

THE UNION-RECORDER

Milledgeville, Georgia

\$1.50 WEEKEND, AUGUST 9-10, 2025 www.unionrecorder.com

AREA: BCSD TO RECEIVE \$530K IN FEDERAL FUNDING 3A SPORTS: JMA SOFTBALL READY TO CONTEND 9A

Authorities seize \$2M worth of meth

Putnam county man arrested

BY BILLY W. HOBBS billy.hobbs@unionrecorder.com EATONTON, Ga. — A Putnam County man is being held without bond after his arrest, accused of being involved in a major drug smuggling case. Authorities said the arrest led to the discovery of more than 50 kilos of methamphetamine in a box that was delivered to the suspect's residence on the 300 block of Shady Dale Road near Eatonton. The box had been previously delivered to the residence by a ground delivery

See METH, page 5A



Billy W. Hobbs/The Union-Recorder Baldwin County State Court Judge Paul Hitchcock talks with members of the Baldwin County Board of Commission Tuesday.

State Court Judge seeks full-time position

BY BILLY W. HOBBS billy.hobbs@unionrecorder.com

Baldwin County State Court Judge Paul Hitchcock asked members of the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners Tuesday to consider making his job full-time rather than part-time. "Just to give you a little history of state court in Baldwin County, the state court was created by an act of local legislation way back in 1875," Hitchcock said. "At that time, the state court solicitor and the judge were both part-time positions, and that continued until 1989 when both positions were made full-time positions. Then in 1996, the judge position was changed back to part-time, and then the solicitor remained full-time and is still full-time till this day." Hitchcock said he had completed some informal research about it by talking to other state court judges. "Baldwin County is the only county that has a state court that has a part-time judge and a full-time solicitor,"

See JUDGE, page 8A

Woman injured in SUV wreck



Billy W. Hobbs/The Union Recorder

A woman driving along a wet portion of Pea Ridge Road in Putnam County was injured Wednesday morning after she lost control of her SUV, ran off the shoulder of the roadway and into a deep ravine. A good Samaritan stopped and freed the woman using a tool to open a door. The woman was later treated at the scene by firefighters/first responders with Putnam County Fire Department and personnel with Putnam County Emergency Medical Services. Traffic was snarled in the area of Briarpatch Farm for more than 45 minutes. The wreck was investigated by a trooper with the Georgia State Patrol post in Madison.

Baldwin County Regional Airport receives aviation honor

BY BILLY W. HOBBS billy.hobbs@unionrecorder.com

It's no secret: The Baldwin County Regional Airport has grown significantly since it was first established. The airport also has earned recognition and helped grow into one of the finest airports in all of Georgia. One of the latest honors comes from officials with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), which recognizes the Baldwin County Regional Airport for Outstanding Promotions in Aviation. The distinct honor was recently bestowed upon local airport officials from a list of 102 airports eligible to receive such recognition. "Many individuals made this recognition possible," according to Baldwin County Manager Carlos Tobar. "It all starts with Jim Wolfgang." For the last several years, Wolfgang has served as chairman of the Airport Advisory Committee.

Tobar said Wolfgang has worked tirelessly to promote what was once known only as the Baldwin County Airport into what today is known by its relatively new name, Baldwin County Regional Airport. "Mr. Wolfgang's vision was for the airport to host community-wide regional events promoting aviation, host activities targeted at promoting aviation in the K-12 environment, establish camps for high school students, establish a presence at Baldwin County High School and conduct activities for underrepresented groups," Tobar said. "That vision has become a reality at Baldwin County Regional Airport." Roberto Hornung-Filho was hired as the aviation instructor in 2021 by the Baldwin County Board of Education to start a drone class at Baldwin High School. Since that time, he has started a highly-successful Georgia Pathway



Billy W. Hobbs/The Union-Recorder

Pictured from left: Collette E. Williams, Bruce Hood, Carlos Tobar, Leigh Ann Trainer and Jim Wolfgang.

See AIRPORT, page 3A

Volume 205 • Number 62

6 97113 29010 9

Today's Index

Classifieds	2A
Day Book	3A
Features	6A
Opinions	4A
Sports	7A

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JMA senior collects backpacks for CASA



Contributed photo
John Milledge Academy senior Joely Smith chose Ocmulgee Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) for her Senior Project. Smith collected and donated 20 backpacks filled with school supplies for CASA children in foster care. CASA volunteers distributed backpacks to the children for whom they advocate. Pictured with Smith (center) are Ocmulgee CASA staff, Elaine Odom and Rachel Odom.

GCSU provost to assume role at University System of Georgia

Special to The U-R
Dr. Costas Spirou, provost and vice president for academic affairs at Georgia College & State University, has been promoted to the position of the University System of Georgia's Chief Innovation and Entrepreneurial Strategies Officer and will hold a tenured professor's position in the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts at the Georgia Institute of Technology.

A Bobcat since 2013, Spirou was called upon to serve the USG in August 2024, filling the role of interim chief academic officer since then. In his new role, which became effective Aug. 1, he will report directly to Chancellor Sonny Perdue and work to systematize innovation and entrepreneurship programs and initiatives much like those developed by Georgia Tech in launching its Technology Square in Atlanta — which has attracted tech companies seeking recruitment and partnership opportunities to the area — and which the other 25 USG institutions could adapt in various forms and markets throughout the state.

Beginning his career at Georgia College as the chair of the Government & Sociology Department in 2013, Spirou was named interim provost in 2016 then earned a permanent appointment to provost in 2020. Under his tenure, he led the university's academic programs through the COVID-19 pandemic and contributed to a remarkable period of enrollment growth for



Spirou

See **PROVOST**, page 3A

CRIME DIGEST

The following is information compiled from public records taken from reports of the Milledgeville Police Department and the Baldwin County Sheriff's Office. It is our policy to not disclose the names of victims. These reports do not reflect guilt or innocence. An "arrest" does not always indicate incarceration. The charges filed are noted in the narrative.

MILLEDGEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

■ **Criminal Trespass**
An officer was dispatched to the 100 block of West Greene Street at 10:19 a.m. on July 28. A man was trespassing on the property. A complainant stated that the man kept coming into her office, and she had asked him to leave. The man had already previously been served with a stay away notice, stemming from an incident in 2023. A warrant was to be issued for the man's arrest.

■ **Damage to Property**
An officer responded to a residence on the 2300 block of River Ridge Road on July 30. A man stated that he was in the process of breaking up with his girlfriend and was at the residence to get some of his belongings. He discovered his Dream Cloud mattress, valued at \$800, had been damaged and covered in hot sauce. His black 50-inch television was also damaged. His ex-girlfriend admitted to damaging the property but argued that it was shared property. The man provided a digital receipt for the TV. He stated that he owned the TV before he and the woman were in a relationship. The woman was arrested and placed in handcuffs. She was transported to jail.

—Compiled by Natalie Davis Linder

THIS DAY IN...

HISTORY

- **1854:** AMERICAN WRITER HENRY DAVID THOREAU PUBLISHES HIS MEMOIR "WALDEN."
- **1907:** THE FIRST BOY SCOUT ENCAMPMENT CONCLUDES AT BROWN-SEA ISLAND IN SOUTHERN ENGLAND.
- **1999:** RUSSIAN PRESIDENT BORIS YELTSIN FIRES HIS PRIME MINISTER SERGEI STEPASHIN.

TODAY

AUGUST 9

HIGH 85°

LOW 70°

A slight chance of showers between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m., then a chance of showers and thunderstorms after 2 p.m.

SUNDAY

SHOWERS

84/71

MONDAY

SHOWERS

84/70

TUESDAY

SHOWERS

88/72

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CLASSIFIEDS ARE IN

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Area News

Federal funds finally heading to Georgia schools

\$530,000-plus allocated to Baldwin County School District

BY MATTHEW BROWN
matthew.brown@unionrecorder.com

Federal money in excess of \$145 million released by the U.S. Department of Education is finally heading to the state of Georgia’s academic systems. The state board of education held a meeting on Wednesday, and Superintendent Richard Woods recommended action to get the funds to local districts, charter schools and academies, according to a release from the Georgia Department of Education.

The Baldwin County School District is receiving \$336,131 in Title II Part A funds, \$15,232 in Title III Part A funds, and \$185,497 in Title IV Part A funds for a total of \$536,860.

This is part of \$145.54 million in federal funds to be distributed throughout Georgia by the vote Wednesday of the Georgia Board of Education.

Per the GaDOE release:

Title II, Part A aims to improve student outcomes by enhancing teacher and leader effectiveness through professional development, recruitment, and retention.

Title III, Part A supports English learners in achieving English proficiency and academic success through language instruction, educator training and community engagement.

Title IV, Part A promotes a well-rounded education, safe and healthy school environments, and effective technology use to enhance learning and digital literacy.

“We are very appreciative

of our elected officials and GaDOE in their advocacy efforts for local school districts,” said Baldwin County School Superintendent Dr. Kristina Brooks. “Because of the continued unified efforts, school districts are able to operate for 2025-2026 based on the budgets that were approved. We will continue to monitor our expenditures realizing that federal funds are never a guarantee. Our goal remains the same: Providing a high quality education to all children and ensuring we are operating fiscally responsibly to sustain programs that positively impact student achievement.”

“I’m relieved that Georgia has now received the full federal education funds previously approved by Congress and signed into law by President Trump,” Woods said. “I appreciate the State Board of Education and Chairman Stan DeJarnett working quickly to hold several called meetings and ensure these funds reach districts without further delay, and I want to thank our Federal Programs team, led by Deputy Superintendent Shaun Owen, for their continued hard work. As I’ve said before, I support both fiscal responsibility and the principle of returning control of education to states and local communities. That work is only possible when states have timely access to the resources already authorized at the federal level. I’m glad Georgia districts will now have these funds in hand as we get our school year started.”



Contributed photo

Baldwin County Schools Superintendent Dr. Kristina Brooks is seen with students on the first day of school Monday. BCSD will receive \$536,860 in newly released federal funds for education.

When Brooks presided over her first board of education meeting as school superintendent for Baldwin County, she made a statement about federal grant money being in jeopardy, and not having such funds would impact 38 positions.

“When we dug into what that (money) goes to, it doesn’t completely cover, but it takes a portion of 38 either salaries or benefits. Those 38 positions range from paraprofessionals to some instructional coaches, behavior specialists, and even a

few teachers,” Brooks told The Union-Recorder during an interview on July 25.

Brooks told The Union-Recorder in that same interview that the school district received word that the U.S. Department of Education did release separate 21st Century Grant funding, which allows all four K-5 schools in the system to have after-school programs. The state board voted to accept these federal funds at a called meeting on July 29.

21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC), or The

Title IV, Part B, funds support after-school and summer learning programs. According to the GaDOE, federal funds received for 21st CCLC programs in Georgia were lower this year because funding is based on states’ Title I allocations, which decreased in Georgia last year due to changes in Census data.

The release further states Georgia received \$40.59 million in federal Title IV, Part B funds but was able to distribute \$48.23 million using carryover funds to cover the difference.

Airport

Continued from page 1A

Program involving drones.

He also also is a member of the Airport Advisory Committee and frequently brings guest students to meetings and other events promoting aviation at the local airport.

Hornung-Filho’s dedication to teaching aviation at the local high school earned him the Pursuit of Excellence Award in December 2024 from the

Baldwin County Board of Education.

Kalina Milani and her husband Andy have also given much of their time to helping promote the Baldwin County Regional Airport.

Kalina is a retired Emirates Airlines pilot. She also holds a master’s degree in business administration.

She learned to fly in her hometown of Recife, Brazil.

In March 2023, she established the first-ever Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) Chapter in the history of the local airport.

The EAA Chapter meets every third Monday at 5:30 p.m. Meetings are held in the airport conference room.

The chapter provides programs including VMC Club, Young Eagles and Eagle Flights.

Tobar also commended Bruce Hood, the general manager of Sinclair Aviation, who serves as the airport’s fixed based operator.

Hood promotes the airport in several ways.

Tobar said Hood invites schools to bring students out to the airport for tours. He also informs them of the

Young Eagles Program and the efforts of those involved in the local EAA Chapter to promote aviation.

“None of this would have been possible without all the pilots who gave of their time, talents and treasure to help the Airport Advisory Committee and individuals promote the airport,” Tobar said. “The Baldwin County Board of Commissioners thanks all those who have given tirelessly their time and talents to promote aviation in our community and who have made the

Baldwin County Regional Airport an exemplary example to others in the state.”

Provost

Continued from page 2A

the university, during which time it also received its highest national rankings. He enhanced GCSU’s national reputation by continuing to present his own research and scholarship around the country and secured grant funding to support and incentivize research by Georgia College faculty.

“As much as I selfishly hate to lose Spirou for our campus, I’m pleased that the chancellor recognized his expertise in the area of urban innovation and entrepreneurship and will be able to leverage his scholarship in this

area to benefit all of the USG institutions as well as Georgia’s workforce and economy at large,” said Georgia College President Cathy Cox.

“Dr. Spirou has worked tirelessly for Georgia College for 12 years,” Cox continued, “and the national academic reputation that GCSU enjoys today is a direct credit to Costas’ leadership and continued scholarship over the years. He has demonstrated a remarkable ability to continue exciting scholarship while managing the rigorous work of the provost’s office. He’s truly a remarkable individual. We miss having him here with us.”

Spirou’s most recent books include “Anchoring Innovation Districts:

The Entrepreneurial University and Urban Change,” which focuses on innovation, higher education, economic development, and urban revitalization; and the co-edited “The Many Futures of Work: Rethinking Expectations and Breaking Molds,” which examines the labor economy; among several others. He is also editor of the Johns

Hopkins University Press Higher Education and the City book series.

Since Spirou’s transition to the USG, Dr. Holley Roberts has served as interim provost and vice president for academic affairs at GCSU. More details on operational changes in the provost’s office will be released as soon as they become available.

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COLLEGE NEWS

UNG confers degrees for summer 2025 graduates

For the summer 2025 semester, the University of North Georgia (UNG) awarded more than 400 degrees and certificates to graduates.

--Hannah Brooks of Milledgeville graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology.

--Crystal Putka of Sparta graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice and an Associate of Science in Behavioral Sciences Pathway With Distinction.



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-THE FIRST AMENDMENT, UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

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EDITORIAL

Perea and Linder are joined by community member LaTrina Howell on The Union-Recorder editorial board. Our editorials are formed weekly by the board.

Make plans to
attend Eggs & Issues

The new season of Eggs & Issues kicks off later this month with a presentation from Rebekah Snider, executive director of Visit Milledgeville. Each month that follows will feature other engaging presentations on topics of local importance — from education to economic development, state legislation and local government and law enforcement.

The series kicks off at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 20 at the conference center on the Milledgeville campus of Central Georgia Technical College.

Community members are urged to register and make plans to attend a session or the whole series of programs to stay abreast of topics of local importance.

Each of these breakfasts includes a presentation on the designated topic, as well as a question and answer session.

This series is an opportunity to learn more and engage in community issues. It's also an opportunity to ask questions of those directly involved with these issues and hear from them firsthand.

More importantly, it's a means to weigh in and ask questions, providing an avenue for a renewed community voice and discussion.

Make an effort to attend an Eggs & Issues session and learn more about community interests by doing so.

This column represents the opinion of The Union-Recorder and its Editorial Board. Contact Editor Natalie Davis Linder, 478-453-1462, or email Natalie.Linder@UnionRecorder.com with questions or comments.

EDITORIAL POLICY

We want to hear from you. To comment on a specific news item, editorial or commentary and have it considered for publication as a Letter to the Editor, email Natalie Davis Linder, editor, at Natalie.Linder@UnionRecorder.com, fax 478-453-1449; mail to P.O. Box 520, Milledgeville, GA 31059-0520; or stop by our office at 165 Garrett Way, NW. Letters must be confirmed before being considered for publication. Letters should be limited to one topic on issues of local public interest within our coverage area, or focus on a current national or world event. Letters of a political nature must focus on a specific issue of public importance. Political campaign endorsements are permitted on a one-time per candidate, first-come, first-serve basis and must adhere to all other editorial policy guidelines. No more than one political endorsement will run per day per candidate and none will run on Election Day. Letters must not exceed 350 words, and they may be edited for content, grammar, spelling and length.

Open letters, letters to third parties, those involving personal or business disputes, personal tributes and poetry will not be considered.

Letters must include the writer's full name, address and daytime phone number (for verification purposes only) — only the name and hometown will be published).

Deion and me

OK, so nobody has ever called me Prime Time.

Or, "Neon" Deion (Sanders) if it matters.

I did have a nickname in high school. Wes King and others used to call me Sugar Bear, after the mascot for Golden Crisp cereal. The bear's motto was: "The sweet life is no sweat for Sugar Bears." As you can imagine, I always tried to keep that nickname on the down low.

I did have other nicknames at my fraternity in college, but this is a family newspaper.

I don't make \$10 million a year coaching a college football team at the University of Colorado. But when my sons were young, I coached their baseball teams.

"See ball, hit ball" was my best advice.

My net worth is well shy of Coach Prime's estimated \$65 million. I'm happy when the Social Security COLA is 3%.

Deion's college football coach at FSU, Bobby Bowden, called him "the measuring stick for athletic ability."

I've never played football in the National Football League and baseball in the Major League. One time, Deion did it on the same day. He scored a touchdown and hit a home run in the same week. He is the only athlete to play in the Super Bowl (winning two) and in a World Series.

When I worked in Cincinnati, I was a part of the coverage of two Super Bowls (the Bengals lost to the 49ers both times) and one World Series (the Reds beat the Oakland A's).

Sanders played for the Reds in parts of the 1994, 1995, 1997 and 2001 seasons.

I lived in Cincinnati from 1978-2001. Sports editors don't get traded much.

I played football and wrestled during my senior year at Baldwin High. I even made the all-city football team as selected by this newspaper. Of course, back then there were only two high schools in Milledgeville.

My buddy Charles Middlebrooks and I tried

out for the Baldwin basketball team one time, but coach Milton Moore gently told us what we already knew: We couldn't jump or shoot. So, unlike our classmate Baxter Whitaker who was the quarterback on the football team and a guard on the basketball team, we stuck with just football.

When others encouraged Deion to concentrate on only one sport as a pro, Sanders said: "Football is my wife and baseball is my mistress."

I wish I had told coach Moore that.

And, then, just last week I read that Deion Sanders had his bladder removed after being diagnosed with bladder cancer.

I knew we had a lot in common.

As regular readers of this column know, I have undergone two surgeries (Feb. 2024 and Feb. this year) to remove my bladder and prostate. The second surgery was a matter of doing some tweaking, but I'm doing great now.

Deion talked a lot about his surgery at a press conference last week before his Colorado team started preseason practice.

"The initial thing you do is what we all do, we google it," he said. "That's the wrong thing to do because they tell you, 'You're gonna die, dog.' Whoever's doing Google, you need to change it up."

I was fortunate in that I never heard it put so starkly, but I knew something needed to be done — and as soon as possible — after my cancer was discovered. And I had great support from my wife Wanda, who has a medical background.

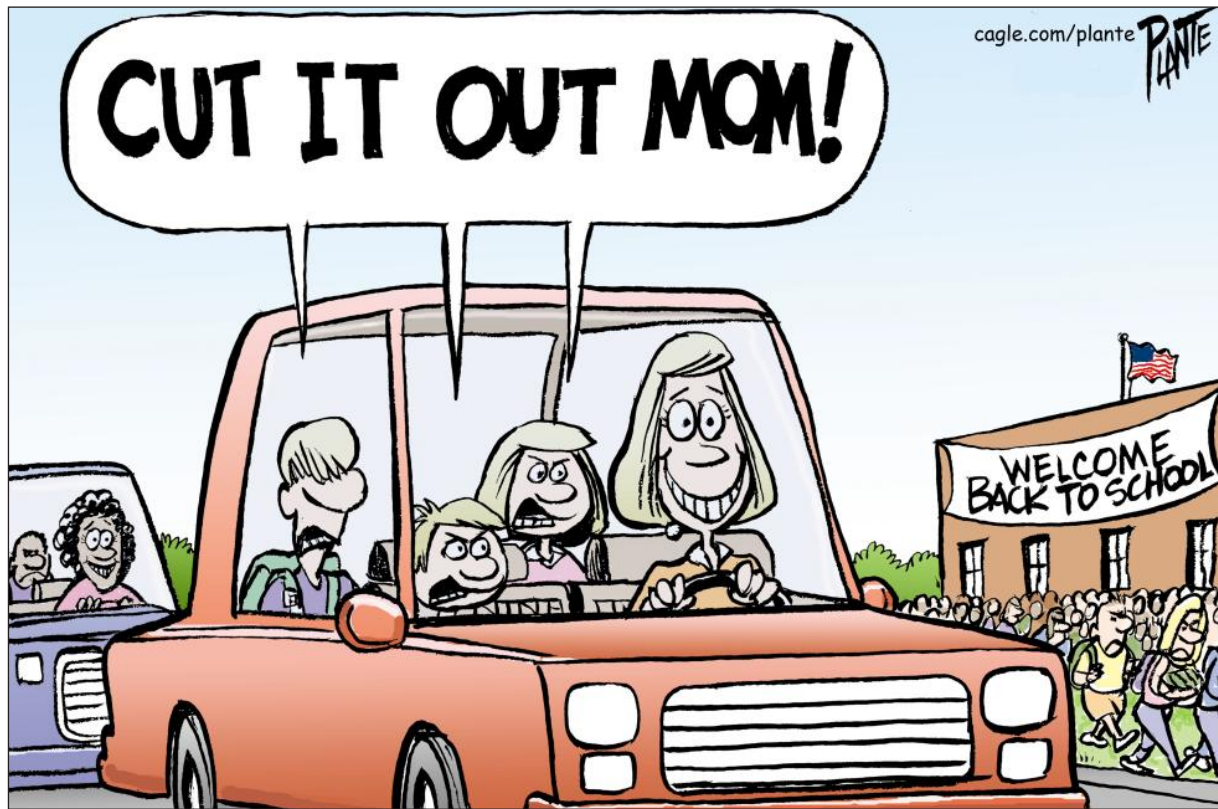
Sanders' bladder surgery was his 14th surgery since 2021, mainly dealing with blood clots in his legs that led to two toes being removed. His family has a history of blood clotting.

"There's a lot of people out there going through what I'm going through and dealing with what I'm dealing with," Sanders said. "Let's stop being



Rick Millions
Columnist

See **MILLIONS**, page 5A



The dinner table

It's just a memory now. And, perhaps I won't recall it precisely because of the decades that have passed but I will tell it as best I can.

I was what people used to call a "late in life child" so my siblings were much older. Ironically, my daddy and both sisters, the only three family members, all had children late in life. One sister had been suffering with various ailments so she was hospitalized. Suddenly, her pain became so intense that she was crying in agony. The doctor was called and, to everyone's surprise, he announced that she was in the midst of childbirth.

When I was 7, my sister closest in age to me, married the handsomest man in five counties. I was the flower girl who wore a yellow dress that Mama made paired with dress socks trimmed in lace and yellow patent shoes.

The following year, my sister invited me to spend a week with them in the old farmhouse where my beautiful brother-in-law grew up. It was only eight miles from home but it

was as exotic as going to Hawaii, as far as I was concerned.

At 6, Mama started teaching me to sew. So, by the age of 8, I was somewhat good. In preparation, I made myself an entire week's worth of new clothes that included dresses, shorts and tops. I was so excited.

During that week, my sister and I would go over to my brother-in-law's grandmother's house around 11:30 a.m. to help set the table for dinner, which country folks call the mid-day meal.



Ronda Rich
Columnist

See **RICH**, page 5A

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AreaNews

Yard of the Month



Contributed photo

The Milledgeville Garden Club has chosen the property of Cate and Ray Wells as Yard of the Month for August. Since becoming the owners of their historic home 15 years ago, the couple has gradually transformed the extensive grounds into a series of beautiful gardens and interesting features. Many varieties of shrubs, flowers and large and small trees have been added over the years, creating areas of beauty and charm. The two have plans for developing more spaces in the future.

Meth

Continued from page 1A

service company.

The illicit drugs had an estimated street value of \$2 million, authorities said.

The case involved narcotics detectives with the Putnam County Sheriff's Office, Jasper County Sheriff's Office and agents with the U.S. Homeland Security Drug Strike Task Force.

Putnam County Sheriff's Office Detective Lt. Harry Luke identified the suspect as Mario Muñoz.

The veteran detective, who heads the sheriff's office drug investigation division, said the 56-year-old Muñoz was taken into custody without incident July 30 following a traffic stop near his residence.

Muñoz was stopped by K9 Deputy Cpl. Chris Donovan and issued traffic citations for an expired tag decal, violation of the Open Container Law, driving on the wrong side of the roadway and removing or affixing a license plate to conceal vehicle identification.

Luke said Muñoz was later charged with one count of Violation of the Georgia Controlled Substances Act for

trafficking methamphetamine, and VGCSA for possession, manufacturing and distribution of methamphetamine.

The suspect was later taken before Putnam County Chief Magistrate Dorothy Adams for a first appearance bond hearing. During the hearing, Munoz was informed of his rights and the criminal felony charge against him.

He remains incarcerated in the Putnam County Jail in Eatonton without bond.

Luke said Muñoz is not a U.S. citizen.

"But he's presently legally in the country as a resident alien, meaning he has a green card," Luke said.

Arrest records show that the suspect was born in Mexico.

Luke said he has known Muñoz for more than 30 years.

"He had a body shop in Eatonton and then he had a body shop in Monticello, and now he's got a body shop out at 322 Shady Dale Road, Highway 142 in Putnam," Luke said.

The case unfolded when Putnam County Sheriff's Office Detective James "J.D." Turk received a telephone call July 24. The call came from a U.S. Homeland Security Investigations

(HSI) agent. The federal agent indicated that a box containing methamphetamine was to be delivered to a residence in Putnam County and that it had been shipped from somewhere in Mexico.

"The Homeland Security agent called me and told me about intercepting a package in Memphis (Tennessee) and would we be interested in assisting them or taking over the case," Turk said. "I said absolutely."

Turk said the agent told him he would have to wait on the shipment to arrive in Atlanta.

"It (box) was still in Memphis," Turk said.

While waiting on the box to be delivered, Turk said he prepared for the federal authorities' arrival.

Several narcotics detectives with the Jasper County Sheriff's Office in Monticello, including Lt. J.D. Lewis, who heads the narcotics division, were called to assist detectives and deputies



Muñoz

with the Putnam County Sheriff's Office.

A Jasper County deputy handled surveillance while federal agents were en route to the Putnam County residence, Turk said.

Federal authorities also brought in a helicopter.

Thirty local and federal law enforcement officers converged at the residence.

Turk said there were also two deputies staged on opposite sides of the roadway to prevent anyone from trying to escape.

Putnam County Sheriff Howard R. Sills said his deputies and narcotics detectives executed a search warrant at his direction.

Turk said the illicit drugs were eventually discovered under a shed.

The box contained 26 kilos of suspected methamphetamine powder.

The powder had been mixed with a masking agent to make it look like paint pigment, Luke said.

It tested positive for methamphetamine powder in a field test.

That box and a another more than 50-pound box containing the same chemical powder will be taken to the Georgia Bureau of Investigation Crime Laboratory in Decatur for official test results.

"Our biggest concern when we opened it was to make sure it would just be meth and not fentanyl because you never know what is mixed with it," Luke said. "If they've just put those masking agents in it to make it look like paint, they could've put fentanyl in there."

Turk said he and several other law enforcement officers searched Munoz's residence for tools and materials that would have to be on hand to make the concentrated powder a marketable product. No materials were found.

"The body shop was the perfect front for a methamphetamine operation," Luke said. "Large quantities of chemicals are delivered for their work that also make precursors to making and cleaning methamphetamine in a laboratory."

The lawmen said they were pleased that the large amount of dope was confiscated.

"It's a lot of meth off the streets of Middle Georgia," Luke said. "That's where it was headed."

Turk agreed.

"It definitely got a lot of dope off the streets," he said.

Rich

Continued from page 4A

Evening's meal, mostly left over from dinner and covered with a white table cloth, was called supper.

Her sons called her "Mama" and her grandchildren, including my brother-in-law, my sister, others and I, called her "Mama Nix," her last name.

Every day, Mama Nix began cooking dinner as soon as she cleaned up from a hearty breakfast that she had risen early to prepare.

See, Mama's Nix's family were all farmers. They needed strong nourishment to get to noontime. All morning she cooked an astounding meal: fried chicken or roast beef, okra (which we call okrie), creamed corn, mashed potatoes, black-eyes peas, sliced cucumbers and tomatoes, biscuits and cornbread. To quinch their thirst, she poured glasses of sweet tea, milk or

buttermilk. Dessert was homemade cake and fruit cobblers. It was a table laden with delicious food but its main purpose was to sustain her men folks with substance until they finished their farm work when the sun went down and the moon began to peep over the horizon.

Those days I seem to remember well, especially a pair of lavender-colored shorts and a coordinating white tee shirt. I set the table with her ancient dishes and folded napkins.

Mama Nix pulled her white hair back in a bun, held in place with long hair pins. Always, she wore an apron, typical of the Appalachian foothills. She rarely smiled and she worked hard every moment she was awake. She lived in a small, white boarded house that was perfectly cleaned and neat. Her dinner table was covered with a lace table cloth.

At noon, her sons and my brother-in-law piled in for a dinner table laden

with food. Usually, they were covered in the dust or the mud of the red clay that they fought endlessly. They washed up and came in, respectfully, to Mama's Nix's table.

After grace, they passed the bounty of food, taking heaping helpings of food. Mama Nix took seriously the feeding of family.

She died years later but I am grateful that I saw those noontime meals and that the memory lingers sweetly.

These days a grandson lives in that precious house. And, though, I've only met him once, it means so much that Mama Nix's home continues to be loved by a member of her family.

Ronda Rich is the best-selling author of the Stella Bankwell Mystery series. Visit www.rondarich.com to sign up for her free newsletter.

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Millians

Continued from page 4A

ashamed of it and let's deal with it and let's deal with it head on."

Amen.

To put it as simply as possible, Sanders and I had our bladders removed, but our plumbing is different — mainly because of our difference in age. He's 57. I'm 73.

Leave it to Deion to make jokes that he "depends

on Depend." I don't have that problem.

The bottom line is this: We are both cancer-free.

"Normally when we see that 'C' word, there's usually a life sentence attached to it," Sanders said. "Not this time, because God got me."

Me, too.

Praise the Lord.

—Rick Millians, a classmate of Rick Williams at Baldwin High, is retired after working at newspapers in Georgia, Ohio and South Carolina. Reach him at rdmillians@aol.com.

DEATHS & FUNERALS

Sara Frances Mason

Sara Frances Mason, a beloved mother, grandmother, educator and friend, passed away on Sunday, Aug. 3, 2025, at the age of 83 years old.

Visitation will be Saturday, Aug. 9, 2025, from 1 until 2 p.m. at McCullough Funeral Home. A funeral service will immediately follow at 2 p.m. in the chapel of McCullough Funeral Home.

COLLEGE NEWS

Katherine Smith elected to membership into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi

Katherine Smith of Ivey, was recently elected to membership into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society, at Georgia College & State University.

Smith is among approximately 20,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter.

Noles named to spring Chancellor's Honor Roll at the University of Mississippi

Hunter Noles of Milledgeville was named to the University of Mississippi's Spring 2025 Honor Roll lists.

Noles, majoring in Law Studies, was named to the Chancellor's Honor Roll, which is reserved for students who earn a semester GPA of 3.75-4.00.

To be eligible for honor roll designation, a student must have completed at least 12 graded hours for the semester and may not be on academic probation during the semester.

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Public Notices

THE UNION-RECORDER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Public Notices

ABANDONED VEHICLE
ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE

You are hereby notified, in accordance with O.C.G.A. Section 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 **Donald's Paint & Body Shop, 153 Fox Hill Rd. S.W., Milledgeville, GA 31061.**

The vehicles subject to liens as stated above are identified as:

Vehicle Make: Honda
Year: 2001
Model: Accord
Vehicle ID No.: 1HGGC56661A065336
Vehicle License No.: N/A
State: GA

Anyone with an ownership interest in any of these vehicles should contact the following business immediately: **Donald's Paint & Body Shop**
153 Fox Hill Rd. S.W.
Milledgeville, GA 31061
(478) 456-3085
8/2, 8/9
914127 |

ABANDONED VEHICLE
ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE

You are hereby notified, in accordance with O.C.G.A. Section 40-11-19.1, that petitions were filed in the Magistrate Court of Baldwin County to foeclose liens against the vehicles listed below 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: **Donald's Paint & Body Shop, 153 Fox Hill Rd. S.W., Milledgeville, GA 31061.**

Anyone with an ownership interest in a vehicle listed herein may file an answer to the petition on or before **August 23, 2025.**

Answer forms may be found in the Magistrate Court Clerk's office or may also be obtained online at www.georgiamagistratecouncil.com.

Vehicle Make: Nissan
Year: 2012
Model: Versa
Vehicle ID No.: 3N1BC1CP8CL374249
Vehicle License No.: N/A
State: GA
Magistrate Court Case No.: 2025-2AV
Vehicle Make: Chrysler
Year: 2006
Model: Town & Country
Vehicle ID No.: 1A4GP45R66B590012
Vehicle License No.: N/A
State: GA
Magistrate Court Case No.: 2025-1AV
8/2, 8/9
914117 |

NOTICE
GEORGIA, BALDWIN COUNTY
PROBATE COURT

TO: ALL KNOWN AND UNKNOWN INTERESTED PARTIES:

PAUL HARGADEN has petitioned to be appointed **ADMINISTRATOR** of the estate of **MARY M. O'KEEFE HARGADEN**, deceased, of said County. (The petitioner has also applied for grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. 53-12-261.) 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 of any such objection, and must be filed with the court on or before **10:00 A.M. September 2, 2025.** All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a Probate Court Clerk, and all filing fees must be tendered with your pleadings/objections. 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.

Hon. Todd A. Blackwell
PROBATE JUDGE
By: Nancy Altamirano
PROBATE CLERK
121 N. Wilkinson St., Suite 109
Milledgeville, GA 31061
(478) 445-4807
8/9, 8/16, 8/23, 8/30
914819 |

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF BALDWIN COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA

In re the Name Change of the Child **Carrio Akiyus Bell**

Civil Action File No. 2024-SU-CV-264

NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

I, Jamecia Adams, filed this petition to the Superior Court of Baldwin County, Georgia, on the 24th day of July, 2025, to change the name of the minor child as follows:

Current Name of Child **Carrio Akiyus Bell**
Proposed New Name **Carrio Akiyus Knight**

Any interested or affected party has the right to appear in this case and file objections.

This 24th day of July, 2025.

Jamecia Adams
Petitioner pro se
Filed in Office this
24th day of July, 2025
Yasheika Vasser
Deputy Clerk of Superior Court
Baldwin County, Georgia
8/2, 8/9, 8/16, 8/23
914011 |

NOTICE
GEORGIA, BALDWIN COUNTY
PROBATE COURT

TO: ALL KNOWN AND UNKNOWN INTERESTED PARTIES:

VERNON JAMES MCWILLIAMS has petitioned to be appointed **ADMINISTRATOR** of the estate of **EDWIN DOLLAR MCWILLIAMS**, deceased, of said County. (The petitioner has also applied for waiver of bond and/or grant of certain powers contained in O.C.G.A. 53-12-261.) 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 of any such objection, and must be filed with the court on or before **10:00 A.M. September 2, 2025.** All objections should be sworn to before a notary public or before a Probate Court Clerk, and all filing fees must be tendered with your objection. 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.

Hon. Todd A. Blackwell
PROBATE JUDGE
By: Nancy Altamirano
PROBATE CLERK
121 N. Wilkinson St., Suite 109
Milledgeville, GA 31061
(478) 445-4807
8/9, 8/16, 8/23, 8/30
914818 |

NOTICE
(For Discharge From Office and all Liability)
PROBATE COURT OF
BALDWIN COUNTY

Re: PETITION OF NATALIE FIELDS AND VICTOR YOUNG FOR DISCHARGE AS CO-EXECUTORS OF THE ESTATE OF IRENE G. YOUNG.

TO: ALL KNOWN AND UNKNOWN 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 August 19, 2025

BE NOTIFIED FURTHER: All objections to the petition must be in writing setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All pleadings/objections must be signed before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and all filing fees must be tendered with your pleadings/objections. Contact probate court personnel at the following address/telephone number for the required 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.

Hon. Todd A. Blackwell
PROBATE JUDGE
By: Corchetta R. Bell
PROBATE CLERK
121 North Wilkinson Street, Suite 109
Milledgeville, GA 31061
(478)445-4807
8/9
914822 |

NOTICE
(For Discharge From Office and all Liability)
PROBATE COURT OF
BALDWIN COUNTY

Re: PETITION OF TRAMARIAN P. DIXON FOR DISCHARGE AS ADMINISTRATRIX OF THE ESTATE OF PATRICIA ANN LEWIS DANIEL

TO: TROY M. DANIEL AND ALL KNOWN AND UNKNOWN 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 August 19, 2025.

BE NOTIFIED FURTHER: All objections to the petition must be in writing setting forth the grounds of any such objections. All pleadings/objections must be signed before a notary public or before a probate court clerk, and all filing fees must be tendered with your pleadings/objections. Contact probate court personnel at the following address/telephone number for the required 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.

Hon. Todd A. Blackwell
PROBATE JUDGE
By: Nancy Altamirano
PROBATE CLERK
121 N. Wilkinson St., Suite 109
Milledgeville, GA 31061
(478) 445-4807
8/9
914817 |

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF BALDWIN COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA

In re the Name Change of the Children **Lydia Madelin Harrison**

Elaina Joy Harrison

Civil Action File No. 2024-SU-CV-269

NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

I, Sandra Harrison, filed this petition to the Superior Court of Baldwin County, Georgia, on the 28th day of July, 2025, to change the name of the minor child as follows:

Current Name of Children **Lydia Madelin Harrison**
Elaina Joy Harrison
Proposed New Names **Lydia Madelin Ussery**
Elaina Joy Ussery

Any interested or affected party has the right to appear in this case and file objections.

This 28th day of July, 2025.

Sandra Harrison
Petitioner pro se
Filed in Office this
24th day of July, 2025
Yasheika Vasser
Deputy Clerk of Superior Court
Baldwin County, Georgia
8/2, 8/9, 8/16, 8/23
914012 |

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF BALDWIN COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA

In re the Name Change of the Child **Raven West**

Civil Action File No. 2024-SU-CV-242

NOTICE OF PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

I, Shandreka Hamm, filed this petition to the Superior Court of Baldwin County, Georgia, on the 3rd day of July, 2025, to change the name of the minor child as follows:

Current Name of Child **Raven West**
Proposed New Name **Raven Hamm**

Any interested or affected party has the right to appear in this case and file objections.

This 3rd day of July, 2025.

Shandreka Hamm
Petitioner pro se
Filed in Office this
3rd day of July, 2025
Yasheika Vasser
Deputy Clerk of Superior Court
Baldwin County, Georgia
7/19, 7/26, 8/2, 8/9
912536 |

NOTICE TO DEBTORS
AND CREDITORS
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF BALDWIN

IN RE: ESTATE OF **ANITA-RAE SMITH, DECEASED**

All creditors of the estate of **ANITA-RAE SMITH**, deceased, late of Baldwin County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned.

ANITA-RAE PANKEY JOYNER, Administrator of Estate of **ANITA-RAE SMITH**, deceased.
163 O'Connor Drive
Milledgeville, Georgia 31061
Phyllis Smith Lancaster
Attorney for Administrator
634 Archard Drive
Evans, GA 30809
7/26, 8/2, 8/9, 8/16
913179 |

NOTICE TO DEBTORS
AND CREDITORS

All creditors of the estate of **CLAUDETTE B. DUBAY**, deceased, late of Baldwin County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render their demand to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.

All such demands should be directed as follows:

David Lynn Kitchens, Executor
328 Sand Creek Trail
Gray, Georgia 31032

This 22th day of July, 2025.

Donald R. Oulsnam
FRIER & OULSNAM, P.C
7/26, 8/2, 8/9, 8/16
913251 |

DEBTORS AND CREDITORS NOTICE
GEORGIA, BALDWIN COUNTY

All creditors of the Estate of **EDWARD DOUGLAS BELL, JR.**, deceased, late of Baldwin County, Georgia, are hereby notified to render in their demands to the undersigned, according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This 25th day of July, 2025.

/s/Winter Bell and Autumn Murphy
Winter Bell and Autumn Murphy
Co-Administrator's of the Estate of Edward Douglas Bell, Jr.
P.O. Box 1110
Milledgeville, GA 31087
8/2, 8/9, 8/16, 8/23
913999 |

NOTICE TO DEBTORS
AND CREDITORS

All creditors of the estate of **JEFFERY SCOTT BROWN**, late of Baldwin County, Georgia, deceased, are hereby notified to render their demand to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.

This 29th day of July 2025.

Angela A. Brown, Administrator
342 Log Cabin Road, Apt 7-A
Milledgeville, Georgia 31061
By: W. Ryan Frier, Esq.
FRIER & OULSNAM, P.C.
8/2, 8/9, 8/16, 8/23
914013 |

NOTICE TO DEBTORS
AND CREDITORS

All creditors of the estate of **Judith Ann Lewis**, late of Baldwin County, Georgia, deceased, are hereby notified to render their demand to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.

This 9th day of July, 2025

Elizabeth Marie Lewis
c/o Stribling and Crockett Law
241 E. Hancock Street
Milledgeville, GA 31061
By: J. Lance Stribling
STRIHLING AND CROCKETT LAW
7/19, 7/26, 8/2, 8/9
912539 |

NOTICE TO DEBTORS
AND CREDITORS

IN RE: ESTATE OF TRACY GLENN CHAMPION, DECEASED

All creditors of the Estate of **Tracy Glenn Champion**, late of Hancock County, 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 payment to the undersigned.

This 30th day of July 2025.

Abram Champion
2811 Valley Heart Dr. N.W.
Atlanta, GA 30318
8/2, 8/9, 8/16, 8/23
914116 |

NOTICE TO DEBTORS
AND CREDITORS

IN RE: ESTATE OF LINDA MASSY ROMANSKI, DECEASED

All creditors of the Estate of **Linda Massey Romanski**, late of Baldwin County, deceased, are hereby notified to render their demands to the undersigned representative of the estate according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to the undersigned representative of the Estate.

This 4th day of March, 2025.

James A. Romanski, as Administrator
105 CEDAR SPRINGS POINT
MILLEDGEVILLE, GA 31061
By: The Canisno Law Firm, LLC
7/19, 7/26, 8/2, 8/9
912567 |

NOTICE TO DEBTORS
AND CREDITORS

All creditors of the estate of **Lois Woodall Youngblood**, late of Baldwin County, Georgia, deceased, are hereby notified to render their demand to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.

This 11th day of July, 2025

Garvis M. Youngblood
c/o Stribling and Crockett Law
241 E. Hancock Street
Milledgeville, GA 31061
By: J. Lance Stribling
STRIHLING AND CROCKETT LAW
7/19, 7/26, 8/2, 8/9
912576 |

NOTICE TO DEBTORS
AND CREDITORS

All creditors of the estate of **NANCY CAROL DUNCAN MCMILLAN**, late of Baldwin County, Georgia, deceased, are hereby notified to render their demand to the undersigned according to law, and all persons indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment.

This 9th day of July 2025.

Century Bank and Trust, Executor
Attn: Lacy Bentley, VP and Trust Officer
141 S Wayne Street
Milledgeville, Georgia 31061
By: W. Ryan Frier, Esq.
FRIER & OULSNAM, P.C.
7/19, 7/26, 8/2, 8/9
912564 |

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

Pursuant to the Georgia Self Storage Act <210-215>, we will hold a public sale ending on **August 15, 2025 at 11:59 PM.** Auction will include the contents of the units, household goods and miscellaneous items.

C03 - Cynthia D Simmons
B03 - Marilyn French
B07 - Rodney T Parham
B08 - Porsha Luca
B15 - Laponza Jackson-Williams
C13 - Adam Carter
C24 - Loren'a Brown
L07 - Segania Clemons
L53 - Nikole Keenan

We reserve the right to reject any and all bids, or to withdraw any units from the sale. The terms of the sale on the units is cash.

Eagle Self Storage
478-256-9991
471 Highway 49 West
Milledgeville, GA 31061
8/2, 8/9
913985 |

NOTICE
GEORGIA, BALDWIN COUNTY
PROBATE COURT

TO: ALL KNOWN AND UNKNOWN INTERESTED PARTIES

The Petition of **GERALD B. REEVES**, for a year's support from the estate of **FRANCES D. REEVES**, Deceased, for Decedent's spouse, having been duly filed, all interested persons are hereby notified to show cause, if any they have, on or before **10:00 A.M., September 2, 2025**, 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 on or before the time stated in the preceding sentence. 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.

Hon. Todd A. Blackwell
PROBATE JUDGE
By: Corchetta R. Bell
PROBATE CLERK
121 N. Wilkinson St., Suite 109
Milledgeville, GA 31061
(478) 445-4807
8/9, 8/16, 8/23, 8/30
914821 |

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF BALDWIN

Under and by virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a Deed to Secure Debt given by **CAROLYN FERRANTE to MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. ("MERS") AS NOMINEE FOR MORTGAGE RESEARCH CENTER, LLC DBA VETERANS UNITED HOME LOANS**, dated 02/28/2022, and Recorded on 03/04/2022 as Instrument No. , Book No. 1504 and Page No. 426 438, AS AFFECTED BY MODIFICATION BOOK 1594, PAGE 124 132, BALDWIN 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 \$255,000.00, with in-

terest at the rate specified therein, there will be sold by the undersigned at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash at the BALDWIN County Courthouse within the legal hours of sale on the **first Tuesday in September, 2025**, the following described property:

ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING AND BEING IN THE 318TH GMD, BALDWIN COUNTY, GEORGIA, DESCRIBED AS LOT FORTY ONE (41) OF BADOWSKI SUBDIVISION, BLOCK D, CONTAINING 2.21 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED BY THAT CERTAIN PLAT OF SURVEY ENTITLED "PROPERTY SURVEY FOR JAMES SCOTT AND MARY CHOICE", PREPARED BY PHILLIP H. CHIVERS, GRLS NO.2658, RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 401, PAGE 464, BALDWIN COUNTY LAND RECORDS. SAID PLAT OF SURVEY AND RECORD THEREOF ARE BY REFERENCE MADE A PART HEREOF FOR A MORE ACCURATE DESCRIPTION OF SAID PROPERTY.

THIS IS THE SAME PROPERTY CONVEYED BY WARRANTY DEED OF GIFT FROM WILLIAM MCDOWELL AND IZORA MCDOWELL TO MARY JEAN CHOICE SCOTT, DATED JULY 18, 2016, RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 1247, PAGE 62, SAID RECORDS.

SUBJECT TO:

1) EASEMENT IN FAVOR OF GEORGIA POWER COMPANY RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 1019, PAGES 315 316, SAID RECORDS.

2) ANY RESTRICTIONS, RESERVATIONS, COVENANTS, RIGHTS OF WAY, OR MATTERS AS SHOWN ON THE AFOREMENTIONED PLAT.

3) ALL OTHER EASEMENTS, RIGHTS OF WAY, SURVEYS, PROTECTIVE COVENANTS, LIMITATIONS AND RESTRICTIONS AFFECTING SAID PROPERTY OF RECORD, SAID RECORDS.

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

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 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 **136 Bot Net Road NW, Milledgeville, GA 31061** 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): Roland McMullen and Martha May or tenant or tenants.

Regions Mortgage, Inc. is the entity or individual designated, who shall have full authority to negotiate, amend and modify all terms of the mortgage.

Regions Mortgage, Inc.

Regions Mortgage
6200 Poplar Avenue
Memphis, TN 38119
1-800-748-9498

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 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 immediately above.

Regions Bank dba Regions Mortgage as agent and Attorney in Fact for Roland E McMullen and Martha W May Aldridge Pite, LLP,
Six Piedmont Center,
3525 Piedmont Road, N.E.,
Suite 700,
Atlanta, Georgia 30305,
(404) 994-7400.
2155-201A

THIS LAW FIRM MAY BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. 2155-201A

8/9, 8/16, 8/23, 8/30
914815 |

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER,
BALDWIN COUNTY

Pursant to the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by **Roland E McMullen and Martha W May** to Regions Bank d/b/a Regions Mortgage dated 11/30/2015 and recorded in Deed Book 1223 Page 407 Baldwin County, Georgia records; as last transferred to or acquired by Regions Bank dba Regions Mortgage, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of \$252,000.00, 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 Baldwin County, Georgia (or such other area as designated by Order of the Superior Court of said county), within the legal hours of sale on **September 2, 2025** (being the first Tuesday of said month unless said date falls on a Federal Holiday, in which case being the first Wednesday

of said month), the following described property:

ALL OF THAT CERTAIN LOT, TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND, TOGETHER WITH ALL OF THE PERMANENT IMPROVEMENTS LOCATED THEREON AND CONNECTED THEREWITH, THE SAME SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE 318TH GMD, BALDWIN COUNTY, GEORGIA, BEING ALL OF PARCEL "F-7", CREEKWOOD HILLS SUBDIVISION, PHASE ONE, CONTAINING 7.40 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, AS THE SAME APPEARS ON A PLAT OF SURVEY PREPARED BY PHILLIP H. CHIVERS, GRLS NO. 2658, THE SAME DATED SEPTEMBER 13, 2000, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 19, PAGES 11-12, OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT OF BALDWIN COUNTY, GEORGIA. SAID PLAT IS BY THIS REFERENCE INCORPORATED HEREIN IN AID OF THIS DESCRIPTION. THIS IS THE SAME PROPERTY CONVEYED BY REK, INC. TO MARTHA MAY AND ROLAND MCMULLEN BY DEED DATED APRIL 18, 2005 AND RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 762, PAGES 167- IN SAID CLERK'S OFFICE. SAID PROPERTY IS CONVEYED SUBJECT TO AND WITH NOTICE OF THE FOLLOWING MATTERS: A) RESTRICTIVE COVENANTS RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 510, PAGE 577; B) RESERVATION OF A ROYALTY INTEREST IN ANY GEOLOGICAL RESOURCES WHICH MAY BE RECOVERED FROM THE PROPERTY, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY SET FORTH IN DEED RECORDED IN DEED BOOK 712, PAGE 126; C) DRAINAGE EASEMENTS, BUILDING SETBACK LINES AND ALL OTHER MATTERS SHOWN ON THE PLAT OF SUBJECT PROPERTY; AND D) GENERAL UTILITY EASEMENTS AND ROAD RIGHT OF WAY GRANTS AND EASEMENTS.

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 **136 Bot Net Road NW, Milledgeville, GA 31061** 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): Roland McMullen and Martha May or tenant or tenants.

Regions Mortgage, Inc. is the entity or individual designated, who shall have full authority to negotiate, amend and modify all terms of the mortgage.

Regions Mortgage, Inc.

Regions Mortgage
6200 Poplar Avenue
Memphis, TN 38119
1-800-748-9498

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 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 immediately above.

Regions Bank dba Regions Mortgage as agent and Attorney in Fact for Roland E McMullen and Martha W May Aldridge Pite, LLP,
Six Piedmont Center,
3525 Piedmont Road, N.E.,
Suite 700,
Atlanta, Georgia 30305,
(404) 994-7400.
2155-201A

THIS LAW FIRM MAY BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. 2155-201A

8/9, 8/16, 8/23, 8/30
914815 |

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER,
BALDWIN COUNTY

Pursuant to the Power of Sale contained in a Security Deed given by **Joel A. Stair and Ayla D. Stair to Fairway Independent Mortgage Corporation** dated 7/21/2017 and recorded in Deed Book 1288 Page 584 Baldwin County, Georgia records; as last transferred to or acquired by Georgia Housing and Finance Authority, conveying the after-described property to secure a Note in the original principal amount of \$137,966.00, 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 Baldwin County, Georgia (or such other area as designated by Order of the Superior Court of

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said county), within the legal hours of sale on **September 2, 2025** (being the first Tuesday of said month unless said date falls on a Federal Holiday, in which case being the first Wednesday of said month), the following described property:

All of that lot, tract or parcel of land, together with all of the permanent improvements located thereon and connected therewith, the same situate, lying and being in the 321 GMD, Baldwin County, Georgia, being all of Lot One (1) containing 3.82, acres, more or less, Magnolia Crest Subdivision, as the same appears by reference to the official plat thereof entitled "Final Subdivision Survey for Brady Properties, Inc. and William H. Breiner" prepared by Phillip H. Chivers, GRLS No. 2658, the same dated March 1, 1998, and recorded in the Office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Baldwin County, Georgia, in Plat Book 14, page(s) 69. Said plat is by this reference incorporated herein in aid of this description.

This is the same property conveyed unto Joel A. Stair by the following deeds:

(a) Corrective Limited Warranty Deed from Donna Doke Johnson f/k/a Donna G. Doke and Donna Doke Blizzard, dated September 5, 2017; and, (b) Quitclaim Deed from Ayla D. Stair, dated September 5, 2017, both deeds being filed for record in said Clerk's Office simultaneously herewith. This is also the same property conveyed unto Joel A. Stair and Ayla D. Stair by Limited Warranty Deed from Donna Doke Johnson f/k/a Donna G. Doke and Donna Doke Blizzard, dated July 21, 2017, filed and recorded on July 25, 2017, 1:56 p.m., recorded in Deed Book 1288, pages 582-583, Baldwin County records.

Said property is further described as part of that same property conveyed unto Donna Doke Blizzard by the following deeds: (a) Warranty Deed of Kerry D. Foskey to Donna Doke Blizzard dated February 27, 2003, recorded in Deed Book 633, page 149; and (b) Quitclaim Deed of Tammi Linn Baker nka Tammi Lynn McMullen to Donna G. Doke, fka Donna Doke Blizzard, nka Donna Doke-Johnson dated August 17, 2009, recorded in Deed Book 1000, pages 102104, Baldwin County records.

This conveyance is expressly made subject to the following matters: (a) Restrictive covenants applicable to the above referenced property recorded in said Clerk's Office in Deed Book 428, pages 216; Deed Book 433, page 41; Deed Book 443, page 427; and Deed Book 438, page 182; (b) Matters as may be disclosed on the aforementioned plat; and, (c) General utility easements and road right of way grants and easement.

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 **163 Horace Veal Road NW, Milledgeville, GA 31061** 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): Estate/Heirs of Joel A Stair or tenant or tenants.

State Home Mortgage is the entity or individual designated, who shall have full authority to negotiate, amend and modify all terms of the mortgage.

State Home Mortgage
Loss Mitigation
60 Executive Park S. NE
Atlanta, GA 30329-2231
404-679-0624

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.

Georgia Housing and Finance Authority as agent and Attorney in Fact for Joel A Stair and Ayla D. Stair
Aldridge Pite, LLP, Six Piedmont Center, 3525 Piedmont Road, N.E., Suite 700, Atlanta, Georgia 30305, (404) 994-7400.
2130-102A

THIS LAW FIRM MAY BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. 2130-102A

8/9, 8/16, 8/23, 8/30
914008 |

NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER
STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF BALDWIN

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in that certain Security Deed ("Security Deed") executed by Stephanie Smithwick and Craig Kenneth Eubanks, dated June 18, 2021, recorded at Deed Book 1469, Pages 292-316 of the Baldwin County Deed Records, as assigned by Assignment of Security Deed from MERS to SouthState Bank, N.A. dated May 9, 2025, recorded at Deed Book 1635, Page 774, aforesaid records. the undersigned will sell at

public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the door of the Courthouse of Baldwin County, Georgia, during the legal hours of sale, on the first Tuesday in September, that being September 2, 2025, the following described property:

All that tract or parcel of land lying and being in the 115th GMD, Baldwin County, Georgia, containing 3.15 acres, more or less, more particularly described by that certain plat of survey prepared by Edwin L. Thompson, GRES No. 1759, recorded in Deed Book 387, Page 795, Baldwin County Land Records. Said plat of survey and record thereof are by reference made a part hereof for a more accurate description of said property.

This is the same property conveyed by Special Warranty Deed from Secretary of Housing and Urban Development of Washington, D.C. to Beckham Financial Enterprises, Inc., dated January 13, 2012, recorded in Deed Book 1080, Page 338, said records.

SUBJECT TO:

1. Right of Way Deed in favor of Baldwin County, Georgia recorded in Deed Book 309, Page 246, said records.

2. All other easements, rights-of-way, surveys, protective covenants, limitations and restrictions affecting said property of records, said records.

There is located on the property hereinabove described and conveyed a manufactured home more particularly described as Serial Number H215480GL&R and by agreement of the parties hereto, is affixed to the above described land in such a manner as to constitute a fixture pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 44-1-6(a), as amended, and has as of the date hereof become a part of the real property herein described. Accordingly, said home is to be treated and taxed as an improvement to real property for ad valorem tax purposes and the owner thereof agrees to apply for homestead exemption or take other applicable steps to ensure taxation of said home as real property at the earliest possible date under the laws of the State of Georgia. It being in the unconditional and absolute intention that the manufactured housing as last described shall remain permanently attached in its place on the realty as hereinabove described.

NOTE: The above referenced manufactured home has been converted to and taxed as real property by filing Form T-234 with the above referenced county's Clerk of Superior Court recorded in Deed Book 909, Page 106 with the original certificate of title or manufactured statement of origin, as the case may be, forwarded to the Georgia Division of Motor Vehicles for retirement.

The debt secured by said Security Deed is evidenced by a Note ("Note") executed by Stephanie Smithwick, dated June 18, 2021, in the original principal amount of \$110,234.00, as assumed by Craig Keith Eubanks pursuant to that Loan Assumption Agreement dated April 27, 2023, payable, principal and interest from the date thereof shown on said Note on the unpaid balance until paid.

Default has occurred in the payment of the debt evidenced by the Note and secured by the Security Deed as a result of the nonpayment of installments owed thereunder. The total balance of said debt has, therefore, been declared due and the Security Deed foreclosable according to its terms.

The debt remaining in default, the property will be sold to the highest bidder for cash as the property of Craig Keith Eubanks, the proceeds to be applied to the payment of said indebtedness, attorneys' fees (notice of intention to collect attorneys' fees having been given), and the lawful expenses of said sale, all as provided in the Note and the Security Deed, said sale to be subject to any and all unpaid taxes and assessments, and restrictions, easements and liens of record with priority over the Security Deed referenced above.

To the best of the undersigned's knowledge and belief, the property is in the possession of Craig Keith Eubanks and will be sold as the property of Craig Keith Eubanks.

The undersigned will execute a deed to the purchaser as authorized in the aforementioned Security Deed.

Craig Keith Eubanks
By: SouthState Bank, N.A.
as Attorney-in-Fact
Hulsey, Oliver & Mahar, LLP
P.O. Box 1457
Gainesville, Georgia 30503
(770) 532-6312
ASH/ble/18843/4937-3150-9842
8/9, 8/16, 8/23, 8/30
912542 |

NOTICE
GEORGIA, BALDWIN COUNTY
PROBATE COURT

TO: ALL KNOWN AND UNKNOWN INTERESTED PARTIES

The Petition of **PETER LUCIA**, for a year's support from the estate of **KAY N. LUCIA**, Deceased, for Decedent's spouse, having been duly filed, all interested persons are hereby notified to show cause, if any they have, on or before **10:00 A.M., September 2, 2025**, 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 on or before the time stated in the preceding sentence. 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.

Hon. Todd A. Blackwell
PROBATE JUDGE
By: Corchetta R. Bell
PROBATE CLERK
121 N. Wilkinson St., Suite 109
Milledgeville, GA 31061
(478) 445-4807
8/9, 8/16, 8/23, 8/30
914820 |

www.unionrecorder.com

FUN CORNER

SUDOKU

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

0809



Auto, Marine and Golf Cart
We Buy Junk Batteries
3020 Heritage Rd, Milledgeville
(478) 453-9335 • batterywarehousega.com
WE Outsell Because We Out-Serve

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

BRIDGE

Simple Saturday

By FRANK STEWART
Tribune Content Agency

On Simple Saturdays I focus on basic technique and logical thinking. Cy the Cynic says that if something is “automatic,” that means you can’t fix it yourself. Some “automatic” defensive plays need a second look.

Today’s West led the seven of spades against 3NT, and when dummy played low, East followed with what seemed to be an automatic ten. He won the trick but didn’t beat the contract. When he shifted to the jack of hearts, South won and let the queen of clubs ride. East took the king and led another heart — and South had three heart tricks, three clubs and three diamonds.

REMAINDER

Defensive “rules” are suspect, but one valuable rule is the “Rule of 11.” If your partner’s lead is known to be fourth-highest, subtract the lead from 11. The remainder is the number of higher cards in the other three hands.

The Rule of 11 tells East that South has no spades higher than the seven, so East can play the three on the first spade. The defense wins four spades and a club.

DAILY QUESTION

You hold: ♠ K 5 2 ♥ A 8 2
♦ Q 10 8 ♣ A 8 7 2. Both sides vulnerable. The dealer, at your right,

opens one spade. What do you say?

ANSWER: You have 13 high-card points — enough to open the bidding had you been the dealer — but in this position you should pass all 13 of them. Your hand is defensive in nature; it lacks a source of playing tricks. It is not the type of hand you should be eager to put down as dummy if you double and oblige your partner to bid.

South dealer
N-S vulnerable

NORTH ♠ K 5 2 ♥ A 8 2 ♦ Q 10 8 ♣ A 8 7 2	WEST ♠ Q 9 8 7 ♥ 6 4 ♦ 9 6 5 2 ♣ 6 4 3	EAST ♠ A J 10 3 ♥ J 10 9 7 ♦ 7 4 3 ♣ K 5	SOUTH ♠ 6 4 ♥ K Q 5 3 ♦ A K J ♣ Q J 10 9
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South 1 NT	West Pass	North 3 NT	East All Pass
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Opening lead — ♠ 7**0809**

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CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Sales speeches

7 Humble dwellings

13 Capital of Michigan

15 Caustic, as humor

16 "Conga" singer Gloria

17 Loss of language ability

18 Find a job for

19 Rapper featured on Flo Rida's "Low"

21 Gateway Arch city: Abbr.

22 Comedian Notaro

23 "The Fox and the Hound" fox

24 Shred some cheese

26 Appaloosa or palomino

29 Corporate acquisition

31 Table salt's chemical formula

32 Appointment book

33 Tennis star Nadal's nickname

35 Got older

36 Gets ready

39 GIs who have seen combat, for short

42 Cape Cod town

43 Locales

45 Temporary failure

46 Moral crime

48 iPad program

49 Latin American cheer

50 Sound a bull makes

53 AFL-____: Abbr.

54 Appealing in appearance

58 Shoe material

60 Went inside

61 Very, very old

62 Took a breather

63 Wedding reception rituals

DOWN

1 Private detective

2 Intense emotion

3 Compact sedan by Acura

4 Language suffix

5 Squat or bench press

6 Take a quick picture

7 Soak up, as gravity

8 Prince's title: Abbr.

9 Southern Oklahoma city

10 Source of tapioca

11 Mitten maker

12 Less fresh

14 Annoying insect

15 Buddhist symbols

20 Tiny amount

24 Swiss city

25 Hot ____ (drag racer)

27 Threaded fasteners

28 Pass by

30 Big beer container

32 Lovingly touched

34 Budgetary excess

36 Nutty confection

37 Feels contrition

38 Actress Moran

40 Works in a classroom

41 Wise

42 Snow mover

44 Baseball and hockey

47 The Big Easy

51 Apartment payment

52 Chipotle option

55 Harden

56 Mined resource

57 Prescription drug, for short

59 Mowry of "Sister, Sister"

Created by Stella Zawistowski

8/9/25

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8/9/25

YOU CAN FIND THE ENTIRE FUN CORNER’S PAGE
IN MONDAY’S ONLINE EDITION.

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Judge

Continued from page 1A

Hitchcock told commissioners. “The solicitor also has a full-time assistant solicitor, which gives you an idea of what kind of caseload that we see, and that’s just on the criminal side. That doesn’t address the civil side.”

Hitchcock was first elected as Baldwin County State Court judge in 2022. He took the bench in January 2023.

“The report I’ve just given you is a Judicial Workload Assessment that’s been prepared by a gentleman named Bob Gray, who is executive director of the Counsel of State Court judges,” Hitchcock said. “Now that I’ve been on the bench a little over 2 ½ years, I’ve got a real good idea what kind of time requirements are necessary to do the job, so I asked Mr. Gray to prepare this assessment.”

The judge said the assessment includes all the cases that go through state court.

He said a value is assigned to each case based on its complexity.

“So, something simple like a speeding case, has a very low value; something like a medical malpractice tort has a very high value,” Hitchcock said.

The judge said Gray looked at the case filings for the last two years and generated a number for each one based on the type of case.

“The number

represents the time the judge spends inside court and outside of court on each type of case,” he said. “That number for Baldwin County for 2023 was 1.03, and for 2024, it was a 0.72. Those average out roughly to 0.88.”

Hitchcock said that means that over the last two years as State Court judge, he should have been spending 88% of the work week working on state court matters.

Based on the formula, it only left him with 12% of the work week to manage his private law practice.

“And that’s just not sustainable,” Hitchcock said. “You cannot maintain a private business only spending 12% of your time in the private practice.”

The judge said he expects those numbers will only grow go forward.

“Overall, the trend is upward for both criminal and civil cases,” he said. “The civil calendar in Baldwin County State Court has been stagnant for a long time. When I took the bench, my first civil jury court calendar, there were over 100 cases on the jury trial calendar.”

There are currently 301 open and active civil cases on the state court docket, he pointed out.

“Obviously, that figure is not going to continue to rise because we handle things as they come up as best we can, but civil cases are going to continue to be filed and unfortunately, people are going to continue to break the law and there are going

to continue to be criminal cases,” Hitchcock said.

He said he believes there is an immediate need for a full-time judge in Baldwin County State Court in to handle to existing caseload and where it is expected to go in the future.

“That’s based just on the workload,” Hitchcock said. “And that would be the case no matter who the judge was.”

Commission chairman Andrew Strickland asked Baldwin County Assistant Manager Dawn Hudson if she had a recommendation for the request.

“I think it would be appropriate to talk about during the budget process,” Hudson said. “We’ll set up meetings with all the elected officials and department heads to talk in detail on how that would look, if the commission chose to go that route.”

Commissioner Sammy Hall asked if fulfilling the request required legislation.

Hitchcock replied that it does.

“So the earliest it could be done is ... probably the start of January 2027,” Hall said.

The judge said it could be presented in January 2026.

“Probably July 2026 would be the earliest it could begin,” Hitchcock said, noting he would work with state Sen. Rick Williams and state Reps. Floyd L. Griffin Jr. and Mack Jackson to get it introduced into the Georgia General Assembly.

Lindsey speaks to Milledgeville Kiwanis



Contributed photo
Dr. John Lindsey spoke to Milledgeville Kiwanis on Aug. 5. He is pictured with club member Cookie Noel.

Greene Co. Chamber welcomes Metropolis Cafe

Special to The U-R

EATONTON, Ga. —The Greene County Chamber of Commerce announces the addition of Metropolis Cafe-Lake Oconee to its membership.

Opened in fall 2024 to raving reviews from local residents, Metropolis Cafe features trendy decor, a welcoming bar and friendly staff. The restaurant recently expanded its offerings with a new covered patio area, providing guests with an inviting alfresco dining experience. Conveniently located next to Parkside Main and Filet’s, Metropolis Cafe serves fresh Greek-Mediterranean cuisine for lunch and dinner seven days a week.

This is the second location for owner Deepak Kumar, who opened his first Metropolis Cafe in 2009. Over the years,

his flagship restaurant has developed a loyal following, and Kumar said he is excited to bring the same quality and atmosphere to the Lake Oconee community.

“Metropolis Cafe appeals to the lake area’s residents who move here from all over the nation,” said Kumar.

The Greene Chamber is thrilled to support Metropolis Cafe and encourages the community to stop by and experience this new local favorite.

“Metropolis Café, where Mediterranean breezes meet Indian spice and Greek heritage.”

Hours of operation are Monday through Saturday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Sunday 11 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Call Metropolis Café at 762-445-1182 or visit <https://metropoliscafe.com>.



Contributed photo

NOTICE TO CITIZENS OF BALDWIN COUNTY

The Baldwin County School Board does hereby announce that the millage rate will be set at a meeting to be held at the Board of Education Building (110 N. ABC Street, Milledgeville, Georgia) on August 21, 2025 at 12:00 pm, and pursuant to the requirements of O.C.G.A. Section 48-5-32 does hereby publish the following presentation of the current year's tax digest and levy, along with the history of the tax digest and levy for the past five years.

CURRENT 2025 TAX DIGEST AND 5 YEAR HISTORY OF LEVY

COUNTY SCHOOL	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Real & Personal	1,229,910,184	1,270,362,151	1,490,006,041	1,519,524,943	1,845,656,146	1,890,501,737
Motor Vehicles	17,976,480	15,573,590	14,017,280	14,067,110	13,532,920	12,531,850
Mobile Homes	9,287,296	9,291,182	9,889,994	10,441,963	10,699,343	10,833,257
Timber - 100%	2,006,476	3,231,124	5,221,226	1,008,989	2,347,736	2,538,607
Heavy Duty Equipment	34,730	33,157	34,644	126,105	38,945	33,395
Gross Digest	1,259,215,166	1,298,491,204	1,519,169,185	1,545,169,110	1,872,275,090	1,916,438,846
Less M& O Exemptions	174,928,118	186,498,070	214,854,385	242,197,399	287,890,961	308,439,254
Net M & O Digest	1,084,287,048	1,111,993,134	1,304,314,800	1,302,971,711	1,584,384,129	1,607,999,592
State Forest Land Assistance Grant Value	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net M&O Digest	1,084,287,048	1,111,993,134	1,304,314,800	1,302,971,711	1,584,384,129	1,607,999,592
Gross M&O Millage	15.6	15.29	14.44	14.58	12.40	12.07
Less Rollbacks						
Net M&O Millage	15.6	15.29	14.44	14.58	12.40	12.07
Total School Taxes Levied	\$16,914,878	\$17,002,375	\$18,834,306	\$18,997,328	\$19,646,363	\$19,408,555
Net Taxes \$ Increase	\$175,480	\$87,497	\$1,831,931	\$163,022	\$649,036	-\$237,808
Net Taxes % Increase	1.05%	0.52%	10.77%	0.87%	3.42%	-1.21%

COLUMN



MATTHEW BROWN
matthew.brown@
unionrecorder.com

CAN YOU JUST
DECLINE A BALK?

It happened in a Major League Baseball game. Actually, two times this has occurred in the past two years at the game’s grand stage.

And I thought it was only childish enough for the high school level, or lower.

At the high school level, I saw it happened because a team wasn’t leading by enough. They let a tying run score in the seventh inning and went for a bigger lead in extras. Never got it. Lost the game.

What is it, after eight vague sentences including this one?

The intentional balk. That’s the call you scream at umpires to make when you see an obvious violation, or you scream at umpires for calling it when you know you followed the rules to the letter.

In the bigs, the term came up in a recent Boston-Houston game. Looking back on that story, the term is also in the header of a game between the Arizona Diamondbacks and Chicago White Sox of 2024. Must have slipped past me. Not surprising, for it was posted after 1 a.m. one June date, and ... who was really following the White Sox last year ... or this?

These cases, however, were different from my high school example. Arizona committed the strange violation last year in what manager Torey Lovullo called a “forced balk.” Chicago’s baserunner in the third inning at second base was apparently relaying signs to his teammate at the plate. That runner did score after being given third base, and the White Sox won the game 9-2.

Lovullo was actually ejected later in that game.

Fast forward to 2025. Things got a lot more heated in Boston on Aug. 2 with the Astros at Fenway Park. These teams could battle for a spot in the World Series, so their games are pretty important. It was a Houston pitcher who committed the deed and had words with Boston’s third-base coach.

The Red Sox won the game 7-3. The balk didn’t lead to a run, but it came after Trevor Story doubled in a run in the seventh inning. When Houston got the third out, this pitcher, Hector Neris, yelled at the Boston dugout bringing all players out on the field.

It’s unclear to me if this was due, again, to sign-stealing, something Houston players can’t really get angry over. Couldn’t Story just say, “Oh no, thanks. I’ll stay right here.”

In my experience, one of the never-will-forget stories of covering high school sports happened in Schley County at a baseball game. There are so many factors involved, starting with the fact that it was a region game between that league’s two best clubs. Schley won the first game between the two, at Brookstone in Columbus. A region tiebreaker rule after head-to-head was greater margin of victory.

So if Brookstone were to finish first in the region, it would have to win by more runs than they lost. What was their motivation: to claim a region championship, or to not finish second and be in a place where they would have to play at the Class A No. 1-ranked team in the second round?

That was the talk among those I fellowshipped with prior to the game, the rumor mill anyway.

Yes, Brookstone was winning, but not by enough as it got to the last inning. In fact, it was just a one-run game. What happens with two outs in the bottom of the seventh? Yep, an intentional walk followed by three intentional balks.

Want more? The game went into the eighth inning, and Brookstone got a runner on third with nobody out. Deep fly ball out, runner stays put. Grounder to the second-base side, runner stays put. Looking for a big inning resulted in none.

Schley wins.

There’s a lot of debatable points. Do you try to finish off a win even if it’s not the kind you want? Do you do whatever it takes to win region, never mind the integrity of the game or how foolish you might look? Will the players understand? Will they also understand it was just for that night and not, ‘Is this when I drop the ball again?’

Maybe you can guess my feelings on the subject. I may have told this story here before. If so, hey, it’s still summer, that glorious time for reruns. And it is time to start softball season, and no, they aren’t waving at you or telling you which side is their side from second base.

(If at all possible, give pet adoption a try through the Animal Rescue Foundation in Milledgeville. Donations of any kind are also in great need. ARF is the little red building at 711 S. Wilkinson St., and more information is available at animalrescue-foundation.org.)



Contributed photo

The 2025 John Milledge softball team. The team split their first two games this season and is looking to make great strides this year.

John Milledge softball
young but ready to contend

BY MATTHEW BROWN
matthew.brown@unionrecorder.com

Between August and October, high school softball players can do a lot of growing up.

The 2025 John Milledge Academy softball team split the first two games played beginning actually on July 31 (two other games were victim to the constant rain falling in Milledgeville over the past week). Wes Land, returning to head the Trojan program after a year’s absence, saw one significant flaw that needed to be corrected in those contests. If his baserunners can consistently find a way to get around all bases, the team should make great strides toward improving last year’s eight-win total.

For now, Land knows it’s a young team. He has a senior class composed of Addie Latimer, Emma Renfroe, Kinley McLemore and Breaze Jones. On his coaching staff, the new JMA head baseball coach Tucker Bradley is working with the outfielders this fall, and instructing in the batting cage is a recent star Trojan, Ana Land, the coach’s daughter and current college player.

“I’m pretty positive we can be over .500,” said Land. “With an opportunity to get to Columbus and make a run for (the GIAA championship).”

The Trojan roster includes several girls who can pitch, and Land plans to use as many as four in the circle, though one is currently sitting out due to injury. Latimer is among the active hurlers with junior Laila Pounds and freshman Anna Renfroe.

“We are not by no means going to overpower anybody,” said Land. “Latimer is a lefty. Got a lot of spin on it. Keeps it low in the zone. She’s going to be a ground-ball out pitcher.”

Pounds will also use off-speed stuff with spin, and Land said Renfroe gets the softball into the strike zone. So far, there haven’t been many walks allowed, batters instead putting the ball in play.

“Her job is to let them hit it, and we’re going to field it,” he said. “She’s done a great job with that.”

And that means the fielders behind the pitchers need to do a great job with their job. McLemore is the shortstop and captain of the infield. Another freshman Land will lean on in a starting role is Macie Johnson, and he calls her the captain of the outfield in center. Jones starts in left field and Anna Renfroe is in right when she is not pitching.

“Infield, we’re solid,” said Land. “We make our routine plays. Outfield ... not a lot of experience. We are a work in progress. They are getting better each day. They put a lot of work in.”

In that July 31 game, John Milledge shut out Windsor Academy of Macon 4-0. It was a three-hitter for Latimer with two walks and nine strikeouts. Latimer was also the leader at the plate, going 2-for-3 with one RBI. There were just five hits overall, though, from the winning team.

Amid a lot of rain on Aug. 2 at the home campus field, the Trojans got one of two scheduled games in, but it was a 7-4 loss to

Bethlehem Christian. JMA had eight hits and drew seven walks, but left 11 runners on base. McLemore drove in two runs on two hits.

“I don’t think we are going to lead in home runs,” said Land. “I think we are going to be up there in stolen bases. We’re pretty fast. We are going to be a high-contact percentage team putting the ball in play. Our thing is we’re just leaving a lot of people on base. Once we figure out our identity, we can fix that problem.”

Land has also started Izzy Santarone, Morgan Farrelly, Emmerson Thomas and Emma Hudgins this season. He said there will be small adjustments made to the lineup as the season moves on.

“I always say batting orders are like a loaf of bread,” said Land. “They will go stale on you. Keep it moving.”

The Trojans are hoping the constant inclement weather moves out enough to get some more game action in. An Aug. 6 home date with Crawford County was washed out. There was an Aug. 7 game at CFCA south of Macon, and then a big opportunity for the Trojans to play on the Georgia College & State University Bobcat field today (Aug. 9).

“I thank Georgia College for allowing us to do it,” said Land. “It’s a great atmosphere with a lot of people in the stands.”

JMA softball can certainly boast of a strong tradition, the winner of four straight state championships to start the fast-pitch era from 2002 to 2005, plus one more in 2008. But recently, Westfield in Perry breezed past all the state records with eight championships in a row. John Milledge is in the Westfield playoff classification (AAA) and is in District 6 during the regular season with First Presbyterian Day, Mount de Sales, Piedmont, Stratford and Tattnall Square.

“You are going to have to beat Westfield,” said Land. “I’m coming back for my fourth year. I was three years prior to last year. Kind of been out of the loop, and I’m still unsure what some of these other teams have. I preach to our girls we are going to play ABC softball, move runners base to base, play routine defense and everything takes care of itself.”



“I preach to our girls we are going to play ABC softball, move runners base to base, play routine defense and everything takes care of itself.”

Wes Land,
JMA softball coach



PREP SPORTS CALENDAR

Saturday, Aug. 9

• John Milledge softball at Georgia College & State University, times TBD

Wednesday, Aug. 13

Baldwin at GMC Prep softball, 5:30 p.m.

Monday, Aug. 11

GMC Prep softball at Washington County, 6 p.m.

Thursday, Aug. 14

Oak Hill Middle School football (varsity), at East Laurens, 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Aug. 12

John Milledge Academy softball, Trinity Christian, home, 4:30 p.m.
GMC Prep softball, Lake Oconee Academy, home, 6 p.m.
Baldwin softball at Warner Robins, 5 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 16

• Oak Hill Middle School football (JV) home, Byron Middle, 1 p.m.

Email sports calendar items to sports@unionrecorder.com



Billy W. Hobbs/The Union-Recorder

Baldwin County Tax Commissioner Cathy Settle is currently the fifth longest serving tax commissioner in Georgia.

SERVING *the* PEOPLE

After 30 years, Settle still loves her job as tax commissioner

BY BILLY W. HOBBS

billy.hobbs@unionrecorder.com

Baldwin County Tax Commissioner Cathy Settle recently celebrated a milestone in her career.

She has held elected office for the past 30 years, the fifth longest serving tax commissioner in Georgia.

She's actually worked in the tax commissioner's office for 36 1/2 years.

"I love what I do; and I love serving the people of Baldwin County in any way that I can," Settle said in a recent interview with The Union-Recorder. "I wouldn't want to do anything else."

She started working in the tax commissioner's office on Jan. 2, 1989. At that time her boss was none other than her father, the late Harold Freeman, who served as tax commissioner for 18 1/2 years.

While attending high school at John Milledge Academy, Settle worked part-time under her dad in the tax commissioner's office. After graduation from JMA in 1980, she worked in the office for a year. At that time, the office was located in the original Baldwin County Courthouse in downtown Milledgeville.

After that year, she decided she wanted to venture out on her own. She applied and was hired as a federal government employee at the Milledgeville office of the U.S. Social Security Administration.

She worked there for seven years and during that time, she received a couple of promotions.

"I liked what I did there, but it just wasn't the courthouse and the tax commissioner's office," she said. "It just wasn't my courthouse family, and I missed it so bad."

Settle recalled that she had some great co-workers at the local Social Security office and she learned a lot from them through her years of working with the federal government agency.

"I learned the importance of keeping good records and being detailed-oriented," she said. "I learned a lot about urbanization and other things. And that did give me a leg up, but I just missed the atmosphere at the tax office at the courthouse."

She said the courthouse people were like family.

It just so happened that a longtime employee was preparing to retire from the tax commissioner's office, creating an opening for a full-time employee.

She said she immediately applied for the position and was hired.

She returned to the tax commissioner's office working the front counter and selling tags for vehicles and processing vehicle titles. She eventually learned every job within the office.

She said a couple of women who had worked in the office eventually retired and she took their bookkeeping jobs.

In July 1995, her father unexpectedly passed away.

Since she was already serving as her father's chief deputy tax commissioner at the time, Settle assumed the position as acting tax commissioner.

"He was in the hospital for two months before he passed away," she said. "He went in May 9 and died July 9."

Settle finished out her dad's unexpired term as one of the county's four constitutionally-elected officers before seeking the office for a four-year term.

She won the election and has held the position of tax commissioner ever since.

At the time, she wasn't married and had no children.

"That's why they always say this office was my first-born child," she said with a big smile.

She later married and eventually had two children; a daughter, Caitlyn Settle; and a son, Colton Settle.

All of what she had learned had to be relearned when the tax office rolled over to a computer system, one of five different systems that Settle has become well-versed in using during her years of working in the tax commissioner's office.

"I was in on the ground floor when the office went on the computer system and I have now been through five computer systems that upgraded over time," she said. "I had to learn all about new software, etc."

The current software system has been difficult to learn, she admitted, but it's so advanced that it is expected to be many years before another one is needed.

"It's a good system because our office and the tax accessor's office are on the same system," she said.

Previous computer and software systems never allowed the two government offices to communicate with each other.

Settle is quick to point out that she has an amazing staff of employees who get along well and enjoy serving the public just as much as she does.

"I have a wonderful staff," she said.

Her staff consists of Amy Brown, chief deputy; Cathy Ivey, administrative assistant; Malissa Scott, accounting coordinator; Tasha Collins, accounting coordinator; Stephanie Lindsey, senior tag and tax collector; Cindie O'Neal, senior tag and tax collector; Heather Roberts, Karin Leverett, Shandrea Barnes, Shonda Joyner, Lauren Walker, Kallie Kitchings and Rose Ennis, all of whom serve as deputy tag and tax clerks.

Settle still has the same kind of philosophy she has always had when it comes to serving the public.

"I love being able to help the citizens in any way that I can," she said.

She said some of them come into her office and are a little confused when it comes to questions about their property taxes.

"I like to help them as much as I can," Settle said, noting she is still as eager to serve them. "I love it; I really do."

She enjoys spending time with her daughter and son in her off-time. She also loves college football season and rooting for her beloved University of Georgia Bulldogs.

"I'm a big Georgia Bulldog fan and go to lots of home games," Cathy said.

A few years ago, she said she got a "G" tattoo on her right angle.

"That just goes to show you how much I love those Dawgs."

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■ Chapel of All Faiths 252 Swint Ave SE
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■ Church Central 500 Underwood Rd
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■ Church of Christ at Milledgeville, 126 Highway 49 West
■ Community Church of Milledgeville, 143 Log Cabin Rd.
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■ Cooperville Baptist Church, 100 Coopers Church Rd.
■ Cooper Hill Baptist Church 487 Gordon Hwy
■ Countyline Primitive Baptist, Countyline Road
■ Covenant Presbyterian Church, 440 N. Columbia St.
■ Covenant Baptist Church

264 Ivey Dr., SW
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■ Evergreen Baptist Church, 119 Ivey Weaver Rd.
■ Faith Christian Fellowship Ministry International, Inc. 111 Hardwick St.
■ First Assembly of God 2550 Irwinton Rd.
■ First Baptist Church 330 S. Liberty St.
■ First Presbyterian Church 210 S. Wayne St.
■ Milledgeville First Methodist Church, 366 Log Cabin Rd.
■ First Harvest Christian Church, 1745 Irwinton Rd.
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■ Greater Love

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■ Mount Hope CME Church, 453 Highway 49 W
■ Mount Nebo Baptist Church , 338 Prosser Rd.
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Church, 265 Mount Pleasant Church Rd.
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■ New City Church at the Mill 224 E. Walton St.
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■ New Life Ministries - Church of God, 385 Log Cabin Rd.
■ Northridge Christian Church, 321 Log Cabin Rd.
■ Northside Baptist Church 1001 N. Jefferson St.
■ Oak Bethel Open Door Pentecostal Church 866 Stembidge Road SE.
■ Oak Grove Baptist Church No. 1, 508 Highway 49
■ Oak Grove Independent Methodist Church 121 Lingold Drive SW
■ Oasis Praise and Worship Center 471 W. Highway 49
■ Pathfinders Christian Church, 120 Earnest Byner St.
■ Pine Ridge Baptist Church, 657 Old Monticello Rd
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■ Pleasant Grove United Methodist Church 701 Brown's Crossing Road
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■ Union Baptist Church 720 N. Clarke St.
■ Union Missionary Baptist Church 135 Prosser Rd NE
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IN OUR CHURCHES

REUNIONS

Reunions and church notices are published in the weekend edition of The Union-Recorder. Items can be mailed to The Union-Recorder at P.O. Box 520, Milledgeville, Ga. 31059-0520, faxed to 478-453-1439, emailed to newsroom@unionrecorder.com or dropped by our offices at 165 Garrett Way. The deadline for submissions is 5 p.m. each Tuesday.

SPECIAL EVENTS

First Presbyterian Church of Milledgeville is celebrating its 199 th anniversary this June and is preparing to celebrate its 200 th next year. The

theme is “200 Years of Faith in Action.” Look for further information in the coming months.

August 10

2:30 p.m.: Greater Mt. Zion Baptist Church celebrates the 14th pastoral anniversary for the Rev. Corey Smith. Special guests will be Pastor Eric Bell and the New Life International Ministries church family of Macon. The public is invited.

August 31

Noon: The Second Middle Georgia Ushers and Sisters Mission will convene at Greater Mt. Zion Baptist Church. Speaker for the program will be the Rev. Corey Smith of Greater

Mt. Zion Baptist Church. The public is invited.

August 17

2 p.m.: The St. Mark A.M.E. Church Family, Sparta, Georgia, will celebrate its 158th church anniversary. The Rev. Samuel Duggans and the Greater Level Hill Baptist Church, Crawfordville, Georgia will be special guests.
2 p.m.: County Line Baptist Church holds its annual Homecoming service with the Rev. Willie Finney and St. Peter Baptist Church of Macon, Georgia.

REVIVAL

August 10-13

Island Creek Baptist Church, 4258 Island

Creek Church Rd., East Lake Sinclair, will have Homecoming & Revival services. Homecoming is Sunday, Aug. 10 at 11 a.m. Revival services are Monday through Wednesday at 7 p.m. Each evening of revival will be led by Baptist Collegiate Ministries students, Caleb Lowe (Monday), Grayson Oliver (Tuesday), and Isaiah Espinosa (Wednesday).

August 18-22

7 p.m.: County Line Baptist Church holds revival with guest speaker the Rev. Dr. Benjamin Lockhart, Jr. from Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia.

What’s Going On

COMING UP

Racing for Recovery 5K and Celebration

Registration is underway for the Oconee Recovery Coalition’s first-ever Racing for Recovery 5K and Celebration, happening Saturday, Sept. 13 at Brighter Days Ministry on Central State Campus in Milledgeville. After the run, stick around for live music, inspiring speakers, delicious food, and community resource tables — all rooted in recovery and hope.

T-shirt guarantee deadline: Aug. 20. Fun Run begins at 8:45 a.m. (\$20) and 5K Race & Walk begins at 8:30 a.m. (\$25). Register today: <https://form.jotform.com/251914167708159>

Employ Baldwin Job Fair Aug. 21

The Milledgeville-Baldwin County Chamber of Commerce will host its annual Employ Baldwin Job Fair on Thursday, Aug. 21 from 3 to 5:30 p.m. at Central Georgia Technical College’s Milledgeville Campus.

The Chamber is currently seeking vendors for the event. Employ Baldwin is open to all businesses and organizations.

Vendor registration is \$75 for Chamber members and \$150 for non-members. The application can be found at <https://bit.ly/employbaldwin2025> and must be submitted by Friday, Aug. 15.

This event is free and open to the public.

For more information or to register as a vendor, call Leah Frazier at 478-453-9311 or email lfrazier@milledgevillega.com.

Saturday, August 9

8 a.m.: The 100 Black Men of Milledgeville and Baldwin County meet at the Baldwin County Recreation Center on Highway 22. Mentees meet at 10 a.m.

9:30 a.m.: The Oconee Regional Chapter of Project Linus meets at St. Stephens Episcopal Church, 220 S. Wayne St, Milledgeville. The Chapter is open to anyone who wants to provide needy children with a comforting blanket. Attendees should bring a drink.

Monday, August 11

9 a.m.: The Baldwin County Board of Registrars holds its monthly meeting in the county government complex, 1601 N. Columbia St., Suite 240.

9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.: The Pink Bow gift shop at Atrium Navicent Baldwin is open.

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.: Harriet’s Closet is open. It is located next to the Cancer Treatment Center at Atrium Navicent Health Baldwin and provides items free of charge to cancer patients and survivors. This non-profit organization is dedicated to helping cancer patients. For more information or to volunteer, please call 478-776-4576.

6:30 p.m.: The Oconee River Buskers Square Dance Club meets at the Walter B. Williams Recreation Center. Call Doug Pohl at 478-414-

8622 or Bob or Linda Irvin at 478-452-5391 for information.

7 p.m.: BINGO is held at American Legion Post 6 on Log Cabin Road. No one under the age of 18 is permitted. 478-453-0295 or 478-457-7717.

7-8:30 p.m.: Northside Baptist Church, 1001 N. Jefferson St., offers free Citizenship Classes. Free childcare is provided. Contact 478-452-6648.

7 p.m.: The Middle Georgia Toastmasters meet at Vaughn Chapel Baptist Church, 1980 N. Jefferson St., Milledgeville. For more information visit <https://7832847.toastmastersclubs.org> or call Lisa T. Shinholster at 478-234-0301.

7:30 p.m.: Milledgeville Jaycees meet at Walter B. Williams Jr. Park.

Tuesday, August 12

9 a.m. to noon: The Chard Wray Food Pantry is open at 472 Broad Street, Milledgeville.

9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.: The Pink Bow gift shop at Atrium Navicent Baldwin is open.

10:30 a.m.: A Senior Olympic badminton club will be held at the Baldwin County Recreation Department gym.

11 a.m.-1 p.m.: Cafe Central is open every Tuesday at Freedom Church in Milledgeville. A free meal will be

served to everyone who comes.

11 a.m.: The public is invited to attend a weekly meeting in the basement of Lockerly Arboretum to discuss plans for the Lucille Harris Community Garden and Solomon Harris Walking Trail, as well as to hear updates about efforts by the Parks & Recreation Dept., Milledgeville Community Garden Association, Baldwin Family Connection and the Habitat for Humanity Neighborhood Revitalization Initiative. For more information call 478-453-2565 or Barbara Vann at 478-452-5726.

Noon: The Kiwanis Club meets every Tuesday at the First Presbyterian Church on the corner of Wayne and Greene streets in downtown Milledgeville. Join us for a delicious meal and an interesting program. Help us serve the children of Milledgeville. Contact club president Joel Burns at 478-414-6516 for more information.

1 p.m.: Lake Oconee Duplicate Bridge Club. Duplicate Bridge Games with ACBL Masterpoints. Information at [https:// www.lake-oconee.bridgeclub.org](https://www.lake-oconee.bridgeclub.org).

1 to 3 p.m.: Walking with Moms in Need (WWMIN) is open Tuesdays except on major holidays. A monthly distribution of 50 diapers is available for infants and toddlers. The parent must register for the diaper program with a valid photo I.D.

Have you ever walked outside and found slimy little paths on the ground? Those were probably created by a snail. Snails are a type of invertebrate animal that belongs to the Gastropod family, and there are over 40,000 different species. Slugs are another type of Gastropod, but they are not the same animal. Slugs have no shells and are often mistaken for snails that lost their shells, but this is not the case. Snails and slugs are Mollusks and are closely related to oysters, clams, mussels, octopus, and squid. Snails are found on every Continent and in every environment on Earth. Marine and sea snails live in the water. Some have gills to breathe, while others come to the surface to get air. The largest snail on land is the African Giant Snail which can grow up to 15 inches long. The largest snail on Earth is the Australian Trumpet Shell snail which can grow up to 2.5 feet in length! The smallest snails are called Microgastropods. They are so small that you can fit several of them into the eye of a needle. Most snails eat plants by shredding them into tiny pieces with the 14,000 teeth that are located on their tongue which is called a radula. Many snails can create new snails by themselves. Snails are nocturnal and often hibernate during the Winter in cold environments. Snails have three main body parts--the head, the foot, and the mantle. Most snails have two sets of antennae--the upper set with an eye on each end and the lower set to feel things. The foot is the bottom of a snail which excretes the slimy mucus. Tiny feet move the snail along slowly while the mucus protects their belly. The mantle is the part of the snail that is located inside the shell. The shell stays with the snail for life and can grow as they grow. The snail can retract into the shell when it feels threatened. Snails can live as long as 20 years and are sometimes kept as pets.



**The word
Gastropod means
“Stomach Foot”
in Latin.**

**Foot, Gastropod, Head, Hibernate,
Invertebrate, Land, Mantle, Marine,
Mollusk, Nocturnal, Radula, Sea,
Shell, Slimy, Slow, Slug, Snail**

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