo Galilei heard of the invention, he constructed his own version with significant improvements in magnification achieving an eventual magnification power of 30. Although modest by today's standards, his telescope led to the astronomical discoveries of lunar craters and Jupiter's four largest moons.

Lippershey created a pair of telescopes mounted beside each other, allowing simultaneous viewing with both eyes. The design, with its dual viewing configuration, provided improved depth perception and relieved eye strain compared to single-eyed viewing through a telescope. Unfortunately, although Lippershey is thereby documented as the inventor of binoculars, he would never receive a patent for his creation.

For the next three centuries, the development of binoculars would lag behind the optical advance of telescopes. The early use of Galilean optics with convex objectives and concave eyepieces produced fundamentally narrow fields of view with limited powers of magnification. The precise alignment of both tubes necessary for undistorted viewing through binoculars was a manufacturing impossibility in most optic shops.

In 1823, Johann Friedrich Voigtlander, a Viennese inventor, solved these problems, creating the first commercially successful binoculars. His handheld compact "opera glasses" with up to 4x magnification became popular accessories for those attending theatrical performances.

In 1854, Italian optician Ignazio Porro patented a prism system utilizing two right-angled prisms mounted in a "Z" configuration in each barrel. This corrected the problem of inverted images, which had long baffled other inventors. The solution allowed shorter instruments without sacrificing image quality. Depth perception was also improved and overall weight was reduced.

Early binoculars were limited to 3-6x magnification, which served most recreational needs. However, marine, military and astronomical applications required higher powers and clarity. This demand came at a cost. Higher magnification amplified hand movements and other sources of vibration. It also required much larger objective lenses for bright images and a greater field of view.

More importantly, magnification of 10x or more made lens flaws more obvious. The eventual evolution of binoculars into professional-grade optics would take the collaborative effort of three Germans. Carl Zeiss opened an optical workshop using a scientific approach to lens development. Ernest Abbe, a noted physicist, applied optical physics to his designs, while Otto Schott developed new glass compositions reducing bubbles and increasing clarity.

By 1935, Zeiss binoculars were setting the standard with anti-reflective coatings that increased light transition to the eye by 50% and allowed a 10x binocular to deliver bright images. The standard that Zeiss set with the 10x42 format is still acceptable today for most recreational activities.

World War II brought advances in coated optics. During the '50s and '60s, the evolution from brass to aluminum greatly reduced the weight of binoculars by up to 50%. At the same time Zeiss introduced compact binoculars capable of providing performance comparable to standard binoculars but capable of fitting into a shirt pocket.

The '70s and '80s brought waterproof designs utilizing nitrogen-filled barrels, reducing fogging, and rubber O-rings providing waterproof seals. During the 1980s, rubber armor coatings provided protection from impact while providing a no-slip grip.

The 21st century brought gyroscopic stabilization, digital camera capability and Wi-Fi connectivity providing the capability of documenting and storing images and video. Some binocular models have infrared or thermal sensors for use in total darkness.

Traditionally the higher the power of a pair of binoculars, the higher the price. When it came to choosing optics, it was truly one area where "you get what you pay for" was an actual rule of thumb. However, modern manufacturing and rapidly evolving technology have narrowed the gap between cost and quality.

Today there are a number of variables besides magnification to consider when comparing binoculars. When it comes to magnification, buyers will compare some numbers like 10x25 or 12x50. The first number in the series refers to the power of magnification and the second refers to the objective lens size. The objective lens is the front lens, which gathers light and transmits the image to the eye.

Generally, the larger the lens, the more light it collects. However, the larger the lens, the larger the pair of binoculars. While this may not seem important, the weight of a pair of heavy binoculars on a hunter's neck can become bothersome as a hunt drags on.

Buying the most magnification you can find or afford is not necessarily a wise goal.The ability of binoculars to gather light becomes the real benefit. The higher the magnification, the less light is transmitted to the eyes. Higher magnification also amplifies hand shake, which may require the use of a tripod or monopod for stabilization, adding to the gear a hunter must carry to his or her blind or stand.

Another specification to consider before purchasing a pair of binoculars is their field of view. Generally speaking, the higher the magnification, the narrower the field of view. While this may not sound important, the more you have to move to view an area, the more visible you are to game. This is especially true at closer ranges while bow hunting or hunting with any firearm in thick cover.

One of the drawbacks to carrying a pair of binoculars in the field is having to carry the binoculars. Previously, hunters had to either keep them continually hanging from their neck, which can be uncomfortable, or store them in a pack where they were not immediately accessible. Free-hanging binoculars also can strike other objects, including a firearm or stand, causing loud noise at the most inopportune times.

Today there are a variety of binocular chest packs on the market to solve these problems, distributing the weight to shoulders while keeping them securely in front of the hunter at all times. Additional side pockets allow hunters to carry calls, range-finders, ammunition, and other items within easy reach while stalking, still hunting or on a stand.

THE ALBANY HERALD

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JOBS

Full-Time

Property Manager
Vacancy Announcement
November 16, 2026

The Tifton Housing Authority is now accepting applications for the position of Property Manager. Employment applications may be picked up and returned to the Administrative Office located at 1425 North Tift Avenue Bldg. 15, Tifton, GA between 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. beginning Monday, November 16, 2026. Applications must be received no later than 12:00 noon on Wednesday, December 16, 2026. They may be mailed to the Tifton Housing Authority, P. O. Box 12, Tifton, GA 31793 or emailed to info@tiftonhousing.org.

The employee hired for this position will be responsible for the day-to-day supervisory work involved in planning, coordinating and managing the rent collection, leasing and continued occupancy functions of the housing authority. Duties require thorough knowledge of policies governing rent collection, eligibility, admissions and occupancy. Position requires 2 years' experience in office administration or a related area. Prefer project based rental assistance and public housing experience. High school diploma and valid Georgia driver's license required. Salary is based on experience. Full benefits. Drug screen and criminal background check required.

Albany Legals

Construction/ Service Bids

A-1159
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
132-136 Pine Ave Redevelopment
PROPOSAL REF. #27-022R

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Albany, Procurement Division, 222 Pine Avenue, Suite 260, Albany, Georgia, 31701, until 5:00 PM, on December 21, 2026. No formal pre-proposal conference will be held for this solicitation. Proposal documents can be obtained from Procurement, the Georgia Procurement Registry, and www.albanyga.gov. For additional information contact Ricky Gladney, Buyer I, at rgladney@albanyga.gov.
\by\ Michael Eaton, Chief Financial Officer
November 28, 2026

A-1151
INVITATION TO BID
Southwest Georgia Regional Airport North T-Hangar Development Project
BID REF. #27-041

Sealed bids will be received by City of Albany, Procurement Division, 222 Pine Avenue, Suite 260, Albany, GA, 31701, until 2:30 PM on December 17, 2026. A Pre-Bid Conference will be held 11:00 AM on December 2, at 3905 Newton Road, Suite 100, Albany, GA and on Teams. A 5% Bid Bond is required of all bidders. Bid documents can be obtained from Procurement, the Georgia Procurement Registry, and www.albanyga.gov. For additional information contact Ricky Gladney, Buyer I, at rgladney@albanyga.gov.
\by\ Michael Eaton, Chief Financial Officer
November 28, 2026

Corporations

A-1147
NOTICE OF INTENT TO VOLUNTARILY DISSOLVE A CORPORATION

Notice is given that a notice of intent to dissolve Lena B. Jackson Farms, Inc., a Georgia corporation with its registered office at 1930 Dawson Road, Albany, GA, has been delivered to the Secretary of State for filing in accordance with the Georgia Business Corporation Code. All persons with claims against the Corporation may present them by sending written notice setting forth their claims, with all supporting documentation, to the registered office of the Corporation. Except for claims that are contingent at the time of the filing of the notice of intent to dissolve or that arise after the filing of the notice of intent to dissolve, a claim against the Corporation not otherwise barred will be barred unless a proceeding to enforce the claim is commenced within two years after publication of this notice, as provided in O.C.G.A. § 14-2-1407(b).
November 28, December 5, 2026

A-1160
NOTICE OF INTENT TO INCORPORATE

Notice is given that Articles of Incorporation that will incorporate Southwest Georgia Veterans Transitioning Housing, Inc. have been delivered to the Secretary of State for filing in accordance with the Georgia Nonprofit Corporation Code. The initial registered office of the corporation is located at 1137 Dawson Road Albany, Georgia 31707 and its initial registered agent at such address is Enika McClain.
November 28, December 5, 2026

A-1135
NOTICE OF INTENT TO VOLUNTARILY DISSOLVE A CORPORATION

A Notice of Intent to Dissolve The James M. Barnett, Jr. Foundation, Inc., a Georgia non-profit corporation with registered office at 212 N. Westover Blvd., Albany, GA 31707, has been delivered to the Secretary of State in accordance with the applicable provisions of the laws of Georgia.
November 21, 28, 2026

Debtors & Creditors

A-1100
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY
All creditors of the estate of **Seaborn Leeron Burnett, Jr.**, deceased, late of said State and County, 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 Executor.
This 5th day of November, 2026.
Vivian Paige Yeats,
as Executor of the Estate
of Seaborn Leeron Burnett, Jr., deceased
c/o Perry & Walters, LLP
Post Office Box 71209
Albany, Georgia 31708
November 14, 21, 28, December 5, 2026

A-1099
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY
All creditors of the estate of **KATHLEEN CARLTON STROM**, deceased, late of said State and County, 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 Executors.
This 5th day of November, 2026.
Kathleen Ivy S. Lane, Elizabeth Dampier S. Huber, and Walter W. Storm, II, as Executor of the Estate of Kathleen Carlton Strom, deceased

c/o Perry & Walters, LP
Post Office Box 71209
Albany, Georgia 31708
November 14, 21, 28, December 5, 2026

A-1102
NOTICE TO DEBTORS & CREDITORS

All creditors of the Estate of Nancy Coleman McLendon, late of Dougherty County, deceased, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said Estate are required to make immediate payment.
This 5th day of November 2026.
WHITNEY M. DALE
Administratrix of the Estate of Nancy Coleman McLendon
DIVINE FINNEY DAVIS, PC
600 N. Jackson Street
Albany, GA 31701
November 14, 21, 28, December 5, 2026

A-1104
NOTICE

GEORGIA
DOUGHERTY COUNTY
Notice is hereby given to all creditors of the Estate of Ada M. Grady Johnson, deceased, to present an account of their demands to the undersigned within the time prescribed by law, and all persons indebted to the said estate are hereby requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned.
Benjamin Bernard Johnson and Sabrina Johnson
Co-Executors of the Estate of
Ada M. Grady Johnson
c/o Larry B. Owens, LLC
P.O. Box 352
Albany, GA 31702
(229) 430-9989
November 14, 21, 28, December 5, 2026

A-1091
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

All creditors of the Estate of JANICE L. SHEPPARD, late of Dougherty County, Georgia, deceased, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law; and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.
This 4th day of November 2026.
Sherman Willis, Attorney for John C. Sheppard
Executor of the Estate of JANICE L. SHEPPARD
GARDNER WILLIS PLAIRE & WILSON, LLP
P.O. Drawer 71788
Albany, Georgia 31708-1788
229-883-2441
November 7, 14, 21, 28, 2026

Debtors & Creditors

A-1143
Notice to Debtors and Creditors
All creditors of the estate of DOMEKA D. HICKS late of Dougherty County, deceased, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.
This 21st day of November, 2026
Name: TERRIKA BRANTLEY
Title: ADMINISTRATOR
Address: 7393 HODGSON MEMORIAL DRIVE, SUITE 202 SAVANNAH, GA 31406
November 21, 28, December 5, 12, 2026

A-1136
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY
IN RE: ESTATE OF Charles Henry Goodroe, DECEASED
All creditors of the Estate of Charles Henry Goodroe, DECEASED late of Dougherty County, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all person indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to me.
Ethan Goodroe
2902 Melrose Drive
Valdosta, GA 31602
229-894-1052
Administrator of Charles Henry Goodroe, deceased
O.C.G.A § 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..."
November 21, 28, December 5, 12, 2026

A-1085
GEORGIA,
DOUGHERTY COUNTY,
NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to all creditors of the Estate of **MARGARET McMINN TUCKER**, Deceased, to submit an account of their demands to the undersigned within the time prescribed by law, and all persons indebted to the said Estate are hereby requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned.
PAMELA McMINN DOHERTY, Petitioner
2134 Hooks Mill Road
Leslie, GA 31764
November 7, 14, 21, 28, 2026

A-1073
GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY
IN RE: ESTATE OF HERMAN E. REID, JR., DECEASED
All creditors of said estate are notified to render their demands to the undersigned according to law, and persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned.
Rebecca F. Reid, Executor
c/o DIVINE FINNEY DAVIS, PC
600 N. Jackson St
Albany, GA 31701
November 7, 14, 21, 28, 2026

A-1152
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

STATE OF GEORGIA,
COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY
All creditors of the Estate of MATTIE PINKIE REDDING FROST 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 19th day of November, 2026.
Lauren H. Williamson,
Administrator of the Estate of Mattie Pinkie Redding Frost
P.O. Box 70639
Albany, GA 31708
November 28, December 5, 12, 19, 2026

A-1155
NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY
IN RE: ESTATE OF FRANK H. SCHAFFER, DECEASED
All creditors of the estate of Frank H. Schaffer, 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 Executor of the Estate of Frank H. Schaffer.
This 20th day of November, 2026.
Deanna R. Schaffer, Executor of the Frank H. Schaffer, Estate
2512 Westgate Drive, Unit 51
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
November 28, December 5, 12, 19, 2026

A-1156
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF CALHOUN
IN RE: ESTATE OF BETTY AVERA POWELL, DECEASED
All creditors of the estate of Betty Avera Powell, deceased, 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 payments to me.
This 20th day of November, 2026.
Christopher Torrey Powell, Administrator with Will Annexed
c/o P. O. Box 425
Bainbridge, GA 39818-0425
Meghan J. Heckman
Kirbo & Heckman, Attorneys at Law, LLC
P. O. Box 425
Bainbridge, GA 39818-0425
November 28, December 5, 12, 19, 2026

Debtors & Creditors

A-1131
NOTICE TO DEBTORS AND CREDITORS

GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY
All creditors of the ESTATE OF MATTIE LEE SIMMONS JONES, deceased, last of Dougherty County, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to me.
This 12 day November of, 2026
Jenny Lee Jones Executor
Estate of Mattie Lee Simmons Jones
2981 County Squire Lane Decatur, GA 30033
PREPARED BY:
THE WOODALL LAW FIRM, P.C.
GEORGE W. WOODALL
THE WOODALL LAW FIRM, P.C.
Attorneys at Law
405 West Tift Avenue
Albany, Georgia 31701-2245
(229) 883-2621
State Bar I.D. No. 774925
gwoodall@thewoodallfirm.com
November 21, 28, December 5, 12, 2026

A-1119
Notice to Debtors and Creditors
All creditors of the estate of Rosa Mae Brown late of Dougherty County, deceased, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.
This 10th day of November, 2026
Name: McKenzie Gulley
Title: Administrator
Address: 3001 E. Park Court, Albany, Georgia 31705
November 14, 21, 28, December 5, 2026

Divorces

A-1157
DOUGHERTY COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
STATE OF GEORGIA
Petitioner: Phaderia Neal
V.
Respondent: Latoney Neal
Civil Action Case Number: 26CV945-1
NOTICE OF SUMMONS

To: Latoney Neal, Respondent Named Above: This notice has been published to let you know that a Divorce case was filed against you in Superior Court on 10/5, 2026. The court issued an order for service of summons by publication on 11/13, 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 1109 W. 4th Ave Apt C Albany, GA 31707. You must file your Answer within sixty (60) days of the date of the order for service by publication. If you fail to file an Answer, then a judgment by default will be taken against you, and the Petitioner will get everything he asked for in the Petition for Divorce.
This the 20th day of November, 2026.
Samantha Sebastain, Dep
November 28, December 5, 12, 19, 2026

A-1120
Dougherty COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
OF GEORGIA
Petitioner: Vontressa Brown
V.
Respondent: Derrick Brown
Civil File Case Number: 23CV1307
ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

Petitioner having moved the Court for an order directing service to be made upon Respondent Vontressa Brown, in the case named above, and it appearing to the Court from the verified Complaint and Affidavit in support of such motion that Respondent is a nonresident and that the action is an action in which a Respondent may be served by publication pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 9-10-71, it is ORDERED, that service upon the Respondent be made by publication as provided by law.
This 26th day of October, 2026.
Denise Marshall
JUDGE / Clerk
Dougherty County Superior Court
November 14, 21, 28, December 5, 2026

A-1092
DOUGHERTY COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
STATE OF GEORGIA
Petitioner: April Sanders
V.
Respondent: Jabouri Denson
Civil Action Case Number: 26CV891-3
NOTICE OF SUMMONS

To: Jabouri Denson, Respondent Named Above: This notice has been published to let you know that a Divorce case was filed against you in Superior Court on 9/16, 2026. The court issued an order for service of summons by publication on 11/3, 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 6659 Chupp Rd Apt 208, Stonecrest, GA 30058. You must file your Answer within sixty (60) days of the date of the order for service by publication. If you fail to file an Answer, then a judgment by default will be taken against you, and the Petitioner will get everything he asked for in the Petition for Divorce.
This the 3rd day of November, 2026.
Samantha Sebastain, Dep
November 7, 14, 21, 28, 2026

A-1089
DOUGHERTY COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
STATE OF GEORGIA
Petitioner: Dontavius Jones
V.
Respondent: Courtney Jones
Civil Action Case Number: 26CV1020-1
NOTICE OF SUMMONS

To: Courtney Jones, Respondent Named Above: This notice has been published to let you know that a Divorce case was filed against you in Superior Court on October 19th, 2026. The court issued an order for service of summons by publication on October 19th, 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 621 Longbow Drive Albany, GA 31721. You must file your Answer within sixty (60) days of the date of the order for service by publication. If you fail to file an Answer, then a judgment by default will be taken against you, and the Petitioner will get everything he asked for in the Petition for Divorce.
This the 22nd day of October, 2026.
Samantha Sebastain, Dep
November 7, 14, 21, 28, 2026

Juvenile Court

A-1148
PUBLICATION
DOUGHERTY COUNTY JUVENILE COURT
IN THE MATTER OF: I.P., B/M, DOB: 06/30/2015; R.P., B/F, DOB: 02/14/2018;
To: Chastity Porter, Anthony Jones, Justin Bell and any other individual who might be the biological father of one male child born to Chastity Porter on June 30, 2015 and one female child born to Chastity Porter on February 14, 2018.

A petition was filed in this Court by Social Services Case Manager Kuwanza Feaster, on the 9th day of October 2025. 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 18th day of November, 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 26th day of January 2027, 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 18th day of November 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
November 28, December 5, 12, 19, 2026

A-1138
IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF HOUSTON COUNTY
IN THE STATE OF GEORGIA
IN THE INTEREST OF:
K. M., SEX F , AGE 2 , DOB 04/27/2024 , CASE #2601391
K. M., SEX M , AGE 1 , DOB 06/10/2025 , CASE #2601414
CHILDREN UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, TESSA DAVIS (mother); ELIJAH MARKS (father); ANY UNKNOWN PUTATIVE FATHER(S), AND ANYONE ELSE CLAIMING A PARENTAL INTEREST IN THE ABOVE CHILDREN

You are notified that a Dependency Petition was filed against you in said court on 11/03/26, an Order for Service by Publication was entered on 11/05/26.

YOU ARE COMMANDED AND REQUIRED TO BE AND APPEAR before Houston County Juvenile Court, held at Houston County Juvenile Court, Warner Robins, Georgia on 01/06/2027 at 8:30 o'clock a.m., for a hearing following service by publication. Serve an answer on Petitioner's Attorney, James E. Patterson, P. O. Box 1006, Forsyth, Georgia 31029. You may obtain a copy of the petition by contacting Houston County Juvenile Court Clerk.

WITNESS the Honorable Judges of this court, this 05 day of November, 2026. Christina Harper
DEPUTY CLERK, HOUSTON CO. JUVENILE COURT
November 21, 28, December 5, 12, 2026

Name Changes

A-1090
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF Dougherty COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
In re the name change of: Rodney Floyd
Civil Action File No. 26CV1056
NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

I, Rodney Floyd , filed a petition in the Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia on the 3rd day of Nov, 2026, to change my name from Rodney Floyd to Rodney Floyd-James. Any interested party has the right to appear in this case and file objections within 30 days after the Petition was filed.
Signed this 3rd day of Nov, 2026.
Rodney Floyd, Petitioner
November 7, 14, 21, 28, 2026

Divorces

2026. The court issued an order for service of summons by publication on October 19th, 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 621 Longbow Drive Albany, GA 31721. You must file your Answer within sixty (60) days of the date of the order for service by publication. If you fail to file an Answer, then a judgment by default will be taken against you, and the Petitioner will get everything he asked for in the Petition for Divorce.
This the 22nd day of October, 2026.
Samantha Sebastain, Dep
November 7, 14, 21, 28, 2026

Name Changes

A-1137
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF Dougherty COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA
In re the Name Change of the Child(ren)
Channing Greene, Minor child(ren)
Civil Action File No. 26-SUCV-561-4
NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

I, Indica Greene, filed this petition to the Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia on the 11th day of June, 2026, to change the name(s) of the minor child(ren) as follows:
Current Name of Child: Channing Greene
Date of Birth: 07-28-26
Proposed New Name: Seven Williams
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 11 day of June, 2026.
Indica Greene
Petitioner pro se
2520 Forsyth Street
Albany, GA 31701
470-832-2121
November 21, 28, December 5, 12, 2026

Probate Court Administration

A-1141
GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY PROBATE COURT
IN RE: ESTATE OF: CHARLES EDWARD DENT
ESTATE FILE NO: 2026-ES-345

Keli Marie Dent has petitioned to be appointed **administrator** of the estate of **CHARLES EDWARD DENT**, 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 **December 21, 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
November 28, December 5, 12, 19, 2026

A-1124
GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY PROBATE COURT
IN RE: ESTATE OF: DEBRA LYNN THOMPSON
ESTATE FILE NO: 2026-ES-164

Melissa Thompson and Morgan Thompson petitioned to be appointed **administrators** of the estate of **DEBRA LYNN THOMPSON**, 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 **December 7, 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
November 14, 21, 28 , December 5, 2026

A-1075
GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY PROBATE COURT
IN RE: ESTATE OF: CATHERINE WADLEY SIMS
ESTATE FILE NO: 2025-ES-435

Vincent R. Wadley has petitioned to be appointed **administrator** of the estate of **CATHERINE WADLEY SIMS**, 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 **November 30, 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
November 28, December 5, 12, 19, 2026

Probate Court Administration

Leisa G. Blount
Judge, Probate Court
Dougherty County, GA
P.O. Box 1827
Albany, GA 31702
(229) 431-2102
November 7, 14, 21, 28, 2026

A-1074
GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY PROBATE COURT
IN RE: ESTATE OF: ETHEL MAY NYGAARD
ESTATE FILE NO: 2026-ES-358

Kenneth E. Stutely has petitioned to be appointed **administrator** of the estate of **ETHEL MAY NYGAARD**, 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 **November 30, 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
November 7, 14, 21, 28, 2026

A-1142
GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY PROBATE COURT
IN RE: ESTATE OF: ROYEL R'IANNA ROLLOCK
ESTATE FILE NO: 2026-ES-368

Christina Danielle Rogers and Raheem Rollock petitioned to be appointed **administrators** of the estate of **ROYEL R'IANNA ROLLOCK**, 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 **December 21, 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
November 28, December 5, 12, 19, 2026

Probate Court 12 mth Support

A-1132
GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY PROBATE COURT
IN RE: ESTATE OF: EDWIN LOVIT MINTON
ESTATE FILE NO: 2026-ES-375
NOTICE OF PETITION TO FILE FOR YEAR'S SUPPORT

The Petition of **Janice D. Minton** for a year's support from the above referenced estate of the Deceased, for Decedent's surviving spouse having been duly filed, all interested persons are hereby notified to show cause, if any, on or before **December 14, 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
November 21, 28, December 5, 12, 2026

Probate Court Wills

A-1153
CASE NAME: JAMES WALTER BURGESS, SR.
CASE NO: 2026-ES-381
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: ALL HEIRS AND DESCENDANTS OF DEBBIE BURGESS a/k/a DEBBIE HODGE and ALL OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES
This is to notify you to file objection, if there is any, to the Petition to Probate Will in Solemn Form, in this Court on or before **December 21, 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

Probate Court Wills

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
November 28, December 5, 12, 19, 2026

Probate Court Discharge

A-1146
NOTICE
(For Discharge from Office and all Liability)
PROBATE COURT OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY
ESTATE NO: 2024-ES-155
PETITION OF CAROLYN WILSON
FOR DISCHARGE AS PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE ESTATE OF: LUELLA MARIE JONE
TO: ALL INTERESTED PARTIES
This is to notify you to file objection, if there is any, to the above referenced petition, in this Court on or before December 8, 2026. BE NOTIFIED FURTHER: All objections to the petition must be in writing, setting forth the grounds for any such objections. All pleadings/objections must be signed before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and filing fees must be tendered with your pleadings/objections, unless you qualify to file as an indigent party. Contact probate court personnel at the following address/telephone number for the required amount of filing fees. If any objections are filed, a hearing will be scheduled at a later date. If no objections are filed, the petition may be granted without a hearing.
LEISA G. BLOUNT, PROBATE JUDGE
Dougherty County Probate Court
Post Office Box 1827
Albany, GA 31702-1827
(229) 431-2102
November 28, 2026

Public Sales/ Auctions

A-1158
ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE
(TOWING OR STORAGE COMPANY)
Vehicle Make: GMC
Year: 2016
Model: Canyon
Vehicle ID #: 1GTG5BE37G1209853
Vehicle License #: COX6426
State GA
You are hereby notified, in accordance with OCGA 40-11-19 (a) (2), that the above-referenced vehicle is subject to a lien and a petition has been filed in court to foreclose a lien for all amounts owed. If the lien is foreclosed, a court shall order the sale of the vehicle to satisfy the debt.
The vehicle is currently located at 3620 NEWTON ROAD, ALBANY, GA 31701
Anyone with an ownership interest in this vehicle should contact the following business immediately:
Business Name: JD GRIFFIN TOWING AND RECOVERY.
Address: 3620 newton road, albany GA 31701
Telephone #: 229-364-8541
Impound Date: 5/26/2026
November 28, December 5, 2026

A-1154
ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE
You are hereby notified, in accordance with OCGA § 40-11-19(a) (2), that each of the below-referenced vehicles are subject to a lien and a petition may be filed in court to foreclose a lien for all amounts owed. If the lien is foreclosed, a court shall order the sale of the vehicle to satisfy the debt. The vehicles are currently located at Professional Locators and Recovery, Inc. 1107 Centennial Ave. Albany, GA 31707.
The vehicle(s) subject to liens as stated above are identified as:

2017 Toyota Corolla- GREY- Vin#2T1BURHEXHC874052- WRA615/ GA
November 28, December 5, 2026

Tax Sales

A-1059
DOUGHERTY COUNTY
DECEMBER 2026 MOBILE HOME PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX SALE
SHERIFF'S SALE
SHONNA COLLEY JOSEY,
EX-OFFICIO SHERIFF
Under and by virtue of certain tax Fifa's issued by the Tax Director of Dougherty County, Georgia, in the favor of the State of Georgia and County of Dougherty, Against the following names persons and the personal property as described immediately below their respective name(s). There will be sold for cash or certified funds at public outcry at 10:00 A.M. at the Courthouse steps - **225 Pine Avenue, Albany Dougherty, Georgia, on the first Tuesday in December, the same being December 1, 2026.** The property will be re-offered at 2:00 P.M. in the event of a no sale.

DAVIS MELVINIA C
PROPERTY DESCRIPTION: 1995 FLEETWOOD
HICKORY HILL
GAFLR35AB09085HH 66x28
LOCATION: 2916 MADELINE RD
CASE TITLE: DEFENDANT IN FIFA:

DENSON IRENE JENKINS
PROPERTY DESCRIPTION: 1996 GRAND MANOR
GRAND MANOR GAGMTD1410AB 60x28
LOCATION: 245 PAIGE ST
CASE TITLE: DEFENDANT IN FIFA:

GRANT HARDWICK JR & LEILA THOMAS
PROPERTY DESCRIPTION: 1999 REDMAN
RIVERVIEW 11434295AB 52x24
LOCATION: 613 WILLIS DR
CASE TITLE: DEFENDANT IN FIFA:

LUDWIG BRIAN SCOTT
PROPERTY DESCRIPTION: 2007 HORTON HOMES INC DYNASTY H819252G 72x14
LOCATION: 211 CORDELE RD LOT 47
CASE TITLE: DEFENDANT IN FIFA:

MYERS REGINALD GARARD
PROPERTY DESCRIPTION: 1998 FLEETWOOD BROADMORE
GAFLW07A42020B411 76X16
LOCATION: 211 PINE BLUFF RD LOT 116
CASE TITLE: DEFENDANT IN FIFA:

SMITH ROGER & BRENDA S
PROPERTY DESCRIPTION: 1997 FLEETWOOD OAK KNOLL
GAFLV34AB25390-OK11 70X28
LOCATION: 2917 MADELINE RD
CASE TITLE: DEFENDANT IN FIFA:

STETTER JOSEPH G
PROPERTY DESCRIPTION: 2004 CAVALIER HMS DYNASTY (O-S, T)
BL04GA0212030AB 66X32
LOCATION: 6121 ELLIOTT DR
CASE TITLE: DEFENDANT IN FIFA:

WOMACK TRACY & VALONIA POWELL
PROPERTY DESCRIPTION: 1992 HORTON HOMES INC SUMMIT (T)
H97008GLR 56X28
LOCATION: 2906 MADELINE RD
November 7, 14, 21, 28, 2026

Foreclosures

A-961
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY
By virtue of a Power of Sale contained in that certain Security Deed from MICHAEL HARRIS to MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. AS GRANTEE, AS NOMINEE FOR QUICKEN LOANS, INC., dated April 25, 2016, recorded May 4, 2016, in Book 4314, Page 208, Dougherty County, Georgia Records, said Security Deed having been given to secure a Note of even date in the original principal amount of Seventy-Three Thousand One Hundred Fifty and 00/100 dollars ($73,150.00), with interest thereon as provided for therein, said Security Deed having been last sold, assigned and transferred to Rocket Mortgage, 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 December, 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 NO. 284 IN THE SECOND DISTRICT OF COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY, STATE OF GEORGIA, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEING ALL OF PECAN LOT NO. 45 IN SOUTHWEST GEORGIA PECAN COMPANY AS PER PLAT OF SAME RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK NO. 1, PAGE 30, IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT OF SAID COUNTY AND STATE.
Said legal description being controlling, however the property is more commonly known as **3913 SLADE AVE, 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.
To the best of the knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the owner and party in possession of the property is MICHAEL HARRIS, ANGELA GAIL HARRIS, 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: Rocket Mortgage, LLC sbm Nationstar Mortgage LLC, Loss Mitigation Dept., 1050 Woodward Ave., Detroit, MI 48226, Telephone Number: 888-480-2432/833-685-8589. 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.
ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC
as Attorney in Fact for
MICHAEL HARRIS
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. NAT-26-03115-2
rlselaw.com/property-listing
November 7, 14, 21, 28, 2026

A-997
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
STATE OF GEORGIA
DOUGHERTY COUNTY
Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by, Rodney B. Dixon, Sr., to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC, dated 11/15/2013, and recorded on 12/2/2013, in Book 4082, Page 191, Dougherty County, Georgia Records, as last assigned to as last assignment to Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC by assignment recorded 3/6/2017 as Instrument No. in book 4396, Page 307, conveying the after described property securing the payment of a Note in the amount of $125,681.00 with interest thereon as set forth therein.
NOW, THEREFORE, notice is hereby given that the entire indebtedness has been declared due and payable as provided in said Security Deed by the Holder, and by virtue of the power of sale and authority vested in it, will on 1/5/2027 sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash: During the legal hours of sale before the door of the courthouse of Dougherty County, Georgia., the following described property situated in Dougherty County, Georgia, to wit:
ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA AND BEING ALL OF LOT 5 OF
THE C.E. JACKSON SUBDIVISION ACCORDING TO A MAP OR PLAT OF SAID SUBDIVISION AS SAME IS RECORDED IN PLAT
BOOK 3 PAGE 311 IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA.
Tax Parcel ID: 00182/00001/20G
Being real property commonly known as **108 SE ROSEWOOD DR ALBANY, GA 31705**
The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the debt and all expenses of this sale including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given).
Said sale will be made subject to the following items which may affect the title to said property: All restrictive covenants, easements and rights-of-way appearing of record, if any; all zoning ordinances; matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or by an inspection of the property; all outstanding or unpaid bills and assessments for street improvements, curbing, garbage, water, sewage and public utilities which may be liens upon said property; and any outstanding taxes, assessments and other liens superior to the security deed being foreclosed hereby. To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the above-described property is in the possession of the borrower and/or other persons with the consent and acquiescence of the borrower.
Except to the extent that the Holder may bind and obligate Mortgagors to warrant title to the Property under the terms of the Security Deed, conveyance of the Property shall be made without any representations or warranties whatsoever, express or implied. All sales are "as is", "where is'.
The entire purchase price is due and payable at the conclusion of the auction in the form of certified funds. Insufficient funds will not be accepted. Amounts received in excess of the winning bid will be refunded to the successful purchaser. This property is being sold with express reservation that the sale is subject to 1) confirmation and audit of the status of the loan by the holder of the security deed, 2) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code, 3) procedures for rescission of sale under O.C.G.A. Section 9-13-172.1, whereby 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 above.
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:
Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC, 500 N. State College Blvd., Suites 1030, 1300 & 1400 Orange, CA 92868 , Telephone No.: 800-561-4567
The foregoing notwithstanding, nothing in O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2 shall be construed to require Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC to negotiate, amend, or modify the terms of the Security Deed described herein.
Please be advised that the trustee may require entity or trust bidders at this trustee's sale to provide information, documentation and/or certification of the vesting instructions and the data required to be reported pursuant to FinCEN regulations effective for transfers of residential real property to covered transferees on or after March 1, 2026. The required information must be provided to the trustee before a deed under power will be issued for covered transfers. The Buyer may be required to pay charges associated with the gathering and reporting of information to FinCEN. Additional information regarding these regulations and the required transferee information and certifications can be found at:
https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/08/29/2024-19198/anti-money-laundering-regulations-for-residential-real-estate-transfers and https://www.fincen.gov/rre-faqs#D_5
Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC as Attorney in Fact for Rodney B. Dixon, Sr.
For Foreclosure sale information please contact Vylla Solutions, LLC, P.O. Box 3309, Anaheim, California 92803, Phone: (888) 313-1969
TS # 26-42435
THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
October 10, 17, 24, 31, November 7, 14, 21, 28, December 5, 12, 19, 26, January 2, 2026

A-998
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
Because of a default under the terms of the Security Deed executed by James H. Coston and Anita S. Coston, husband and wife to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as beneficiary, as nominee for BBMC Mortgage A Division of Bridgeview Bank Group, its successors and assigns dated January 26, 2018, and recorded in Deed Book 4481, Page 189, Dougherty County Records, said Security Deed having been last sold, assigned, transferred and conveyed to U.S. Bank National Association, securing a Note in the original principal amount of $226,743.00, 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, December 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 IN LAND LOT 37 OF THE SECOND LAND DISTRICT OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS ALL OF LOT 263 OF ST. ANDREWS SUBDIVISION, SECTION 2, ACCORDING TO PLAT OF SAME AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 5, PAGE 30, IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA. SUBJECT TO RESTRICTIONS, EASEMENTS AND RIGHTS-OF-WAY, VISIBLE AND OF RECORD, IF ANY.
DEED TYPE: WARRANTY DEED BETWEEN CHARLES A. CLARK, AND HAZEL F. CLARK AND JAMES H. COSTON AND ANITA S. COSTON DATED: 1/20/2000, RECORDED DATE: 1/20/2000, IN BOOK: 2051, PAGE 176.
Said property is known as **2405 East Alberson 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 **Anita S. Coston and The Representative of the Estate of James H. Coston, successor in interest or tenant(s).**
U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION as Attorney-in-Fact for James H. Coston and Anita S. Coston, husband and wife
File no. 26-084664
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.
October 24, 31, November 7, 14, 21, 28, 2026

A-1045
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
STATE OF GEORGIA
DOUGHERTY COUNTY
Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by, Stephanie J. Williams, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for Kellner Mortgage Investments I, LTD, dated 5/27/2005, and recorded on 6/1/2005, as Instrument No. 005946, in Book 2979, Page 292, Dougherty County, Georgia Records, as last assigned to as last assignment to The Bank of New York Mellon, F/K/A The Bank of New York as Trustee for registered Holders of CWABS, Inc., Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2005-7 by assignment recorded 10/13/2026 as Instrument No. in book 5402, Page 371-372, conveying the after described property securing the payment of a Note in the amount of $60,700.00 with interest thereon as set forth therein.
NOW, THEREFORE, notice is hereby given that the entire indebtedness has been declared due and payable as provided in said Security Deed by the Holder, and by virtue of the power of sale and authority vested in it, will on 1/5/2027 sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash: During the legal hours of sale before the door of the courthouse of Dougherty County, Georgia, the following described property situated in Dougherty County, Georgia, to wit:
ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA AND BEING ALL OF LOT 105 OF RADIUM SPRINGS SUBDIVISION, SECTION III, ACCORDING TO A MAP OR PLAT OF SAID SUBDIVISION AS SAME IS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 109 (PLAT CABINET 1, SLIDE A-51), IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT OF DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA.
Tax Parcel ID: 00008-00013-001/ R00-29566 (Tax Map 8, Block 13, Parcel 1)
Being real property commonly known as **410 VIRGINIA AVE ALBANY, GA 31705**
The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the debt and all expenses of this sale including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given).
Said sale will be made subject to the following items which may affect the title to said property: All restrictive covenants, easements and rights-of-way appearing of record, if any; all zoning ordinances; matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or by an inspection of the property; all outstanding or unpaid bills and assessments for street improvements, curbing, garbage, water, sewage and public utilities which may be liens upon said property; and any outstanding taxes, assessments and other liens superior to the security deed being foreclosed hereby. To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the above-described property is in the possession of the borrower and/or other persons with the consent and acquiescence of the borrower.
Except to the extent that the Holder may bind and obligate Mortgagors to warrant title to the Property under the terms of the Security Deed, conveyance of the Property shall be made without any representations or warranties whatsoever, express or implied. All sales are "as is", "where is'.
The entire purchase price is due and payable at the conclusion of the auction in the form of certified funds. Insufficient funds will not be accepted. Amounts received in excess of the winning bid will be refunded to the successful purchaser. This property is being sold with express reservation that the sale is subject to 1) confirmation and audit of the status of the loan by the holder of the security deed, 2) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code, 3) procedures for rescission of sale under O.C.G.A. Section 9-13-172.1, whereby 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 above.
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:
Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC, 500 N. State College Blvd., Suites 1030, 1300 & 1400 Orange, CA 92868 , Telephone No.: 800-561-4567
The foregoing notwithstanding, nothing in O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2 shall be construed to require THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON, F/K/A The Bank of New York as trustee for registered Holders of CWABS, Inc., Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2005-7 to negotiate, amend, or modify the terms of the Security Deed described herein.
Please be advised that the trustee may require entity or trust bidders at this trustee's sale to provide information, documentation and/or certification of the vesting instructions and the data required to be reported pursuant to FinCEN regulations effective for transfers of residential real property to covered transferees on or after March 1, 2026. The required information must be provided to the trustee before a deed under power will be issued for covered transfers. The Buyer may be required to pay charges associated with the gathering and reporting of information to FinCEN. Additional information regarding these regulations and the required transferee information and certifications can be found at:
https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/08/29/2024-19198/anti-money-laundering-regulations-for-residential-real-estate-transfers and https://www.fincen.gov/rre-faqs#D_5
THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON, F/K/A The Bank of New York as trustee for registered Holders of CWABS, Inc., Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2005-7 as Attorney in Fact for Stephanie J. Williams
For Foreclosure sale information please contact Vylla Solutions, LLC, P.O. Box 3309, Anaheim, California 92803, Phone: (888) 313-1969
TS # 26-42059
THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
October 24, 31, November 7, 14, 21, 28, December 5, 12, 19, 26, 2026
January 2, 2027

A-1052
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 Ping Bo Ma and Lu Ying Ma to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for NYCB Mortgage Company, LLC., dated January 25, 2011, and recorded in Deed Book 3779, Page 240, Dougherty County, Georgia Records, subsequently modified by a Loan Modification Agreement recorded May 5, 2016 in Book 4314, Page 331-336 in the amount of Ninety-Eight Thousand Ninety-Seven and 97/100 ($98,097.97) Dougherty County, Georgia Records, as last transferred to Freedom Mortgage Corporation by assignment recorded on November 21, 2017 in Book 4463 Page 91 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 One Hundred Thirty-Six Thousand Five Hundred and 0/100 dollars ($136,500.00), 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, within the legal hours of sale on December 1, 2026, the following described property:
ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING A PORTION OF LAND LOTS 42 AND 79, 2ND LAND DISTRICT, ALBANY, DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:
ALL OF LOT NO. 37 OF BRIARCREST SUBDIVISION, SECTION TWO, ACCORDING TO A MAP OR PLAT OF SAID SUBDIVISION RECORDED IN PLAT CABINET 1, SLIDE C-18, IN THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OR SUPERIOR COURT, DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA.
The debt secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of default, failure to pay the indebtedness as and when due and in the manner provided in the Note and Security Deed. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, as provided in Security Deed and by law, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given).
The entity having full authority to negotiate, amend or modify all terms of the loan (although not required by law to do so) is: Freedom Mortgage Corporation they can be contacted at (855) 690-5900 for Loss Mitigation Dept, or by writing to 11988 Exit 5 Pkwy, Bldg 4, Fishers, Indiana 46037, 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 Ping Bo Ma and Lu Ying Ma or tenant(s); and said property is more commonly known as **3100 Columbia Lane, 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.
Freedom Mortgage Corporation as Attorney in Fact for Ping Bo Ma and Lu Ying Ma.
Brock & Scott, PLLC
4360 Chamblee Dunwoody Road
Suite 310
Atlanta, GA 30341
404-789-2661
B&S file no.: 26-29497
November 7, 14, 21, 28, 2026

A-1062
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY
Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in that certain Security Deed executed by Edsel Martin Ford and Sherry Ann Ford in favor of 21st Mortgage Corporation, dated April 9, 2019, filed April 10, 2019, and recorded in Deed Book 4590, Page 12, Dougherty County, Georgia Records (the "Security Deed"), the undersigned will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the courthouse door of Dougherty County, Georgia, during the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in December 2026, the following described real property:
All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in Land Lot 71 in the First Land District of Dougherty County, Georgia, and being more particularly described as all of Lot 17, Toby Estates, Phase II, as shown on Plat of survey prepared by Malcolm Burnsed, Georgia Registered land Surveyor No. 1691, and recorded in Plat Cabinet One, Slide C-29, on September 11, 1996, in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia, which said plat is incorporated herein and made a part hereof by reference.
Property address (for identification purposes only):
3438 Fleming Road, Albany, Georgia 31705
Tax Parcel Identification No.: 00120/00002/017
The indebtedness secured by the Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of default under the terms of the indebtedness and Security Deed, including nonpayment as and when due. The indebtedness remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of the sale, including attorneys' fees if provided for and recoverable under the Security Deed and applicable law.
The property will be sold subject to all matters having priority over the Security Deed, if any, including outstanding ad valorem taxes, assessments, easements, restrictions, and other matters of record or survey, and subject to the rights of tenants or parties in possession, if any. No representation is made concerning the priority, validity, or extinguishment of any particular lien.
To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party in possession of the property is Edsel Martin Ford and Sherry Ann Ford or a tenant or tenants.
The entity that has full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the mortgage with the debtor is: 21st Mortgage Corporation is the attorney listed below. The foregoing is supplied in compliance with O.C.G.A. § 44-14-162.2 and does not obligate the secured creditor to negotiate, amend, or modify the terms of the indebtedness.
21st Mortgage Corporation, as Attorney-in-Fact for Edsel Martin Ford and Sherry Ann Ford
Godwin Law Group
Attn: Jason Godwin
3985 Steve Reynolds Blvd., Bldg. D
Norcross, Georgia 30093
Telephone: 470-427-2683
jgodwin@godwinlawgroup.com
November 7, 14, 21, 28, 2026

A-1065
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER, DOUGHERTY COUNTY Pursuant to the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by Lashonda D Neal and Jessie T Neal to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for Homeowners Mortgage Enterprises, Inc., its successors and assigns dated 5/3/2013 and recorded in Deed Book 4018 Page 157 Dougherty County, Georgia records; as last transferred to or acquired by Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of $77,569.00, with interest at the rate specified therein, there will be sold by the undersigned at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the Courthouse door of Dougherty County, Georgia (or such other area as designated by Order of the Superior Court of said county), within the legal hours of sale on December 1, 2026 (being the first Tuesday of said month unless said date falls on a Federal Holiday, in which case being the first Wednesday of said month), the following described property: All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in Land Lot No. 420 of the First Land District of Dougherty County, Georgia, and being a part of Tract 10 of the Southern Nut and Fruit Company Subdivision "B", according to a plat of the same recorded in Deed Book 18, Page 371, in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia, and being more particularly described as follows: BEGINNING at the northeast corner of said Tract 10 and run thence westerly along the north line of said Tract 10 a distance of 186.7 feet to a point; run thence southerly along a line parallel to the east line of said Tract 10 a distance of 233.3 feet to a point; run thence easterly on a line parallel with the north line of said Tract 10 a distance of 186.7 feet to the east line of said tract; run thence northerly along the east line of said Tract 10 a distance of 233.3 feet to the POINT OF BEGINNING. The debt secured by said Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of default, failure to pay the indebtedness as and when due and in the manner provided in the Note and Security Deed. The debt remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying the same and all expenses of this sale, as provided in the Security Deed and by law, including attorney's fees (notice of intent to collect attorney's fees having been given). Said property is commonly known as **2300 Austin Drive, Albany, GA 31721** together with all fixtures and personal property attached to and constituting a part of said property, if any. To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, the party (or parties) in possession of the subject property is (are): Lashonda Neal or tenant or tenants. Wells Fargo Bank, NA is the entity or individual designated, who shall have full authority to negotiate, amend and modify all terms of the mortgage.
Wells Fargo Bank, NA Loss Mitigation 3476 Stateview Boulevard Fort Mill, SC 29715 1-800-678-7986
Note, however, that such entity or individual is not required by law to negotiate, amend or modify the terms of the loan. Said property will be sold subject to: (a) any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), (b) unpaid water or sewage bills that constitute a lien against the property whether due and payable or not yet due and payable and which may not be of record, (c) the right of redemption of any taxing authority, (d) any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, and (e) any assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and matters of record superior to the Security Deed first set out above. The sale will be conducted subject to (1) confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code; and (2) final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Security Deed. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 9-13-172.1, which allows for certain procedures regarding the rescission of judicial and non-judicial sales in the State of Georgia, the Deed Under Power and other foreclosure documents may not be provided until final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan as provided immediately above. Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. as agent and Attorney in Fact for Lashonda D Neal and Jessie T Neal Aldridge Pite, LLP, Six Piedmont Center, 3525 Piedmont Road, N.E., Suite 700, Atlanta, Georgia 30305, (404) 994-7400. 1000-2442A THIS LAW FIRM MAY BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. 1000-2442A
November 7, 14, 21, 28, 2026

A-1066
NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY
Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by Melissa C Schuler-Otano to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as grantee, as nominee for Cardinal Financial Company, Limited Partnership, its successors and assigns dated June 12, 2020, recorded in Deed Book 4714, Page 206, Dougherty County, Georgia Records, as last transferred to LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC by assignment recorded in Deed Book 5378, Page 92, Dougherty County, Georgia Records, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of ONE HUNDRED ONE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-FOUR AND 00/100 DOLLARS ($101,134.00), 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 December, 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 any matters of record including, but not limited to, those superior to the Security Deed first set out above. Said property will be sold on an "as-is" basis without any representation, warranty or recourse against the above-named or the undersigned. Prospective bidders must perform their own due diligence.
Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC 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: M&T Bank, One Fountain Plaza, Buffalo, NY 14203, 800-724-1633.
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 **828 W 2nd Ave, Albany, GA 31701.** 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 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

Foreclosures

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.

Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC
as Attorney in Fact for
Melissa C Schuler-Otano
McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLP
1544 Old Alabama Rd
Roswell, GA 30076
www.foreclosurehotline.net

EXHIBIT "A"

All of Lot 87 of Subdivision "A" of Palmyra Heights, according to a map or plat of said subdivision as same is recorded in Plat Book 1, Page 88, in the office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia. This tract is known as 828 Second Avenue, according to the present system of numbering houses in the City of Albany, Georgia.

Parcel ID: 0000D/00003/023
Commonly Known As: 828 W 2nd Ave, Albany, Georgia 31701
FW December 1, 2026
Our file no. 26-24791GA
26-24791GA

November 7, 14, 21, 28, 2026

A-1070

10904860

Notice of Sale Under Power.

State of Georgia, County of Dougherty. Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Deed to Secure Debt given by Barry E Savage And Cherry W Savage to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., As Grantee, As Nominee For Cardinal Financial Company, Limited Partnership, Its Successors And Assigns. , dated 02/08/2018, and Recorded on 02/20/2018 as Book No. 4485 and Page No. 195-213, As Affected By Loan Modification Agreement Book 4985, Page 150-159, Dougherty County, Georgia records, as last assigned to Pennymac Loan Services, LLC (the Secured Creditor), by assignment, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note of even date in the original principal amount of $156,136.00, 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 December, 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: All That Tract Or Parcel Of Land Situate. Lying And Being In The City Of Albany, Dougherty County, Georgia And Being All Of Lot 210 Of Sherwood Acres Subdivision. Section 2, According To A Map Or Plat Of Said Subdivision As Same Is Recorded In Plat Book 3 Page 137 (Plat Cabinet 1. Slide A-91) In The Office Of The Clerk Of Superior Court Of Dougherty County. Georgia And Known As 2207 Sharon Avenue According To The Present System Of Numbering In Albany. Dougherty County. Georgia. Parcel ID: 000SS/00002/006 Commonly Known As **2207 Sharon Drive. Albany, GA 31707** However, By Showing This Address No Additional Coverage Is Provided 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). Pennymac Loan Services, LLC holds the duly endorsed Note and is the current assignee of the Security Deed to the property. Pennymac Loan Services, LLC, acting on behalf of and, as necessary, in consultation with Pennymac Loan Services, 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, Pennymac Loan Services, LLC may be contacted at: Pennymac Loan Services, LLC, 3043 Townsgate Road, Suite 200, Westlake Village, CA 91361, 866-549-3583. 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 2207 Sharon Drive, Albany, Georgia 31707 is/are: Barry E Savage And Cherry W Savage or tenant/tenants. Said property will be sold subject to (a) any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), (b) any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, and (c) all matters of record superior to the Deed to Secure Debt first set out above, including, but not limited to, assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, easements, restrictions, covenants, etc. 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. Pennymac Loan Services, LLC as Attorney in Fact for Barry E Savage And Cherry W Savage. This Law Firm Is Acting As A Debt Collector Attempting To Collect A Debt. Any Information Obtained Will Be Used For That Purpose. 00000010904860 Barrett Daffin Frappier Turner & Engel, LLP 4004 Belt Line Road, Suite 100 Addison, Texas 75001 Telephone: (972) 341-5398.

November 7, 14, 21, 28, 2026

Foreclosures

A-1118

State of Georgia
County of Dougherty
Notice of Foreclosure of Equity of Redemption Pursuant to O.C.G.A §48-4-45 and O.C.G.A §48-4-46

TO: Lillian Johnson Hughes, any and all heirs at law of Lillian Johnson Hughes, Deborah Davis, as Executor of the Estate of Lillian Johnson Hughes, Lisa Johns, Thomas Baldwin, Daniel Baldwin, Lillian Baldwin, Anthony Baldwin, Khyree Sean Baldwin, Robert Crawford Johnson Baldwin, Toni Ellison and all Persons both known and unknown having any right, title, or interest in or lien upon or occupying the following described property.

TAKE NOTICE THAT:

The right to redeem the following described property, to wit:

000EE-00026-004

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN A PORTION OF LAND LOT 239, 1ST LAND DISTRICT, CITY OF ALBANY, DOUGHERTY COUNTY, GEORGIA, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED ON THAT CERTAIN PLAT OF SURVEY ENTITLED "PLAT OF SURVEY FOR LILLIAN J. HUGHES," DATED SEPTEMBER 22, 2000, PREPARED BY LARRY BURNSED, GEORGIA REGISTERED LAND SURVEYOR NO 2634 AND BEING RECORDED IN PLAT CABINET 1, SLID C68G, DOUGHERTY COUNTY LAND RECORDS.

will expire and will be forever foreclosed and barred on or after 4:00 pm on the 28th day of December, 2026. The Tax Deed to which this notice relates is dated the 5th day of August, 2025, and is recorded in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia, in Deed Book 5339, Page 279. The property may be redeemed at any time before the 28th day of December, by payment of redemption price as fixed and provided by law to the undersigned at the following address:

Lorenzo Covin
c/o Mallory Wall Jones
Attorney at Law
410 West Lamar Street
Post Office Box 488
Americus, Georgia 31709

Please be governed accordingly.

Mallory Wall/Jones
Georgia Bar No. 599788
Gatewood, Skipper, Rambo & Moore, P.C.
410 West Lamar Street
Post Office Box 488
Americus, Georgia 31709
Telephone: (229) 924-9316

November 14, 21, 28, December 5, 2026

A-1076

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE OF RIGHT TO REDEEM (O.C.G.A. § 48-4-45 et seq.)

TO: Greenleo Residential Rental, LLC; Megan Davidson; Albert Smith; all occupants of **1315 Gillespie Ave., Albany, GA**; Mark Cohen, deceased, his heirs, executors and assigns; Barry M. Cohen, Executor; Dougherty County Tax Commissioner; Dougherty County; and all persons claiming any interest in the property below.

TAKE NOTICE that the right to redeem Lot 16 and the East 2 feet of Lot 15, Block C, Avalon Subdivision, Plat Book 1, Page 94, Dougherty County, Georgia, known as 1315 Gillespie Ave., Albany, GA 31707, Parcel 000H/00020/005, will expire and be forever barred on and after January 15, 2027, or 45 days after the last publication hereof, whichever is later. Tax deed dated August 5, 2025, recorded Deed Book 5339, Page 157, Dougherty County records. The property may be redeemed before that date by paying the redemption price as provided by law to Tonya Layfield and A'Chanti Layfield, c/o Sovran Law Firm, P.C., Attn: Ada Akpati, Esq., 1300 Ridenour Blvd., Suite 100, Kennesaw, GA 30152, (470) 454-3994.

November 7, 14, 21, 28, 2026

A-1081

NOTICE OF SALE

GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY.

By virtue of a power of sale contained in that certain Security Deed from Jefferson U. Lawson to Georgia Community Bank dated December 16, 2022 and recorded on December 20, 2022 in Deed Book 5048, Pages 92-98, with a Modification of Security Deed dated May 11, 2023 and recorded on May 12, 2023 in Deed Book 5088, Pages 105-106 in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Dougherty County, said Security Deed and Modification had been given to secure that certain Promissory Note dated December 16, 2022 between Jefferson Urey Lawson and Georgia Community Bank in the original principal amount of Fifty Thousand Nine Hundred Sixteen and 00/100 Dollars ($50,916.00) and that certain Promissory Note dated May 11, 2023 between Jefferson Urey Lawson a/k/a Jefferson Lawson and Georgia Community Bank in the original principal amount of Four Hundred Three Thousand Twenty-Two and 00/100 Dollars ($403,022.00), as well as all extensions, renewals, and modifications thereof, together with any and all other indebtedness, of any type or description, then or thereafter owing by Jefferson Urey Lawson a/k/a Jefferson Lawson, there will be sold by the undersigned, at public outcry, to the highest bidder for cash, before the courthouse door in Albany, Dougherty County, Georgia, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in December, 2026, the following described property:

All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in the County of Dougherty, State of Georgia, and being all of Lot 6 of the M.T. Boynton Subdivision, as recorded in Plat Book 1, Page 270 (Plat Cabinet 1, Slide A-34) in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia.

Said property is known as **110 Lovers Lane Road** according to the present system of numbering in the City of Albany, Georgia.

Notice is given that Georgia Community Bank, ATTN: Scott Beeley, 704 North Westover Boulevard, Albany, Georgia 31707, telephone number (229) 514-1760, is the entity with authority to negotiate, amend, and modify the terms of the above-referenced Security Deed.

The indebtedness secured by the aforementioned Security Deed and Modification has been and is hereby declared immediately due and payable in full because of Jefferson Urey Lawson a/k/a Jefferson Lawson's (a) failure to maintain payments upon said indebtedness owing to Georgia Community Bank; (b) Jefferson Urey Lawson a/k/a Jefferson Lawson's demise; and (c) Georgia Community Bank's good faith belief that it is insecure, all in accordance with the terms of said indebtedness. Said indebtedness remaining in default, this sale shall be made for the purpose of paying such indebtedness, as well as all expenses of this sale, including attorneys' fees.

The above-described property will be sold as the property of Jefferson Urey Lawson a/k/a Jefferson Lawson, his heirs, successors or assigns and will be sold subject to the following items which may affect the title to said property: all zoning and subdivision ordinances and/or regulations; matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or an inspection of the property; all liens for solid waste and the like; all real property ad valorem taxes or assessments, which may constitute liens upon said property; all liens which, under applicable law, would take priority over the Security Deed described above; and all easements, restrictions, rights-of-way, security deeds or other encumbrances of record which have priority over the referenced Security Deed.

THIS LAW FIRM IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Georgia Community Bank, as Attorney-In-Fact for Jefferson Urey Lawson a/k/a Jefferson Lawson
DREW, ECKL & FARNHAM, LLP
By: DAVID W. ORLOWSKI
Georgia Bar No. 554325
Attorneys for Georgia Community Bank
Post Office Box 607
Albany, Georgia 31702-0607
(229) 431-3036

November 7, 14, 21, 28, 2026

A-923

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF DOUGHERTY

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER

Because of a default under the terms of the Security Deed executed by Rico B Anderson to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as grantee, as nominee for Mortgage Research Center, LLC dba Paddio, a Missouri Limited Liability Company dated November 30, 2021, and recorded in Deed Book 4912, Page 222-232, Dougherty County Records, said Security Deed having been last sold, assigned, transferred and conveyed to NewRez LLC dba Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing, securing a Note in the original principal amount of $122,735.00, 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, December 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 the City of Albany, Dougherty County, Georgia, and being all of Lot 15, Block 2, of Palmyra Homes Subdivision according to a map or plat of said subdivision as the same is recorded in Plat Book 1, Page 210 (Plat Cabinet 1, Slide A-27), in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia.

Said property is known as **1308 6Th Avenue, Albany, GA 31707**, 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 **Rico B Anderson and Odella Smith Anderson, successor in interest or tenant(s).**

NewRez LLC as Attorney-in-Fact for Rico B Anderson

File no. 26-084157
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.

September 26, October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, November 7, 14, 21, 28, 2026

A-1082

NOTICE OF SALE

GEORGIA, DOUGHERTY COUNTY.

By virtue of a power of sale contained in that certain Security Deed from Jeff Lawson Auto Credit and Rental, Inc. to Georgia Community Bank dated January 15, 2020 and recorded on January 23, 2020 in Deed Book 4675, Pages 106-114 in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Dougherty County, said Security Deed had been given to secure that certain Promissory Note dated May 16, 2025 between Jeff Lawson Auto Credit and Rental, Inc. and Georgia Community Bank in the original principal amount of One Hundred Thirty-Five Thousand Seventy and 00/100 Dollars ($135,070.00), as well as all extensions, renewals, and modifications thereof, together with any and all other indebtedness, of any type or description, then or thereafter owing by Jeff Lawson Auto Credit and Rental, Inc., there will be sold by the undersigned, at public outcry, to the highest bidder for cash, before the courthouse door in Albany, Dougherty County, Georgia, within the legal hours of sale on the first Tuesday in December, 2026, the following described property:

TRACT 1 (**1811 E. Oglethorpe Blvd., Albany, GA, 31705**)

All those tracts or parcels of land lying and being in the City of Albany, Dougherty County, Georgia and being more particularly described as all of those portions of Lot 60 and 61 of Pecan Haen Subdivision that lie north of U.S. Highway 82 (State Highway Number 50) according to a map or plat of said subdivision as same is recorded in Plat Book 1, Page 269 (Plat Cabinet 1, Slide A-34), in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia.

Tax ID No. 000II/00026/005

TRACT 2 (**1813 E. Oglethorpe Blvd., Albany, GA 31705**

All those tracts or parcels of land lying and being in the City of Albany, Dougherty County, Georgia and being more particularly described as follows: All of those Lots 62, 63, and 64 of Pecan Haven Subdivision B that lie north of U.S. Highway 83 (State Route #50) according to a map or plat of Pecan Haven Subdivision recorded in Plat Book 1, Page 269 (Plat Cabinet 1, Slide A-34), in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia. Also, that certain portion of what was formerly Franklin Drive, bounded on the south by the right-of-way of U.S. Highway 82, bounded on the west by Lot 61 of Pecan Haven Subdivision, on the east by Lot 62 of Pecan Haven Subdivision B, and on the north by the south right-of-way of Fulton Avenue, according to said subdivision plat.

Tax ID No. 000II/00026/007

TRACT 3 (**Oglethorpe Blvd., Albany GA 31705**)

All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in Albany, Dougherty County, Georgia and being all of Lot 59 of Pecan Haven Subdivision according to a map or plat of same as recorded in Plat Book 1, Page 269 (Plat Cabinet 1, Slide A-34), in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia. LESS AND EXCEPT any portion of the property described above lying within the right-of-way of East Oglethorpe Boulevard and properly conveyed to State Highway Department of Georgia by Right-of-Way Deed recorded in Deed Book 152, Page 41, said Clerk's Office.

Tax ID No. 0000H/00026/004

Notice is given that Georgia Community Bank, ATTN: Scott Beeley, 704 North Westover Boulevard, Albany, Georgia 31707, telephone number (229) 514-1760, is the entity with authority to negotiate, amend, and modify the terms of the above-referenced Security Deed.

The indebtedness secured by the aforementioned Security Deed has been and is hereby declared immediately due and payable in full because of Georgia Community Bank's good faith belief that performance of the Note is impaired and that it is insecure, all in accordance with the terms of said indebtedness. Said indebtedness remaining in default, this sale shall be made for the purpose of paying such indebtedness, as well as all expenses of this sale, including attorneys' fees.

The above-described property will be sold as the property of Jeff Lawson Auto Credit and Rental, Inc., its successors or assigns and will be sold subject to the following items which may affect the title to said property: all zoning and subdivision ordinances and/or regulations; matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey or an inspection of the property; all liens for solid waste and the like; all real property ad valorem taxes or assessments, which may constitute liens upon said property; all liens which, under applicable law, would take priority over the Security Deed described above; and all easements, restrictions, rights-of-way, security deeds or other encumbrances of record which have priority over the referenced Security Deed.

THIS LAW FIRM IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Georgia Community Bank, as Attorney-In-Fact for Jeff Lawson Auto Credit and Rental, Inc.
DREW, ECKL & FARNHAM, LLP
By: DAVID W. ORLOWSKI
Georgia Bar No. 554325
Attorneys for Georgia Community Bank
Post Office Box 607
Albany, Georgia 31702-0607
(229) 431-3036

November 7, 14, 21, 28, 2026

A-1122

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE OF RIGHT OF REDEMPTION

TO: GREENLEO RESIDENTIAL RENTAL, LLC
814 Residence Avenue, Albany, Georgia 31701
and all persons who can claim any interest in and to said property:

Take Notice that:

The right to redeem the following described property, to wit:

All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in the City of Albany, Dougherty County, Georgia, being all of Lot 7 in Block 7 of Palmyra Heights Subdivision "B", according to a map or plat of said subdivision as same is recorded in Plat Book 1, Page 220, in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Dougherty County.

Parcel No. 0000D/00030/062

will expire and be forever foreclosed and barred on and after the **11th day of January 2027.**

The Tax Deed to which this notice relates is dated the 5th day of August 2025, and is recorded in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia, in **Deed Book 5339, Page 130**.

The property may be redeemed at any time before the **11th day of January 2027**, by payment of the redemption price as fixed and provided by law to the undersigned at the following address:

DAVID MORMAN
% Divine Finney Davis, PC
600 N. Jackson Street
Albany, GA 31701

PLEASE GOVERN YOURSELF ACCORDINGLY.

By: /s/ (SEAL)
TIMOTHY O. DAVIS
Attorney for David Morman
GA State Bar No. 213025
600 N. Jackson Street
Albany, GA 31701
229/883-1610
tim@dfdpclaw.com

November 14, 21, 28, December 5, 2026

A-1083

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER

Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in that certain Security Deed dated November 13, 2023, given by JDH Properties LLC and Affordable Southern Builders Inc. (hereinafter collectively, "Grantor") to Georgia's Own Credit Union as recorded on November 13, 2023 in Deed Book 5142, Page 309-319, Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia records as modified by that certain Modification of Security Deed dated December 17, 2024, given by Grantor to Georgia's Own Credit Union, as recorded on April 18, 2025 in Deed Book 5288, Page 299-301, Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia records (hereinafter the "Security Deed"), with said Security Deed having been given to secure that certain Promissory Note dated December 17, 2024, made by Grantor in favor of Georgia's Own Credit Union in the original principal amount of Twenty-Six Thousand Two Hundred and 00/100 Dollars ($26,200.00) with interest thereon as provided therein (hereinafter, the "Note").

There will be sold by the undersigned at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the Courthouse door at Dougherty County, Georgia within the legal hours of sale on Tuesday, December 1, 2026, the following described property (hereinafter, the "Property"): All those tracts or parcels of land lying and being in Albany, Dougherty County, Georgia and being all of Lots 60A and 60B, Brentwood Inc., Section II, according to a "Redivision of Lot 60 of Brentwood, Inc., Section II as recorded in Plat Book 3, Page 154," said Redivision Plat recorded in Plat Book 8, Page 137, in the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Dougherty County, Georgia.

Tax I.D. No.: 00333/00005/008 00333/00005/08A

Together with all fixtures and personal property attached to and constituting a part of said Property as referred to in the Security Deed and any exhibits thereto.

Being improved property known as **Lots 60 A&B Brentwood Inc aka 2600 and 2602 North Gate Road, Albany, Dougherty County, Georgia 31721.**

The debt secured by the above Security Deed has been and is hereby declared due because of, among other possible events of defaults, failure to pay the indebtedness as and when due in the manner provided in the Note and Security Deed. The debt described herein remaining in default, this sale will be made for the purpose of paying said debt and all expenses of this sale, as provided in the Security Deed and by law, including reasonable attorney's fees, as provided for therein.

The above-described Property will be sold subject to outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien but not yet due and payable), matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, assessments, liens, encumbrances, zoning ordinances, restrictions, covenants, and any other matters of record superior to the above-referenced Security Deed. To the best of the undersigned's knowledge, information, and belief, equitable title to the Property is held by Grantor and Grantor has possession of the Property.

The entity that has full authority to negotiate, amend, and modify all terms of the Note and Security Deed is: Georgia's Own Credit Union, Attn: Allison Kretovic, P.O. Box 105205, Atlanta, Georgia 30348, telephone number: (470) 337-7286.

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 by the holder of the Security Deed.

Georgia's Own Credit Union,
successor by merger to DOCO Credit Union,
as Agent and Attorney in Fact for
Mikes Properties, LLC
Patrick M. Sneed, Esq.
Davis, Pickren, Seydel & Sneed, LLP
285 Peachtree Center Avenue NE
2300 Marquis Two Tower
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
Telephone: (404) 588-0505
Facsimile: (404) 582-8823
psneed@dpsslegal.com

November 7, 14, 21, 28, 2026

Calhoun Co. Legals

A-1163

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR RETAIL LICENSE TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

The undersigned has made application to the Mayor and Council of Edison, Georgia, for retail license to sell malt beverages for off premises consumption at Edison Package Store, 354 Bay Ave., Edison, GA 39846.

This application will be heard by the Mayor and Council at its regular meeting to be held at 7 o'clock p.m. on the 7h day of December, 2026.

Chimpuben Manubhai
303 Hartford Rd.
Ft. Gaines, GA 39851

A-1162

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR RETAIL LICENSE TO SELL BEER & WINE

The undersigned has made application to the Mayor and Council of Edison, Georgia, for retail license to sell malt beverages for off premises consumption at Tim's Trading Post, 19066 Hartford St.., Edison, GA 39846.

This application will be heard by the Mayor and Council at its regular meeting to be held at 7 o'clock p.m. on the 7th day of December, 2026.

Chimpuben Manubhai
303 Hartford Rd.
Ft. Gaines, GA 39851

A-1140

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CALHOUN COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

IN RE: ESTATE OF CYNTHIA RUTH MASON, DECEASED
ESTATE NO. 2024840
PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION NOTICE

TO: whom it may concern:

LAVINIA JENISE SAVAGE has petitioned for LAVINIA SAVAGE to be appointed administrator(s) of the estate of CYNTHIA RUTH MASON deceased, of said county. (The petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond, waiver of reports, waiver of statements, and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. § 53-12-261.) All interested persons 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 of any such objections, and must be filed with the Court on or before Dec 15, 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.

Annie Doris Holder
Judge of the Probate Court
By:
Clerk of the Probate Court
P.O. Box 81
Morgan, GA 39866
(229) 849-2115

November 21, 28, December 5, 12, 2026

A-1107

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF Dougherty COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

In re the name change of: Kristina Marie Wood
Civil Action File No. 26-V-067

NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

I, Kristina Marie Wood , filed a petition in the Superior Court of Calhoun County, Georgia on the 5th day of November, 2026, to change my name from Kristina Marie Wood to Kenna Cordelia Morrigan . Any interested party has the right to appear in this case and file objections within 30 days after the Petition was filed.

Signed this 5th day of November, 2026.

Kristina Wood, Petitioner
PO Box 91
Morgan, GA 39866
863-307-5494

November 14, 21, 28, December 5, 2026

A-1149

The Calhoun County Democratic Committee will be holding a Caucus Election to elect the office of Chairman, First-Vice Chairman, Second Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, and Treasurer. Qualifications for the office are: 1. Must be a resident of the county. 2. Must be a registered voter in the county. The Caucus Election will be at 6:00 P.M., on Monday, December 7, 2026, at the Calhoun County Community Center, (former Boys and Girls Club), 597 Pioneer Road, Arlington, Georgia 39813. FMI: Contact Rev. Lou Gene Bush: 229-835-3057

November 28, 2026

Calhoun Co. Legals

A-1106

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF Dougherty COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

In re the name change of: Jonathan Adam Riddle
Civil Action File No. 26-V-031

NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

I, Jonathan Adam Riddle , filed a petition in the Superior Court of Calhoun County, Georgia on the 27th day of March, 2026, to change my name from Jonathan Adam Riddle to Jonathan Adam Hatcher. Any interested party has the right to appear in this case and file objections within 30 days after the Petition was filed.

Signed this 22nd day of April, 2026.

Jonathan Riddle, Petitioner
21541 Thomas Grove Church Rd
Arlington, GA 39813
229-376-3487

November 14, 21, 28, December 5, 2026

A-1161

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR RETAIL LICENSE TO SELL BEER & WINE

The undersigned has made application to the Mayor and Council of Edison, Georgia, for retail license to sell malt beverages for off premises consumption at Edison Convenience Store, 19968 Hartford St.., Edison, GA 39846.

This application will be heard by the Mayor and Council at its regular meeting to be held at 7 o'clock p.m. on the 7th day of December, 2026.

Chimpuben Manubhai
303 Hartford Rd.
Ft. Gaines, GA 39851

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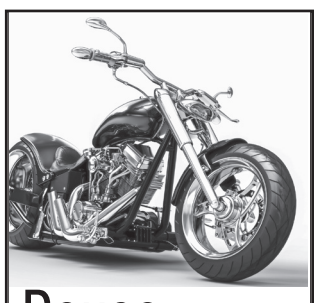

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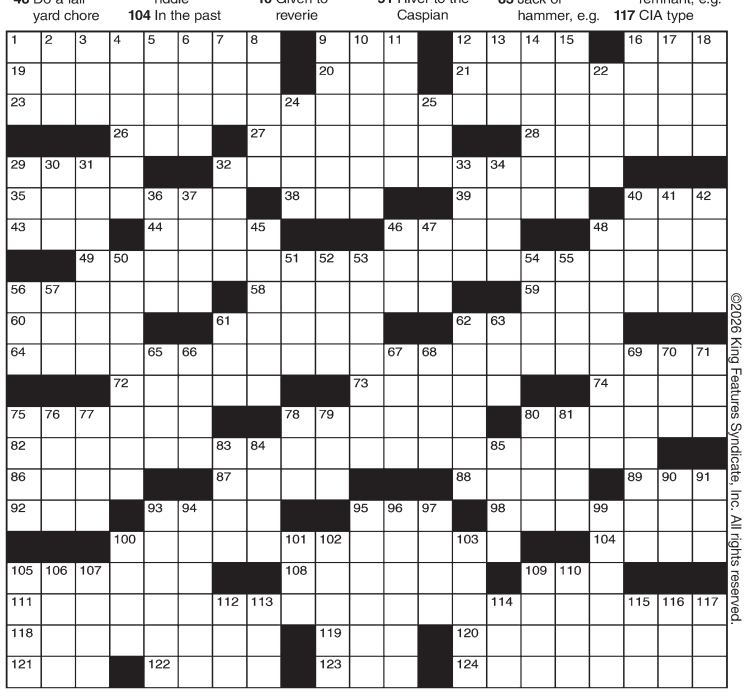
9 Successors of LPs
12 Chores, e.g.
16 Thurman of "Burnt"
19 Not too hard to construct
20 Oval portion
21 Sea east of Italy
23 Start of a riddle
26 Singer Yoko
27 Neighbor of an Ethiopian
28 Instrument with over 30 strings
29 Madeline of "High Anxiety"
32 Riddle, part 2
35 Hard to find
38 Even one
39 Feels poorly
40 Show — (films, plays, TV, etc.)
43 "Assuredly!"
44 Emulate a supermodel
46 Bull's-eye hitter
48 Do a fall yard chore
49 Riddle, part 3
56 Deceive
58 Most liberated
59 Puts in the crosshairs
60 Yuletide
61 Huge meal
62 Louvre Pyramid architect
64 Riddle, part 4
72 Raise, as a flag
73 Earthen cooking pots
74 Soul singer India
75 Cincinnati citizen, say
78 Less certain
80 Be nippy with, as a pup
82 Riddle, part 5
86 Omit
87 Page for think pieces
88 Post-shower powder
89 Bride's vow
92 Ares, to Zeus
93 "I" problems
95 Gun, slangily
98 Largest city in Scotland
100 End of the riddle
104 In the past
105 British noble, in brief
108 "Mrs." with an infamous cow
109 "She's the one"
111 Riddle's answer
118 Result of a shaving slip
119 Tucson-to-Tulsa dir.
120 Delights in the flattery, maybe
121 Styled like
122 Late-night host Meyers
123 Garnet, e.g.
124 Zooms past

DOWN
1 Sporty German auto
2 "Yay team!"
3 Alias lead-in
4 Wyoming range
5 Place in hock
6 "Peek- —!"
7 "McQ" actor Gulager
8 "That '70s Show" character Michael
9 Guy driving a taxi
10 Given to reverie
11 La — (Italian opera house)
12 Tip container
13 Lofty verse
14 Pelé's nation
15 Peaceful protests
16 Provo's state
17 Performer acting silently
18 Big PC brand
22 Poker cost
24 Nick Jr.'s "explorer"
25 Band booking
29 Door opener
30 Hoppy drink
31 Shook a leg
32 Admit to it, with "up"
33 Seniors' org.
34 Tubular pasta
36 Tablet since 2010
37 Use a ballot
40 Saloons
41 Giant in retail furniture
42 Liveliness
45 Consequence
46 Two, in Chile
47 Toward a boat's stern
48 Think deeply
50 It's spun by hip gyration
51 River to the Caspian
52 — majesty (treason)
53 Allows to go with no punishment
54 Accessory for Superman
55 Stadium level
56 Genetic helix
57 Near-eternity
61 Hi- — (some stereos)
62 Trapped by habit
63 Show hosts, in brief
65 Tiger sound
66 Funny Fey
67 Roman 152
68 Cassini of fashion
69 Quitter's statement
70 Vardalos of the screen
71 Catch on to
75 Bettors' calculations
76 Savior
77 Clicked-on symbol
78 "— done it!"
79 Gave grub to
80 Banknote
81 Peruvian ancient
83 Jack or hammer, e.g.
84 — facto
85 — to riches
90 ICU worker
91 Be indebted
93 Sets foot in
94 Pressure felt by a jet pilot
95 "Bonanza" star Lorne
96 Degraded
97 Actress Garr
99 Morally degraded
100 Colon's meaning in an analogy
101 Vie for the affection of
102 Bull on a bottle of glue
103 Fractions of newtons
105 "— -Ca-Dabra" (1974 song)
106 Not fictional
107 Chichén — (Mexican ruins)
109 Abhor
110 Irish Gaelic language
112 Stomach
113 Utmost
114 Hiatus
115 ALF et al.
116 Pencil remnant, e.g.
117 CIA type



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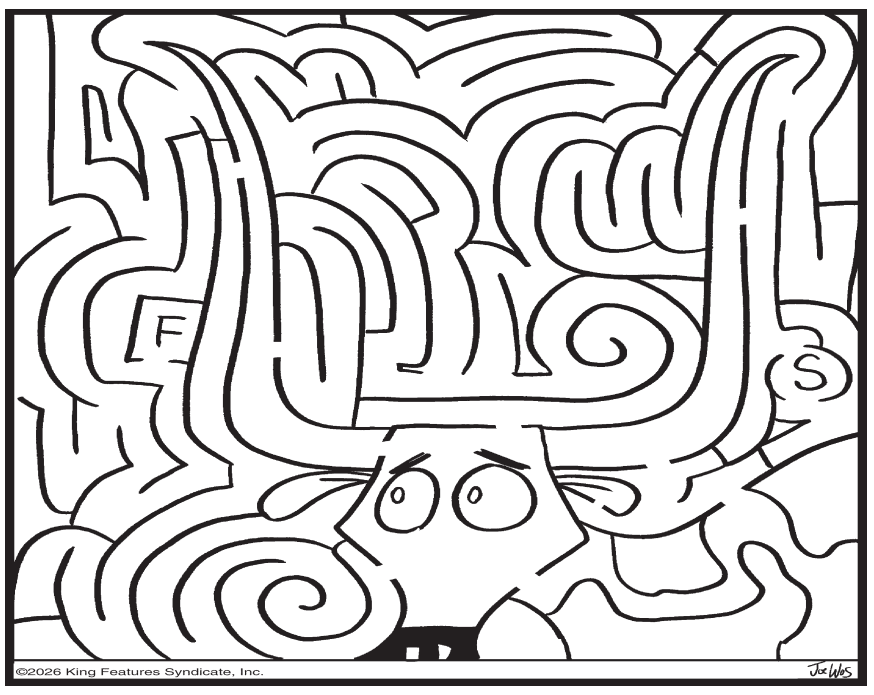

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CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: **R** equals **M**

D HR IBLAS XL TDCDAW YHOTNZMMV DA RV OTLZMCSB PBHI, YZX BSQSAXMV D'R OXHBXDAW XL QLRS LZX LN RV OTHPM.

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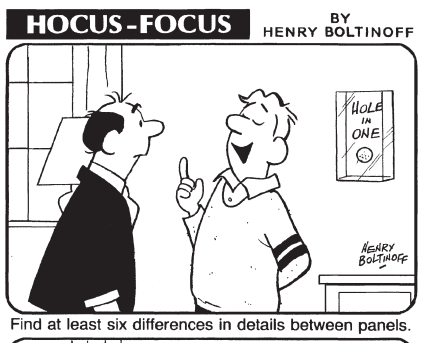
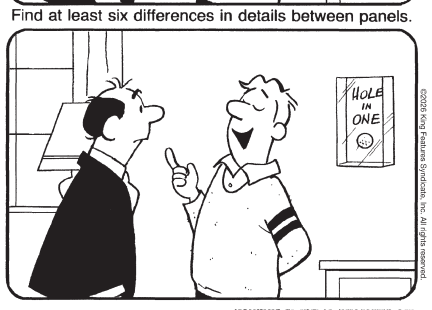
HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



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Differences: 1. Hand is moved. 2. Stripe on sleeve is moved. 3. Sleeve is longer. 4. Lampshade is different. 5. Windowpanes are different. 6. Bar is smaller.

STICKELERS [sic]

by Terry Stickels

Here's a geography trivia puzzle...

a. Kathmandu is the capital of ___?___.
b. Quito is the capital of ___?___.
c. South Africa has three capitals: Bloemfontein, Cape Town and ___?___.

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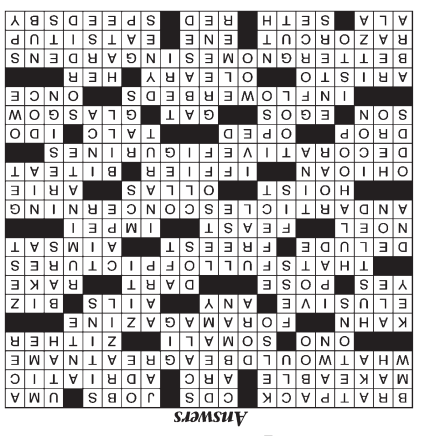
Super Crossword Answers



Even Exchange by Donna Pettman

Each numbered row contains two clues and two 6-letter answers. The two answers differ from each other by only one letter, which has already been inserted. For example, if you exchange the A from MASTER for an I, you get MISTER. Do not change the order of the letters.

1. Ringo or George	__ __ A __ __ __	Ladybug or weevil	__ __ E __ __ __
2. Visitor	G __ __ __ __	Expedition	Q __ __ __ __
3. Artist Rockwell	__ __ __ __ __ N	Conventional	__ __ __ __ __ L
4. Faithful, like a dog	__ __ Y __ __	Homegrown	__ __ C __ __
5. Lee or Gaye	__ __ __ V __ __	Songbird	__ __ __ T __ __
6. Compass direction	N __ __ __ __	Value	W __ __ __ __
7. Swimming hole	__ U __ __ __ __	Canoe oar	__ A __ __ __ __
8. Speak	U __ __ __ __	Playful mammal	O __ __ __ __
9. Country house	__ __ N __ __	City bureaucrat	__ __ Y __ __
10. Copper alloy	__ __ __ __ Z __	Charlotte or Emily	__ __ __ __ T __

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Even Exchange answers

1. Beatle, Beetle
2. Guest, Quest
3. Norman, Normal
4. Loyal, Local
5. Marvin, Martin
6. North, Worth
7. Puddle, Paddle
8. Utter, Otter
9. Manor, Mayor
10. Bronze, Bronte

Stickelers Answer

a. Nepal
b. Ecuador
c. Pretoria

CryptoQuip answer

I am prone to hiding bashfully in my shoulder wrap, but recently I'm starting to come out of my shawl.

7 Little Words

Find the 7 words to match the 7 clues. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in each solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.

CLUES — **SOLUTIONS**

1 core business school subject (7) _____
2 frozen, in a way (10) _____
3 very short necklaces (7) _____
4 cooking the books, perhaps (8) _____
5 tennis star Naomi (5) _____
6 shapeless (9) _____
7 ghost & coconut crustaceans (5) _____

AT SS NCE FI TIO
NA RS OUS CH ING
NLE OS CHE MO AMO
AKA BS RPH CRA OKE

Tuesday's Answers: 1. SMASHING 2. BINS 3. SOUTHERN 4. VELOUR 5. METHOD 6. NORWEGIAN 7. OAFISH 11/25

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7 Little Words

Find the 7 words to match the 7 clues. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in each solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.

CLUES — **SOLUTIONS**

1 uninspiring (4) _____
2 toted (7) _____
3 stirring in stevia, say (10) _____
4 Jane who played Daphne Moon (6) _____
5 frivolity (6) _____
6 Romance language (7) _____
7 Pan of fiction (5) _____

PET TA CA LE TE
NG TY EE AN RRI
AL ED VI ME VES
SW ER LEE NI CAT

Wednesday's Answers: 1. FINANCE 2. MOTIONLESS 3. CHOKERS 4. CHEATING 5. OSAKA 6. AMORPHOUS 7. CRABS 11/26

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CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Jared Goudsmit

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

"POW TKYC UAYW TG DTLWJC RI ... ZW GAKKC ... JT BOMPWQWU CTA BMKP TKIPMNW. RG CTA DMK LMHW RP GAKKC, CTA DMK ZW BOT CTA MUW." — LMUD LMUTK

Previous Solution: "We have to make the choice ... to exemplify the truth, the respect and the grace that we wish for this world." — Oprah Winfrey

TODAY'S CLUE: R equals U

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CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Jared Goudsmit

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

"S MSDD XSPOC CJJCO FBY BFSD XJU COQ EJIITBSCZ ... CJ YQXQBY COQI, FBY IFHQ GTUQ COFC COQ FEEQGG GCFZG JWQB." — DFUSGGF XFGCOJUGQ

Previous Solution: "The only rule of comedy is ... be funny ... Do whatever you want onstage. If you can make it funny, you can be who you are." — Marc Maron

TODAY'S CLUE: I equals S

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1. Who was the first to release "Always on My Mind"?
2. Name the group that released "Three Times a Lady."
3. Who released "Gypsys, Tramps & Thieves"?
4. Name the first No. 1 song by the Chordettes.
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "The tears I cried for you could fill an ocean, But you don't care how many tears I cry."

Answers

1. Gwen McCrae, in 1972, as a b-side single. Brenda Lee and Elvis Presley quickly followed with covers. But it's Willie Nelson's version that is best known, having spent 23 weeks on the Hot 100 chart and 21 weeks on the country singles chart.
2. The Commodores, in 1978. Penned by Lionel Richie, the song was the group's first chart-topper.
3. Cher, in 1971. The song earned her a Grammy nomination for Best Female Pop Vocal Performance.
4. "Mr. Sandman," in 1954.
5. "Everybody's Somebody's Fool," by Connie Francis, in 1960. The song was the first No. 1 for Francis and the first by a female to top the Hot 100 chart. It was released as the b-side to "Jealous of You," which only hit No. 19. Over the years covers were released by Pat Boone, Bobby Vee, Sandy Posey and others.

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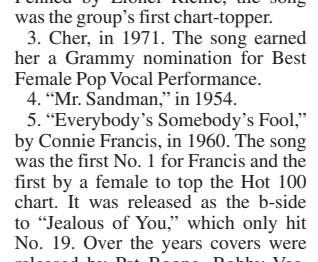

1. **Ebenezer** (PG-13) Johnny Depp, Rupert Grint
2. **The Cat in the Hat** (PG) Bill Hader, Mayabella Sage Mccrillis
3. **Godzilla Minus Zero** (R) Minami Hamabe, Ryunosuke Kamiki
4. **Ramayana** (PG-13) Ranbir Kapoor, Yash
5. **You Can See Everything** (R) Amanda Seyfried, Christopher Abbott
6. **How to Rob a Bank** (R) Nicholas Hoult, Zoë Kravitz
7. **Ghost Soldier** (PG-13) Jim Caviezel, Cameron Gayden
8. **Wild Horse Nine** (R) John Malkovich, Sam Rockwell
9. **Wildwood** (PG-13) Peyton Elizabeth Lee, Jacob Tremblay
10. **Clayface** (R) Tom Rhys Harries, Tim Faraday

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Release Date: Thursday, November 26, 2026

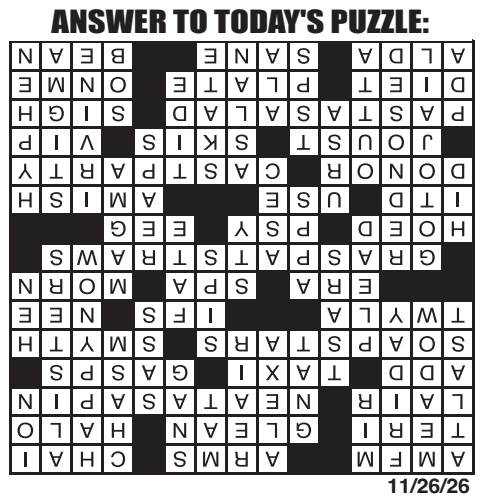
Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Patti Varol

ACROSS
1 Radio switch letters
5 Quintet for most starfish
9 Spiced tea
13 Actress Hatcher
14 Gather bit by bit
15 Circle of angels?
16 Secret spot for a secret plot
17 *Tidy and then some
19 Sum-thing to do
20 Uber alternative
21 Sounds at a horror movie
22 *Some Daytime Emmy winners
25 "Sometimes Love Just Ain't Enough" singer Patty
27 Choreographer Tharp
28 Question marks
30 Maiden name intro
31 Taylor Swift's "Lover," for one
33 Place for a spring break?
34 "There is a __ by men unseen": Emily Dickinson poem
35 *Act desperately
39 Plied a garden tool
40 Counselor's maj.
41 Neuro test letters
42 "__ be a pleasure"
43 Function
44 Pennsylvania sect
48 Financial supporter
50 *Post-performance celebration
54 Horseback combat
56 Goes downhill fast
57 Muckety-muck
58 Picnic side dish, or what can be found in the answers to the starred clues?
60 Long exhale
61 Nutrition regimen
62 One in a cafeteria stack
63 "My treat!"
64 Alan of "The Four Seasons"
65 Totally with it
66 Fava __

DOWN
1 Jazz classic with the line "My lonely days are over"
2 Alternative to a manicured lawn
3 End of the workweek, for some
4 Peace, in Russian
5 Word said with an Echo?
6 Show again
7 Exercise surface
8 Slight glitch
9 Gorge
10 "Satisfied?!"
11 Big-time celebs
12 Na+ or Cl-
14 Pest in a cloud
18 Lip
20 Rulers before the Bolsheviks
23 Beg
24 Nurses
26 Egg layer
29 Kismet
32 Programs that may update on their own
33 Pigpen
34 Underground lava
35 Unlucky square on a Monopoly board
36 Like Rudolph
37 "Back in __!"
38 Harvests
39 Stood behind the drapes, say
43 Stellar bear
45 UC home of the Anteaters
46 Reduction focus for some awareness campaigns
47 Line of text?
49 "I'm __ here!"
51 Benevolent lion of Narnia
52 Glide on ice
53 Detergent in a bright orange container
55 Cookbook amts.
58 Kissing at the bus stop, e.g.
59 In the manner of
60 Break down in tears

ANSWER TO TODAY'S PUZZLE:



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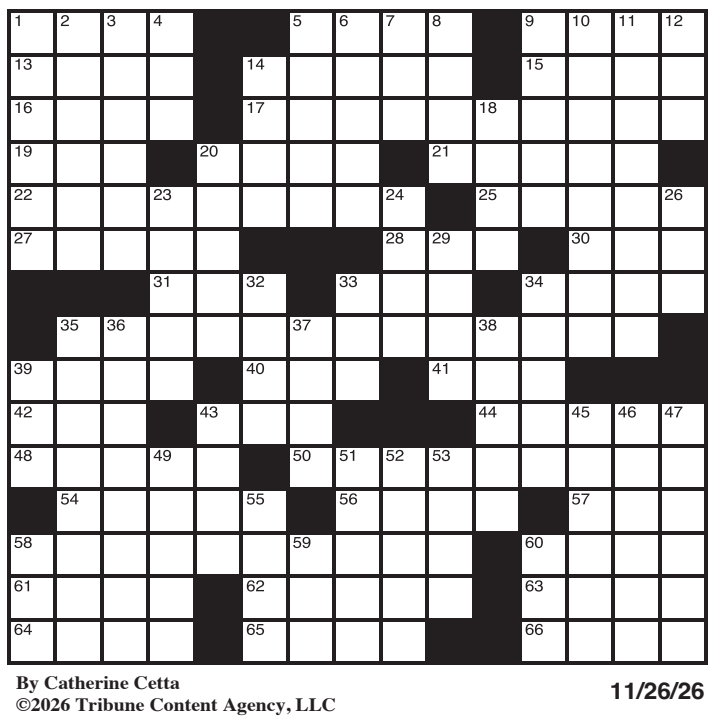

By Catherine Cetta
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11/26/26

Release Date: Saturday, November 28, 2026

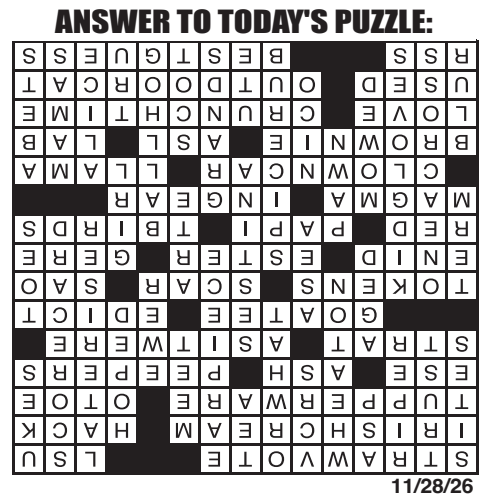
Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Patti Varol

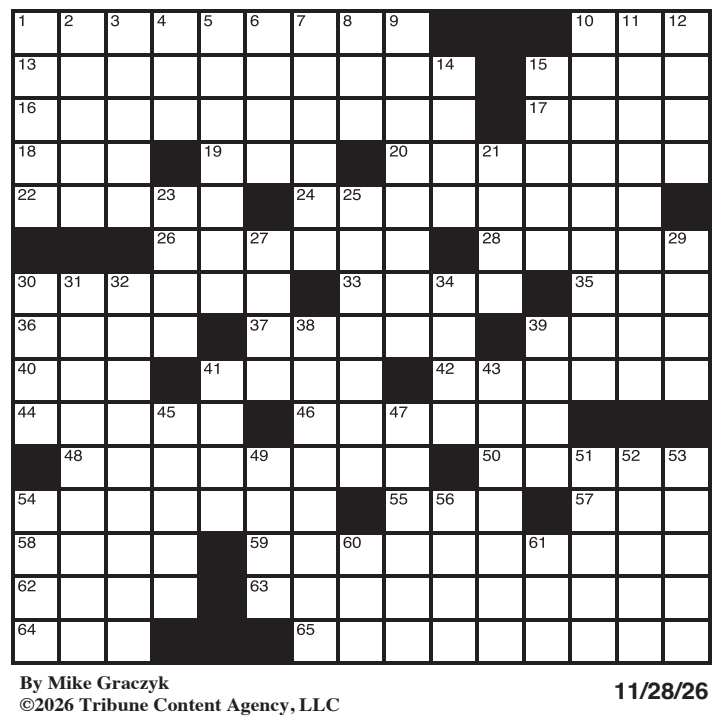
ACROSS
1 Show of hands, maybe
10 Fighting Tigers sch.
13 Liqueur in a Baby Guinness
15 Life __
16 One that burps at parties
17 Native Nebraskan
18 Legal conclusion?
19 Tree in the olive family
20 Baby blues
22 Game plan, to a gamer
24 In a manner of speaking
26 Beard style
28 Fiat
30 Arcade currency
33 Slash mark
35 First word of some Brazilian city names
36 Seat of Garfield County, Oklahoma
37 Vegetable oil, e.g.
39 Richard of "The Agency"
40 Taylor Swift album with the hit "22"
41 Durango daddy
42 Fords that debuted as two-seat convertibles
44 Silica-rich molten substance
46 Ready to roll
48 Vehicle for humor, say
50 Wool source
54 Collectible Kodak
55 Communication sys. at Gallaudet
57 Place for people to be in their elements?
58 More than fancy
59 Pressure-filled period
62 No longer pristine
63 Pet who may be chipped
64 Blog feed letters
65 Likeliest outcome

DOWN
1 Lots
2 Pulitzer-winning Hernan Diaz novel
3 Not as green
4 Death on the Nile cause, perhaps
5 Illinois college that was a stop on the Underground Railroad
6 Players from the 1990s
7 "And if I don't?"
8 Leaves for an afternoon break
9 Spy movie gadget
10 One who is overfamiliar with the snooze button
11 List of goals, e.g.
12 Strings of islands?
14 Converge
15 Wished (for)
21 Pretty pitcher
23 Like some balsamic vinegar
25 Poem with 39 lines
27 On the briny
29 __ the line
30 One of three in a trinomial
31 Puzzling start?
32 Careful handling
34 Prado display
38 Source of dry heat?
39 Lass
41 Puppet
43 One who never passes
45 Leveled the playing field?
47 Concert centerpieces
49 Cubs infielder Hoerner
51 Waters who wrote "A School Lunch Revolution"
52 Half a pop quartet
53 Plans a getaway for, perhaps
54 Obscure
56 Highlander
60 Sport-__
61 "Ur not wrong"

ANSWER TO TODAY'S PUZZLE:



11/28/26



By Mike Graczyk
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11/28/26

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7 LITTLE WORDS

Find the 7 words to match the 7 clues. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in each solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.

CLUES	SOLUTIONS
1 in an alarming way (10)	_____
2 knight's neighbor on board (4)	_____
3 Betty from "Grease" (5)	_____
4 aardvark or echidna (8)	_____
5 Norwegian soccer star Erling (7)	_____
6 thorn apple (10)	_____
7 "Wonderland" croquet mallet (8)	_____

CH	HA	OK	LIN	ZO
RO	JIM	GO	AL	FLA
AND	WEED	TEA	RIZ	GLY
AN	MIN	IL	SON	TER

Thursday's Answers: 1. TAME 2. CARRIED 3. SWEETENING 4. LEEVES 5. LEVITY 6. CATALAN 7. PETER 11/27

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7 LITTLE WORDS

Find the 7 words to match the 7 clues. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in each solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.

CLUES	SOLUTIONS
1 grow feathers (6)	_____
2 color of robin's eggs (4)	_____
3 1940s actress Lake (8)	_____
4 largest Alpine lake (6)	_____
5 repeating mindlessly (9)	_____
6 fretful (9)	_____
7 dye fixer (7)	_____

CA	FLE	PA	VE	ING
QUE	RR	BL	ANT	GEN
DGE	MO	RUL	EVA	RO
OUS	UE	OT	NI	RD

Friday's Answers: 1. CHILLINGLY 2. ROOK 3. RIZZO 4. ANTEATER 5. HAALAND 6. JIMSONWEED 7. FLAMINGO 11/28

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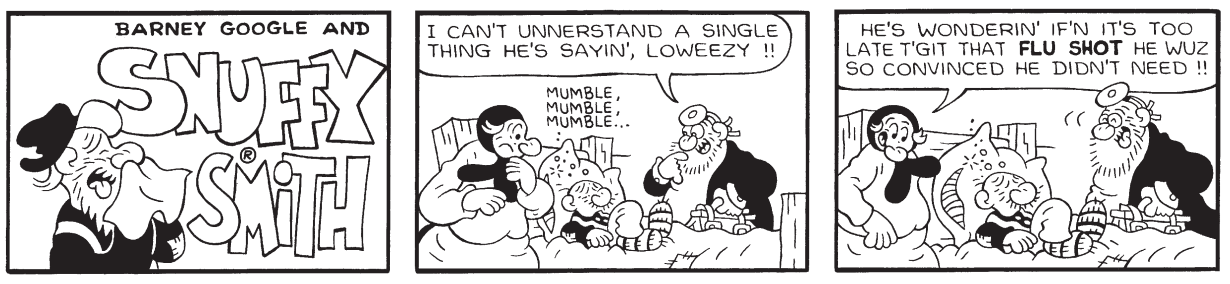
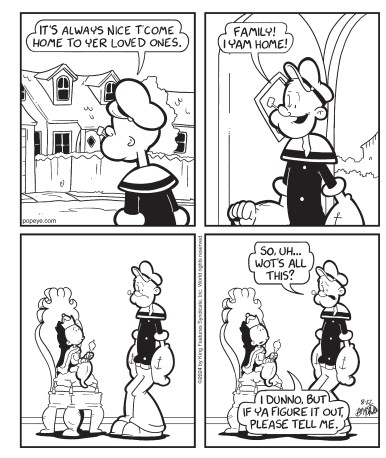
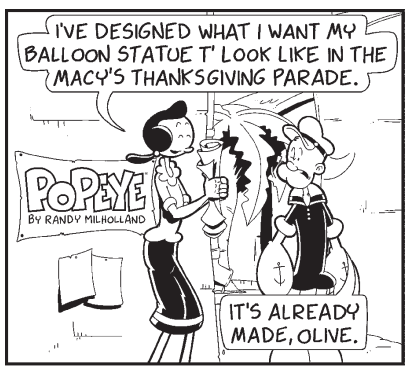
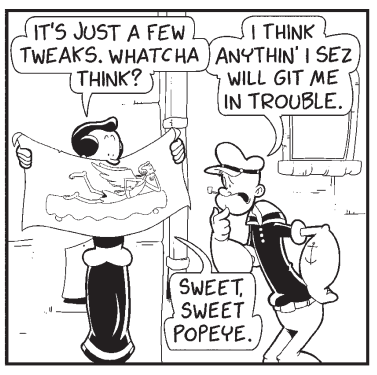


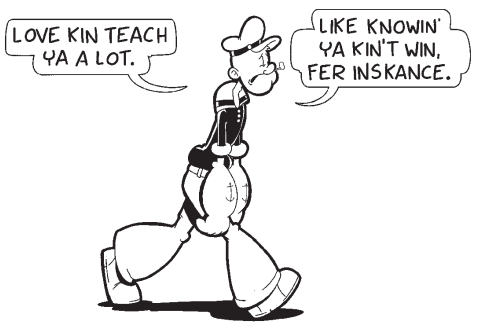


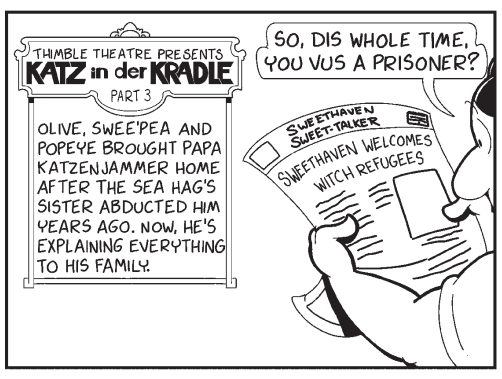


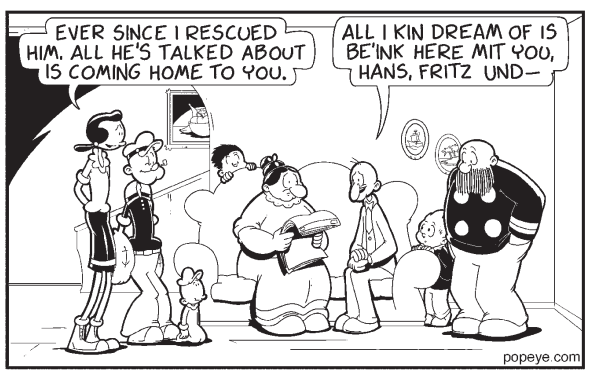


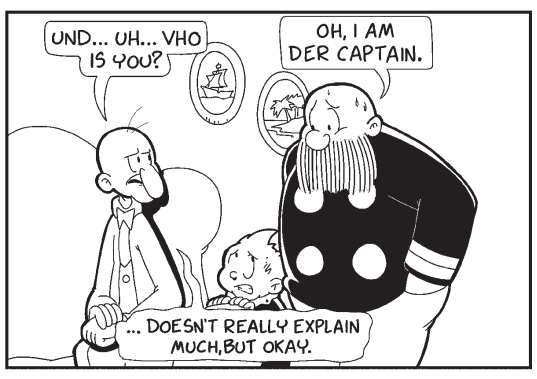




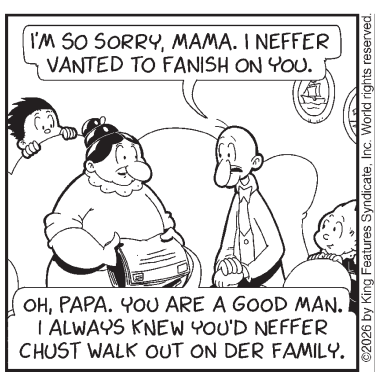


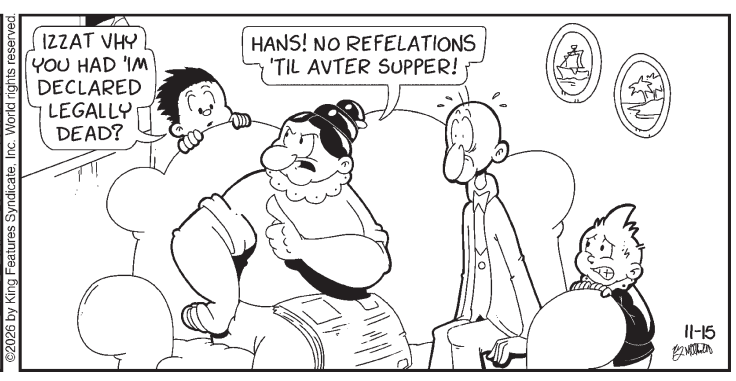












RELEASE DATE—Sunday, November 29, 2026

Los Angeles Times Sunday Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Patti Varol

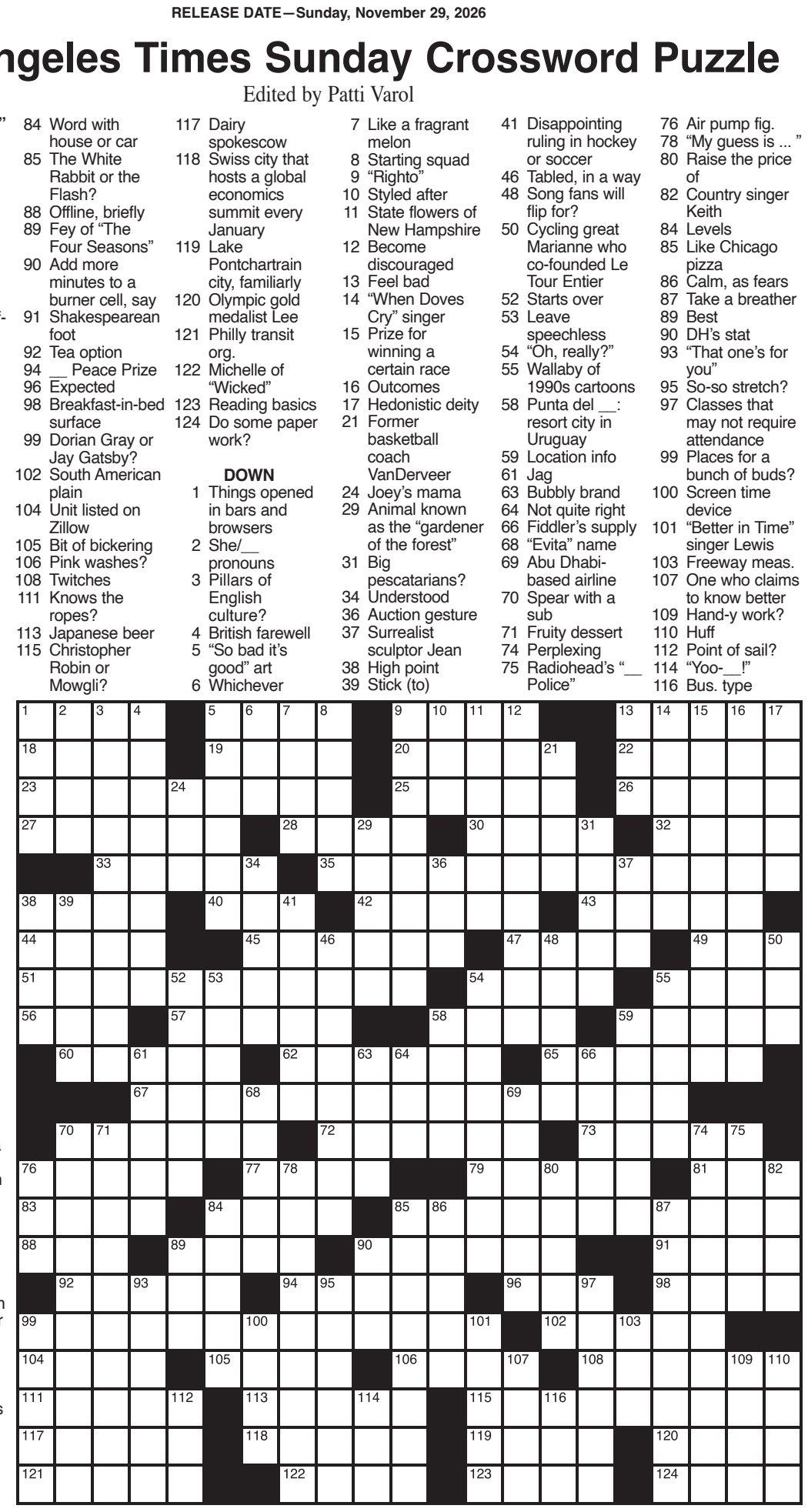
"READ THE ROOM" BY REBECCA GOLDSTEIN

ACROSS

1 Class struggle?
5 Two-time Tony winner Young
9 "How __ doing?"
13 Church spaces topped with half-domes
18 Choir part
19 Still fighting
20 "Murder in the Cathedral" playwright
22 Humanitarian Sendler
23 Count Dracula or Lady Macbeth?
25 Dip, or a dance with dips
26 Swiss chocolatier
27 PBJ and BLT
28 Chow
30 Flying start?
32 __ a soul
33 Choose
35 Captain Nemo or Ishmael?
38 Pain
40 Chinese dynasty that invented papermaking
42 Plain language
43 Indigenous Canadians
44 "Pinocchio" goldfish
45 In duplicate
47 "Make it snappy!" letters
49 Roomy car
51 Scout Finch or Holden Caulfield?
54 Pupil's surroundings
55 Career move?
56 Lang. of Canada
57 John with an EGOT
58 Letters before a first date
59 Animals used in fire prevention
60 Artist's primer
62 Max
65 Throws up
67 Quranic term for Jews and Christians, or an alternate title for this puzzle
70 "No Exit" writer
72 Outscore
73 Inventory
76 Catholic leaders
77 Quite the card
79 Fibula neighbor
81 Long. crosser
83 Apt. building caretaker
84 Word with house or car
85 The White Rabbit or the Flash?
88 Offline, briefly
89 Fey of "The Four Seasons"
90 Add more minutes to a burner cell, say
91 Shakespearean foot
92 Tea option
94 __ Peace Prize
96 Expected
98 Breakfast-in-bed surface
99 Dorian Gray or Jay Gatsby?
102 South American plain
104 Unit listed on Zillow
105 Bit of bickering
106 Pink washes?
108 Twitches
111 Knows the ropes?
113 Japanese beer
115 Christopher Robin or Mowgli?
117 Dairy spokescow
118 Swiss city that hosts a global economics summit every January
119 Lake Pontchartrain city, familiarly
120 Olympic gold medalist Lee
121 Philly transit org.
122 Michelle of "Wicked"
123 Reading basics
124 Do some paper work?

DOWN

1 Things opened in bars and browsers
2 She/__ pronouns
3 Pillars of English culture?
4 British farewell
5 "So bad it's good" art
6 Whichever
7 Like a fragrant melon
8 Starting squad
9 "Righto"
10 Styled after
11 State flowers of New Hampshire
12 Become discouraged
13 Feel bad
14 "When Doves Cry" singer
15 Prize for winning a certain race
16 Outcomes
17 Hedonistic deity
21 Former basketball coach VanDerveer
24 Joey's mama
29 Animal known as the "gardener of the forest"
31 Big pescatarians?
34 Understood
36 Auction gesture
37 Surrealist sculptor Jean
38 High point
39 Stick (to)
41 Disappointing ruling in hockey or soccer
46 Tabled, in a way
48 Song fans will flip for?
50 Cycling great Marianne who co-founded Le Tour Entier
52 Starts over
53 Leave speechless
54 "Oh, really?"
55 Wallaby of 1990s cartoons
58 Punta del __: resort city in Uruguay
59 Location info
61 Jag
63 Bubbly brand
64 Not quite right
66 Fiddler's supply
68 "Evita" name
69 Abu Dhabi-based airline
70 Spear with a sub
71 Fruity dessert
74 Perplexing
75 Radiohead's "__ Police"
76 Air pump fig.
78 "My guess is ... "
80 Raise the price of
82 Country singer Keith
84 Levels
85 Like Chicago pizza
86 Calm, as fears
87 Take a breather
89 Best
90 DH's stat
93 "That one's for you"
95 So-so stretch?
97 Classes that may not require attendance
99 Places for a bunch of buds?
100 Screen time device
101 "Better in Time" singer Lewis
103 Freeway meas.
107 One who claims to know better
109 Hand-y work?
110 Huff
112 Point of sail?
114 "Yoo-__!"
116 Bus. type



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CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Jared Goudsmit

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

"Q R J X Y J K H F E D R B Q R A K R U P U M H A S Y N D U F F R B K C R F R J E C P Y K R I D R J R R B P R, S Y Q Z S H S Y Z S H F P S R U A Y X S Z J F H F E H S H F I U J A." — R K K U P S Y F R

Previous Solution: "I will fight tooth and nail for the community ... to defend them, and make sure that the access stays open." — Larissa FastHorse

TODAY'S CLUE: M equals K

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CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Jared Goudsmit

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

"G V Y R F Z D Q A S, F Z D' P Y X Y T R O Q W E Y U S Z B P Y S Y R U T R Q L Y P F P T O T U, A Z R S P Z N N Y U Y R L T P Z R J Y R S. T S' W L Y P F D R - A V T N U N T E Y."

— B Q S S Z R Z W G Q N S

Previous Solution: "Performing helped me as a kid to channel my energy somewhere else, to put it out instead of turning it inward." — Emma Stone

TODAY'S CLUE: U equals D

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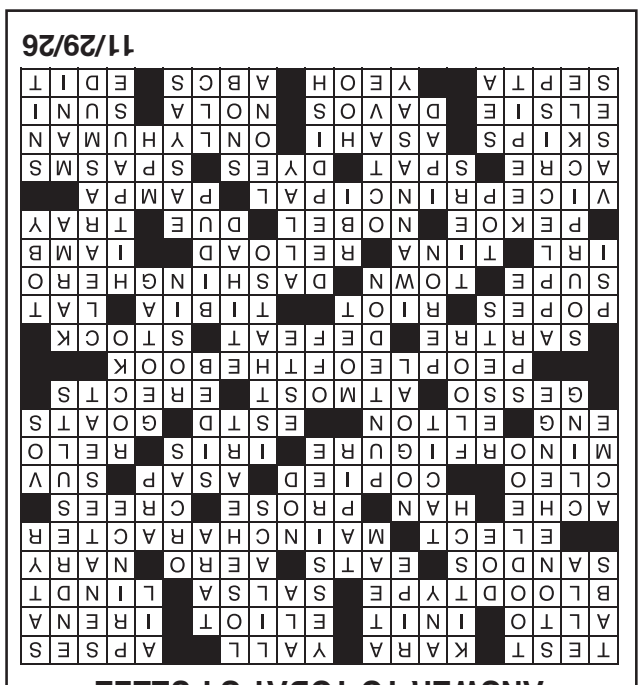
ANSWER TO TODAY'S PUZZLE





The Albany HERALD
ALBANYHERALD.COM

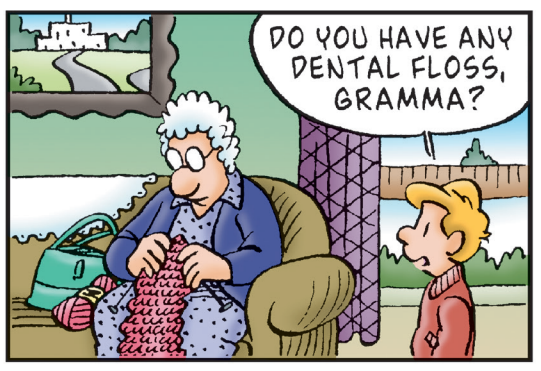
Weekend Comics

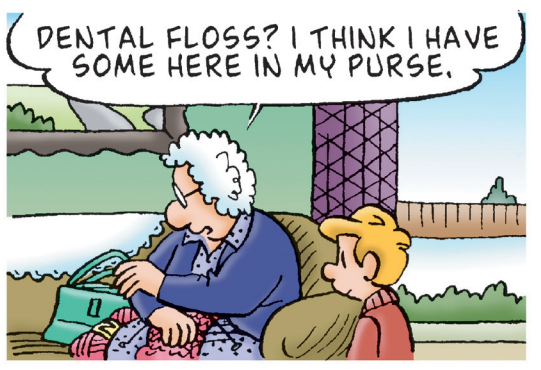
NOVEMBER 26-28, 2026

PICKLES

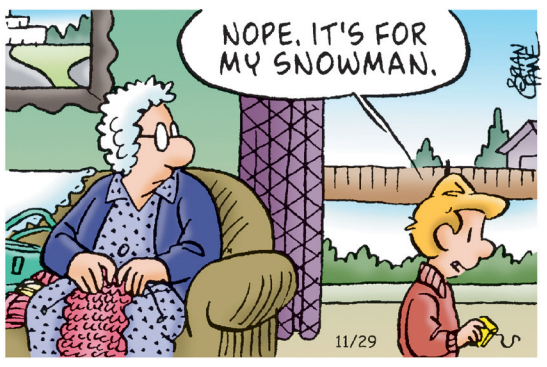
by BRIAN CRANE

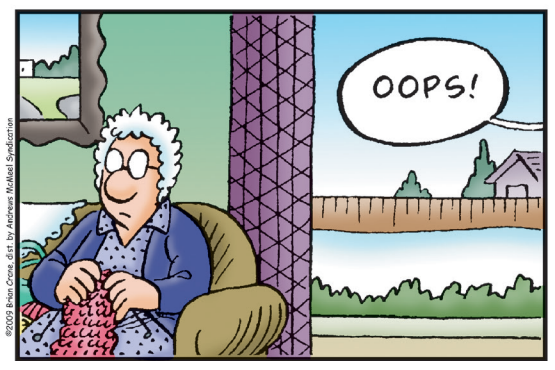


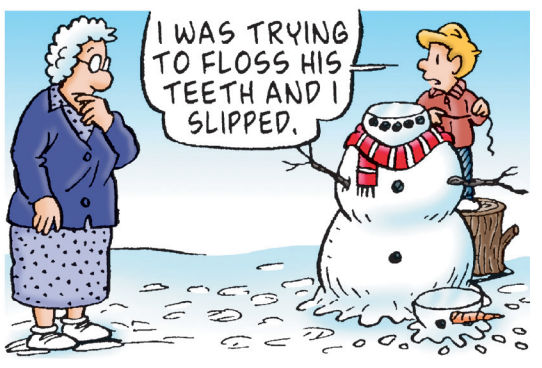






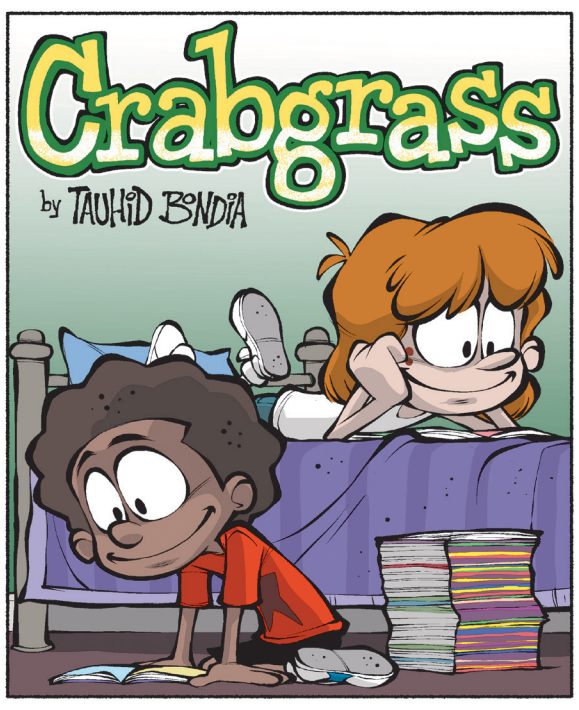




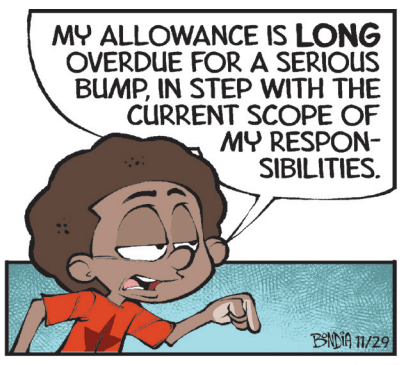


Crabgrass

by TAUHID BONDIA



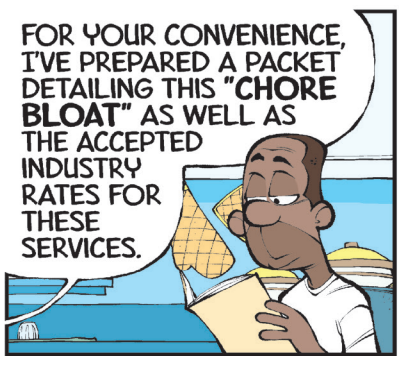


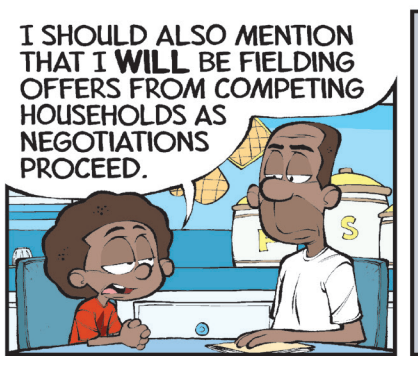


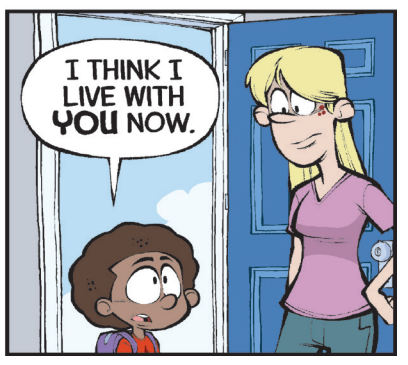






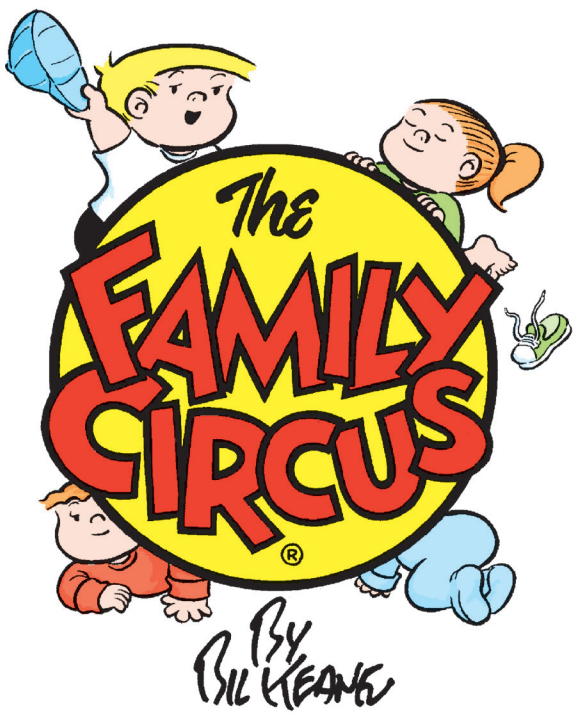






The Family Circus

By Bil Keane











11-29

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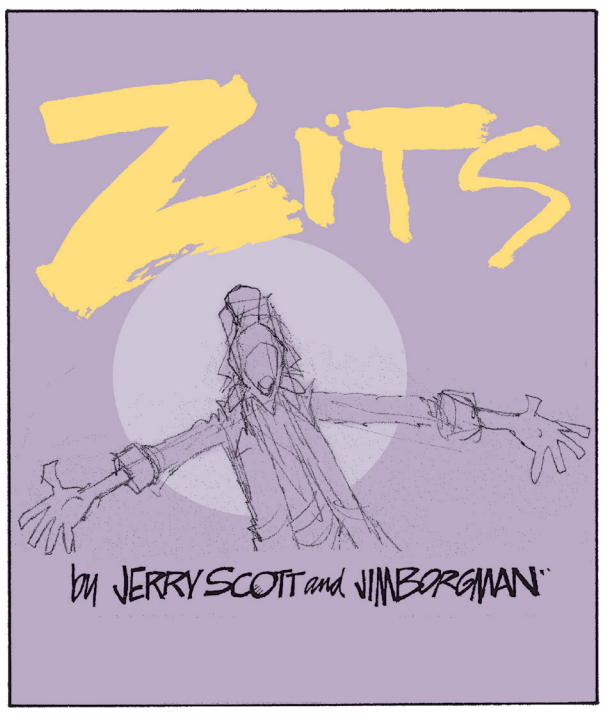
ZITS

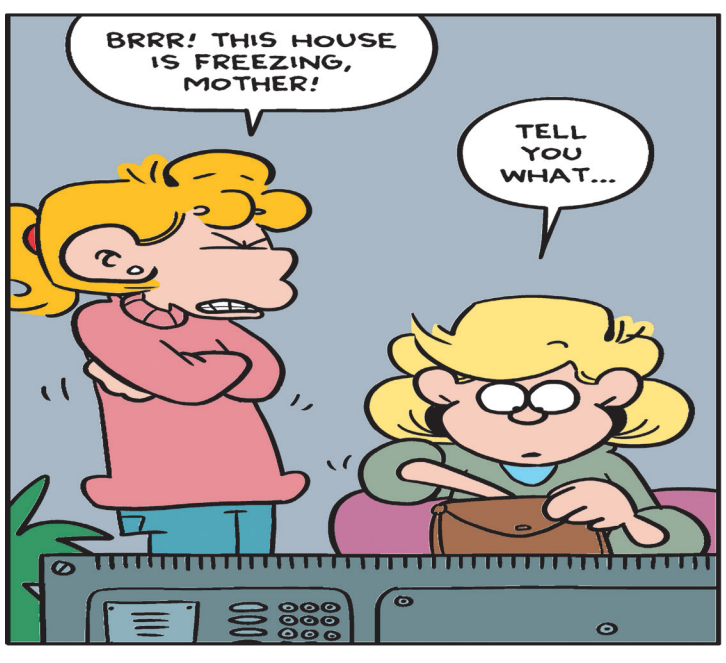
by JERRY SCOTT and JIM BORGMAN



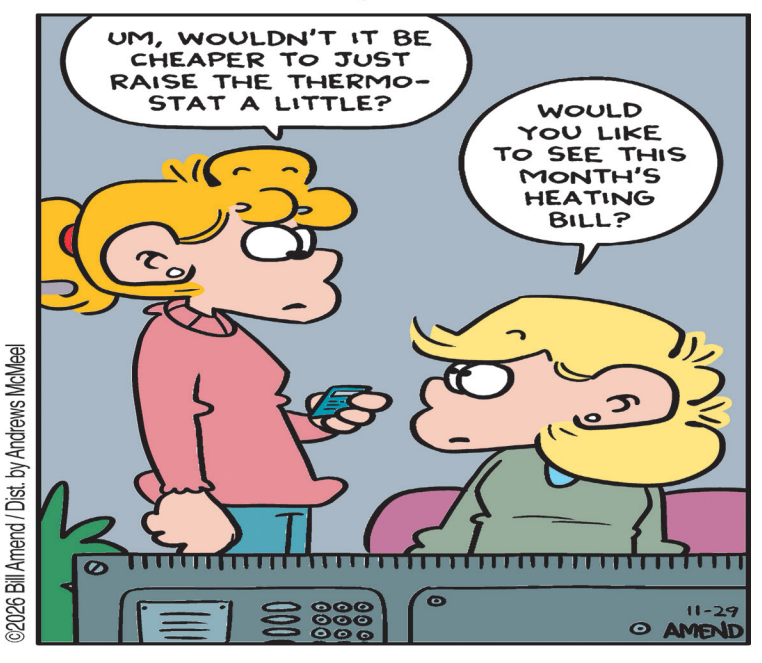


FoxTrot

by Bill Amend







CLOSE TO HOME John McPherson



"Sherman and Sheila, this is my somewhat shy sister Shelley. She sells seashells down by the seashore."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS Bil Keane

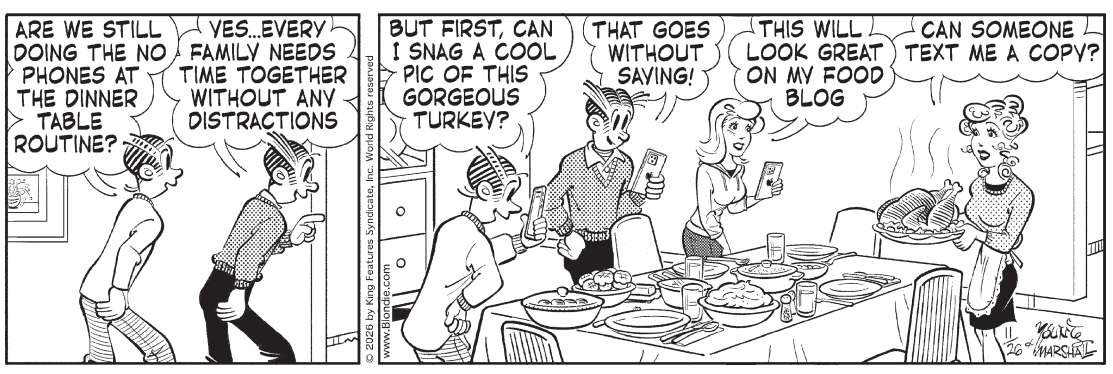


"Wanna make a wish, Daddy?"

BEETLE BAILEY Mort & Greg Walker



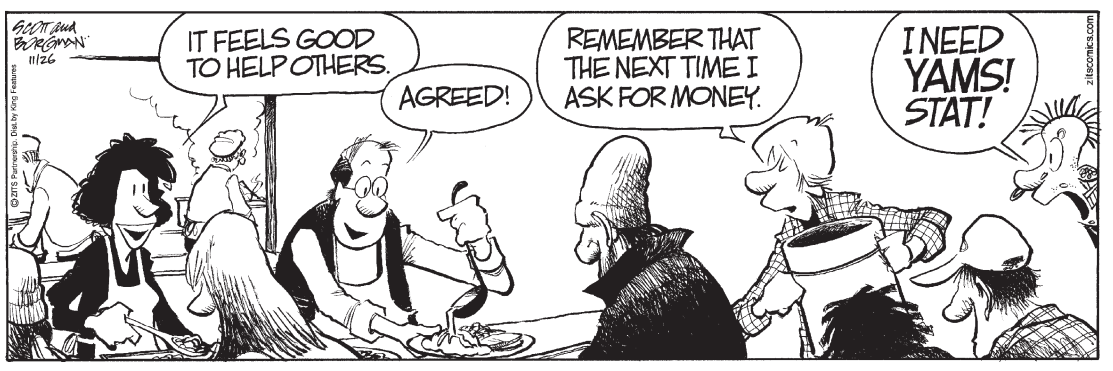
BLONDIE Dean Young & John Marshall



THE BORN LOSER Art & Chip Sansom



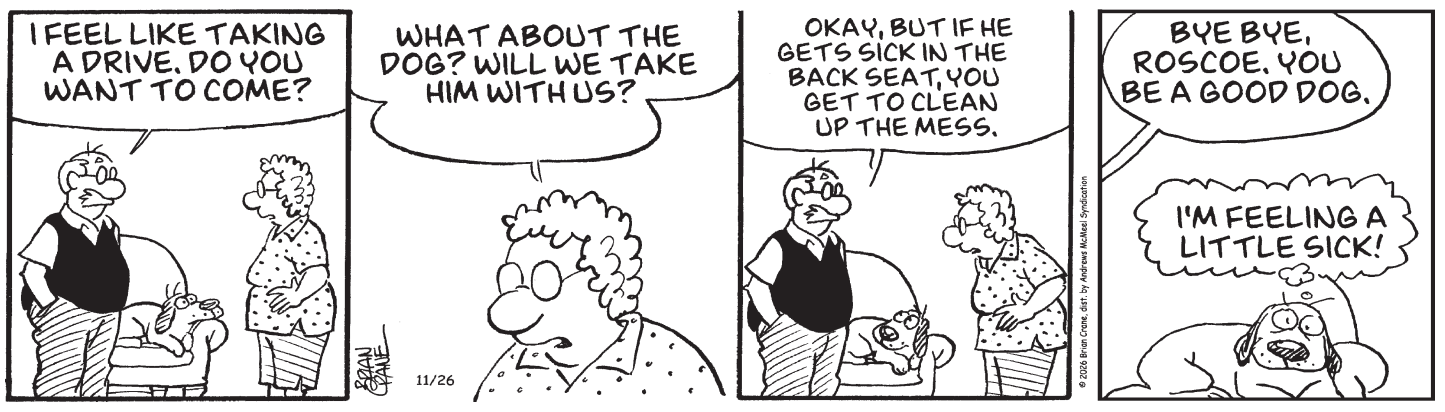
ZITS Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



GARFIELD Jim Davis



PICKLES Brian Crane



SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★☆☆

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

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

TODAY'S SUDOKU SOLUTION:

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

WHATZIT?™

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



TODAY'S WHATZIT SOLUTION:

Big showoff

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Pan for stir-frying
4 Wager
7 Brewed beverages
11 Period
12 Smooth movement
13 Foot part
14 Service charge
15 Indian princess
16 Unadulterated
17 Sinew
19 Showed the way
21 Nullify
23 Greek letter
24 Sailor's cry
27 Simple bed
29 Half a score
32 — and file
33 Big sandwich
34 Anger
35 Pen filler
36 Tulip-to-be
37 Ancient garb
38 N.J. neighbor
39 MGM's lion
40 Generous one
41 Old French money
43 Horse's gait
45 The Terminator, for one
48 Develop
52 Weaving machine
53 Competent
55 Succor
56 River in Ireland
57 Char
58 Actress — Ryan
59 Pedal pushers
60 Curse
61 Female sheep

DOWN

1 Drift through air
2 Curved molding
3 Sharp
4 Tasteless
5 Long time
6 Bit of kindling
7 Cannes carpet
8 Learning
9 "God's Little —"
10 Molt
12 Facade
18 Twilight
20 — — no good
22 Spotted wildcat
24 Like a desert
25 Weathercock
26 Talus
28 Spherical body
30 Therefore
31 Approach
33 Color
36 Make indistinct
37 Dorothy's dog
40 White cliffs locale
42 Orbiting body
44 Unwind
45 Musical symbol
46 Days gone by
47 Deep cut
49 Metallic fabric
50 Observe
51 Advantage
54 Winged insect

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

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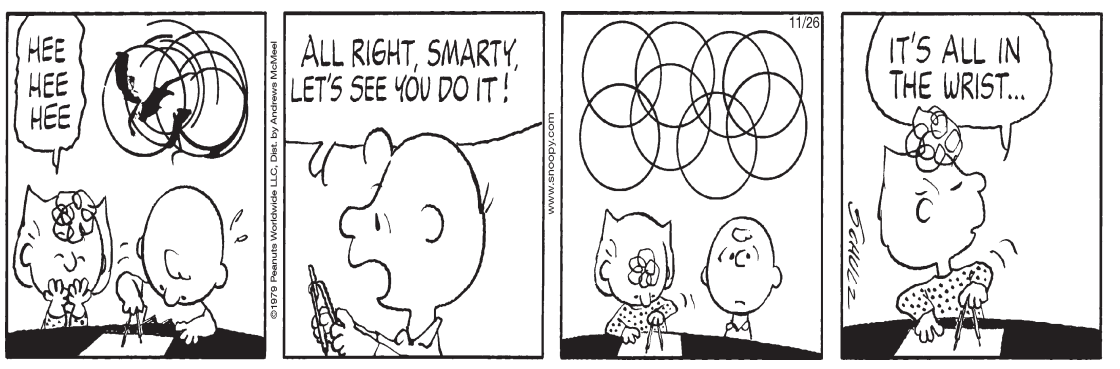
TODAY'S SOLUTION:

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

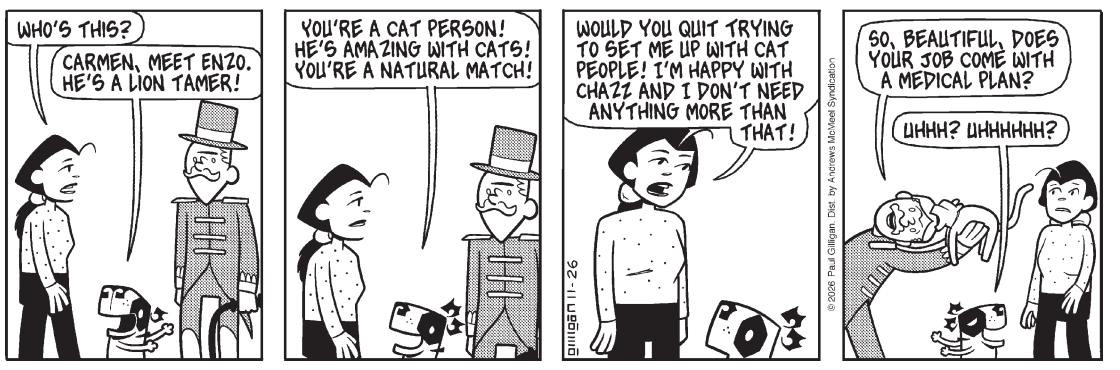
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE Chris Browne



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.**

A GRAVY-LOAD OF THANKS! **Solution: 7 letters**

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

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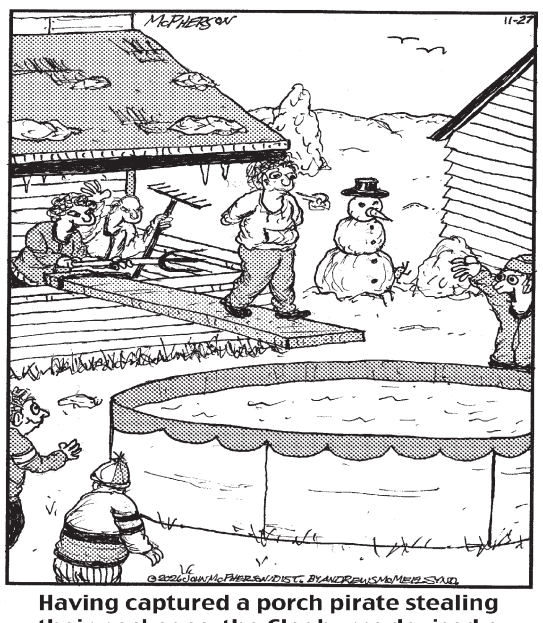
America, Apple, Autumn, Bake, Baste, Bread, Butter, Cider, Dinner, Dish, Drumstick, Family, Feast, Gather, Gobble, Gravy, Harvest, Holiday, Home, Host, Leftovers, Mashed, Parade, Pies, Plan, Potatoes, Pumpkins, Recipes, Roast, Rolls, Sides, Special, Spread, Stuffed, Stuffing, Table, Thankful, Thanksgiving, Traditions, Turkey, Wishbone, Yams

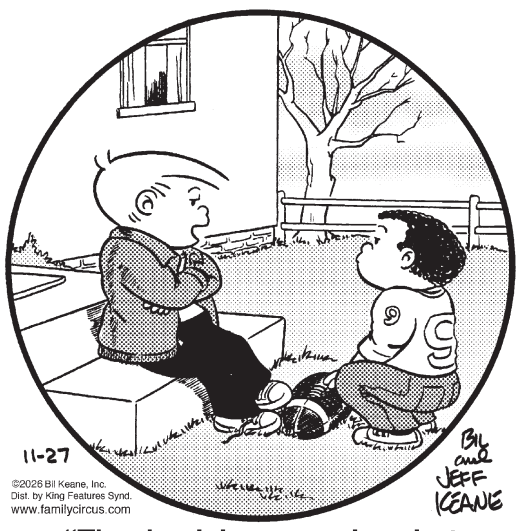
TODAY'S ANSWER: Dessert

CLOSE TO HOME John McPherson



Having captured a porch pirate stealing their packages, the Clegburns devised a fitting punishment for him.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS Bil Keane



"Thanksgiving was okay, but I bet we'll have a lot more to be thankful for on Christmas."

BEETLE BAILEY Mort & Greg Walker



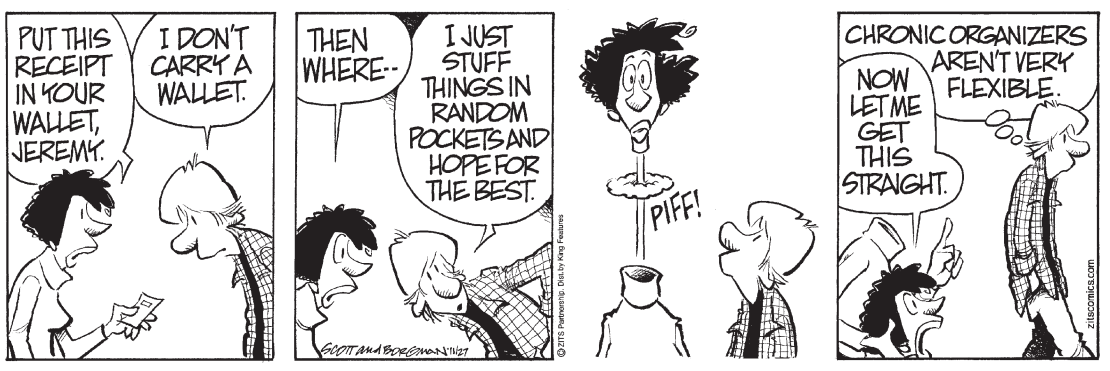
BLONDIE Dean Young & John Marshall



THE BORN LOSER Art & Chip Sansom



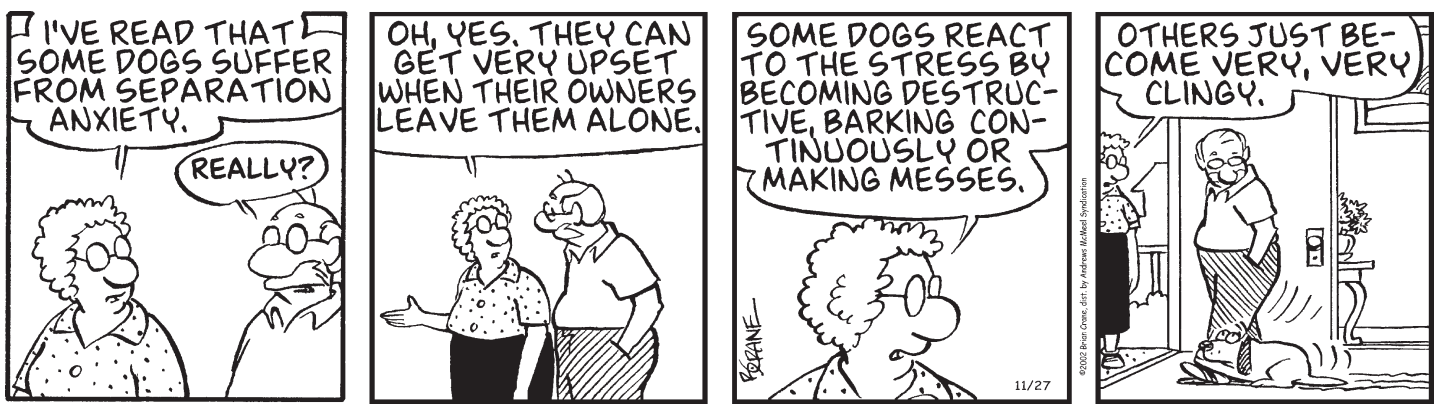
ZITS Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



GARFIELD Jim Davis



PICKLES Brian Crane



SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

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

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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Patti Varol

ACROSS

1 Weapon for Achilles
6 With speed
11 Seasoning for French fries?
14 Spooky
15 Like Neptune and Mercury
16 Yankees owner Steinbrenner
17 "Hey, come see this sonar!"?
19 Before now
20 View from a pew
21 Email pioneer
22 Per annum
24 Rueful remark while treating a sunburn?
27 Deluge refuge
30 Most junk mail
31 Rolls in yoga class
32 Word with dew or view
34 Musical arcade game, for short
35 Shakespearean manipulator
39 Turns some jewelry into a musical instrument?
43 Middling
44 Black gold
45 Alpaca habitat
46 Morning's end
48 Break
50 Alias letters
51 Figure at a shoe-swapping event?
56 Crazy Horse's people
57 401(k) kin
58 Greet with fanfare
62 Orthodontist's org.
63 Second little pig's home, for one?
66 Easily fooled sort
67 "You stay here"
68 Remove one's username from
69 Ironman race, for short
70 Dual cyclone vacuum maker
71 Speaks Persian?

DOWN

1 Spanish : noche :: Italian : __
2 Quick look
3 Slices of history
4 Part of the support staff
5 Sleep stage letters
6 Leafy spots
7 First name of singer PJ Harvey
8 "Who __ to judge?"
9 Large cousin of a guinea pig
10 Put into power
11 Predatory sort
12 Birdie topper
13 "Back to the Future" actor
18 Tall beer glass
23 Delegate (to)
25 Feedbag fill
26 Site for film research
27 Starters, casually
28 Caramel candy
29 Souls and Sedonas
33 "12 Years a Slave" Oscar winner
34 Dover's st.
36 Alan of "Bridge of Spies"
37 Member of a Best Buy tech support squad
38 Peak southeast of Olympus
40 Like Halloween candy in August, say
41 Soupçon
42 Scruff of the neck
47 Beat for a contract, perhaps
48 Bistro employee
49 "The Kerala Story" actress Sharma
51 Really fun time
52 Under the __
53 Ruminant with striped hindquarters
54 Drummer Starr
55 River to Lake Geneva
59 Self starter?
60 "No need to describe what it looked like"
61 Staying power
64 Singer Green and politician Gore
65 Run smoothly

TODAY'S SOLUTION:

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

11/27/26

1	2	3	4	5	■	6	7	8	9	10	■	11	12	13
14					■	15					■	16		
17					18						■	19		
20				■	21			■	22		23			
■	■	■	24	25				26						
27	28	29	■	30			■	31				■	■	■
32			33		■	■	34			■	35	36	37	38
39					40	41				42				
43				■	44			■	■	45				
■	■	■	46	47			■	48	49		■	50		
51	52	53					54				55	■	■	■
56						■	57			■	58	59	60	61
62			■	63		64				65				
66				67					■	68				
69				70						71				

By Steve Hotopp
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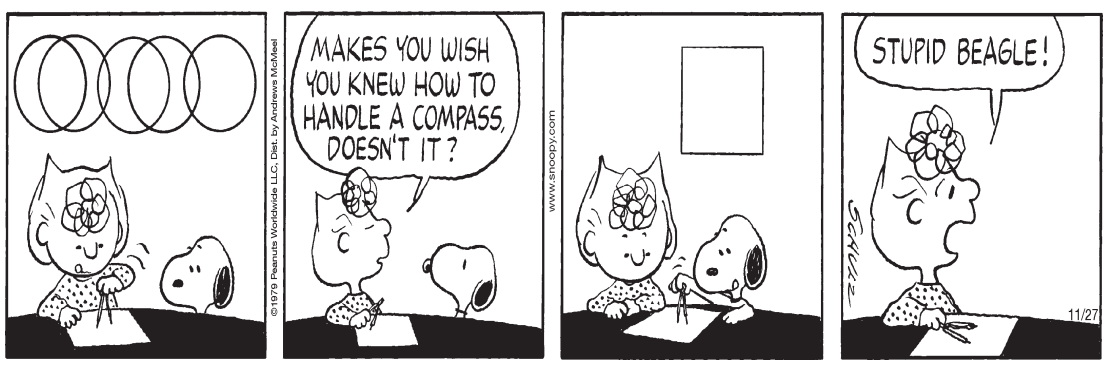
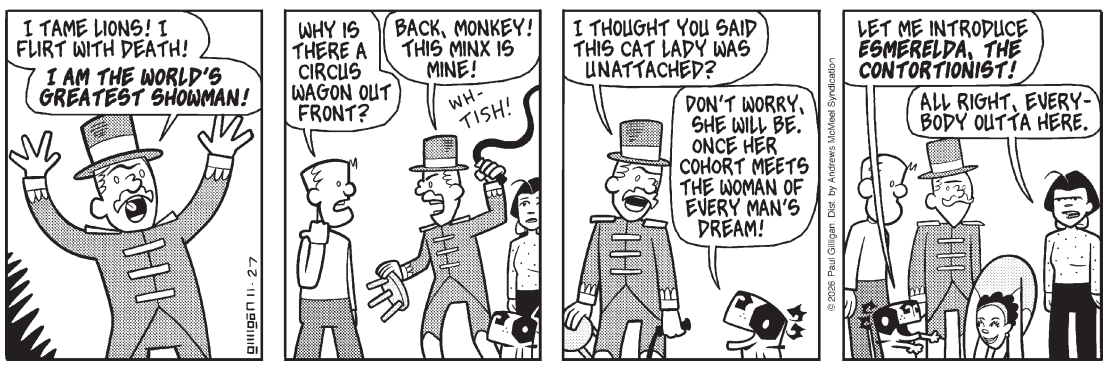
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE Chris Browne



PEANUTS Charles M. Schulz



POOCH CAFE Paul Gilligan



WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

BLACK FRIDAY: STUFFED WITH SAVINGS **Solution: 9 letters**

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

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Alerts, Brands, Cart, Cash, Clearance, Clothing, Coupons, Deal, Discounts, Doorbusters, Electronics, Freebies, Gadgets, Gifts, Hype, Limited, Lineups, Mall, Markdowns, Merchandise, Mobile, Paid, Percentage, Perks, Prices, Promotions, Purchases, Retail, Rush, Sale, Savings, Scan, Search, Shopper, Spend, Stock, Store, Supplies, Toys, Value

TODAY'S ANSWER: Wish Lists

WHATZIT?™

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

COME
O
M
EARTH

Whatzit ©2026 Paul Sellers

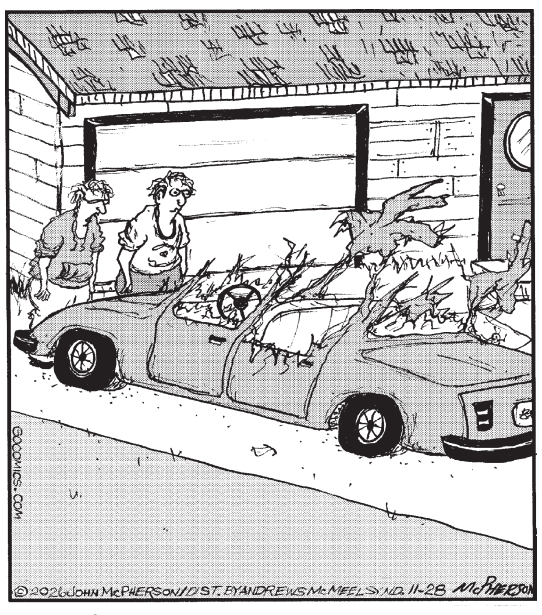
SUDOKU INSTRUCTIONS: Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repitition.

TODAY'S WHATZIT SOLUTION: Come down to earth

TODAY'S SUDOKU SOLUTION:

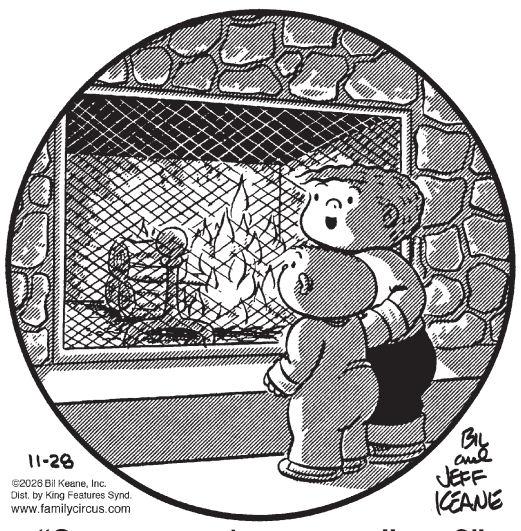
8	5	2	3	9	7	4	1	6
4	3	1	8	6	5	9	2	7
7	6	9	2	1	4	3	8	5
2	7	5	4	8	3	1	6	9
9	1	6	7	5	2	8	4	3
3	5	8	9	4	6	2	7	1
6	4	7	1	2	9	5	3	8
1	9	3	5	7	8	6	4	2
5	8	4	6	3	1	7	9	4

CLOSE TO HOME John McPherson



"AC/DC plus Black Sabbath plus volume level 10 equals grounded for three weeks."

THE FAMILY CIRCUS Bil Keane

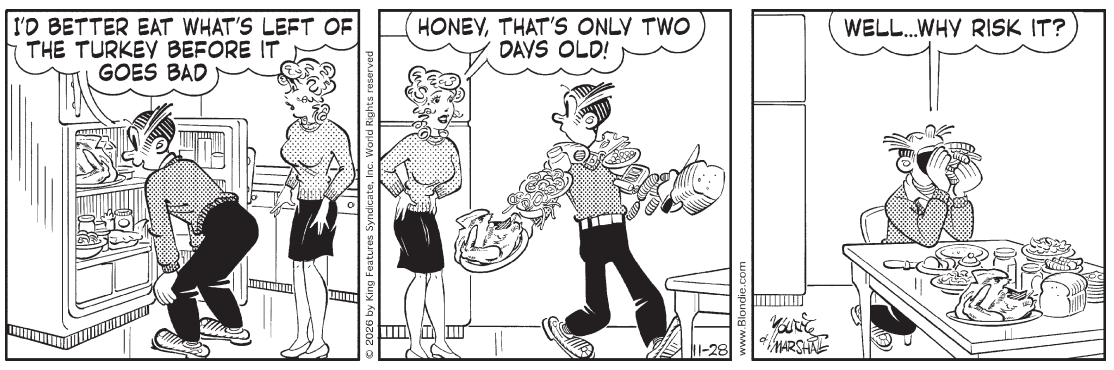


"Can we marsh some mallows?"

BEETLE BAILEY Mort & Greg Walker



BLONDIE Dean Young & John Marshall



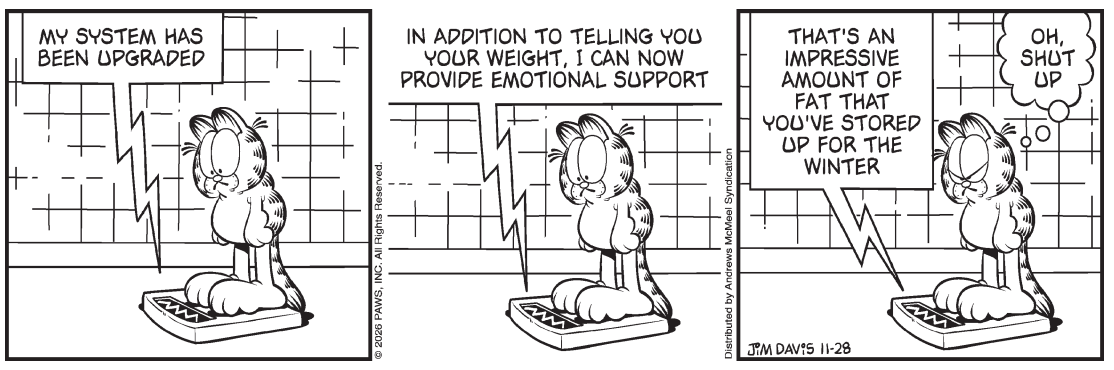
THE BORN LOSER Art & Chip Sansom



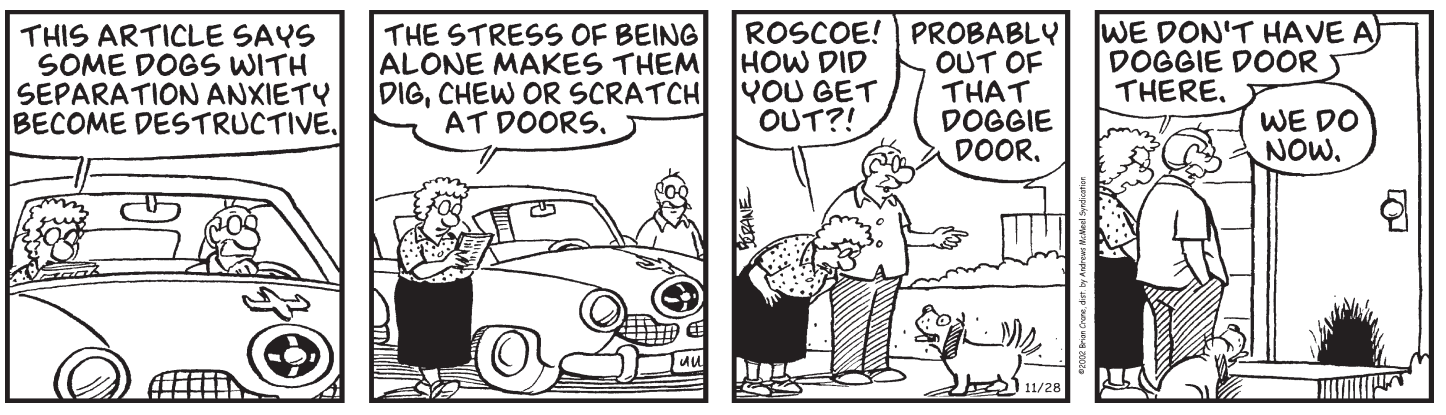
ZITS Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



GARFIELD Jim Davis



PICKLES Brian Crane



SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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

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WHATZIT?™

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



Whatzit ©2026 Paul Sellers

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

TODAY'S WHATZIT SOLUTION: Accident prone

TODAY'S SUDOKU SOLUTION:

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

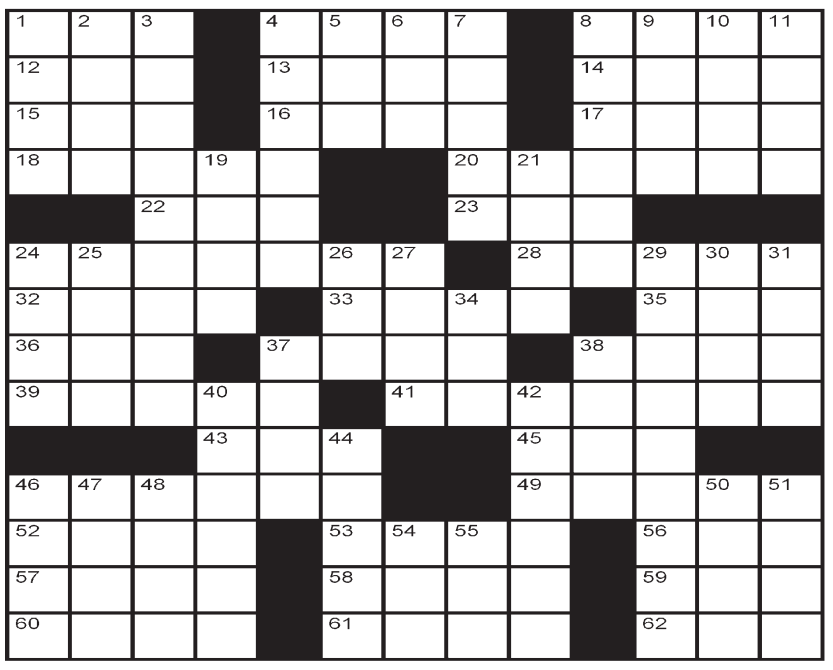
CROSSWORD

ACROSS

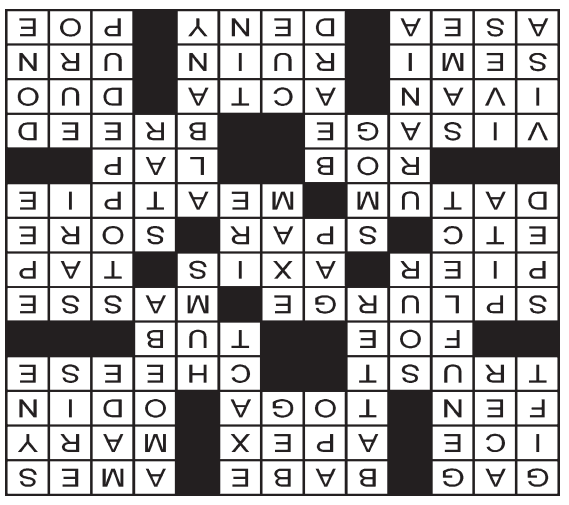
1 Comic bit
4 Innocent one
8 Iowa town
12 Rocks in a glass
13 Summit
14 — Tyler Moore
15 Swamp
16 Garment for Caesar
17 Norse god
18 "In God We —"
20 Brie, for example
22 Enemy
23 Vat
24 Spend lavishly
28 En — (all together)
32 Jetty
33 Line of rotation
35 Spigot
36 Common abbr.
37 Box
38 Achy
39 Bit of information
41 Savory pastry (2 wds.)
43 Steal from
45 Once around a track
46 Face
49 Engender
52 Terrible czar
53 Official records
56 Twosome
57 Big rig
58 Destroy
59 Samovar
60 On the ocean
61 Gainsay
62 "The Raven" writer

DOWN

1 Present
2 Genus of maples
3 Kneel briefly
4 Pancake mixture
5 Mil. address part
6 Panhandle
7 Precise
8 One-celled organism
9 Crafted
10 Discord goddess
11 New Year's Eve word
19 Tart
21 Drones
24 Raced
25 Flat bread
26 Opening
27 School event
29 Clogged (2 wds.)
30 Wraparound dress
31 Sword
34 Hot temper
37 Urban pollution
38 Top performer
40 Muse of astronomy
42 New York's capital
44 Facial hair
46 Travel document
47 Currier's partner
48 Identical
50 Money in Madrid
51 Completed
54 Stage signal
55 Can



TODAY'S SOLUTION:



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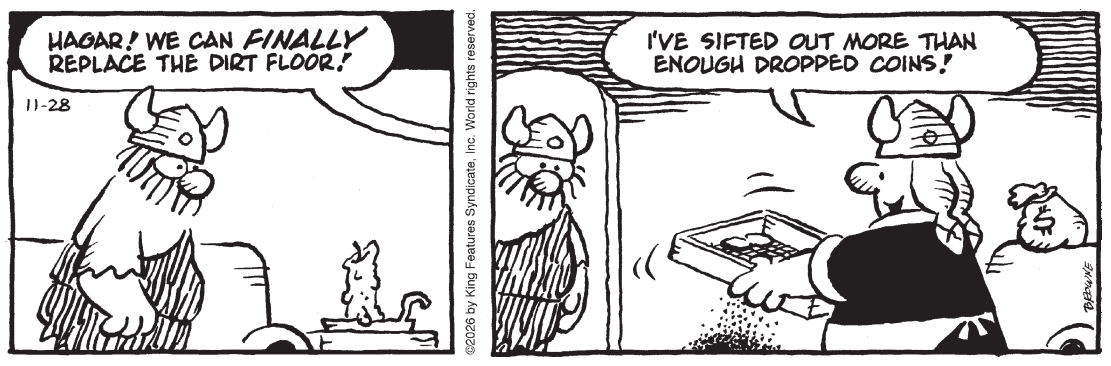
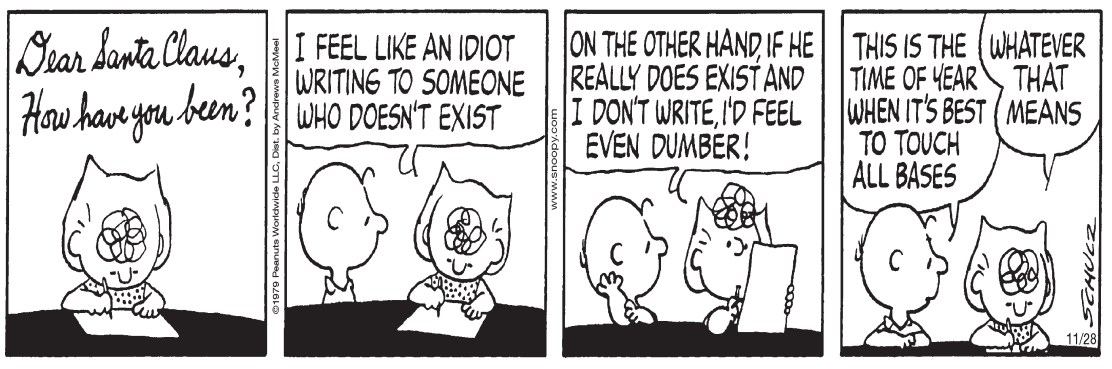
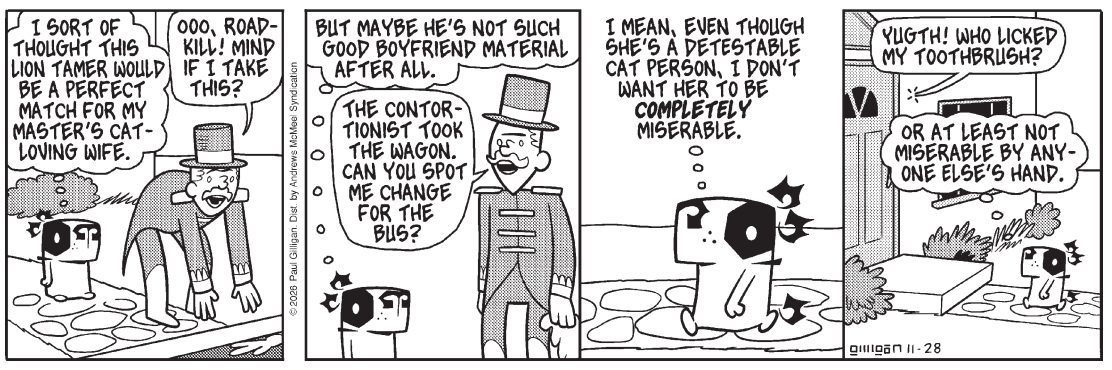
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE Chris Browne



PEANUTS Charles M. Schulz



POOCH CAFE Paul Gilligan



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By DAVID OUELLET

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TIM CURRY (1946-2026) **Solution: 9 letters**

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

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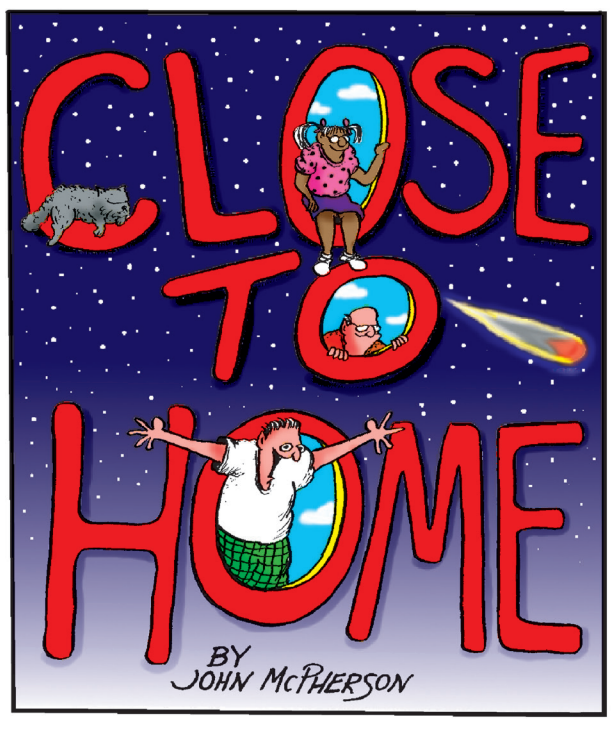
Annie, Billy, Cartoon, Cecil, Clever, Clown, Clue, Comedy, Concierge, Crypt, Drama, Dr. Frank N. Furter, Eccentric, England, Family, Fearless, Grappenhall, Hair, Halloween, Legend, Mastermind, Mischievous, Musical, Mystery, Narrator, Oscar, Pennywise, Play, Quirky, Rocky, Roger, Spamalot, Stephen King, Voice, Wadsworth, West End

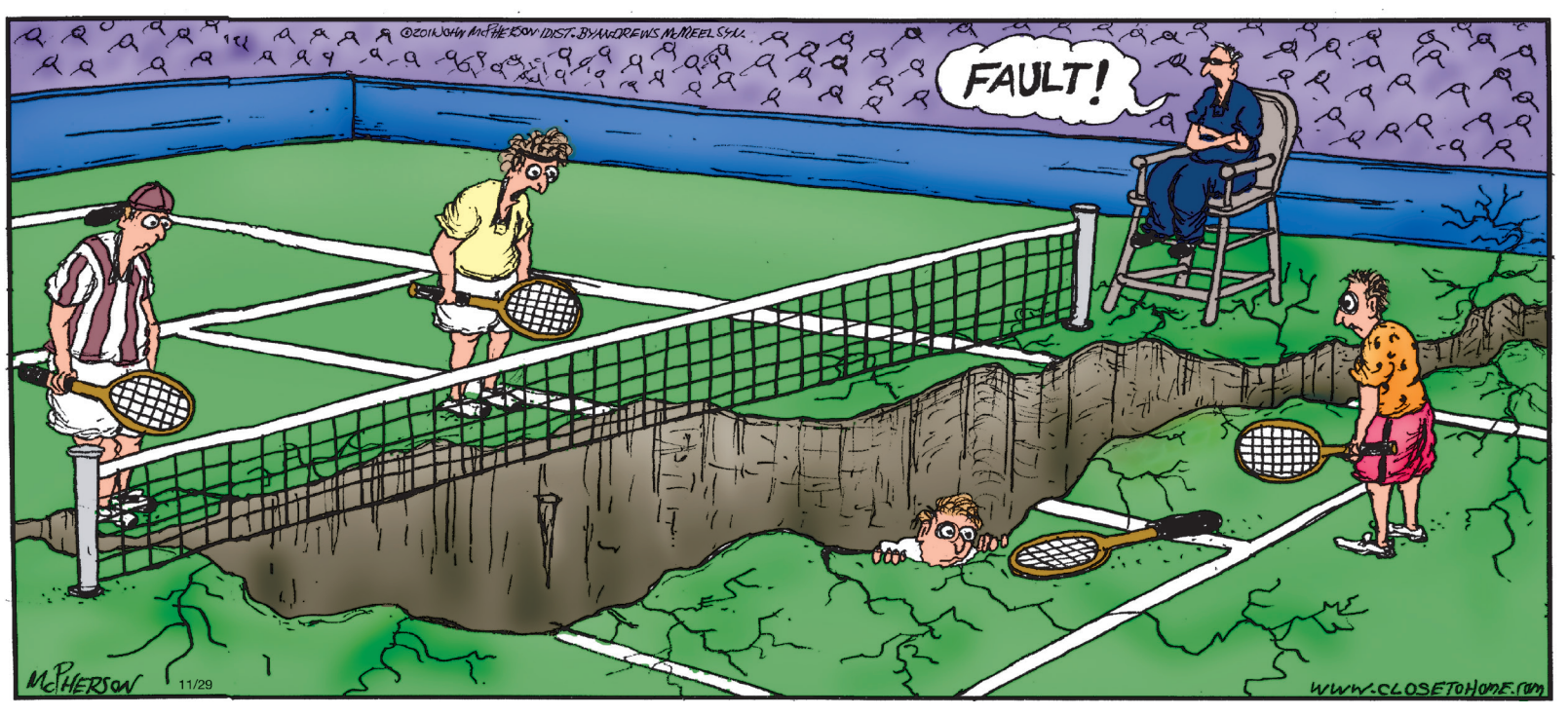
TODAY'S ANSWER: Home Alone

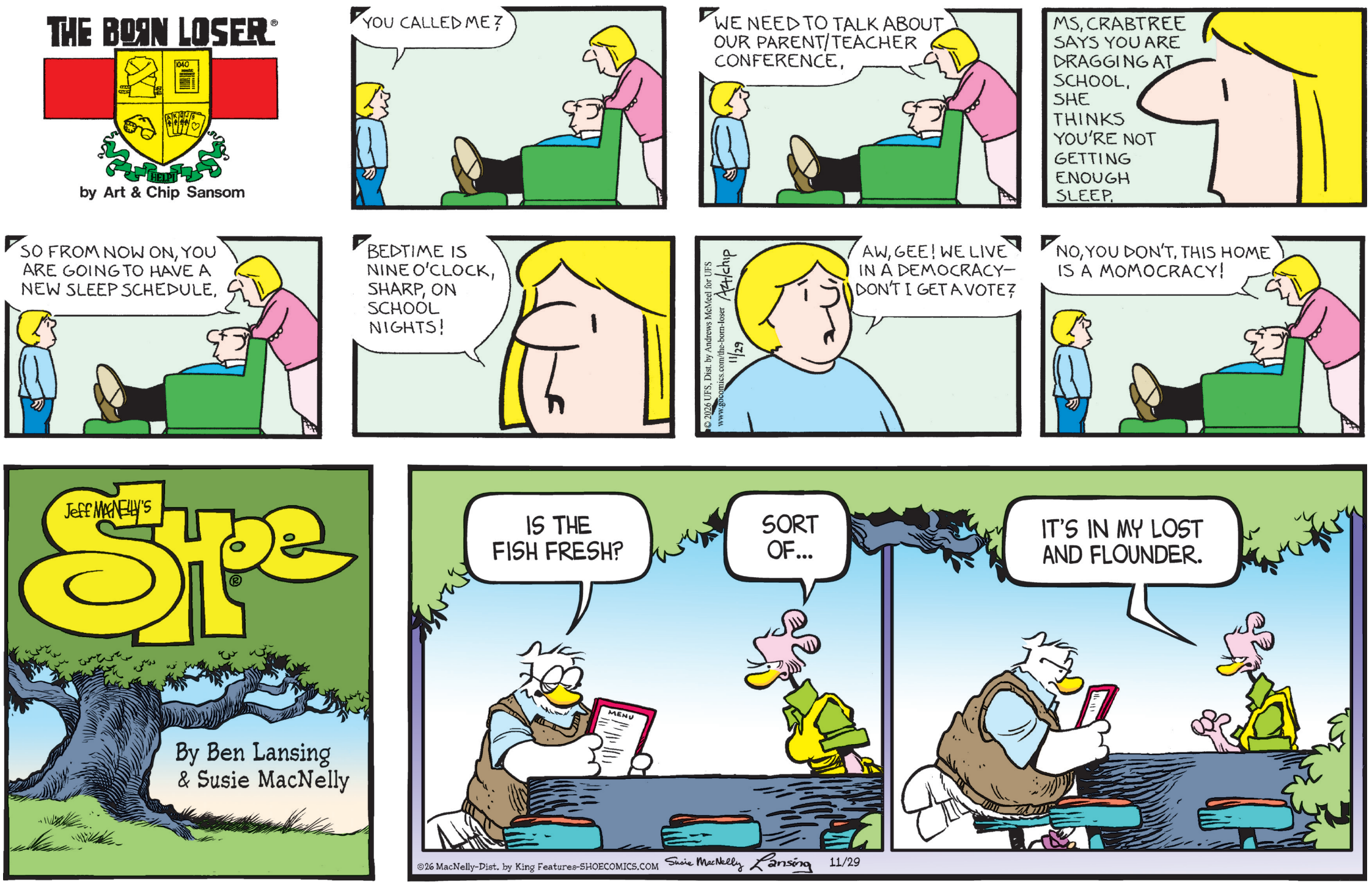
ADAM@HOME

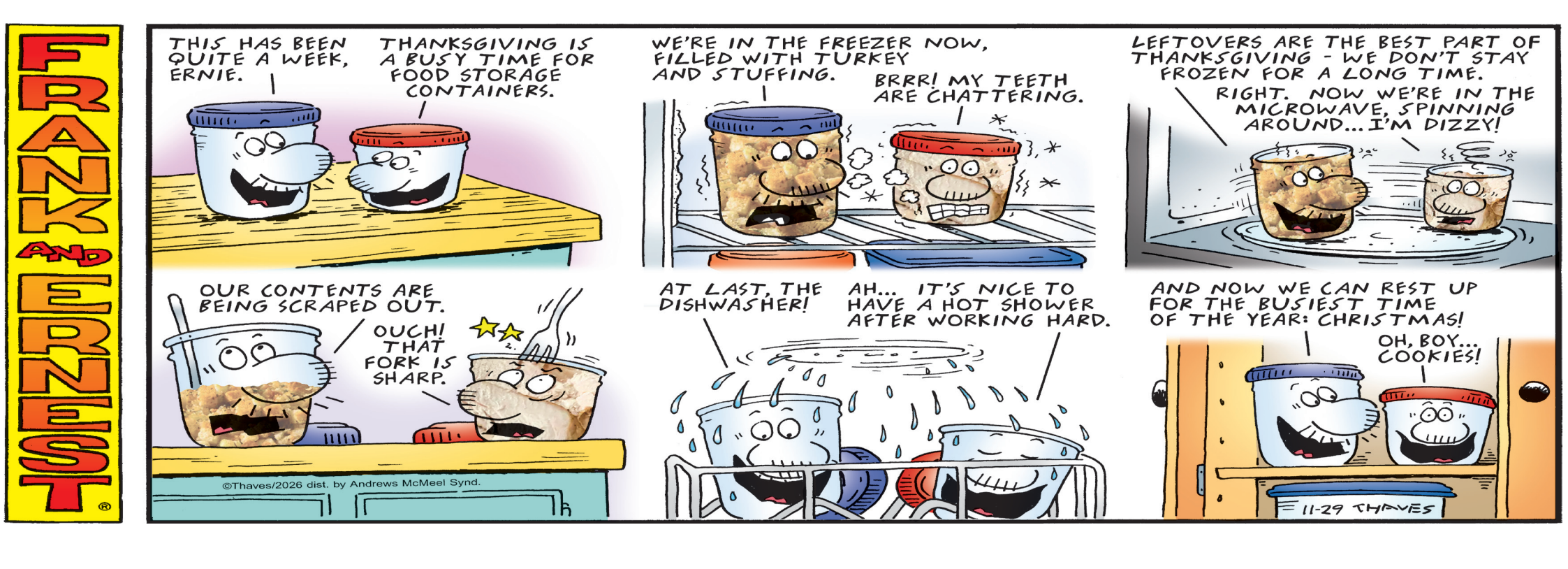
BY ROB HARRELL





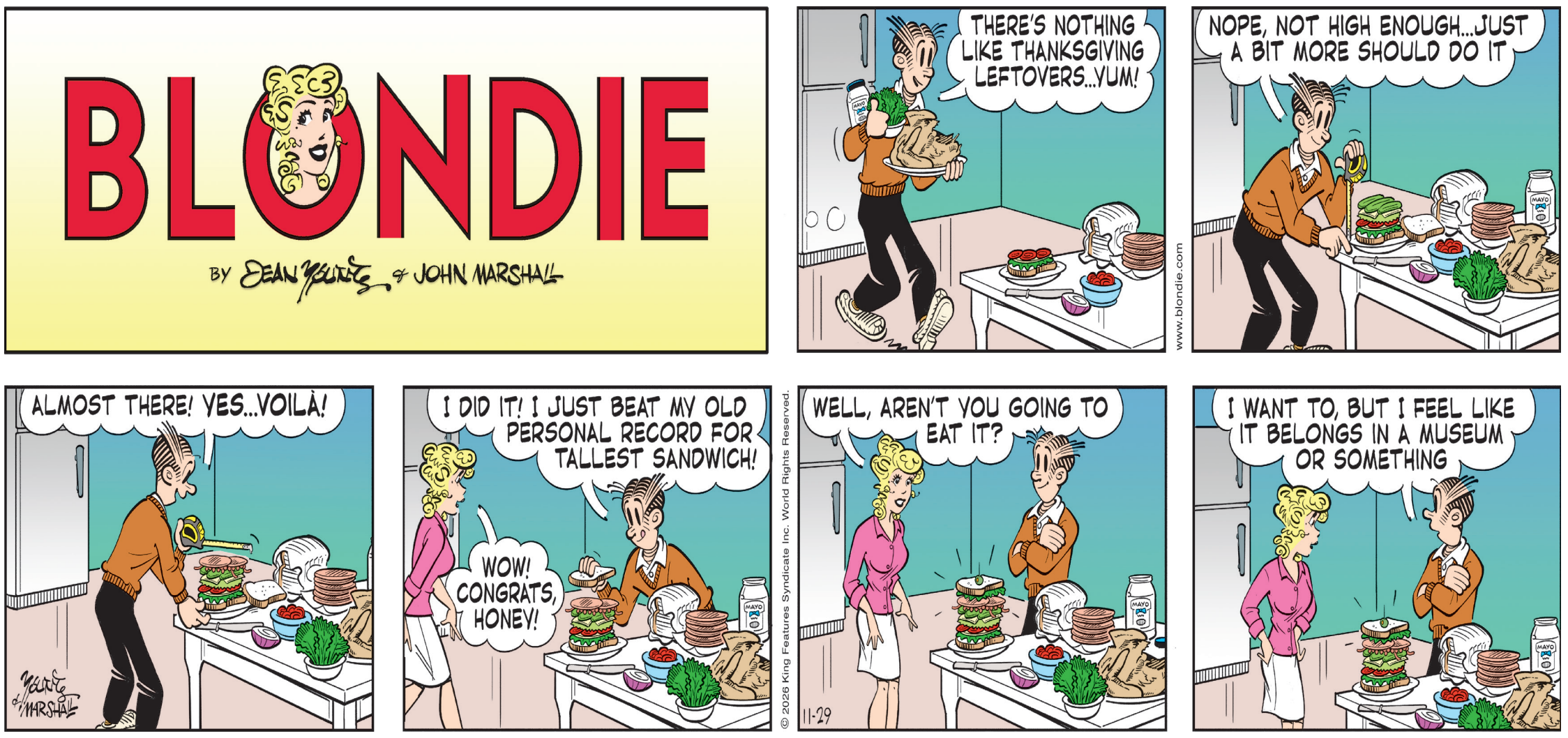






BLONDIE

BY DEAN YOUNG & JOHN MARSHALL



beetle bailey®

Mort Walker's



Hank Ketcham's Dennis the Menace

QUEEN ALICE



CLASSIC PEANUTS

BY CHARLES SCHULZ



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

BY STEPHAN PASTIS

